



Reflections

September

Seek Growth



Find



Life



Know love

“FAITH YOUR FEAR” Lee

Morning Service 10am is ONLINE (zoom link)

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89889506013?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89889506013?pwd=V3BmbnY5ejlCY3R6bXlwYW5DZnIVUT09)

[pwd=V3BmbnY5ejlCY3R6bXlwYW5DZnIVUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89889506013?pwd=V3BmbnY5ejlCY3R6bXlwYW5DZnIVUT09)

Meeting ID: 898 8950 6013 Passcode: 314997

For phone connection go to the Website

Evening Service 6.30pm is ONLINE (zoom link)

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84040612569?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84040612569?pwd=TkhYdHVXUytJVncwU29PM3BLYndUUT09)

[pwd=TkhYdHVXUytJVncwU29PM3BLYndUUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84040612569?pwd=TkhYdHVXUytJVncwU29PM3BLYndUUT09)

Meeting ID: 840 4061 2569 Passcode: 125410

For phone connection go to the Website

All Are Welcome at MCC Sydney

We have built a house of worship for the loud and proud, the lost, the lonely and the enquiring alike. We have welcomed those with families and those without. We have catered to women, men and non-binary siblings who have felt alienated by other churches. We have supported beloved friends who are living with HIV. We have welcomed refugees, new migrants and visitors from abroad. The Spirit truly does move at MCC Sydney. We are committed to teaching and learning more of the message of Christ, helping each other learn and grow with God and spreading the gospel in a supportive, non-bullying manner. If we had to pick a single thing we wanted to be famous for, we'd probably say the way we welcome anyone who wants to worship with us. And is seeking connection and community.

Jesus said: “A new commandment I give to you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.” At MCC Sydney, you are loved, you are accepted and you are free. And we say **THANKS BE TO GOD**

Editor's Corner

A Word From The Dominican Sisters.

Rooted in Mission

Dear Friends,

Not long ago I received a small plant as a gift. I was delighted by this earthy-green surprise! I began to think about how satisfying it is to watch something grow.

We might look at prayer in much the same way. It is the seed from which we grow, in our relationship with God. Through prayer we share our innermost thoughts and feelings with



the One who always understands. In this sharing, our relationship deepens.

And, as with the seed, prayer too needs rich soil for its roots to thrive. The roots of our prayers mature throughout our lives—amidst the joys and the hardships. But we draw strength from each other, our faith, and our loving God. Here, we set our roots- in this firm foundation that may still see us shaken, but not uprooted.

As you know, it is through prayer and study, community and service, that we live our lives in mission each and every day. Above all, we must all fortify the roots of our prayers and our lives with the presence. Of Jesus working through us.



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Stay tuned for updates.

Lifewords

THE LONELY CROWD

Genesis 2:18

Then God said, "It is not good for the one to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for them." (NLT)

The very first thing God called "not good" about this world was aloneness. The first



human beings were made for belonging, not aloneness. We were not created to be hermits, to be utterly self sufficient. We are not meant to live in splendid isolation.

Most of us realise this and accept the fact we are social beings. It is possible to be lonely in a crowd. It is possible to have many acquaintances and even friends and still be lonely. This is because CONNECTION is the vital element we can miss. We need deep connection, empathetic understanding. I can be busily active on social media and feel deeply lonely. A few "likes" and a long list of "friends" does not mean an end to loneliness.

There will be some who will conclude that all we need is the companionship of God. But if that were so, why was God concerned with human aloneness in the first place? God didn't say we only need God. God said one human being needed another human being. Overcoming besetting loneliness needs more than God, more than just other people. It needs connection, insight, love. If you have all this, never let it go.

Blessings, David Reay

I believe God wants you to know

... In every moment of every day, you are presented with opportunities to show yourself, those around you, and God, who you truly are. From the seemingly inconsequential decisions you must make each day, to the various challenges that arise in your life -- both large and small -- these are your opportunities to better know yourself and let others know you through your actions.

This is why you may want to pay attention to what you do in all of these moments, to be present and accounted for, and to make choices that are aligned with what you believe in and feel is important. So at the end of each day, when you reflect on what you've done with those moments, you can feel good about the person you've shown yourself to be.

And if in that reflection you recall moments where you did not reach the heights of Divine expression to which you aspire, you can resolve to do better next time, and to be that higher version of yourself tomorrow.



Your Friend, Neale Donald Walsch



A Blessing For You

May God stand with you when you are uncertain and don't know which way to turn, leaving you unsure of your path. At those times may you sense God standing beside you, longing for your happiness and gently nudging you toward your truth. May you enter the place within you that hears this God and leads you to that deep-down knowing even in the midst of uncertainty. May the Voice of God lead you and bless you. Maxine Shonk, OP

*Streams in the Desert***TRUST IN GOD'S PROMISES***Rom 4:17 The Inclusive Bible**...God who ...calls into being things that don't exist-*

What does that mean? Why did Abraham do this thing: **he dared to believe God**. It seemed an impossibility at his age that Abraham should become the father of a child; it looked incredible; and yet God called him a “father of many nations” before there was a sign of a child; and so Abraham called himself “father” because God called him so. That is faith; it is to believe and assert what God says. “Faith steps on seeming void, and finds the rock beneath.”

Only say that you have what God says you have, and God will make good to you all that you believe. Only it must be **real faith**, all there is in you must go into that act of faith to God. —Crumb

Be willing to live by believing and neither think nor desire to live in any other way. Be willing to see every outward light extinguished, to see the eclipse of every star in the blue heavens, leaving nothing but darkness and perils around, if God will only leave in thy soul the inner radiance, the pure bright lamp which faith has kindled. —Thomas C. Upham

The moment has come when you must get off the perch of distrust, out of the nest of seeming safety, and onto the **wings of faith**. Only **trust God**; “thou shalt be “held up.” And you know the promises of God are there. “But it seems an unlikely thing to come about that my poor weak soul should be girded with such strength.” Has God said it shall? “That my tempted, yielding nature shall be victor in the strife.” Has God said it shall? “That my timorous, trembling heart shall find peace?” Has God said it shall? For, if God has, you surely do not mean to give God the lie! Has God spoken, and shall God not do it? If you have gotten a “sure word” of promise—trust it absolutely. — J. B. Figgis, M. A.

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The New Normal Living with the COVID Pandemic

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the novel coronavirus a pandemic. By this point, we've mostly adapted to a new normal—1.5m of physical separation, mask-wearing, plexiglass dividers, social bubbles, virtual church attendance, chats and appointments, and all the other COVID-19 adaptations that weren't yet a daily occurrence a year ago.

But here are some changes that we didn't expect.

The **racial disparity** of the Health Care provision to our indigenous, low income and refugee individuals is being addressed.

The connection finally between physical health and **mental health** is more clear.

The importance of **connection** within the community has been highlighted.

Telehealth has changed the way we see the Doctor or Therapist from the comfort of our homes and without having to check in and mask up.

Shopping for more people has gone online. Online sales have skyrocketed and more grocery and food outlets are delivering.

Church Attendance online is now possible for those living further out of Sydney or interstate or anywhere in the world.

Because of isolation and the other COVID restrictions people are **not spreading other diseases** as frequently.

Many Families, Households and couples are **relearning how to enjoy being together**.

Houses are being renovated and cleaned by imprisoned residents. Lots of the long overdue sorting and clearing is being done.

People are able to spend **more time being still, meditating, praying, appreciating...**

Many **small businesses have become creative** in how to still provide their service.

We are realising and accepting that **WE ARE ONE WORLD and ALL IN THIS TOGETHER**



It's so easy to pay electronically. Or use PAYPAL

Direct Deposit Details:

BSB: 082-048

Account: 509412200

Name: Metropolitan Community Church Sydney



Fast Payments:

PayID: treasurer@mccsydney.org

BSB: 082-356

Account: 780 749 9652

Name: Metropolitan Community Church Sydney

ONLINE & IN PERSON CHURCH SERVICES:

Please check with individual Churches:

Acceptance Catholics Friday 8.00pm

Bedford & Stations St's Newtown

CRAVE Church Sunday 4pm, Rev Dr Karl Hand

197 Macquarie St, Martin Place, St Stephens

Leichhardt Baptist Church Sunday 10am Rev Don Wright

Forster & Lord St's, Leichhardt,

MCC Brisbane Sunday 6pm

52 Merthyr Rd, New Farm (Uniting Church)

MCC Melbourne Sunday 10am & 6.30pm

12 Power St, Hawthorn

MCC Sydney Sunday 10am & 6.30pm

96 Crystal Street, Petersham

Spark Church 5pm every 2nd Sunday

Pastors Elizabeth Plant & Bec Apted

3 Bridges Community Centre 23 St Georges Rd

Penshurst

The Open Door Community of Christ Sunday

6pm Pastor Sue Palmer

74 Laycock St, Cranebrook

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Questions, adding/changing your details, join FB closed group, advertising Events

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MCC Good Shepherd, Granville

Tuesday @ 7pm

Rev Robert Clark 0431361519

mccgoodshepherd3@gmail.com

CRAVE MCC, Sydney City

Sunday @ 4pm

Rev Karl Hand 0425220635

redchiron@gmail.com

Our Church Building is currently closed due to COVID.

However,



WE are the Church.



Everyone is welcome to CHURCH ONLINE

Weekly Zoom links are on Page 1

