



Image by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj

Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish, Warnervale.

We gather as a community of believers in Jesus,
to grow as his disciples,
using our gifts, to proclaim the Gospel

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT 29 MARCH 2020, YEAR A

Diocese of Broken Bay
Ancestral home of the
Darkinjung people

Readings: Ezek 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11
Jn 11:1-45

Response:

With the Lord there is mercy and
fullness of redemption.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus
Christ!

I am the resurrection and the life, says
the Lord; whoever believes in me will not
die for ever.

Response to the Coronavirus

Government restrictions and directions from the diocese have meant that information given last week is already out of date. The current situation for the parish is summarised as follows:

All public Masses have been suspended until further notice. This includes a dispensation from the obligation for us to attend Mass on Sunday.

The **church** is closed to the public and is not available for private prayer.

The **Confirmation program** is suspended and will be rescheduled.

Reconciliation may be celebrated individually, by appointment with the priest but is not to be celebrated in the closed church or presbytery.

Baptisms may be celebrated, by appointment with the priest, with only the person to be baptised, parents and godparents to be present in the locked church.

Funerals may be celebrated, with less than ten mourners present.

Anointing of the Sick may be celebrated individually, with anointing to be on the forehead only.

We will be informed during the week about arrangements for **Holy Week and Easter** liturgies.

From Fr Vince

How much has changed in just one week! Last week I was encouraging you to come and pray in the church when we would normally celebrate Mass; this week it is locked and we cannot physically come together. But we can still pray at home. Our home and family can be a *domestic church*.

Without Mass and Communion we Catholics can feel spiritually 'starved'. While the Mass is irreplaceable, we are still able to feed from the Scriptures which St Jerome said are "true food and true drink". With this in mind, let us turn more consciously to reading the bible at home and to uniting with Jesus in a spiritual communion. To help with this we have attached the *Readings* from today's Mass with the bulletin and included an *Act of Spiritual Communion* on the back page.

Also, suggestions to help at this time are *Resources* prepared by the diocese [comprehensive list of resources](#) and, since we will not be able to celebrate Holy Week together in the usual way, *Holy Week at Home* [this 'Holy Week at Home' resource](#) This describes itself as *simple steps for sharing your faith with your children*, but it could also be shared with your grandchildren, friend, spouse or done on your own. Palm Sunday is next Sunday, 5 April.

We will continue to provide the bulletin and resources each week on our website. If you have any questions, please contact the Parish on 8379 1741 or 0498 036 713.

Sunday Mass

~~Saturday: 5pm~~
Sunday: 8am, 10am, 5pm

Weekday Mass

9.15am Tues, Thurs, Fri
7.30am Wed

Communion Service

~~9.15am Mon, Wed~~

Reconciliation

By appointment

Family Mass

~~Every Sunday @ 10am~~
Includes children's liturgy

Anointing Mass

Third Saturday of the month
at 9.15am.

Men's Breakfast

Fourth Saturday of the month
at Warnies Cafe.

Baptisms

By appointment

Weddings

By appointment

Thinking of becoming a Catholic?

Please contact Parish staff for more information.

Devotions

~~Divine Mercy before Mass at 9am; Rosary after Mass.~~

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursdays after 9.15am Mass

Priest: Fr Vince Casey (vince.casey@bbcatholic.org.au)

Secretaries: Kate Clark & Kim McCarthy

Church: Cnr Minnesota & Sparks Rd, Woongarrah

Telephone: 8379 1740

Office email: warnervaleparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Office hours: Wed 8:30am - 4pm, Thurs 8.30am - 2pm, Fri 8.30am - 2.30pm

Bookkeeper: Johnson Mani

Mail: PO Box 4367, Lake Haven, 2263

Parish Mobile: (out of hours) 0498 036 713

Web: www.bbcatholic.org.au/warnervale

PPC: Ann Jackson (ann.jackson@dbb.catholic.edu.au), Glenn d'Cruz (glenndc@ozemail.com.au),

Antony Joseph (aleetaantony@gmail.com), Bob Madafiglio (robert.madafiglio@gmail.com),

Michael McCarthy (mad13m@bigpond.com), Bill Mifsud (bill@earthgold.com.au),

Maureen Mulheron (vincemulheron@gmail.com), Christine Owen (christine.owen@dbb.catholic.edu.au)

Return and Earn

Thanks to those who are still bringing the cans and bottles to the church, even when not coming to Mass. The income is much appreciated.



Cans and bottles must state 10c refund! THANK YOU!

Planned Giving Envelopes

from April 2020 to March 2021 are available in the back of the Church.

THANK YOU FOR GIVING

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER



Francis prayed for the doctors, nurses and priests who have died from the coronavirus after treating or visiting the sick: "We pray for them, for their families, and I thank God for the example of heroism they give us in treating the sick."

Parish Finance Committee

We are looking for new members of the P.F.C which advises the Parish Priest on financial matters for the Parish.

The focus for the next year will be fundraising.

If you have some experience in finance and especially fundraising, please speak with Fr Vince or write a short paragraph about your experience and email to Fr Vince (vince.casey@bbcatholic.org.au) before 31st March.

Safeguarding Message



National Catholic Safeguarding Standards: Leadership, monitoring & improvement

Standard 1 – Committed leadership, governance and culture

Key Elements of Standard 1:

- A commitment to Safeguarding
- Promoting a Safeguarding Culture
- Safeguarding Policies
- Code of Conduct

Social Justice

DOMESTIC ABUSE and CORONA VIRUS

As reported on www.abc.net.au domestic violence services and refuges have been holding emergency meetings around the country as fears about the potential impacts of the coronavirus on women trapped in abusive relationships mount.

Following reports of domestic abuse as much as tripling in China during recent periods of isolation, advocacy groups have been urging state and federal governments to act swiftly to better protect vulnerable women. Family and domestic violence support services:

[1800 Respect National Helpline](http://1800-Respect-National-Helpline): 1800 737 732

[Women's Crisis Line \(NSW\)](http://Women's-Crisis-Line-NSW): 1800 811 811

[Safe Steps Crisis Line \(Vic\)](http://Safe-Steps-Crisis-Line-Vic): 1800 015 188

[Men's Referral Service](http://Men's-Referral-Service): 1300 766 491

Lifeline (24-hour Crisis Line): 131 114

[Relationships Australia](http://Relationships-Australia): 1300 364 277

They are asking leaders to urgently fund emergency accommodation for women fleeing abuse, to provide resources for the increased burden on specialist support services, and to enable victims to be able to stay in their own homes.

"We want a national campaign providing information for victims of abuse," said Hayley Foster, chief executive of Women's Safety NSW, telling them "everyone has the right to safety in their own home".

Experts have also warned friends and family to be on alert for signs of coercive controlling behaviour during the pandemic: in other countries abusers who won't let partners leave the house have used the health emergency to control their partner's movements and daily activities.

According to reports men have threatened to lock partners out of their homes so they get sick; some have withheld money or medication. If abusers feel powerless in the midst of forces they cannot control, experts say they will commonly seek further ways to control a partner.

Jon Owen, pastor and chief executive of Sydney's Wayside Chapel said he had already noticed a "significant increase" in women accessing support for domestic violence in the past fortnight.

We urge all parishioners to pray for all involved in this tragedy.

Social Justice Committee
Warnervale Catholic Church

www.marymackillopsocialjustice.wordpress.com



THIS WEEK

The church will not be opened to the public.

Reconciliation and Baptisms are being celebrated in private. Please contact Fr Vince to make an appointment on the parish mobile 0498 036 713

Coronavirus Prayer

Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love. Heal those who have the Coronavirus. Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbours from helping one another.

Amen



Act of Spiritual Communion

When we cannot receive the Eucharist we can make a spiritual communion. A recommended way to do this is to spend some time in prayer, reflecting on the Mass readings and then reciting this prayer written by St. Alphonsus Liguori:

*My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.*

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

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

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

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

Please remember our sick: Brian Gray, Mrs. Thomas, Bill McGuinness, Koby Thomas Bourke, Shelly Gray, Arthur Baulkin, Peter Brennan, Maureen Mulheron, Charles Gillies, Percy Deguara, Ursula Paul, Josh Luppino.

Deceased: Joyce Brown, Gaye Northbridge, Jennifer Scarrabelotti, Christopher Dormer, Graham Joel, Beverley Coleman, Fr John Barry, Patricia Burns, Margaret Towlers, Johnene Giacomelli, Patricia Channell, George Pantos, Stef Junicic, Fr Denis Callahan.

Mass Intentions: Adam, Thomas, Carmen & Rosemay Flowers, Elena Cajigas, Anya Manuel, Cara Elizabeth De Guzman, Frank Feliciotto, Leah & Jess Carroll, Peter Walsh, Mary & Angelo & Luis Spiteri, Anselmo; Paulita; Enrico; Arturo; Pio Edwin Ambait; Elma Pacite; Cpacite, Pamntaloeon.



Readings Fifth Sunday of Lent

29 March 2020

First reading

Ezekiel 37:12-14

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 129(130)

With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,

Lord, hear my voice!

O let your ears be attentive

to the voice of my pleading.

With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,

Lord, who would survive?

But with you is found forgiveness:

for this we revere you.

With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

My soul is waiting for the Lord.

I count on his word.

My soul is longing for the Lord

more than watchman for daybreak.

(Let the watchman count on daybreak

and Israel on the Lord.)

With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

Because with the Lord there is mercy

and fullness of redemption,

Israel indeed he will redeem

from all its iniquity.

With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

Second reading

Romans 8:8-11

The Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel Acclamation

John 11:25. 26

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;

whoever believes in me will not die for ever.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the resurrection and the life

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with the two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was ill. It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. The sisters sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' The disciples said, 'Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again?' Jesus replied:

'Are there not twelve hours in the day?
A man can walk in the daytime without stumbling
because he has the light of this world to see by;
but if he walks at night he stumbles,
because there is no light to guide him.'

He said that and then added, 'Our friend Lazarus is resting, I am going to wake him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he is able to rest he is sure to get better.' The phrase Jesus used referred to the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by 'rest' he meant 'sleep', so Jesus put it plainly, 'Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him.' Then Thomas – known as the Twin – said to the other disciples, 'Let us go too, and die with him.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.
If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live,
and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.
Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, 'The Master is here and wants to see you.' Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and went to him. Jesus had not yet come into the village; he was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were in the house sympathising with Mary saw her get up so quickly and go out, they followed her, thinking that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

Mary went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him she threw herself at his feet, saying, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.
I knew indeed that you always hear me,
but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me,
so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

