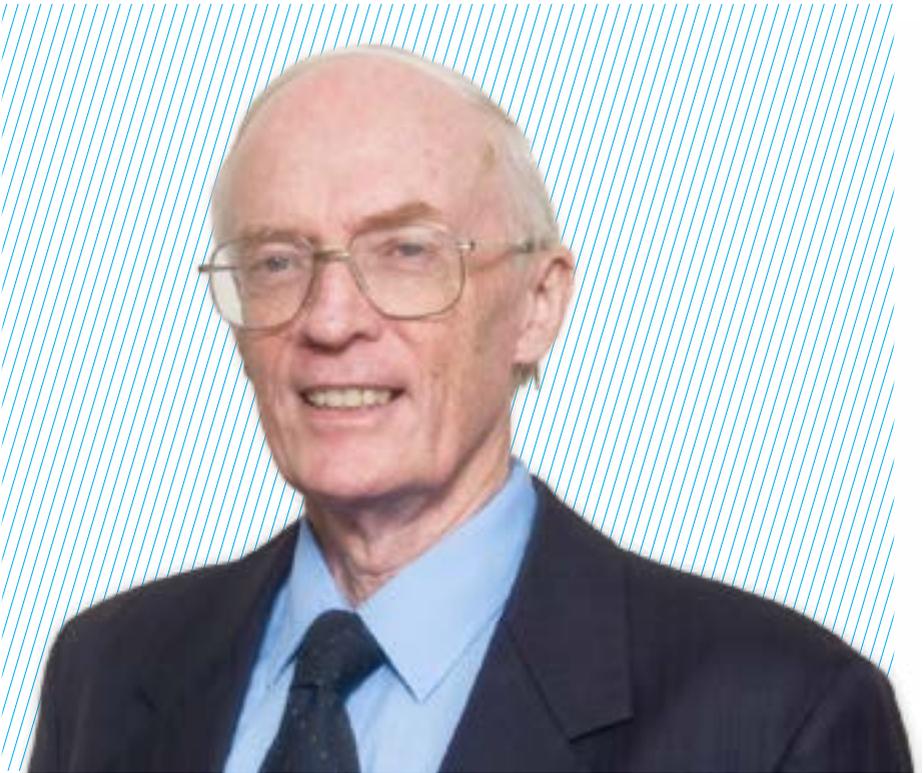


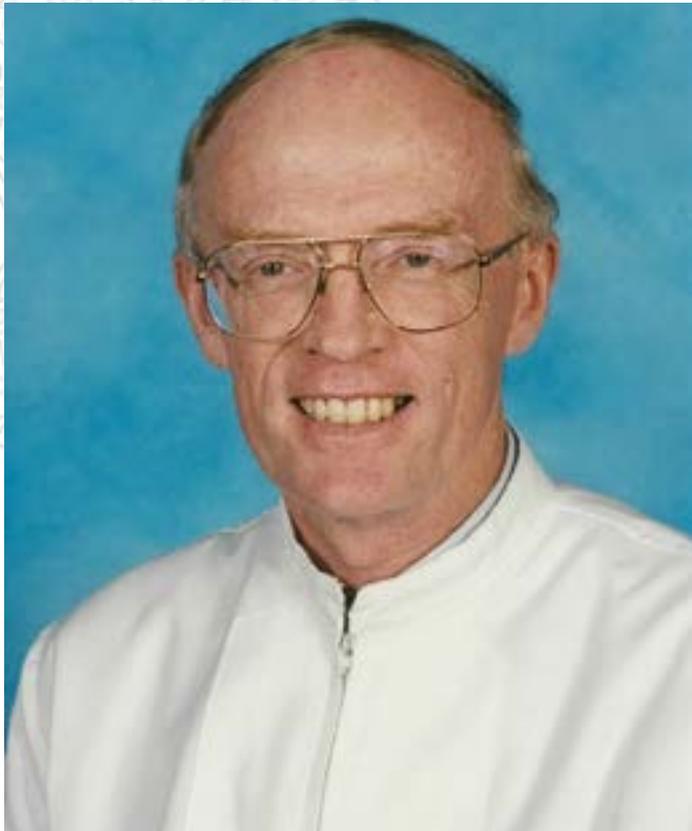


MASS OF THANKSGIVING  
FOR THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF  
BROTHER  
CHRISTOPHER GORRINGE FSC



THURSDAY, 16 APRIL 2020

DE LA SALLE BROTHERS' PARMENIE COMMUNITY, KENSINGTON  
CELEBRANT: FR CHRIS MCPHEE MSC, PROVINCIAL



## **BR CHRISTOPHER GORRINGE FSC**

Christopher Francis

Born 10 September 1945

Son of Allan William and Mary Margaret Gorringe

### INITIAL FORMATION

Year of Entry: 1963

Postulancy: January 1963 - Castle Hill

Novitiate: April 1963 - Castle Hill

Reception of Habit: April 1963 - Castle Hill

First Vows Taken: April 1964 - Castle Hill

Perpetual Vows Taken: December 1970 - Castle Hill

### MINISTRY & COMMUNITY APPOINTMENTS

#### **January 1968 – December 1973**

De La Salle College Armidale

*Teaching, Boarding Supervisor, Sportsmaster (1973)*

Community: Armidale

#### **January 1974 – December 1978**

St Michael's College Henley Beach

*Teaching, Assistant Sportsmaster*

Community: Henley Beach

#### **January 1979 – December 1984**

*Study; Residential Supervision (Part-Time)*

Community: Beaudesert

#### **January 1985 – December 1990**

St Michael's College Henley Beach

*Teaching, Assistant Sportsmaster*

Community: Henley Beach

#### **January 1991 – December 1994**

Frawley College Scarborough

*Principal; CEO - Redcliffe Peninsula Catholic Schools  
Amalgamation*

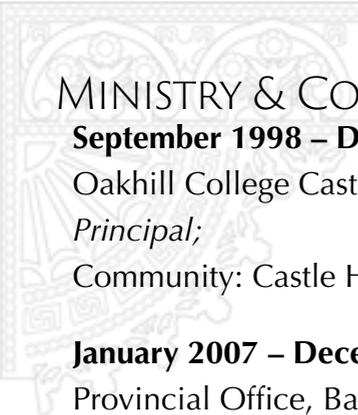
Community: Scarborough

#### **January 1995 – July 1998**

Brisbane Catholic Education

*Area Coordinator, Special Project Officer;*

Community: Scarborough



## MINISTRY & COMMUNITY APPOINTMENTS

**September 1998 – December 2006**

Oakhill College Castle Hill

*Principal;*

Community: Castle Hill

**January 2007 – December 2007**

Provincial Office, Bankstown -

*Incorporation processes*

Southern Cross Catholic College Scarborough

*Acting Principal (Aug-Oct 2007);*

Community: Castle Hill

**January 2008 – December 2012**

Provincial Office Bankstown

*Administration Support – Incorporation Processes*

Community: 16 Roma Avenue, Kensington

**January 2013 – Present**

Provincial Office Bankstown

*Auxiliary Visitor (Jan 2013 – Sept 2018);*

*District Bursar (2009 – Present);*

*Acting Br Visitor (Feb– Sept 2014);*

Community: Parmenie Community, Kensington



## INTRODUCTION

**Brother Peter Ryan FSC, Director**

## ENTRANCE HYMN

**Come As You Are**

Paul Gurr, O.Carm

Come as you are, that's how I want you.  
Come as you are, feel quite at home.  
Close to my heart, loved and forgiven  
Come as you are, why stand alone?

No need to fear, love sets no limits.  
No need to fear, love never ends.  
Don't run away, shamed, and disheartened.  
Rest in my love, trust me again.

I came to call sinners, not just the virtuous.  
I came to bring peace, not to condemn.  
Each time you fail to live by mot promise  
Why do you think I'd love you the less?

Don't run away, shamed, or disheartened  
Come as you are, why stand alone?

Come as you are, that's how I love you.  
Come as you are, trust me again.  
Nothing can change the love that I bear you.  
All will be well, just come as you are.





## INTRODUCTORY RITES

Fr Chris: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

Fr Chris: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL: And with your spirit.

*Please be seated*

Fr Chris: In 1963, Brother Chris was received into the Brothers of the Christian Schools. In all the years since then, he has given life to this community through his fidelity to God, his commitment to his Brothers and his service to God's people.

We welcome him for the last time to this sacred place of worship. We reverence his body in gratitude for his many years among us



## REVERENCING THE BODY

Fr Chris: In the waters of Baptism, Chris died with Christ and rose with him to new life. May he now share with him eternal glory.

All: Amen.

*Sprinkling of the coffin with holy water.*



## PLACING OF SYMBOLS

Fr Chris: As we gather to commend Chris to our God of love we place on his coffin some symbols of his life of fidelity and service.

### **The Crucifix**

Br Peter: We place a crucifix on his coffin, a sign both of his faith and of the suffering that he experienced during his life's journey.

### **The Rule**

Br Garry: As the Rule is placed on the coffin we recall that Chris was a devoted and loyal member of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools.

### **Liturgy of the Hours**

Br Lewis: An important aspect of Chris' life was his prayer life. Chris prayed daily seeking God in his own experiences and bringing to God all those he loved and for whom he had special care.

### **Red Pen**

Br David: Chris had an erudite mind, expecting accuracy attention to detail in his and others' work. The red pen represents all the red pens Chris used over the years to edit and correct his and others work so as to present the best representation of what was being recorded.

Fr Chris: May Chris be welcomed into the company of those whom he loved and taught, and all those who were touched by his life.

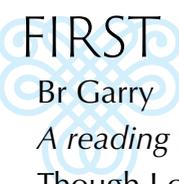
All: Amen.



## OPENING PRAYER

Fr Chris: All loving God, we pray for our brother, Chris, who responded to your call to give of himself to others by following Jesus in the way of John Baptist de La Salle, as a Brother of the Christian Schools. May those whose lives have been touched by his ministry be able to respond as generously as he did in all circumstances of life. We pray that you will welcome Chris home and take him into your loving care forever. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.



## FIRST READING

Br Garry (1 Corinthians 13: 1-13)

*A reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians*

Though I command languages both human and angelic -- if I speak without love, I am no more than a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. And though I have the power of prophecy, to penetrate all mysteries and knowledge, and though I have all the faith necessary to move mountains -- if I am without love, I am nothing. Though I should give away to the poor all that I possess, and even give up my body to be burned -- if I am without love, it will do me no good whatever. Love is always patient and kind; love is never jealous; love is not boastful or conceited, it is never rude and never seeks its own advantage, it does not take offence or store up grievances. Love does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but finds its joy in the truth. It is always ready to make allowances, to trust, to hope and to endure whatever comes. Love never comes to an end. But if there are prophecies, they will be done away with; if tongues, they will fall silent; and if knowledge, it will be done away with. For we know only imperfectly, and we prophesy imperfectly; but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will be done away with. When I was a child, I used to talk like a

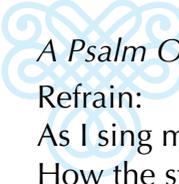
child, and see things as a child does, and think like a child; but now that I have become an adult, I have finished with all childish ways. Now we see only reflections in a mirror, mere riddles, but then we shall be seeing face to face. Now I can know only imperfectly; but then I shall know just as fully as I am myself known. As it is, these remain: faith, hope and love, the three of them; and the greatest of them is love."

*The Word of the Lord.*

ALL: Thanks be to God.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 8



*A Psalm Of Thanksgiving*

Refrain:

As I sing my heart's thanksgiving, and my eyes look heavenward,  
How the stars You flung like jewels,  
bid Your welcome, shine Your light.  
As I marvel at Your moon rise, I'm in awe, yet I ask,  
"What am I that You should love me,  
and hold me as Your dearest love of all?"

1. You crown me with honour and glory, and You set all things under my feet. You have made me a little less than the angels, even if I fly often away.
2. In my anxious and brow-beaten moments, You comfort me, fill me with peace. When my foes threaten, dare, and surround me. You're my strength, You're my light and my shield.
3. How exalted Your name O Almighty, how lofty the work of Your hands. Yet how closely, how dearly You draw me, to Your love, Your divine majesty.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy are those who have died in the Lord; let them rest from their labours for their good deeds go with them.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

(Matthew 5: 1-16)

*A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.*

Seeing the crowds, he went onto the mountain. And when he was seated his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: How blessed are the poor in spirit: the kingdom of Heaven is theirs. Blessed are the gentle: they shall have the earth as inheritance. Blessed are those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for uprightness: they shall have their fill. Blessed are the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Blessed are the pure in heart: they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be recognised as children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of uprightness: the kingdom of Heaven is theirs. 'Blessed are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven; this is how they persecuted the prophets before you. 'You are salt for the earth. But if salt loses its taste, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled under people's feet.' You are light for the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in people's sight, so that, seeing your good works, they may give praise to your Father in heaven. *The Gospel of the Lord.*

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## HOMILY

### PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Fr Chris: Gathered here in the presence of the risen Christ, the source of our faith, hope and love we pray in thanksgiving for your great love manifested in the life of our brother, Chris.

Br Mandy: We pray for the gift of eternal life: That Brother Chris will be received into the Lord's loving embrace.

**Lord, hear us.**

We pray for Brother Chris that the Lord will reward him with peace and joy for the witness, ministry and goodness he shared throughout his life.

**Lord, hear us.**

For Brother Chris' family and friends, especially his siblings, John, Anthony, Anne, Joseph and Gerard - that in these difficult days they may be sustained by their faith, and by the knowledge that they will be reunited with Brother Chris one day in the Lord's heavenly Kingdom.

**Lord, hear us.**

Br Arian: We pray for all nurses and carers, particularly the nurses and carers who were so good to Brother Chris in the last months of his life.

**Lord, hear us.**

For all the faithful departed, especially our deceased family and relatives and members, affiliates and benefactors of our congregation - that they may dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

**Lord, hear us.**

Fr Chris: Father we know that in your love and kindness you listen to our prayers and grant us every good gift. We make these prayers through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

### FINAL COMMENDATION

Fr Chris: Before we go our separate ways, let us take leave of our brother, Chris. May our farewell express our affection for him; may it ease our sadness and strengthen our hope. One day we shall joyfully greet him again when the love of Christ, which conquers all things, destroys even death itself.

*(The coffin is sprinkled with holy water and incensed.)*

Let us pray with confidence to God, who gives life to all things, that God will raise up Chris' mortal body to the perfection and the company of the saints.

May Christ the Good Shepherd lead Chris safely home to be at peace with our loving God and may he be happy for ever with all the saints.

### PRAYER OF FAREWELL

Fr Chris: Brother Chris, today we commend you lovingly to God. May God receive you into everlasting peace and joy.

All: Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.

Fr Chris: Chris, may the choirs of angels come to meet you and welcome you into the company of Saint John Baptist de la Salle and all the saints and all who have gone before you.

All: Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.

Fr Chris: Brother Chris, may the martyrs come to welcome you and take you to the Eternal City where you may enjoy forever the fullness of life and love.

All: Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High

## PRAYER OF COMMENDATION

Fr Chris: Into your hands, God of mercies, we commend our brother, Chris in the sure hope that, together with all who have died in Christ, he will rise with him on the last day. We give you thanks for the blessings which you bestowed upon Chris in this life; he is a sign to us of your goodness and of our fellowship with the saints in Christ. Merciful Lord, turn towards us and listen to our prayers: open the gates of paradise to your servants Chris and help us who remain to comfort one another with the assurances of faith, until we all meet in Christ and are with you and with our brother, Chris, forever.

ALL: Amen.

Fr Chris: In peace, let us take our brother to his place of rest. May the angels lead him into paradise. May the martyrs come to welcome him and take him into the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem.

*After the coffin is placed in the hearse and blessed with holy water, we will sing the Salve Regina.*

