

Catechist: Bev Lamaro 0409 710 703; Choir: Line Collet 0410 568 103;
 Friendship Group: Bev Lamaro 0409 710 703; Youth : Alison De Sousa 0421 660 187;
 Pastoral Council: John Sarkis 0400 606 297; St Vincent de Paul: John Ashe 9796 1055;
 Childrens Liturgy: Marie El-Chaar 9709 3451; Cemetery Committee: Maureen Vincent 9790 4217;
 Sacramental co-ordinator: Gloria Booby 9708 2871; Polish Priests: 8783 0533;
 De La Salle Brothers: 9708 2692; St. Felix Primary School: 9796 7875 Lisa Wahab- Principal;
 LaSalle Catholic College: 9793 5600 Mr Michael Egan - Principal;
 Archdiocesan Website: www.sydney.catholic.org.au



Valuing dignity
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For Gladys, volunteering brings her immense satisfaction whilst bringing joy to the ageing clients she visits weekly.

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"Give up," "take up," & "lift up"

"Lent is a favourable season for opening the doors to all those in need and recognizing in them the face of Christ." (Pope Francis, Message for Lent 2017). In Lent, the baptized are called to renew their baptismal commitment as others prepare to be baptized through the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** (RCIA), a period of learning and discernment for individuals who have declared their desire to become Catholics. Therefore, we are called not just to abstain from sin during Lent, but to true conversion of our hearts and minds as followers of Christ. We recall those waters in which we were baptized into Christ's death, died to sin, and began new life in Christ. Catholics are also encouraged to make going to confession a significant part of their spiritual lives during Lent.

Day of the Unborn Child

Sunday, 26 March. Annual Pro-Life march through Sydney CBD in support of the unborn. 10.30am Mass, St Mary's Cathedral, 12 Noon Angelus, followed by a prayerful procession through the streets of Sydney led by His Grace Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, 1.30pm Benediction inside the Cathedral. More information: www.fli.org.au

Fathers on Tap

Wednesday, 29 March 5.30pm Mass, 6.00pm Dinner, 7.00pm Talk: Bishop Richard Umbers speaks on: "Social Media: Friend or Foe? How do we re-evangelise the fathers?" @ The Two Wolves Cantina, 202 Broadway, Chippendale. RSVP to David 0437 679 865.

Baptism:

This week, we welcome into the Catholic faith:

Oliver Dominic Nguyen
Jayden James Vella

May they always know the love of God and feel His guiding hand throughout their life.



St Felix
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St Felix deValois Parish

550 Chapel Road, Bankstown, NSW 2200, Australia

Fr. Dominic Van Trung Dinh
 Rev Mr Richard Ddumba
 Marie Caldereri, Secretary (Tues, Wed, Thurs)

Tel: 9790 1933 Fax 9796 3962

E-mail: admin@stfelixparish.org.au Website: www.stfelixparish.org.au

Mass times: Saturday 6pm (Vigil), Sunday 8am, 10am (Children's Liturgy), 6pm, 12noon (Polish).

Vietnamese Mass: 7 pm 1st Thurs of each month. **Saturday Morning Benediction - 7.00am.**

Reconciliation: Saturday 4.30 - 5.30 pm. Or by appointment Rosary: Saturday 8.25am

This week - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday - 8.00am. Friday - 9.00am

Wednesday 10.00am - Uniting Centre. Friday 10.15am - Yagoona Nursing Home.

Wednesday - 7.00pm Young Adults Bible Study in Meeting Room, 8.00pm Benediction.

BAPTISMS: Baptism preparations are held on the 1st Sunday of each month after 10am mass in the presbytery. Baptisms by appointment.

MARRIAGES: Please contact priest at least 6 months prior to wedding date.

SICK CALLS: Anytime. If you know of anyone who needs anointing please ring the presbytery.

Uncle Richard

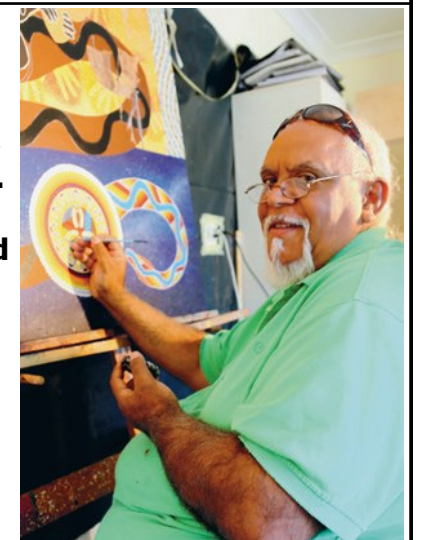
First Australian Uncle Richard is a survivor of the Stolen Generations, forcibly removed from his family as a child and taken to Kinchela Boys Home (KBH) in NSW. Hundreds of Indigenous boys were incarcerated there between 1924 and 1970, suffering ongoing physical and verbal abuse. They lost every aspect of their identity – their names, their culture and their families.

When Uncle Richard left KBH, he struggled with the legacy of pain, trying to find relief through his work as an artist. But he attributes the beginning of his healing to something even more powerful than his creative work: his reconnection with former KBH boys.

The KBH Aboriginal Corporation (KBHAC) was established by KBH survivors to reunite with one another and begin healing. KBHAC's Unlocking the Past to Free the Future program works to restore the social and emotional wellbeing of the survivors and their families. The former KBH boys have realised that their shared suffering has created a brotherhood. They support each other by sharing their stories, and coming to a common understanding of how their experiences have impacted on themselves and their descendants.

Through KBHAC, the men are also opening the door to the wider Australian community, inviting everyone to journey together as neighbours in the healing process. Caritas Australia supports KBHAC and is proud to walk alongside in partnership on the journey to wellbeing.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2017 and help people in rural areas of the Philippines develop their strengths and build better futures for their families and their neighbours.



3rd Sunday of Lent - A - 19 March 2017



God is within

An old European Monastery is perched high on a 500 foot cliff. Visitors ride up in a big basket to the top with a ragged old rope. Halfway up, a passenger nervously asked, "How often do you change the rope?" The monk in charge replied "Whenever the old one breaks."

In today's Gospel we read about the meeting between Jesus and a Samaritan woman at the well. One of the most broken women in the whole Bible meets the most whole man in all history and healing takes place. The woman wants to avoid meeting people by drawing water at noon. She feels unloved, shame, guilt. She had tried to find love in relationships with at least six men but it did not work, *"For although you have had five, the one you have now is not your husband."* Meeting Jesus had changed her life because he sees a beautiful human being and he reaches out in love to recreate her. He begins by asking her for water, he creates in her a feeling of worth. She is taken back by this gesture because the Jews had no dealings with Samaritans, and a man and a woman would not converse in public. Jesus said, *"If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you."* After listening to Jesus' words her dignity and self worth is restored, she no longer feels shame, afraid but courageously went back to town and told everyone about her experience.

This Samaritan woman is a real woman and a symbolic woman. She is a symbol of what is in all of us: loneliness, broken relationships, fear, anger, guilt, incapable to forgive and so incapable to love. *"If we only knew the gift of God"* that is within us we would gradually be healed from this pain and brokenness. *"The water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life."*

Let us pray that we will experience God's gift by praying, meditating and reaching out to do God's will.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

694 The symbolism of water signifies the Holy Spirit's action in baptism, since after the invocation of the Holy Spirit it becomes the efficacious sacramental sign of new birth: just as the gestation of our first birth took place in water, so the water of baptism truly signifies that our birth into the divine life is given to us in the Holy Spirit... Thus the Spirit is also personally the living water welling up from Christ crucified as its source and welling up in us to eternal life.

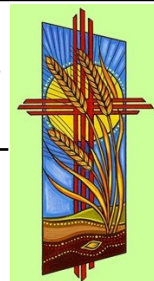
This week's Readings - Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2. 5-8; Gospel - John 4:5-42

Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross are celebrated in the Church every Tuesday during Lent at 7.00pm.

Ashes to Easter

A Concert-Reflection with Peter Kearney. A prayerful sequence of songs and stories on Lenten and Easter themes. Sunday 2nd April in St Felix Hall straight after 10 Mass. All welcome.



Offertory

We would like to have more families involved with our liturgy by taking up the offertory during the 10 am Mass on Sundays. If you would like to be involved please write your name on the list at the back of the Church.

Parish 2020

'Parish 2020' is a response to the call for a New Evangelisation; a call to mission. 'Parish 2020' aims to renew and strengthen parishes for our future, and provide the best possible support to clergy and parish communities in living out our missionary call in ever more vibrant and creative ways. We are now asking you to provide us with your thoughts about ways to strengthen our Parish and community by way of a quick 10 minute survey, this provides an important opportunity for your views to be heard, and for us all to share together in prayerfully discerning future directions. You may complete the survey online by visiting www.surveymonkey.com/r/2V7XL9X otherwise please pick up a survey form at the back of the Church and return it to the Parish Office by 24th March. We appreciate you taking the time to complete the survey.

Mass Intentions: Recently Deceased: Joseph Condello; Huynh Ba Minh

Anniversary: Renee Verrier; Yvan Verrier; Anna Ng Thi Tam

Deceased: Zwain & Salam Chadrawy; Gergis, Marie & Fannie Chadrawy; Pauline Chadrawy & husband; Daniel & Rashide Chadrawy; Hanna Chadrawy; Merchad & Emila Maklouf; Anthony, John & Joseph Maklouf; Antoinette & Eva Maklouf; Joseph Mowad & Charles Paul; Mary Chadrawy; Giuseppe Sergi; Micae Ng Van Noi.

Sick: Jason Timbs & Bart Hennely, Dau (Xuan); Kim Do; Henriette Tam Tinh Lam; Gerard Go; Theresa Tinh Thi Doan; Christine Formosa; Maria Tuu Nguyen; Fatima; Catherine & Lourdes Raspanti; Tim Logue; Jeanette Chong; baby Alan Dien Quan Nguyen; Monina Rodriguez Pineda; Tenshi Asriel Magdaleno Arcenas; Vaoliko Pesamino.

Next Weekend - 4th Sunday of Lent - Year A

Readings: 1Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13; Ephesians 5:8-14; Gospel - John 9:1-41.

Feasts of the Week

20 March - St Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Solemnity.

A carpenter, though born of the royal house of David, Joseph was an upright man who, as husband of the Virgin Mary, cared for Mary and the child Jesus. Venerated in the East after the fourth century, and his cult flowered in the West during the fifteenth century, following the development of medieval nativity plays, the Christmas crib, and increased devotion to Mary.

25 March - The Annunciation of the Lord. Solemnity.

This feast originated in the East during the sixth century and gained universal observance in the West during the eighth century. It is a feast of the Lord, commemorating the announcement to the Virgin Mary of the Word made flesh, Mary's acceptance of God's will, and the conception of Christ nine months before Christmas. Its occurrence close to Easter links the incarnation with the whole mystery of human redemption in Christ.

A Mass & blessing for people with Autism

In celebration of Autism Awareness Month and to honour and pray for all those in our community with autism, the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney invites you to the annual Mass and Blessing for People with Autism, to be celebrated by Bishop Anthony Randazzo. WHERE: St Benedict's Church, Broadway. WHEN: Sunday 2nd April 2017, 2:00pm. For inquiries or to RSVP by Tuesday 28th March please contact LMFEvents@sydneycatholic.org or phone (02) 9307 8404. (see flyers in foyer)

Altar Society: 26/3/17 Group 4: Maureen Vincent, Laura Malss, Phyllis Vujkovic, Margaret Eastburn, Giovanna LaBarbera, Denise Ashe, Chris Kreltszheim, Hien & Vu Bui (*Florist*)

St Vincent de Paul: 26/3/17 D Rodrigues **2/4/17** M T Tran

Church Cleaners: 24/3/17: Mai Hai **Children's Liturgy:** 26th March - Maree

Weekend Choir: Saturday 6pm - Samoan Divine Mercy Group
Sunday 8am - Singing Servants of God **10am** - Children's Choir

Readers & Ministers

	Sat 6pm	19 MARCH	8am	10am	6pm
C	Gloria Booby	Kiara Asuzu	Jessica Vujevic	Kathleen Mezentsef	
R	Stephen Hoang	Maxwell Asuzu	Emmanuela Viner	Lucia Mezentsef	
A	Tuyen Tran (A)	Joseph Cao (A)	Anthony Joseph (A)	Thanh Vu (A)	
M	Gloria Booby	Maria Huong	Jessie Kovacevic	Paul Ngoc	
M	Emmanuel Icard	Robyn Molloy	Helen Vujevic	Phu Nguyen	

26 MARCH

C	Gabrielle Nguyen	Imelda Dela Cruz	Jennifer Nguyen	Charbel Eltarraf
R	Stephen Hoang	Joseph Dang	Thu Ha Kim	Elias Eltarraf
A	Joseph Bui (A)	Joseph Cao (A)	Thong Tran (A)	Thanh Vu (A)
M	Gloria Booby	An Dang	Bev Lamaro	Jacinta Eltarraf
M	Tuyen Tran	Chris Kreltszheim	Gordon West	Loreto Eduardo