

**NEWSLETTER OF THE PARISHES OF BALMAIN AND ROZELLE,  
ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY**

**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

(YEAR B) *1 August 2021*

**FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR**

Dear Parishioners,

As I remarked last week, **the lockdown** seems set to last for quite a long time. During last week the Premier extended the present restrictions for another four weeks, until 28 August. The full vaccination of 80% of the population will not be possible before the end of October, it seems, and only then will restrictions be able to be lifted or reduced, so it looks like we are in for the long haul.

Last week, I offered **pastoral visits (which are allowed) to parishioners in their homes**. Both Fr Victor and I would be very happy to bring Holy Communion to your homes (and to hear any Confessions or administer the Anointing of the Sick upon request). So far, we have not had any takers but perhaps in light of the longer lockdown there may be some interest in the future. Anyway, the offer stands. Just call the Parish Office and leave a message. (While the Parish Office is closed, the telephone is still working.)

Some parents have enquired about the celebration of **First Confessions and First Communions** for their children this year. Obviously, everything has to be postponed and it is pointless to reschedule matters until we have some certainty about future restrictions. In any case, we will make what arrangements are necessary for these events to be held before the end of the year, if at all possible, and we will all have to be flexible.

**Baptisms and Weddings** have all had to be rearranged – it looks as if January is going to be a busy month.

Fr Richard Waddell

**Parish Administrator**

**POSTPONED EVENTS**

**At Home to farewell Fr Gregory**, our **Poetry Evening with Professor Barry Spurr**, and the performance of **84 Charing Cross Road** by the Hunter's Hill Theatre Company. We are also planning an evening focussing on Benedictine spirituality for the lay faithful with **Sr Joanna Bagot OSB from Jamberoo Abbey**. Further details of the new arrangements will be provided when the future becomes a bit more certain.

Read this week's **Catholic Weekly** at <https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/catholic-weekly-newspaper-online/>

## BRIEF ANSWERS TO THE BIG QUESTIONS

### Q. Is falling into a black hole bad news for a space traveller?

Definitely bad news. If it were a stellar mass black hole, you would be made into spaghetti before reaching the horizon. On the other hand, if it were a supermassive black hole, you would cross the horizon with ease, but be crushed out of existence at the singularity. - Stephen Hawking, *Brief Answers to the Big Questions*, 114.

### PRAYER

*Prayer is our attachment to the utmost. Without God in sight, we are like the scattered rungs of a broken ladder. To pray is to become a ladder on which thoughts mount to God to join the movement towards Him which surges unnoticed throughout the entire universe. We do not step out of the world when we pray: we merely see the world in a different setting. The self is not the hub, but the spoke of the revolving wheel. In prayer we shift the centre of living from self-consciousness to self-surrender. God is the centre towards which all forces tend. He is the source, and we are the flowing of His force, the ebb and flow of His tides.*

- Extract from Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, 'The Sigh', in John Garvey (ed), *Modern Spirituality – An Anthology* (Darton, Longman and Todd: London 1985), 11.

### SING ME A SONG

Sing me a song with the ring of truth in it,  
Sing me a song with the freshness of youth in it,  
Chant me a paean of joy;  
I'm tired of the dirge with regrets and despair in it,  
Life has too much of drab sorrow and care in it,  
Raise me a chorus of hopefulness rare in it,  
Plucked from the heart of a boy.

Give me the splash and the shout of the sea in it,  
The trebles of birds and the bass of the bee in it:  
Bring the spring's minstrels along,  
Trilling a lay with the zest of young life in it,  
Tender and clean with no heartache of strife in it:  
Send me a message with joyfulness rife in it,  
And the singer I'll love for the song.

- Justin O'Brien,

*The Parish of St Mel's and other Verses* (Angus and Roberston, Sydney 1954), 99.



See what's happening in our parishes – find us on Facebook at  
<https://www.facebook.com/staugbalmain>





## FORTHCOMING BAPTISM

Luka Bailey HOBSON on Sunday 29 August 2021 at 12 noon at St Augustine's



## FORTHCOMING WEDDINGS

Ben Vittorio WEISSEL with Rossy Giovannella GUTIERREZ-DALY

Michael GALLARDO with Thalia FLOGERAS

Mak CAVANAGH with Gabrielle Anna SMALL

## † PARISH INTERCESSIONS

*We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers (1 Thess 1: 2)*

**For the sick and those in old age:** Jaime Aponte, Brenda Atkinson, Nela and Brian Blakemore, John Blunt, Pina Borg, Margo Buckingham, Tony Carbon, Paul Joseph Clark, Ann Diver, Brent Egan, Vincent, Catherine and Eric Erskine, Mary Ferguson, Christine Forner, Sylvia Gallagher, Martha Lucia Gomez, Marcella Holsten, Beverley Kerin, Joan Leonard, Shirley Lowe, Marie Meyrick, Roger Parsons, Anna Pasqua, Patricia Webster, Lyn Wilson, Keith Yates, John, Karen, and Ray.

**† For the faithful departed – those recently deceased:** Red O'Connor (06.02.21), Millie Leung (22.02.21), Veronica Jardin (27.02.21), Wendy Wheatley, Harry Fullerton, and Charlie Veech, Millie Leung, Pat Britton, Mary Haylen (23.04.21), Carmelo Battaglia (30.04.21) and Margaret May Meehan (25.06.21), and Bruce Fernandez (19.07.21).

**As well as for:** Rita Agius, Anthony & Ron Barnes, Charlie, Teresa, Rose & Lawrence Borg, Ron Bovey, John Bransby, William, Irene & Gertrude Briggs, Charlie Camilleri, Martin Camilleri, Violet & Emanuel Camilleri, Joyce Josephine & Bertie Joseph Clark, Sr Mary Constable, André, Michel & Ginette Comolle, Gary Dollar, Sydney, Edna & Cecilia Edmonds, Doris Falzon, Bill Gallagher, Susan Hanchard, Kathleen & Maxwell Harris, Mary Houghton, Kate Kenna, John & Jackie Lowe, Marcia Cadiz McIlwenna, Sr Marie McMabon, Mable & Catherine Miles, Peter Modellino, Mollie Monan, Mary Anne, Anthony & Hugh Mulligan, Hazel & Bernie Olson, Vicky Pisani, Winifred & David Preece, Maria Roach, Antoinetta Scalone, Joyce Shiner, and deceased members of Manuli, Nitopi & Scalone families. *Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis. Requiescant in pace. Amen.*

## ST AUGUSTINE'S & ST JOSEPH'S DETAILS

St Augustine of Hippo's Church, Eaton Street, Balmain

St Joseph's Church, Cnr Victoria Road and Gordon Street, Rozelle

The Presbytery/Office: 3 Jane Street, Balmain NSW 2041

**Parish Office: CLOSED UNDER CURRENT LOCKDOWN BUT PHONE MONITORED**

**Parish Secretary:** Lorraine Thomy

**Ministry Coordinator:** Barbara Howard

**Parish Safeguarding Officers:** David Kelaher 0458 352 257 & Kathleen Curry 0410 877 227

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