



# Parish Matters

**Parish Office Hours:** Tue & Fri 10am - 2pm, Wed 10am - 1pm

**Office Phone:** (02) 9353 6300

**Parish Office Manager:** Maria Awad

**Office Address:** 74 Rosebery Ave, Rosebery NSW 2018

**Postal Address:** PO Box 1067, Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

[secretary@citysouthcatholic.org.au](mailto:secretary@citysouthcatholic.org.au) |

[www.citysouthcatholiccommunity.org.au](http://www.citysouthcatholiccommunity.org.au)

## 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER | 16TH/17TH MAY 2020

*The Catholic Community of City South acknowledges the Gadigal People, the traditional custodians, who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation of this land.*



**Fr Paul will say Mass**

**Sunday 10am**

**Facebook Live**

**Catholic Community of City South**

*At communion time recite the  
Spiritual Communion prayer  
on page 3*

**Mass for you at Home**

**6am Sunday on**



**Virtual gathering**

**Tuesday 26 May 5.30pm**

**on:**



Dear friends,

COVID-19 remains present in the community and highly infectious, though in small numbers at present. With the relaxation of isolation measures and the approach of winter, an increase in cases is expected. I encourage you to download the CovidSafe App, which I have done, and abide by the latest public health advisories. Permission to reopen churches and to conduct religious gatherings comes with strict conditions; we must take all reasonable precautions to protect the health of everyone involved. This means acting on the assumption that we or anyone we come in contact with might be infected, even if we/they are asymptomatic.

On Friday the NSW Government initiated the first step in the Prime Ministers' Road Map for a COVID free Australia. Under this plan I would like to announce the following measures for our community:

Private prayer will be allowed to take place on Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday between 11am and 12.00pm at St Joseph Church Rosebery (not the Blessed Sacrament Chapel). At-risk parishioners are exhorted not to attend (e.g. the very elderly, those with any symptoms, those with compromised immune or respiratory systems). Those who attend are asked to take care when coughing or sneezing. No more than 10 people are allowed at any one time, taking into account that spatial distancing is ensured. **The person must report to the office** and provide ones name and contact details which are recorded to satisfy COVID safe regulations and enable enrichment of parish databases for provision of pastoral care, then Maria will take you to the church. You will be allowed to pray in one small area at the back of the church. You are not allowed to wonder around the church. After each visit the area must be sanitised with disinfectant and you must sanitise your hands.

Confession is available at Waterloo (except Monday). However, you must email ([pp@citysouthcatholic.org.au](mailto:pp@citysouthcatholic.org.au)) or call me (9698 2869) if you intend to come. I am not always home or could be involved in other pastoral commitments. At this stage I do not see any practical and fair way of celebrating Mass with a congregation. Therefore, Live Streaming of Sunday Mass will continue to be broadcast on Facebook at 10am Sunday with myself and Sr Rosemary only. The Archbishop has dispensed the faithful from attending Mass until further notice.

Future relaxations of the CovidSafe provisions are expected over coming months, in at least two more stages, but this will depend upon infection rates not spiking and churches being able to demonstrate responsible behaviour. According to one source I read, Sydney went through three waves of the deadly Spanish flu in 1919/20. Let the lessons of history be learned: to stay well stay at home as much as possible.

**Fr Paul Smithers | Parish Priest |**  
**Follow on Instagram & Twitter: @frpaulsydney**  
**Sr Rosemary Mitchell RSJ Pastoral Associate**

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

## CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CITY SOUTH PRAYER INTENTIONS

**Anniversary:** Annie Poulton, Arthur Garbett (12 May).

**Deceased:** Emanuel & Josephine Nappa; Mio Family; Charlie & Carmen Vassallo; Arthur & Janice Gray; Ethel & George Gray; Bill & Pat Clarke; Sydney & Violet Green; Arthur & Edna Dennett; John & Eileen Dennett; Hazel Holly; Arthur and Rose Dennett; Carmen Bonello; Bonello Family; Bill, Muriel, Marc and Jamie Wickert; Shirley Turner; Sr. Patricia Wilkinson; Anna, Stanley & Jim Atkins; Therese & Alfred Scerri; Margaret & Joseph Fenech; Isabel Fenech; Joseph & Rose Lia; Robert Clarke; Elliot Bennett; Jay Rosenstraus. All Souls, especially those that have no one to pray for them; All Souls of the Unborn.

**Those who are sick:** Therese Mullaney; Ron Hawkins; George & Juliet D'Souza; Fr Brian Egan; Allan Walker; Fr Emmanuel Seo; Carolyn White; Marlic Erland; Ana Lucia Solorzano; Mary Cunney; Joan Kenny; Abrelita Aguillar; Rosemary Cooley; Pat Frost; Helen Abbey; Joan Buist; and all the housebound.

**Birthdays:** Simon Maher, Kevin Gouveia, Lidia Uy (18 May); Joanna Balbi (19 May); Rebecca Dedden (22 May).

*For Mass Offerings please contact the Parish Office.*

### Understanding Parish Collections

The Catholic Church has a strong tradition of giving which has established and supported many worthwhile charities throughout its long history.

During this time, when the church buildings are closed, we face a challenge that donations are low and so we cannot support our charities as we used to. We also rely on these donations to support the clergy and running of the parish. Though the churches are closed the running of the parish continues and with this is the paying of bills that must be attended to.

The 1st Collection supports the needs of clergy which includes priests' monthly salary, housekeeping needs including food and care of elderly and retired priests.

The 2nd Collection supports the maintenance and running of the parish including administration, insurance and utilities. It also funds the Charitable Works Fund shortfall.

**If you** are in a position to be able to keep donating, please use one of the tools listed. *Thank you in advance for your consideration.*

### Email Scams

There has been a significant recent rise in instances of impersonation and email scamming. These emails are often quite difficult to spot, and may appear as if they have come from within our own organisation, or from apparent 'personal' email accounts for parish staff and clergy. If you believe the email to be suspicious, do not respond.

Contact the Parish Office to verify if email was sent by Parish.

### Rosebery

**Account Name:** Rosebery Parish Church Account

**BSB:** 062 784 | **Account No.:** 053 750 02

### Redfern

**Account name:** Redfern Parish Church Account

**BSB:** 062 784 | **Account No.:** 208 450 00

### Waterloo

**Account name:** Waterloo Parish Church Account

**BSB:** 062 784 | **Account No.:** 062 750 01

If you are still able to donate, especially to the first collection which supports our priests, please find methods of doing so:

- \* Direct deposit into Church Accounts as listed above. Please email instructions of splitting your donation between 1st and 2nd collection.
- \* Visit the parish website and click the Support Us tab.
- \* Credit Card donations - either a one off donation, or be set up to donate monthly. Please contact the Parish Office for more details.
- \* You can place your cash donation in an envelope and leave in the Parish Office letterbox (74 Rosebery Ave, Rosebery) which is locked.
- \* Come in person to Parish Office, however you must call first (in keeping with social distancing regulations). You can use the Tap N Go facility, pay cash or credit card.

Due to COVID-19, our newsletter will still be published on our Catholic of City South Website

<https://www.citysouthcatholiccommunity.org.au/parish-matters/>

If you would like a printed copy, please contact the Parish Office.

## Virtual Gathering on Zoom

Our next gathering on zoom will be **Tuesday 26 May at 5.30pm**. Details will be provided on the Friday before the gathering.

This is a wonderful way to check-in with our community, pray and discuss the way forward.

I encourage all households to continue to set up a prayerful space that encourages reflection and reading of sacred scripture.

## 'Spanish Flu' Pandemic in Sydney 1919/20

*Sydney, which went through three waves of outbreaks, tried to slow the spread of the illness by closing all places of entertainment as well as schools.*

*Face masks were mandatory on trains, trams and ferries and in public places and buildings. Authorities even banned the use of public phones.*

*When deaths began falling away authorities hoped the pandemic was on the wane and lifted all restrictions. An even worse outbreak struck Sydney in June. Stephen Gibbs Daily Mail Australia 29/02/20*

## Pentecost - Festival of Food

Pentecost Sunday is 24 May. In the passage about Pentecost it describes a vibrant scene where creativity and culture are exposed as ways to express our faith and identity. Food is always a great expression of our identity. So this Pentecost I invite you to a virtual party and ask you to cook and take a picture of a dish that says something about your identity or culture, or way of life. I'll publish them here and on our social media platforms.

Here's my contribution to the party, it's banana bread which I cook each week. It's gluten free and healthy!

What are you going to bring? Email your dish to [pp@citysouthcatholic.org.au](mailto:pp@citysouthcatholic.org.au)

Cheers!



## SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

My Jesus, I believe that You are present  
in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already here,  
and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.



LIFE, FAMILY  
AND OUTREACH  
ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY



CATHOLIC  
ARCHDIOCESE  
OF SYDNEY

The Catholic Weekly is now available in a digital form at [www.catholicweekly.com.au](http://www.catholicweekly.com.au).

# Liturgy of the Word

## Entrance Antiphon

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;  
proclaim to the ends of the earth:  
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

## First Reading Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town. When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

## Responsorial Psalm Ps 65:1-7. 16. 20.

**(R.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth, O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise. Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! **(R.)**
2. Before you all the earth shall bow; shall sing to you, sing to your name!' Come and see the works of God, tremendous his deeds among men. **(R.)**
3. He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the river dry-shod. Let our joy then be in him; he rules for ever by his might. **(R.)**
4. Come and hear, all who fear God. I will tell what he did for my soul: Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer nor withhold his love from me. **(R.)**

## Second Reading 1 Pt 3:15-18

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong. Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

## Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

## Gospel Jn 14:15-21

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you. In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you. Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

## Communion Antiphon

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

## GOSPEL FOCUS

### Paraclete

*The Greek word, *paraklētōs*, is translated into a number of different terms in English translations of the gospel. Its technical use was for a lawyer or attorney. However, its use in scripture is like the broader meaning of advocate that we use today: someone who stands up for another; someone who speaks up for another; someone who intercedes on behalf of another. An advocate is one who lends strength and support to someone who is disempowered. That is exactly what Jesus did for many people during his ministry and it is also what the Holy Spirit is sent to do.*