



# Parish of Our Lady of the Way

North Sydney | Kirribilli | Lavender Bay  
Under the care of the Jesuits since 1878

**Sunday 3 June 2018 – Corpus Christi**



## Not from the Pulpit: Fr Andrew Bullen SJ

### Etiquette with Angels: Selected and New Poems – THANK YOU



Many thanks for all who were involved in the book launch last Thursday. I hope it was a memorable event not just for myself. Jenny Gribble showed she was a perfect reader. Performance by Prima Luce, music by Chris Wilcox SJ. Presently, books are out of stock. More copies available soon.

I will be away on retreat from 6<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> June, returning for the Ordination of Alan & Nico on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June. Thereafter, I will be on vacation returning 1<sup>st</sup> July. During my absence Fr Michael Stoney SJ will be acting P.P.

*Andrew Bullen SJ*

## Parish Notices



### Marist College North Shore Campus Mass – THIS SUNDAY

Sun 3 June @ 6.00pm, St Mary's

Please join us in welcoming the Marist community to our Youth Mass, followed by cup cakes at the back of the church.



### Interested In "Making a Difference?"

Mon 4th June @ 6 - 8.00pm, Ron Dyer Centre.

Please come along to The Two Wolves Abroad Immersion Expo. Speak to volunteers and hear about our service experiences for both Immersions and the Cardoner Volunteer Corps for 2018/2019. [sue.walsh@thecardonerproject.org](mailto:sue.walsh@thecardonerproject.org)



### Jesuit Mission would like to offer a heartfelt THANK YOU to the Our Lady of the Way

Parish for giving so generously to the annual Jesuit Mission Parish Appeal. Your support will help empower poor and marginalised women, men and children to live full and free lives. If you were unable to be at Mass over the past two weekends and would still like to donate, please place your envelope in the plate today, donate online at [jesuitmission.org.au](http://jesuitmission.org.au) or call 02 8918 4109.

### World Youth Day Panama 2019



Are you keen to head over to Panama to experience the Worldwide Catholic Church, celebrate Mass with Pope Francis, and explore an amazing part of the World? Come to World Youth Day 2019! It will go from the 10th to the 28th of January, and be an estimated cost of \$6000-8000. We'll be traveling with the Jesuit Group from the Cardoner Project, participating in the Magis Program. If you are interested, applications close on the 10th of June. Email Michael at [youth@northsydney Catholics.com](mailto:youth@northsydney Catholics.com) to register or for more information. You must be over 18 to attend.



### Ordination Announcement

Sat 16 June @ 11.00am, St Mary's

The Provincial of the Society of Jesus in Australia, Very Rev Fr Brian McCoy SJ, announces the ordination to the priesthood of Alan Wong SJ & Nicodemus Lariosa SJ by The Most Rev Gregory O'Kelly SJ, DD. Please join us and afterwards at the RDC. RSVP [www.trybooking.com/361387](http://www.trybooking.com/361387)

### SAVE THE DATE - Women's Night of Spirituality

Tues 28 Aug @ St Mary's North Sydney

2018 Guest Speakers: Cynthia Banham, Sallie Hammond and Julie McCrossin

❖ To see a letter from the **Archbishop of Sydney** regarding the Public Health Amendment (Safe Access to Reproductive Health Clinics) Bill 2018 go to [www.northsydney Catholics.com](http://www.northsydney Catholics.com)

# Conversations

## Wabi-sabi - On Falling Out of Love With Perfection by David Halliday

An edited version: Reprinted from Melbourne Catholic, Feb 2018

Perfectionism is a flaw of its own, which leads us to consider alternatives, like wabi-sabi. Wabi-sabi is an ancient Japanese philosophy of aesthetics. While it may sound like a sushi condiment, it describes a harmony between manmade and the natural.

Wabi-sabi maybe something only the Japanese can fully comprehend. We have no perfect translation, revealing perhaps how removed our ideals of beauty are from those of our Japanese neighbours. Loosely translated, wabi represents rustic simplicity and might be used to describe a lonely experience of the sublime in nature. And sabi represents the type of beauty that can only come with age.

With its origins in 14th century Japanese teachings on Zen and Taoism, wabi-sabi is many things: it's a philosophy, a worldview and an aesthetic. On the surface, it's about finding wisdom and serenity in simple, natural forms and appreciating the flawed beauty of things that have been weathered by time. It highlights qualities in things that might go overlooked at first, but upon closer inspection have an understated beauty.

Wabi-sabi celebrates all things handmade, rough and imperfect. Seeing beauty in things we wouldn't normally perceive as beautiful is a radical notion that requires some degree of sophistication to appreciate. The term is perhaps best manifested in traditional Japanese raku pottery: the style is rough and its many small errors in construction are treated as something singular and valuable. And if the piece broke, so much the better.

When a ceramic bowl breaks, this break is highlighted with gold (instead of disguised with Tarzan Grip). The restoration becomes a celebrated part of the object's story and the feature that sets that bowl apart from the rest. This artistic celebration of imperfection reminds us that similar imperfections in life are inevitable; or even better, that an item's flaws are an inherent part of its value.

Wabi-sabi is anathema to Western notions of wealth, status and beauty. Instead, it's about coming to terms with cycles of life and decay and with that comes a reverence for all that is aged and blemished.

In the 2014 book, "Wabi-Sabi simple", author Richard Powell writes 'accepting the world as imperfect, unfinished and transient, and then going deeper and celebrating that reality, is something not unlike freedom'.

This freedom in imperfection is not new to the Catholic faith and can teach us much about God, life and spirituality. In 2016, Pope Francis said the Church should be more attentive to the good that can be found 'in the midst of human weakness' and that the Eucharist 'is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak'.

The late Eugenie Cullen Kennedy believed something similar. Writing for the National Catholic Reporter, he said 'The mystery of being human and certainly of being a Catholic lies in our embracing together the imperfect state known as the human condition. First and foremost, if we could ever be perfect or do things perfectly, we would eliminate mystery, and essential ingredient in the good life and the spiritual life'.

To seek perfection is to strive for something permanently out of our reach. So let's nudge perfection to one side and embrace the freedom that comes with accepting mystery alongside cycles of age, growth and decay. In practical terms, it's about maintaining equanimity while the world changes around us, and learning to accept and appreciate flaws in the places we go, the things we see and the people we meet. It might mean doing a double-take and seeing beauty in something we would normally dismiss.

Like a ceramic bowl life can age us and ultimately break our hearts but that doesn't diminish our worth. And like a kintsugi potter fixing a broken cup with gold, God heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds and makes everything beautiful in its time (Ps 147: 3, Ecc 3:11).

*"Finding God in all things"*

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### Readings

#### First Reading

[Ex 24:3-8](#)

Covenant between God and the Israelites is sealed in blood.

#### Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 115:12-13, 15-18, R. v.13](#)

I will take the cup of salvation,  
and call on the name of the Lord.

[or](#)

Alleluia!

#### Second Reading

[Heb 9:11-15](#)

The blood of Christ purifies us.

#### Gospel Acclamation

[Jn 6:51-52](#)

#### Gospel

[Mk 14:12-16, 22-26](#)

Jesus took bread, broke it and shared it.

### In Our Prayers

#### Baptisms

Charlie Halcroft, Sierra Witts

#### Weddings

Minh Vu/John Lee

#### Sick

Ron Whitmore, Sr Natalina Todeschini, Brian McClosky, Rosa Maria Santos, Bruce Horsfield, John Fitzgerald, Sandra Tsui, Mary O'Connor, Joyce Paton, Josephine Rowe, Paul Esterhazy, Rachael Jenkins, Trisha Brady, Lew Smith,

#### Recently Deceased

Norma Kathleen Flynn, Vanessa Juresic, Richard Lamont, Ruth Hill, George Dennis Leahy, Peter Peters

#### Anniversaries

Lamont family, Kevin Lee, Michael Storman, Steve Younie