

ST. ANNE'S STRATHFIELD SOUTH PARISH

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time/NAIDOC week

3 & 4 July 2021

READINGS:

Ezekiel: 2: 2 – 5
2 Corinthians: 12: 7 – 10
Mark: 6: 1 – 6

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge and celebrate that this land is of the Wangal people of the Darug nation on which we are gathered. We commit ourselves to work together for reconciliation, justice and peace.



Responsorial Psalm: Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy .
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me: he has sent me to bring the Good News to the poor!
Eucharistic Acclamation: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.



Here we are again! In lockdown, unexpectedly! Sadly, we appear to be less accepting of that we are all in this together; more prepared to be angry with those we think who are not complying with our understanding of the regulations. Maybe the season and the weather have something to do with it, and not helped with the mounting confusion over vaccine advice. As a nation we are renowned for and treasure our reputation for dealing with adversity. Perhaps it is time we try to work at overcoming our stress; get out and exercise and greeting anyone we see cheerfully as this will lift their spirits too. Panic buying appears not have occurred, at least, that I have seen; people are staying at home - both are positives. We probably could find more!

Know that our loving Father is with us always.

Mgr Greg

Please
Pray
for...



FOR OUR DEAD

Holy Souls, especially, Fr Anthony Simari

FOR OUR SICK

especially Bill Petrie, Fr. P Maher, Tony and Lorraine Grace, Peter Simon, Frank Zerafa and Kathy Fleri.



PRAYER
Intentions

Should you have any prayer requests that you would like our families of families to pray for, please send them to the Parish Office on: stannesstrathfieldsouth@outlook.com

ST ANNE'S WEBSITE IS:

<https://www.stannestrathfieldsouth.org.au/>
Many thanks to Emily Giles who is our web guru

'Gratitude is a powerful catalyst for happiness. It's the spark that lights a fire of joy in your soul.' **Amy Collette**

A very warm welcome to all who are visiting our family of families of St Anne's. It is good to have you with us.

We are striving to offer you resources via the bulletin to assist you in spending some time in prayer as a family. If any of you want a special intention, please let us know so that it can be published. If you have any questions or would like to know more about our family of families, please contact Mgr Greg. We welcome your suggestions and enquires, including feedback about the bulletin. Please send them via stannesstrathfieldsouth.@outlook.com.

If you find this bulletin helpful and / or enjoyable please pass it on to others. Additionally if you have not received it from us directly, please contact us via the email above and your email address will be added to our bulletin contact list.

Please keep well and follow the current directions as best as you can; always try to be gentle on yourself and others. Try to keep an eye on each other and your neighbours especially the elderly and vulnerable.

WELCOME
to our
PARISH



St. Anne's Strathfield South Parish

Parish Priest: Mgr Greg Flynn

11 St Anne's Square

Strathfield South NSW 2136

Email: stannesstrathfieldsouth@outlook.com

Website: <https://www.stannestrathfieldsouth.org.au/>



St. Anne's Catholic Primary School

Principal: Mr Mark McKeown

St Anne's Square

Strathfield South NSW 2136

Phone: (02) 9642 6149

Fax: (02) 9742 6250

Website: <https://www.stastrathfield.catholic.edu.au/>



If you know of anyone who is not receiving the bulletin and would like to, encourage them to contact the Parish Office on stannesstrathfield@outlook.com with their email address and they will be included in our list for the following week.

The bulletin should arrive each Saturday from around mid to late afternoon. If it does not please contact us and we will resend it to you..

LOCKDOWN RESPONSE

Due the lockdown, as long as it runs, it has been decided to include in our weekly bulletin and website, the following:

- The homily and universal prayers;
- The slides for the weekend Mass;
- The Archdiocese has a dedicated webpage on the Archdiocesan website the livestreamed Masses currently available: <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/live-masses/> ;
- And remember that Mgr Greg will celebrate Mass as often as possible and will include your intentions, health of you all and your safety.

Finally, please remember the more times we insert into our browsers the address of our parish website, the easier it becomes to access it: <https://www.stannestrathfieldsouth.org.au/>

A RESPONSE TO THE LOCKDOWN:

On Sunday morning I headed down the street to 8am mass and saw Mgr standing out the front of the church indicating that the church was not open and mass was a not on today.

Well, I returned home to the husband who is a Christmas and Easter catholic to say that mass was not on, so he surprisingly said well what was the story for today I then proceeded to read the spiel in the bulletin and the readings for the mass from my missal.

This discussion went on for at least 30minutes over how much faith the woman had and how the Lord knew that she had touched his robes. It left me feeling that my mass was celebrated in my own kitchen.

A good day followed! All is not lost. Thank you

COVID-19



QR codes are now compulsory for churches to ensure there is a record kept for all attendees. However in cases where you have parishioners unable to use a QR code, the parish must keep an electronic record of that person's name and contact details.

All are encouraged to download Services NSW App to your phone prior to coming to the church. When the download completed, scroll down to Tools and you will find the COVID app. Prior to entering the church, please do the following:

1. Open the app at the appropriate page.
2. Place your phone over the QR sign. A page will open with all your details.
3. Sanitised your hands (take a mask if necessary) and you are welcome to contribute to the collections
4. Show your open app to the person who is marking off names.
5. Go to your seat and ensure your phone is in silent mode.



QR CODE

for St Anne's Catholic Church, Strathfield South



Don't forget to Check Out afterwards.

PLEASE REMEMBER AFTER MASS: Open the app and scroll to Tools, tap on COVID and then on last place visited; tick the circle to log off. Otherwise, you will be marked as being in the church until you follow this procedure.



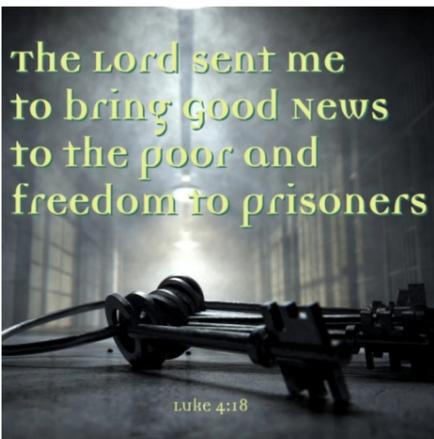
How do you react when someone confronts you with an unwelcome truth? It's remarkable how many tactics we have at our fingertips to deal with such threatening experiences. We can go into denial, become angry, or indulge in self-pity; there's no limit to our defence mechanisms. A favourite strategy, used all too often by public figures, is to "shoot the messenger". They are not alone. We too, once threatened, can almost instinctively deflect attention by accusing and denigrating the other.

The bearers of God's word in ancient Israel, prophets like Ezekiel and Jeremiah, were treated in exactly this way. What is surprising is to discover that Jesus himself appears to have been shocked by behaviour like this. His own townsfolk refused to believe he could have anything worthwhile to say – didn't they know him to be just an ordinary local like themselves?

It takes courage to search out and admit to the tricks that we use to keep the truth at bay. A saying to ponder over long and hard is Jesus' word to the Jewish authorities, "the truth will set you free". Dare we believe it?.

Source: Liturgy Brisbane

A PROPHET IS ONLY DESPISED IN HIS OWN COUNTRY



Sometimes our history with people gets in the way of understanding them.

People who've gone through significant loss, for example, might find it difficult to reconnect with people who haven't seen the journey they've gone through. Those who've had a significant experience overseas might find it hard to get back into their old rhythms of life and relationships when they get home. For old friends and family, trying to acquaint ourselves with the 'new' version of that person can sometimes be difficult.

We might have some understanding, then, of the people of Nazareth. But this Gospel reading reminds us that when people we love come back to us after a time of change, it's worth spending the time getting to know them again. Let's consider today who we might reconnect with in our own lives.

Source: pray.com.au

PENITENTIAL RITE

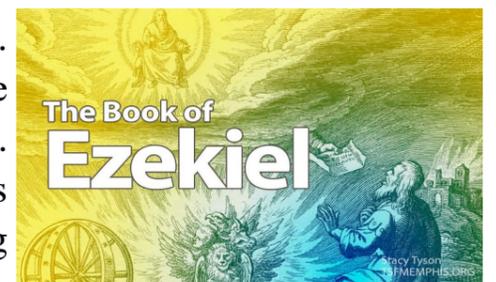
Jesus, you spoke words of peace and justice and you were rejected: ***Jesus, have mercy.***

Jesus, you still speak to us your challenging words that call us to justice and love: ***Christ, have mercy.***

Jesus, your presence is strength in our weakness: ***Jesus, have mercy***

First Reading - Ezekiel 2: 2 - 5 - a reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The spirit came into me and made me stand up, and I heard the Lord speaking to me. He said, 'Son of man, I am sending you up to the Israelites, to the rebels who have turned against me. Till now they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me. The sons are defiant and obstinate; I am sending you to them, to say, "The Lord says this." Whether they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know there is a prophet among them.'

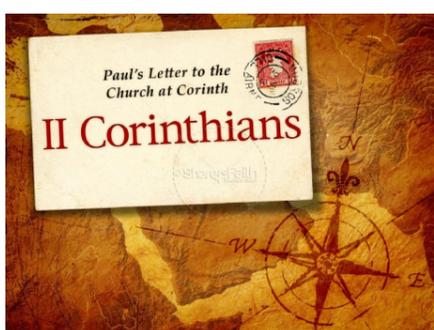


Responsorial Psalm - Ps 122 ("R.")

(R.) Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy

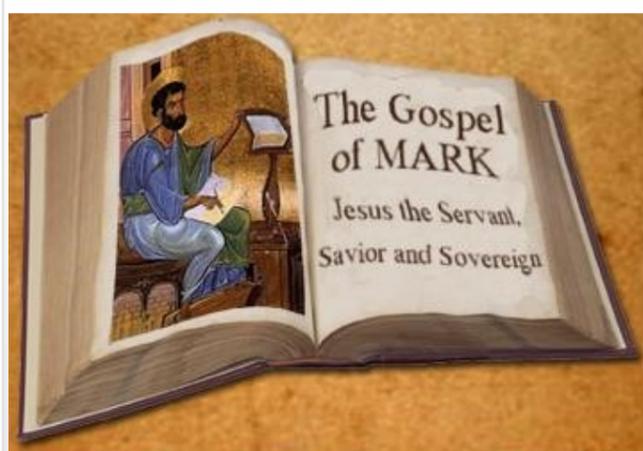
1. To you have I lifted up my eyes, you who dwell in the heavens: my eyes, like the eyes of slaves on the hand of their lords. **(R)**
2. Like the eyes of a servant on the hand of his mistress, so our eyes are on the Lord our God till he shows us his mercy. **(R)**
3. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy. We are filled with contempt. Indeed all too full is our soul with the scorn of the rich, with the proud man's disdain. **(R)**

Second Reading— 2 Corinthians 12: 7 - 10 - reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians



In view of the extraordinary nature of these revelations, to stop me from getting too proud I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to beat me and stop me from getting too proud! About this thing, I have pleaded with the Lord three times for it to leave me, but he has said, 'My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness.' So I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me, and that is why I am quite content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ's sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.

Gospel - Mark 6: 1 - 6 - The reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark



Jesus went to his home town and his disciples accompanied him. With the coming of the sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue and most of them were astonished when they heard him. They said, 'Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him? This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joset and Jude and Simon? His sisters, too, are they not here with us?' And they would not accept him. And Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is only despised in his own country among his own relations and in his own house'; and he could work no miracle there, though he cured a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

HOMILY

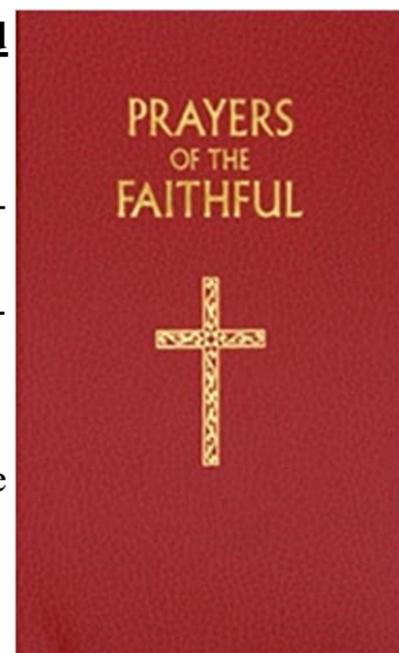
Last Sunday's Scripture readings reveal that from the beginning God did not intend humans to die but have faith that sees and hears so leads to salvation. This weekend's readings tell us that faith is blind and deaf and this leads to enslavement. The precise phrase used is rebellion and pride. Our culture tends to celebrate the rebel who bucks the system and then makes good. Nevertheless, our discussion here is primarily about our relationship with God. In Ezekiel, our first reading, Ezekiel is commissioned to preach the Father's message to a nation that has become a nation of rebels against God. They have deposed God and inserted themselves in his place. Despite the pleadings of Ezekiel, the people claim that they are following the Torah which they consider unjust. This argument is often used today. God responds by telling Ezekiel to continue to preach the truth. Only truth and faithfulness to the truth can overcome lies and evil. The faithful prophet knows that the rebels will come to understand that the word of God is among them and that the rebels' views are rejected by God but not the rebels themselves as they are God's chosen people and God will always be loyal to them.

We can see something of this in our reading from Mark. People of his hometown have known from his youth and they have heard of the great works he has accomplished elsewhere. However, they seemed not to want to go beyond with what they are familiar. They would be forced to give up their past and familiar relationship with Jesus. They reject the very person who has come to empower them – to set them free. As with Ezekiel, Jesus does not want to impose himself upon them. They are free to accept or reject his teaching (mission) as we are.

In our second reading, Paul tells us that he has come to terms with his own rebellious nature and has realised that the Father is more fully revealed in his weaknesses. He rejoices in his weaknesses because it is in these weaknesses that power and love of the Father is revealed. So too is it with us!

Father, you permitted your Son to be rejected by his people. In the faithful acceptance of Him as our Lord we pray for our needs and the needs of the world.

- ⇒ For Archbishop Anthony, may he continue to lead us in faith, hope, and love. **Lord hear us.**
- ⇒ For all refugees, may we strive to make them welcome. **Lord hear us.**
- ⇒ For our First Nations People, may we actively learn to accept them in grateful reconciliation. **Lord hear us.**
- ⇒ For migrant workers, may we insist that they be treated with proper dignity and return to their families safely. **Lord hear us.**
- ⇒ For all for whom we weep but not want as our neighbours. **Lord hear us.**
- ⇒ For our families undertaking sacramental preparation, may they grow in the knowledge and love of the Father. **Lord hear us.**
- ⇒ For our dead, especially those for whom we have been asked to pray. **Lord hear us.**
- ⇒ For our quiet prayers LONGER PAUSE **Lord hear us.**



Father, hear the prayers of your believing children. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **AMEN**

MASS ON DEMAND



We hope that you enjoy this service, and tell your friends, families, and colleagues about it and invite them to join the community of St Anne's Parish as we worship.

Click [HERE](#) for Mass on Demand.

CONTRIBUTIONS / COLLECTIONS:

Those who make their contribution via credit card, should they wish to change their details, please contact Janelle via email:

stannesstrathfieldsouth@outlook.com



July 4 -
July 11

National Aboriginal and Island Day of Culture
NAIDOC Week begins - NAIDOC 2021 theme – Heal Country!

Calls for all of us to continue to seek greater protections for our lands, our waters, our sacred sites and our cultural heritage from exploitation, desecration, and destruction. Country that is more than a place and inherent to our identity. Country that we speak about like a person, sustaining our lives in every aspect - spiritually, physically, emotionally, socially, and culturally.

NAIDOC 2021 invites the nation to embrace First Nations' cultural knowledge and understanding of Country as part of Australia's national heritage and equally respect the culture and values of Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders as they do the cultures and values of all Australians. For generations we have been calling for stronger measures to recognise, protect, and maintain all aspects of our culture and heritage. We are still waiting for those robust protections.

This year's theme also seeks substantive institutional, structural, and collaborative reform – something generations of our Elders and communities have been advocating, marching and fighting for. Healing Country means finally resolving many of the outstanding injustices which impact on the lives of our people.

It is about hearing and actioning the aspirations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples which are the culmination of generations of consultation and discussions among our nations on a range of issues and grievances. After 250 years, our children and our future generations deserve better. We cannot afford to let pass the very real opportunity that now presents itself for reform based on a fundamental change in the relationship Australia has with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Heal Country, heal our nation.

For further information on the NAIDOC 2021 theme please visit: [2021 theme](#). Media contact: NAIDOC@niaa.gov.au

July 7

Blessed Peter To Rot – killed in Papua New Guinea, martyr

July 10

Sinking in Auckland Harbour of the Greenpeace ship the *Rainbow Warrior*

July 11

Anniversary of Srebrenica Slaughter in Bosnia (2012)

July 11

World Population Day

July 12

School Term 3 at St Anne's commences

July 14

Feast of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, (the first Native American to be named blessed and the 'patron saint of ecology and the environment')

I swore never to be silent whenever human beings endure suffering and humiliation. We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented.

Elie Weisel



Remember this picture when you take more than you need.



ST VINCENT PALLOTTI SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. **More information and Applications Forms are available on our website**

<https://pallottine.org.au/scholarships/st-vincent-pallotti-scholarship-for-lay-ministry.html>

ALIVE IN THE SPIRIT: BEING THE COMMUNITY CHRIST CALLS US TO BE A National Virtual Conference to Enliven Catholic Communities

This innovative conference, from **8 to 10 July 2021** will feature over 30 on-demand workshops with prominent national and international guest speakers, exploring areas such as best practice for RCIA, planning for mission and renewal and supporting pastoral care.

For more information, visit the conference website:
www.aliveinthespirit.com.au.

GO MAKE DISCIPLES RETREAT DAY AT FAIRFIELD – “COME, FOLLOW ME”

What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus and how can I grow as a disciple?

Join the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia and the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation for a Discipleship Retreat Day, hosted by Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in Fairfield. Come and experience the love and mercy of Jesus, and enter more deeply into your own experience of being His disciple. The talks include: *Making the most out of Mass*, *Prayer: How to Grow in your Relationship with Jesus*, *Breaking open Scripture*, and *A Cloud of Witnesses: Growing closer to Mary and the Saints*. There will also be time for Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

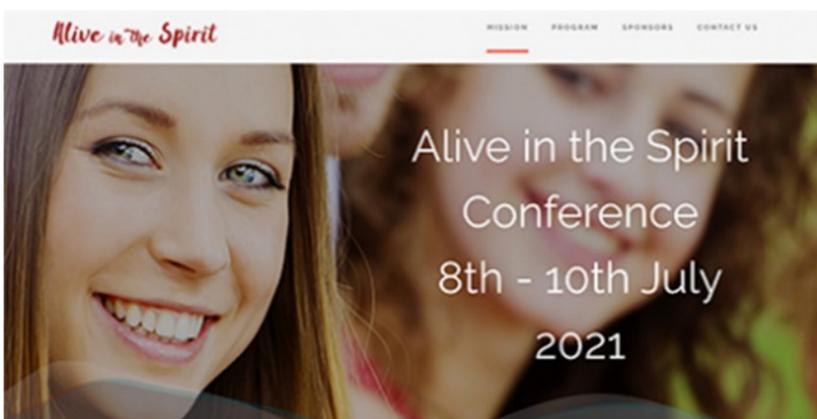
Date and location: Saturday 17th July at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in Fairfield.

Registration essential at www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events/

Cost: \$10 per person, with light lunch included.

ALL WELCOME!

VIRTUAL PLATFORM INFORMS PLENARY COUNCIL AGENDA



As the Church in Australia seeks to renew and reimagine how it lives out its mission, a new Catholic virtual platform aims to inform the upcoming Plenary Council agenda and enliven faith communities.

The virtual platform, aliveinthespirit.com.au, offers a range of Australian-sourced keynote addresses, workshops, prayer and worship spaces and interactions with an array of Catholic organisations offering services and networking opportunities. Organisers are committed to ease of access, so the whole site can be accessed for six months for \$40.

Each workshop experience is available until the end of 2021, and offers a 30-minute video, designed to inspire, enrich and provide practical insights in the topic area addressed. They are suitable for individual faith enrichment and professional development, or for group sessions with catechists, RCIA teams, youth groups, pastoral councils, parish/school reflection days, or faith sharing groups.

Topics addressed by the keynotes and workshops include Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Pastoral Care, Circles of Engagement, Renewal for Mission, and Justice and Outreach.

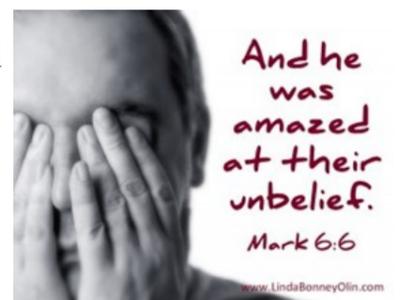
The website will be launched during “Alive in the Spirit”, an innovative pastoral ministry conference to be held next week, July 8-10. The conference will offer a mixture of live and on-demand opportunities which are fully adaptable to strengthen the mission and aims of local Catholic communities.

FULL STORY [New Catholic virtual platform informs Plenary Agenda and enlivens faith communities](#)

Source: *Catholic Outlook* 2 July 2021

‘At times, our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.’

Albert Schweitzer



ONE SPARK COULD START A COVID WILDFIRE IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Pat Turner *The Age* June 30, 2021

The Granites gold mine COVID outbreak is a reminder that we continue to be one spark away from a COVID-19 wildfire in Australia's Indigenous communities.

We know that COVID hits the elderly and those with underlying health conditions hardest. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are more likely to live with cardiovascular disease, kidney disease or cancer and almost one-quarter have two or more of these chronic conditions.

These COVID risks are compounded by where we live. One in eight Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples live in overcrowded housing, which means COVID-19 could spread rapidly through our communities. And overcrowding poses real challenges for isolating suspected cases. Poor health outcomes and overcrowding are worse in remote settings, making the Granites mine outbreak all the more dangerous. We know the risks are real when we consider internationally how other First Nations groups have fared when facing the pandemic with similar health and living conditions. For example, the coronavirus is killing Native Americans at a faster rate than any other group in the United States.

So when news broke of the coronavirus outbreak at the Granites mine, some 540 kilometres north-west of Alice Springs, the Central Australian Aboriginal Congress community-controlled health organisation had already stepped up a gear. At midnight on Friday June 25, a positive case of COVID-19 was confirmed at the mine. By mid-morning on Saturday, the Centre for Disease Control in Alice Springs had a list of 24 primary contacts to be contacted, isolated and tested. Ten of these contacts were Aboriginal mine employees living in nearby remote communities. The congress was able to use its knowledge and connections to quickly locate the Aboriginal mine employees who had now travelled back to their home communities. It deployed Aboriginal patient liaison officers, drivers and medical officers to meet with the contacts and their families and support them to get tested and into quarantine arrangements. By Saturday night, all Aboriginal employees had been contacted, were in appropriate accommodation and testing was underway.

At the same time, Danila Dilba Aboriginal Health Organisation is undertaking similar action to support Aboriginal people living in Darwin to make sure they have a safe place to stay and understand the lockdown restrictions and health risks. This episode underlines not only the benefits of Aboriginal community-controlled health organisations but also the urgent need to ensure all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are vaccinated. As of June 25, 87,664 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people had received at least one dose of any COVID-19 vaccine. Worryingly, total vaccine coverage for the eligible Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is 15.39 per cent, while the total vaccine coverage for the eligible non-Indigenous population is 24.73 per cent.

Our peoples, like all Australians, have become worried about the potential side effects of AstraZeneca and confused by the governments mixed messages on its safety. We can and must do more, and all governments need to act with greater urgency.

On 8 June 2021, the national cabinet announced that all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples aged 16-49 are now eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine. Working out the details of how to deliver the Pfizer vaccine from July 1, 2021 to that group is now a priority. To do this, we need governments to prioritise current supplies of Pfizer to our peoples living in remote communities. We also need to re-think how fly-in-fly-out businesses operating so close to our vulnerable communities are working. Rapid on-site testing for those coming on and off site should be mandatory. We are too far into this pandemic for it not to be the standard practice.

And while most of the current focus is on limiting the impact of the pandemic, we cannot lose sight of the action that is needed to address the causes of our greater vulnerability in the first place. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples will continue to be more vulnerable than other Australians to emerging public health threats if we do not deal with the overcrowding in our communities and continue to underfund our essential services and community organisations. It has been because of the leadership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and our community controlled health organisations that our peoples have been relatively unscathed by COVID-19 to date, with 173 cases nationally and no deaths. We need governments to step up on the vaccine roll out to keep it this way.

Pat Turner is the chief executive officer of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation. **Pat Turner** is the lead convener of the Coalition of Peaks and the chief executive officer of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation.

<https://www.theage.com.au/national/one-spark-could-start-a-covid-wildfire-in-indigenous-communities-20210628-p58520.html>