

**SCRIPTURE READINGS for 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

**A reading from the prophet Ezekiel : 2:2-5**

The heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God. When I saw this, I fell on my face, and I heard the voice of someone speaking. When the voice spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard one speaking to me: "Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God.' Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Response to the Psalm**

Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy.

**A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians 12:7-10**

Considering the exceptional character of the revelations, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 6:1- 6**

Jesus came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offence at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honour, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And Jesus could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And Jesus was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Hymns for 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

**Entrance:** Praise to You, O Christ Our Saviour, 407

**Acclamation:** *We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.*

**Communion:** Take and Eat, 198

**Thanksgiving:** I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say, 468

**Recessional:** Take Christ to the World, 369



**St Brigid's Church, Millers Point**

Did you know that St Brigid's designed by colonial architect Ambrose Hallen, is the oldest surviving place of Catholic worship in Australia? Governor Richard Bourke approved the site and building plan in 1833. **Join our community in mass each Sunday at 9 a.m.**

**NOVENA OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP**

Wednesday: 12.30 pm, 5.00 pm

**ANOIDING OF THE SICK**

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, 10.30 am

**SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION**

1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month, 9.45 am

**LITURGY OF THE HOURS, Each weekday**

mornings at 7.45 am & the evenings on Mon, Tue, Thurs and Fri at 5.15 pm.

**PUBLIC HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

Masses: 8.00 am, 12.00 noon, 5.30 pm

Reconciliation: 7.30 am - 8.00 am,

11.30 am - 12.00, 4.30 pm - 5.00 pm

**THE ST DIMPNA COMMUNITY**

Gathers on the second Saturday of each month at 7.00 pm in the Crypt of St Patrick's.

**MASS PROGRAM**

**SUNDAY:**

(Vigil, Saturday 6 pm)

7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 1 2 noon (Choir), 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 pm.

**St. Brigid's, Millers Point:** 9.00 am.

**WEEKDAYS**

8 am, 10.30 am, 12.05 pm, 1.05 pm and 5.30 pm.

**SATURDAY**

8 am, 12 noon and 6 pm (Vigil).

**Stations of the Cross** each Friday at 11.30 am during Lent.

**RECONCILIATION PROGRAM**

**SUNDAY:** 7.00 am - 1.00 pm; 3.00 pm - 6.30 pm; 8.00 pm - 8.30 pm.

**MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY:**

7.30 - 8.00 am; 10.00 am - 12 noon; 12.30 - 1.00 pm; 5.00 pm - 6.00 pm.

**WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY:**

7.30 - 8.00 am; 10.00 am - 2.00 pm; 4.00 pm - 6.00 pm.

**SATURDAY: 7.30 - 8.00 am;**

10.30 - 11.30 am; 5.00 pm - 6.00 pm.

**PARISH OFFICE**

**Address:** 141 Harrington Street, Sydney  
**Office hours:** 9.00 am. - 4.30 pm Mon., Tues., Wed, Fri. Thur. 9.30 am - 2.30 pm.

**Telephone:** 9254 9855 Fax: 9252 3431  
**Email:** office@stpatschurchhill.org  
**Website:** www.stpatschurchhill.org

**St Patrick's Church:** 20 Grosvenor Street Church Hill

**St Brigid's Church:** 14 - 16 Kent Street Millers Point



**PARISH STAFF**

Fr. Michael Whelan, SM Parish Priest	Br Terry Garrett, SM Fr. Paul Hachey, SM
John Attneave, Parish Business Manager	Fr. Fred Kado, SM Fr. Bernard McFadyen, SM
Sr Marie Biddle, RSJ, Aquinas Academy	Sr. Fidelis McTeigue, SM Helen Nejaim, Sacristan
Michael Borromeo, Coffee Shop Admin.	Mona Redito, Parish Secretary
Andy Carter, Maintenance Manager	Fr Garry Reynolds, SM Tereza Seric Parish Safeguarding Support Officer
Rita Di Napoli, Parish Secretary	Fr Kevin Stewart, SM

**St. Patrick's Parish, Church Hill**

*"A spiritual oasis in the midst of the city"*

Under the Pastoral Care of the Marist Fathers since 1868



St Patrick's Church



St Brigid's Church

*"To think as Mary, judge as Mary, feel and act as Mary in all things"*

(Marist Fathers' Constitutions)

8<sup>th</sup> July 2018

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

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**Stumbling block**

In today's Gospel – Mark 6:1-6 – we have a rather troubling story. Jesus returns to his home town. The folks there – *his* folks, those who watched him grow through childhood into manhood – have obviously heard of the great things he has been doing further north. It seems they have also witnessed something of it themselves: "What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands!" Do they recognize and accept him, like the lonely demoniac who lived among the tombs on the far side of the Lake, or the synagogue official or the woman with the hemorrhage? Certainly not! And all four Gospels speak of this rejection by his own people. It must have been a report that circulated amongst the early Christian communities. We can believe it is true.

The NRSV – like most other modern translations – says "they took offense at him". The Greek verb is *skandalizō* from the noun *skandalon*, meaning a "stumbling block". In Matthew 16:23 Jesus accuses Peter of being a *skandalon* to him. We can perhaps understand something of the resistance of the family and neighbours in Palestine at that time. To have one member step out into the public gaze as Jesus has done is deeply embarrassing for them. He and his behaviour are a "stumbling block" for them. In other words, he is getting in the way of their continuing to be what culture and society dictate they should be.

Two serious and deeply interrelated issues emerge here. The first is the issue of *identity*. Am I what culture and society dictate or am I what God has intended in creating me? If it is the former, threats to the cultural and/or social reality I have grown used to will be a personal threat to my very identity. Maybe my resistance to "others" is in some way fueled by this dependence on culture and society to give me my identity and therefore my security? The "other" is then a *skandalon*?

The second is the issue of *knowing* someone. It is tempting to think that, if Jesus was here now, I would have no trouble believing and following him. Knowing Jesus is not a matter of physical sight or even physical experience. Knowing any human being is presupposes much more than physical presence. Sometimes it helps to know someone when they are absent. For example, it is not uncommon that a parent we have loved in life becomes even more intimate to us when they have died. Remember the old saying: Familiarity breeds contempt.

Sadly, we the Church, have on numerous occasions down the ages, spoken and acted in ways that have made a *skandalon* of Jesus for many. It is one thing for individuals to choose to believe that Jesus is a *skandalon*, it is quite another for us to give them good reasons to believe that. The more I actually find my identity in Jesus the less likely I am to make him a *skandalon* for others.

See [www.aquinas-academy.com](http://www.aquinas-academy.com) for background material on the Gospel text.

Fr Michael Whelan, SM  
Parish Priest

**The parish of St Patrick's acknowledges the Cadigal people of the Eora nation as the traditional custodians of this place we now call Sydney.**

The church is fitted with an audio loop for the hearing impaired.

## Pope Francis

*"At times, life presents great challenges. Through them, the Lord calls us anew to a conversion that can make his grace more evident in our lives, "in order that we may share his holiness" (Heb 12:10). At other times, we need only find a more perfect way of doing what we are already doing." (Pope Francis, Gaudete et Exultate, 17.)*

### The Parish Priest recommends:

"The Great Partnership: God, Science and the Search for Meaning". Google "jonathan sacks + norman"

### WISDOM FROM THE TRADITION

*"To say I am made in the image and likeness of God is to say that love is the reason for my existence, for God is love. ... Love is my true identity. Selflessness is my true self. Love is my true character. Love is my name." (Thomas Merton, New Seeds of Contemplation,*

**St Patrick's Anniversary Conversations:** We take a lead from Pope Francis, *"We are called to promote a culture of dialogue by every possible means and thus to rebuild the fabric of society."* Since April this year, St Patrick's has been hosting in its crypt various speakers in what is called "St Patrick's Anniversary Conversations." Run by Terry Standen who liaises with the different speakers, the conversations are held on Sundays from 1.30 p.m. till 2.50 p.m. All are welcome and entry is free. **Anniversary Conversations to follow include:**

22 Jul	Before and after Pope Francis – what difference?	Dr Massimo Faggioli
26 Aug	Archdeacon McEncroe	Fr Ed Campion
23 Sep	The Founding of the Marist Fathers	Justin Taylor SM
7 Oct	Values in the public square	Professor Margaret Somerville
4 Nov	Women in the Church	Ms Tereza Seric & two other women

**Apostleship of the Sea:** This Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July, is known as "Sea Sunday". It is an opportunity for us to remember and pray for the men and women who depend on the sea for their livelihoods.

**St Patrick's Old Boys' Union:** On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> July we welcome Fr Paul Chandler and the members of the St Patrick's Marist Brothers Darlinghurst Old Boys' Union who will gather for their annual reunion.

**Socks Appeal:** Thank you to all of you who generously supported our Annual Sock Appeal. Your generosity and

concern for the poor has allowed for Sr Fidelis to hand hundreds of socks during the month of June with more socks remaining and to be handed out Saturday mornings at our 'Breakfast for the Homeless'.

**St Joseph's Chapel in the grounds of Villa Maria at Hunters Hill:** The oldest extant building of the Marist Fathers in Australia is a tiny chapel built by the French Missionaries in 1858. It stands in the grounds of the Villa Maria Monastery at Hunters Hill. You are invited, in this our Anniversary Year, to make a pilgrimage to visit this historic chapel. For further information please contact the parish office on 9254 9800.

**City of Silence: Starting from Tuesday 10 July,** there will be a special opportunity for adoration, prayer, reflection and music at St Patrick's Church. Every second Tuesday of the month, we will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 7pm to 8.30pm. This initiative is organized by the Young Adults. All welcome!

### Aquinas Academy Courses 2018

Unit Two of Developing your own Spirituality begins on 2 August. Newcomers are welcome! You do not have to have completed Unit One

**Developing Your Own Spirituality II -** Michael Whelan SM, PhD & Marie Biddle, RSI, MA, MTh  
**4 Thursday mornings 10.00 am - 12 noon**  
**August 2, 9, 16, 23.**

**Praying The Psalms - "Still full of sap, still green"**  
Bernard McGrath OSB, **4 Tuesday mornings,**  
**10 am – 12 noon August 7, 14, 21, 28.**

**For more details see leaflets at the back of the church.**

*Aquinas Academy is committed to making education in the faith as available as possible. No one should feel excluded for financial reasons. If you cannot afford the fees, make a donation.*  
Michael Whelan SM, Director

### PARISH DIARY THIS WEEK

Mon, 9<sup>th</sup> July: **Morning Prayer of the Church**, 7.45 a.m.  
Tue, 10<sup>th</sup> July: **Morning Prayer of the Church**, 7.45 a.m.  
**Christian Meditation**, Crypt 12.15 - 12.55 p.m.  
**Evening Prayer of the Church**, 5.15 p.m.  
**Young Adults**, Crypt 6.30 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.  
**Legion of Mary**,  
Level 3, 141 Harrington Street, 6.15 p.m.  
Wed, 11<sup>th</sup> July: **St Benedict**, abbot  
**Morning Prayer of the Church**, 7.45 a.m.  
**Novena**, 12.30 p.m. and 5.00 p.m.  
**Bible Study Group**, Crypt 6.30 p.m. - 7.30 p.m.  
Thurs, 12<sup>th</sup> July: **Morning Prayer of the Church**, 7.45 a.m.  
**Rosary** in the Crypt at 12.30 p.m.  
**Evening Prayer of the Church**, 5.15 p.m.  
Fri, 13<sup>th</sup> July: **Morning Prayer of the Church**, 7.45 a.m.  
**Evening Prayer of the Church**, 5.15 p.m.  
Sat, 14<sup>th</sup> July:  
Sun, 15<sup>th</sup> July: **15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**, Year B

If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on (02) 9390 5812.

## ANNIVERSARY YEAR 2018

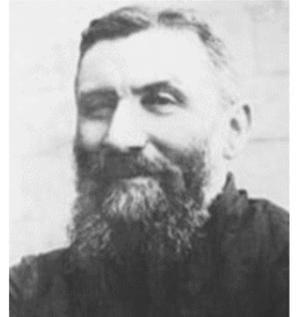
### HISTORICAL NOTES – PART THIRTEEN:

PETER FRANCIS LE RENNTEL SM

NOTES BY MICHAEL WHELAN SM

Fr Peter Le Rennetel SM was the fourth Parish Priest of St Patrick's, a position he held for eleven years. Le Rennetel anticipated going to the Pacific missions but was diverted to Sydney where he arrived in late 1879. Formally or informally, this marked a turning point in the Marist General Administration's view of St Patrick's. Peter McMurrich SM writes:

"Australia was seen primarily as a service facility for Marist mission operations in the Pacific, and there was no commitment to implanting the Society (of Mary) in Australia. With the exception of a small number of hand-picked and talented administrators, who had responsibility for administering the Pacific mission territories, most Marists who found their way to Australia in the later nineteenth and early twentieth centuries were former missionaries sent back from the front lines because of physical, spiritual, or moral limitations" (*The Harmonizing Influence of Religion*, 26).



Le Rennetel was an outstanding person by any measure. He was thirty years of age when he arrived in Sydney. His facility with English was excellent – he had spent two years teaching in Ireland. He very quickly found himself at home with the predominantly Irish parishioners who nick-named him "O'Rennetel". Peter McMurrich continues:

"Le Rennetel's talents and capacities were wide-ranging. An astute financial manager, he oversaw and financed three major parish building projects, installed a spectacular polished brass altar imported from France, and organized the replacement of the church organ, all in a decade of severe financial depression. A charming, witty, and daring speaker, he was able to attract and hold an audience, whether speaking on secular or religious topics" (McMurrich, op cit, 31).

With his personality and pastoral manner – no doubt with the support of Piquet and Ginisty – he did much to make St Patrick's a centre of devotion and spiritual nourishment in Sydney. He had a close involvement with the St Vincent de Paul Society established by Charles O'Neill with the support of Fr Heuzé, his predecessor. The three major parish buildings Le Rennetel oversaw and financed were, the old presbytery at 137 Harrington Street (opened on 16 March 1890) – now home to an insurance broking firm, but still owned by the Archdiocese – "Catholic Federation Hall" on the lower corner of Harrington and Grosvenor Streets, (opened on 31 March 1891) – still a fine looking building but used as office space and no longer owned by the Archdiocese, and the Sisters of Mercy convent on the upper corner of Grosvenor and Harrington Streets, opposite Federation Hall (opened on 10 December 1893) – now home to the Marist priests' community.

Fr Le Rennetel died – probably of a cerebral hemorrhage - on 25 July, 1904. An estimated 40,000 people blocked Sydney's streets to pay their last respects.

### Sunday First Collection:

Support of the Marist Priests at St Patrick's.

**Sunday Second Collection:**  
General Parish Expenses.

### Marriages:

Refer to website:  
<http://www.stpatschurchhill.org>

**Baptism:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month at 1.15 p.m. Refer to website:  
<http://www.stpatschurchhill.org>

**Historical Tour:** Every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month.  
*Bookings are essential and made via the Coffee Shop.*

### Regular Electronic Donations

Please consider donating to our parish electronically on a regular basis.

There are yellow information slips at the back of the church.

**COFFEE SHOP** is open from Sunday to Friday from 10.00am to 2.00pm Closed public holidays. Volunteers are always welcome!

**PIETY STORE** is open every Sunday from 10.00am to 2.00pm. Visit Sr Fidelis and Norman to find an amazing selection of religious objects, books and lots more.