





etUsPray for Afghanistan, so that the clamour of

weapons might cease and solutions can be found at the table of dialogue. Only thus can the battered population of that country return to their own homes and live in peace.

## Humility, kindness lead to strength

Extract from Eureka Street, Barry Gittins — 17 August

In his 83 years, social psychologist, researcher and author Hugh Mackay has seen the sun rise and set on regimes, ideologies, cults, fads, movements and manias.

He has also seen language used to clarify and build common ground, or to confuse and demoralise. One constant throughout these years has been his fascination with how human beings treat each other and their planet, and why.

'Loneliness is an extreme outcome of lockdowns and a grave problem,' Mackay notes, 'but some people have also spoken of the benefits of forced relaxation and re-acquiring concerns for others. It is a silver lining of lockdowns.'

As to his theme of kindness, I ask, what is its opposite? Active malice?

'I don't think it is active malice; that is an extreme opposite of kindness,' he responds thoughtfully. 'It is indifference, yes; indifference to our common humanity. But perhaps the real opposite of kindness is self-absorption. If we lose sight of other people's needs and allow ourselves to be totally absorbed by our own concerns and ambitions, then we have lost our way to kindness.'



Is selflessness, then, in short supply in Canberra?

'Kindness is not part of the ethos of our federal government, or the modus operandi of our prime minister. Our national parliament is based on winners and losers. Kindness

is also a problem for many people in institutional religions, which get caught up in dogma, doctrine and creeds.

'We can disagree with each other, but we can do it kindly, not as an ego contest. Compassionate engagement with other people's views is quite consistent with robust differences of opinion.'

'In the case of Christian denominations,' he adds, 'they can easily lose sight of the essential teachings of Jesus, of kindness and compassion for others, as spelled out in the Beatitudes and the Sermon on the Mount. The good life is not just about which dogmatic boxes to tick — it is about inclusion and empathy and kindness, not who's in and who's out.'

Mass Offerings:	Your prayers are requested for the following:
Recently Deceased:	Carmel Binns, Judy Soemono, Fr Bernie McGrane msc, Sister Anne O'Shaughnessy oln, Maria Sarno, Marilou Jocson.
Other Deceased:	Jean Flaherty, Jeff Colenso, Elna Coyco, Nilda Coyco.
Anniversary:	Nilda Coyco, Muriel Eves (8th August), Frank Hicks (Fr Phil's dad)
Sick:	Mariana Wagei, Melinda Craig, Goretti McMonagle, Beverly Flint, June Ferguson, Peter Allan, Petra King , Michael Sweeney, Rowan Tierney, Alison Elliott, John Cavanagh, Janet Neenan, Justin Wood, Rob Williams.

## **Online Masses**

www.facebook.com/olshparish.randwick www.standrewsmalabar.org.au/online-masses www.citysouthcatholiccommunity.org.au www.northsydneycatholics.com www.sydneycatholic.org/live-masses www.waverleycatholic.org.au/our-parish/mass-times



Dear Parishioners,

As we continue our lockdown, I remind you that we Randwick local government residents (i.e. Coogee) cannot shop at Bayside locations such as South Point shopping centre, Bunnings Eastgardens or Westfield Eastgardens Please keep safe.

We are in the process of transferring all September listed **Baptisms** to new dates; we will be very busy, with maybe 25 families waiting now—



but hope to arrange for all families to have their baptisms before March (i.e. Lent) next year.

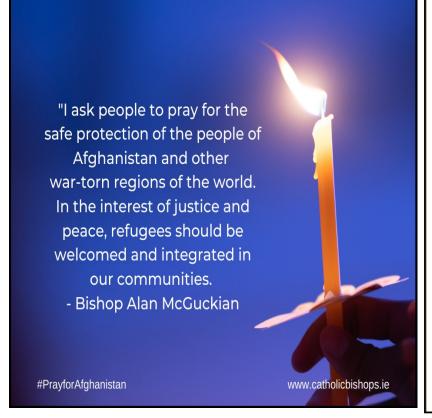
**First Communions** are still planned for November. We will keep in contact with all those who are registered.

Take Care & God Bless, Fr Phil

## This Sunday is Social Justice Sunday—

The Social Justice Statement 2021-22: *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*, affirms that "we human beings need a change of heart, mind, and behaviour". It draws from Scripture, from the theological tradition, from Catholic Social Teaching, and from the wisdom of the world, including the insights of the First Nations.

The full statement can be read on the Australian Bishops Conference website in their Justice, Ecology and Peace section. Some printed copies are available from Parish Office. *Fr Phil* 





## NEW CHECK-IN CARD IF YOU CAN'T CHECK-IN WITH YOUR MOBILE

The new COVID-19 check-in card is a printed card with a QR code unique to you that has your contact details. It means you can easily check-in when you visit a business, simply present your card to a staff member who will scan it for you. It will populate your details into the NSW Gov webform for a speedy check-in. The check-in card isn't mandatory. It's another way to check-in to businesses if you don't have a mobile, or if you find it difficult to check-in with your mobile. COVID-19 check-in cards are for people who can't use the COVID safe check in tool at venues. Print and use your card to check in at certain COVID Safe venues. Click here to create your Checkin Card: https://apply.service.nsw.gov.au/covidcheckin-card/. For more info call 13 77 88.



abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or <u>safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org</u>.

You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest, who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. **St Brigid's Parish Coogee Safeguarding Officer is Sharon Waller.** 

