



Parish Matters

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

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THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD | 23RD/24TH 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:

zoom

Dear friends,

In the last week we have seen businesses and other community groups slowly re-open as government restrictions have been eased. It's interesting to note that no one business or community group is operating at full capacity. It must be stressed that because the Coronavirus is still in the community we must reopen slowly and cautiously.

I firmly hold to the position that because the virus is still in the community and given the fact that many of our parishioners are elderly, I have a duty of care to act prudently about opening the churches for Mass. The other consideration is cleaning. I am sourcing hospital grade cleaning products so that when the restrictions are lifted again we can comply with the required sanitisation. I will need a group of volunteers to be available after each Mass to clean every pew, door handle and other surface that people have touched.

When the restrictions are further eased I am considering re-opening only one church for Mass, most probably Waterloo, to reduce the amount of cleaning that needs to be done. Times may also vary from the normal schedule. This will be an interim measure until we are able to operate normally. I will advise when that will be.

What I ask you to do for now:

- Please provide your contact details, email address, phone numbers so that we can add you to our data base so we can contact you (if you haven't already done so).
- Consider volunteering for the cleaning team (email parish office).
- Keep your faith alive by participating in Live Stream Sunday Mass via our Facebook page.
- Support the parish and clergy financially if you can.



Thank you to those who donated food items. A generous parishioner from Waterloo was able to distribute them to those in need in our community.

Please be assured you continue to be in my prayers and Masses.

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

*"Even when I cannot get out to join the community in prayer, God remains present, as Saint Augustine wrote, 'in my deepest interiority.'
However lonely I feel, I am not alone, for at the core of my very being is Another."
Father Timothy Radcliffe, O.P. (2020 May, Commonweal)*

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CITY SOUTH PRAYER INTENTIONS

Anniversary: Marko Krslovic (26 May); Muriel Wickert, Michael Poulton (27 May); Annie Poulton; Arthur Garbett.

Deceased: Mio Family; Verardo 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: Rose Galea; 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: Patricia Sciberras (23 May); John Sciberras, Luke Garcia (26 May); Puaga Tamaseu, Daphne Silveira (28 May); Joanne D'Arcy (29 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.*

The Charitable Works Fund (CWF) Pastoral Appeal, usually held in May has been cancelled. The work of CWF's benefiting agencies represents our Christian values of mercy, social justice and compassion. These agencies are still working to assist those in need. If you are in a position to donate please contact the Parish Office before 31 May. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

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**. See details below. 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.

Catholic Community of City South gathering

Time: May 26, 2020 05:30 PM

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

**[https://sydneycatholic.zoom.us/j/94015818427?](https://sydneycatholic.zoom.us/j/94015818427?pwd=OUk4S25QY3A1SlovWHJ6MGNDVnhJdz09)
[pwd=OUk4S25QY3A1SlovWHJ6MGNDVnhJdz09](https://sydneycatholic.zoom.us/j/94015818427?pwd=OUk4S25QY3A1SlovWHJ6MGNDVnhJdz09)**

Password: 774973

Join from telephone (meeting ID: 940 1581 8427):

(02) 8015 2088 (Sydney)

The Example of the Saints

Stay where you are--find your own Calcutta. Find the sick, the suffering, the lonely, right there where you are, in your own homes and in your own families, in your workplaces and schools.

—*Blessed Mother Teresa*

It is no use walking somewhere to preach unless our walking is our preaching.

—*Saint Francis of Assisi*

Our Lady, Help of Christians - Feast Day 25 May

Almighty ever-living God,
who placed the love of Our Lady, Help of Christians
in the hearts of those
who brought the Catholic faith to these shores,
grant, through her intercession,
wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens,
so that, under her protection,
Australia may know harmony, justice and peace.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and
ever. Amen.

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

Pentecost Novena Prayer

Holy Spirit, Lord of light,

From the clear celestial height

Thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, thou Father of the poor,

Come with treasures which endure;

Come, thou light of all that live!

Thou, of all consolers best,

Thou, the soul's delightful guest,

Dost refreshing peace bestow;

Thou in toil art comfort sweet;

Pleasant coolness in the heat;

Solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, light divine,

Visit thou these hearts of thine,

And our inmost being fill:

If thou take thy grace away,

Nothing pure in man will stay;

All his good is turned to ill.

*Heal our wounds, our strength re-
new;*

On our dryness pour thy dew;

Wash the stains of guilt away:

Bend the stubborn heart and will;

Melt the frozen, warm the chill;

Guide the steps that go astray.

Thou, on us who evermore

Thee confess and thee adore,

With thy sevenfold gifts descend:

Give us comfort when we die;

Give us life with thee on high;

Give us joys that never end.

The Catholic Weekly is now available in a digital form at www.catholicweekly.com.au.

Liturgy of the Word

Entrance Antiphon

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?

This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven
will return as you saw him go, alleluia .

First Reading Acts 1:1-11

In my earlier work, 'Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 46:2-3. 6-9.

(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

1. All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. **(R.)**
2. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. **(R.)**
3. God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. **(R.)**

Second Reading Eph 1:17-23

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and

to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 28:19. 20

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 28:16-20

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Communion Antiphon

Behold, I am with you always,
even to the end of the age, alleluia.

Pentecost - Festival of Food

Pentecost Sunday is 31 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.

What are you going to
bring? This week: vegetarian
Noodles... Inspired by Thai
cuisine... yum!



Email your dish to pp@citysouthcatholic.org.au

Cheers! *Fr Paul*