

Dear Parishioners,

I am constantly saddened by the unmannerly exit each Sunday, of many in the congregation, who come to receive Holy Communion and then immediately exit the church before the Mass has ended. I understand that sometimes this is due to a lack of understanding of the Mass. Therefore, I ask that you read the article below and reflect on it. If you are one of those who leave Mass early each week, perhaps this article will help you to understand why it is important that we all stay to the very end.

Elizabeth Harrington, from the Brisbane liturgy office, is a respected liturgist with a deep knowledge of the theology of the Mass
- Fr. Sunny

"It's not over 'til it's over!"

A few (people) mentioned the practice of people joining the communion procession, receiving communion and immediately - or very shortly after - walking out of the church. The impression this gives, said one person, is that these people "got" what they came for so there is no need for them to stay around any longer. Some Catholics don't seem to be phased by people leaving early because they are accustomed to it, but visitors and new Catholics find it very disconcerting because it does not happen in other Churches (except perhaps with the Orthodox where the liturgy lasts around three hours!).

The practice is probably a hangover from pre-Vatican II days when one's Mass obligation was met as long as one was present for the offertory, the consecration and the priest's communion. Hopefully we have grown out of such legalistic behaviour and have a better understanding of why and how we gather for worship as a community of faith.

It is considered to be totally socially unacceptable for someone to get up and leave a dinner party as soon as they had finished eating without any thank-yous or farewells. Walking out before Mass has ended is no less bad-mannered. For a start, there are jobs to be done when Mass is over - tasks like closing windows and tidying up. Those who leave early shirk their responsibility as members of the parish community.

Besides being socially unacceptable, those who leave immediately after communion absent themselves from the last of the four parts of the Mass - the Concluding Rite. The Concluding Rite is the shortest and simplest part of the Mass. According to the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, it consists of: brief announcements (if necessary), the priest's greeting and blessing, the dismissal of the people, and the reverencing of the altar by the priest, deacon and other ministers. (#90)

The fact that the term "Mass" is derived from the dismissal (the Latin *ite Missa est*) suggests that this part of the Mass is very important. The dismissal is not just a way to end the celebration or to say farewell to those who have gathered, although both of these are included. As the General Instruction puts it, the dismissal of the assembly sends us out so that "each may go back to doing good works, praising and blessing God". (#90)

The Concluding Rites of the Mass, though brief, remind us that we are all expected to do our part in carrying on Christ's mission of proclaiming God's word and of serving others. The announcements following the Prayer after Communion offer the assembly opportunities for living out the commitment which Eucharist entails during the coming week, for example, assisting at the food pantry for the needy, gathering for evening prayer on Wednesday, offering transport for the elderly, visiting the sick and housebound. Those who leave early walk away from all of this." - *Liturgy Lines by Elizabeth Harrington 19 October 2014*

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve: Wednesday, 24th December

Family Mass - Carols at 6pm, Mass at 6.30pm
Evening Mass - Carols at 9pm, Mass at 9.30pm
Midnight Mass - Carols at 11.30pm, Mass at 12 midnight
Please stay for Christmas Cake.

Christmas Day: Thursday, 25th December

Masses at 7.30am, 9.30am (carols at 9am) and 11.30am (Italian)

NO EVENING MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

New Year Eve: Wednesday, 31st December

11.30pm Adoration, 12 midnight - Mass of Thanksgiving.
You are invited to join us for a cuppa after.

Prayer for Christians in the Middle East

Archbishop Costelloe invites all parishes to join in a day of prayer this weekend, Sunday 7 December, in solidarity with Christians in the war torn countries of the Middle East.

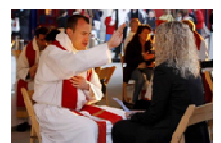
"Almighty God and Creator, you are the Father of all people on the earth. I beseech You to guide all the nations and their leaders in the ways of justice and peace. Protect us from the evils of injustice, prejudice, exploitation, conflict and war. Help us to put away mistrust, bitterness and hatred. Teach us to cease the storing and using of implements of war.

Lead us to find peace, respect and freedom. Unite us in the making and sharing of tools of peace against ignorance, poverty, disease and oppression. Grant that we may grow in harmony and friendship as brothers and sisters, created in your image, to your honour and praise". Amen.

2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION FOR ADVENT

Wednesday, 17 December 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Please join your parish family for this communal rite of Reconciliation, to express our sorrow for the many ways in which we have failed to live the light of Christ, both as individual and as a Christian community. If you have not experienced this beautiful Sacrament for some time, then make this your Christmas gift to yourself - peace of mind and freedom of heart. Encourage those you love to come with you.



SPREAD THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE LETTERBOX DROP FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Reach out to your neighbours and friends by collecting a pack of invitations to our parish Advent and Christmas celebrations and delivering them to the letterboxes in your area. Advent calls us as individuals, as families and as Christian communities, to "prepare a way for the Lord" (Matthew 3:3). Please see the lists in the foyer and cross off the streets you will deliver to. **Please do not deliver to streets outside our parish boundary.**



Important
DATE!

To Do:

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Don't
Forget!

Reminder!

Parish Prayer Concerns

Recently Deceased: Kevin Hodgkin and William Linton Ravenscroft;**Anniversaries:** Kevin Thomas Murphy, Giovanni Principe, Paula Monteiro, Annetta Sgro, Herlena Devi Menoa, Giocondo Colantonio, Celine Anime, Andrew Pow, Bosco Lu and Kevin Neil McManus;**Deceased:** Grace Angelina Cardaci, Arthur Pereira and Warren Lafrenais;**The Sick of the Parish:** Lisa Delaney, Priscilla Grainger and all who are in need of our prayers.*"Come to me, you who labour and are overburdened,
And I will give you rest"*

SPECIAL MOVIE DAY FOR KIDS "On Angel Wings"

**Wednesday 17 December
at 10am**

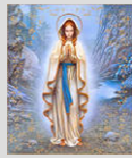
A brand new Christmas movie to get the children in the Christmas spirit.

Some surprise fun and treats for the children

Entry by gold coin donation

**RSVP essential to Parish office on 9276 8500 or
on the list in the church foyer**

HOUR OF GRACE

*Feast of The Immaculate Conception of Mary*All are invited to an hour of Grace in honour of this great Feast Day. **MONDAY 8 DECEMBER 12PM TO 1PM**
Please bring a plate for a shared lunch.**LIFELINK RAFFLE
Next Weekend
At All Masses**

Thank you to Catholic Church Insurance, who has donated a lovely Christmas Hamper to our parish. Tickets are \$1 per ticket. All proceeds will go to the Archbishop's Christmas Appeal for LifeLink. The Raffle will be drawn on Tuesday, 16 December and the winner will be advertised in the Parish Bulletin.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

A total of \$2,336.45 was collected during our recent Christmas Appeal. Heartfelt thanks to all your generous supports. Happy Christmas, safe holidays and a prosperous New Year to you all - John Orzanski on behalf of St Vinnies, Morley/Dianella

CAN YOU PROVIDE A LOVING HOME?

A parishioner, a young woman who is seriously ill, can no longer care for her two beloved cats. One is an indoor pet, the other lives outdoors. She will soon need a home for both. Are you a cat lover who would be willing to provide a home? Please phone Billie or Angela at the parish office—92768500

**PILGRIM STATUE:** This week in the home of Mrs F Savy, 36a Lingfield Way, Morley
Ph: 9275 3288

Calendar of Saints

08 Dec: The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary**11 Dec: St Damasus I****12 Dec: Our Lady of Guadalupe****13 Dec: St Lucy, young Christian Martyr****YOU ARE INVITED TO
IJ YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY****Friday, 19th December****7pm-9pm for Year 6 - 12s.**

All are welcome and bring your friends!

For more info please contact Emma
on 0419094433**SHOPFRONT SALAD MAKERS
NEEDED**Many helpers are needed to make rice salad and potato salad for The Shopfront Christmas luncheon for the homeless & those less fortunate on 13 Dec. If you can help on **Friday 12 December from 9am at the parish centre** please contact Sue at the parish office on 9276 8500.

CAN YOU HELP SHOPFRONT?

The Shopfront in Maylands is holding a Christmas Party for the homeless and those struggling in life. They are in need of donations of cans of cool drink for the Christmas



luncheon on 13 December. Please bring your donations to Parish Office by Thursday, 11 December or contact Shopfront on 9371 9109.

ACCOMMODATION NEEDED

Mature parishioner seeks accommodation in granny flat or similar private area. Fully independent, extremely tidy and able to assist with manual tasks. Excellent references will be provided on request. If you can help, please contact Parish office on 9276 8500.



In Our Church

Morning Prayer of the Church: Mon-Fri, 6.40am; Sat, 7.45am**Morning Mass:** Mon-Fri: 7am & 9am, Sat: 8.30am**Saturday Vigil Mass:** 6.30pm**Sunday Masses:** 7.30am, 9.30am (Children's Liturgy during school terms), 11.30am (Italian), 6pm (Youth Mass 2nd & 4th Sundays)**Reconciliation:** Saturday 10-11am and 5-6pm.**Perpetual Novena in honour of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel:** Wednesday 7.15pm**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:**

Friday 9.30am - 10.30am and 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Baptisms, Weddings & Sacraments:

Please contact the Parish Office.

Our Parish Team

Infant Jesus Parish

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