



The Catholic Parish of Pittwater

Sacred Heart & Maria Regina. Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.

Prayer during the coronavirus pandemic

God of Salvation,
We turn to you with a
prayer for protection and
healing as the coronavirus
is spreading. Help those
who are affected and have
become sick.
Grant patience to those
who live in quarantine.
Give strength to those who
care for the sick.
Inspire scientists in their
research.
Strengthen between us the
sense of togetherness.
Let no one be abandoned,
make everyone feel safe
together and with You,
because You are
compassionate.
Through the intercession
of Blessed Mary of the
Apostles and Fr. Francis
Jordan, we thank you,
present and faithful God,
You who live and love for
ever and ever.

Amen.

Salvatorians



Thoughts of Fr Francis Jordan

Consider Mary. She said little. But through her example her humility, modesty etc... she accomplished much. Imitate her so that you also accomplish quite a lot through good example.



14 May 2020

“I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people.”
(Luke 2:8)

Dear Parishioners,

I write with much delight and happiness that after seven weeks without being able to gather for Mass, Bishop Anthony Randazzo, Bishop of Broken Bay, has now directed that all our churches in our Diocese be open from tomorrow, Friday 15 May 2020. He has also revoked the Decree issued on 18 March 2020 suspending all public Masses in the Diocese of Broken Bay from tomorrow.

continued next page...

Given the current NSW Government's restrictions, Bishop Anthony has advised us of the following:

- Churches are able to be open for private prayer, with a limit of 10 people in the church at any one time.
- Religious gatherings, either formal or informal, are permissible inside churches for groups not more than 10 people. The names of each person at the gathering must be recorded.
- Weddings may be permitted for a group of 10 people.
- Funerals may be permitted for groups of 20 people indoors and for 30 people outside,

Each of these provisions is contingent on practising social distancing of 4 square metres per person and hand hygiene through the ready use of sanitiser.

With these new directions, in our parish we will recommence our normal schedule for both weekday and weekend Mass times and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, beginning this Friday 15 May 2020.

Each Mass can have up to 10 people present, who will need to register in advance. It is important that we implement the registration process so that we have a record of the names of those who are present as part of the government's strategy of tracking and tracing so that should someone become infected with the COVID19 virus it is possible to locate those with whom they have been in contact. It is also important so that we do not exceed our limit of 10 people.

Due to the size of our parish, it would be appreciated if you could be considerate to others when booking for the Masses, allowing everyone to have an opportunity to attend and participate in the Eucharist again. To protect our parish community, I would also like to ask those who are vulnerable or unwell to stay at home. These new directions will mean that only a small number of people will be able to attend Sunday Masses. Please be assured that the suspension of Sunday obligation remains for all the Faithful. We will continue to livestream our weekend Masses at 5pm on Saturdays and 10am on Sundays so that all are able to join in Spiritual Communion with us.

To ensure that we fulfil the requirements of the 10 people limit, we would like you to use the Trybooking website to book for our Masses. The bookings are now open and will close at 4pm on the business day prior to the Mass. Further Masses will be added over the coming days and weeks, taking into consideration any changes in government restrictions.

To book for our Masses at Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale please visit: <https://www.trybooking.com/BJPSE>

To book for our Masses at Maria Regina Church, Avalon, please visit: <https://www.trybooking.com/BJPSP>

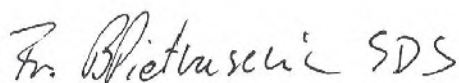
If you have any difficulty using Trybooking, please do not hesitate to contact the parish office to book your place.

Our Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale will be open during office hours for private prayer. Please ensure that only 10 people are in the Church at any one time. You will also need to register your attendance on the sheets at the Church entrance for the purposes of contact-tracing if it becomes necessary.

Please ensure that as you enter our Churches you use the sanitiser available at the entrance to the Church and that you maintain social distancing at all times.

I appreciate your understanding and patience as we navigate these changes.

Yours in Jesus Christ our Saviour



Fr Bronek Pietrusewicz SDS
Parish Priest



Vinnies

**Vinnies
changes
lives
everyday.**

Show your support and
give to our annual appeal

For the needy, help is
available by contacting
the Brookvale Centre
9905 0424 during
business hours.

Did you know that if you are new to
our parish you can register your
details through our website or if
your contact details have changed
you can update them.
Simply go to
www.pittwaterparish.org, click on
the "Welcome" menu item and
select "Parishioner Registration"
from the dropdown menu.
If you have any problems, please
contact the parish office on
9157 0999.

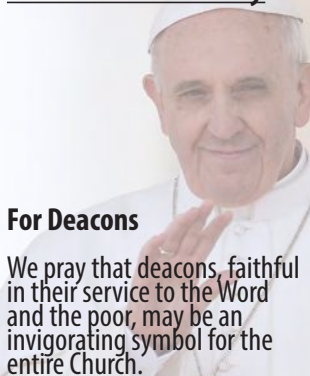
LIBRARY

"Due to our Church being closed because
of the Coronavirus pandemic, we do not
have access to the Library books,
however you can still browse our full
collection of books and DVDs on the
website. Go to Resources>
Library>Our books and they can be
purchased through Amazon. Books and
DVDs will still be reviewed in the
Bulletin."
if you have an inquiry you may phone
me on 99183973 (Home) 0401613643
(mobile).

Trish Newman



Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions For May



For Deacons

We pray that deacons, faithful
in their service to the Word
and the poor, may be an
invigorating symbol for the
entire Church.

We Pray for

Recently Deceased
Gwen Robinson
Maria Meniti
Molly Cummins
Victor Callaghan
Wendy Grant
Darcie Lowe

If you would like the names of your
relatives or friends and offerings
included, please drop the envelope in
to the Parish Office by Midday on
Wednesdays. Thank You.

**Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them
O Lord, And Let Perpetual Light
Shine Upon Them.
May they Rest in Peace. Amen.
May Their Souls And The Souls
Of The Faithful Departed,
Through The Mercy Of God,
Rest In Peace. Amen.**

Deceased Anniversary

Joseph Calleia
Pat Barry
Sean Barry
David Barry
Souls in Purgatory
Veronica Yakubovsky

Prayers for the Sick

Tayla Riddle
Giovanni Returra
Bill Eyre
Manny Zarb
Philip Maddrell
Gail Reiher
Imelda Vince
Eric Domagas
Vicky Villaluz
Ben Castillo
Moira Howie
Carol Brennan
Jomar
Christine Hills
Donald McRae
Mary O'Connor
Sara Zofrea
Beryl Peo-Duncan
Joe Romeo

The names on this list will be
removed after four weeks unless
otherwise requested or advised.
Thank you

BOOK REVIEW

Jacinta's Story:

The Story of the Apparitions
of Fatima as imaginatively
told by Jacinta Marto.

Ten years after Jacinta's death, the
apparitions of Fatima were
declared authentic by the Catholic
church. Devotion to Our Lady of
the Rosary widely increased
throughout the world. Today, in
the spot where the Blessed
Mother appeared, a chapel and a
grand basilica now stand.
Thousands of pilgrims flock to the
shrine of Fatima every year to pray
and to do penance as Our Lady
asked. This, really, is the greatest
miracle of all.

Weekend Masses from our parish will be live-streamed :

*Saturday Vigil Mass 5pm and
Sunday Morning Mass 10am*

*[https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCBpLC9Gn8yp4qW-TU0GDzsw/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBpLC9Gn8yp4qW-TU0GDzsw/videos)
or search Pittwater Parish
on Youtube*

*or follow the link on our Parish
Website*

*Please check our website for
links to the other celebrations
www.pittwaterparish.org or
our facebook page
for updates.*

Spiritual Communion Prayer

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.

from Our Schools



WALK IN NEW LIFE

**Mater Maria
Catholic College**

Limited Students Return to College

This Monday was fantastic to have
students return to school. We would like
to thank all the parents and community
for supporting our staggered return back
to school and we hope to return to
normal schooling in the very near future.
Enrolment Update – Waitlist for Year 7,
2022. Now Open for Year 7, 2023
Applications for Year 7, 2022 at Mater
Maria Catholic College are now closed. If
you would still like to be considered,
please contact our Enrolment Registrar
on 02 9997 7044 or email
deborah.fitzgerald@dbb.catholic.edu.au
for more information.
Please visit the College website
www.matermaria.nsw.edu.au/enrolmen
ts for a prospectus, Application for
Enrolment or to register for a Private
College tour. Applications for Year 7,
2023 now open.

Watch the daily Mass on Demand at

[https://www.youtube
.com/user/cathnews](https://www.youtube.com/user/cathnews)

We hope that this will
help the faithful to
celebrate the Holy Mass
online wherever they are



If you are experiencing Domestic Violence

**Ring 1800 RESPECT
1800 737 732**

PLANNED GIVING

The money contributed to
our parish via our second
collection helps us to meet
the running costs which our
Parish incurs, including wages,
electricity, telephones,
insurances, rates, building and
equipment repairs and
maintenance, to name but a few.
As we are unable to donate via
our second collection at present,
our parish will not receive the
funds which are truly needed to
cover our relentless stream of
expenses. Whilst you are unable
to attend Mass, if you are able to
make your regular donation by
way of automatic direct debit
from your credit card, please
complete the form included in
this bulletin. **Or donations can
be made on our website:
www.pittwaterparish.org
through the donations and
giving tile.** If you would prefer
not to give by credit card, please
contact the parish office,
9157 0999 for other ways that
you can contribute.



SAFEGUARDING

We the people of the Catholic Diocese
of Broken Bay and the Catholic Parish
of Pittwater are committed to
fostering communities of safety and
care for all people, especially for
children and others in the community
who are vulnerable. Our commitment
is underscored by our faith in Jesus
Christ.



The Catholic Parish of Pittwater

Sacred Heart & Maria Regina. Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.

Planned Giving Direct Debit Agreement Form for Contributions Via Credit Card

☐ I am an existing Planned Giving contributor

☐ I am new to Planned Giving

Or Donate at
www.pittwater-parish.org
Donations and
Giving Tile

Full Name			
Address:			
Telephone:		Email:	

Payment Agreement

<input type="checkbox"/> Weekly	<input type="checkbox"/> Fortnightly	<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly
Debit Amount:	\$	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Until Further Notice

Debit from Credit Card

Card Number:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Card Holder Name:					<input type="checkbox"/> Visa	<input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard							
Expiry Date:					/	CCV:	<input type="text"/>						

This authorisation is to remain in force until notice is received in writing for it to be changed.

Signatory of Nominated Account:		Date:	/	/
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Thank you for supporting our planned giving programme.

Please return the completed form to the parish office or email to office@pittwaterparish.org

Terms and Conditions

I/We hereby authorise The Catholic Parish of Pittwater to debit my/our credit card account. Monthly debits occur on the 15th day of each month or the next business day. Weekly and fortnightly debits occur on the Monday of each week or fortnight accordingly. The administration of this agreement is conducted by The Catholic Parish of Pittwater. The Catholic Parish of Pittwater will not change the amount or frequency of drawing arrangements without my prior approval. It is my responsibility to ensure that I/We have sufficient clear funds in our nominated account to enable the direct debit to be honoured by our financial institution. If the Debit request falls on a weekend or public holiday, it will be processed on the next working day. I/We are advised to verify account details against a recent bank statement and if uncertain to contact our financial institution or The Catholic Parish of Pittwater. If our Direct Debit is dishonoured or returned by our financial institution, for any reason, The Catholic Parish of Pittwater reserves the right to re-present the Direct Debit for processing again on the next business day. The Catholic Parish of Pittwater will keep the information about our nominated account at the financial institution private and confidential unless this information is required to investigate a claim made in relation to an alleged incorrect or wrongful debt, or otherwise required by law. I/We may stop, cancel, alter or defer your Direct Debit Request at any time, by contacting The Catholic Parish of Pittwater I/we agree to notify The Catholic Parish of Pittwater if the account is closed.

What really happened when Our Lady appeared at Fatima?

By Fr John Flader - May 15, 2016



Dear Father, I have heard a lot over the years about the apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima but really don't know much about the details. Can you fill me in?

This is a very relevant question at this time since Our Lady first appeared in Fatima, Portugal, on 13 May, 1917, and 2017 was the centenary of the apparitions. She appeared to three little children: Lucia Dos Santos, who was 10, and her cousins Francisco and Jacinta Marto, aged nine and seven respectively.

Our Lady first appeared to the children on Sunday, 13 May 1917, when they were tending their sheep at Cova da Iria, more than a kilometre from their homes.

She was dressed in white and surrounded by light. She said she was from heaven and asked the children to come to that place on the 13th day of each month at the same time for six months.

She asked if they were willing to offer themselves to God and to endure all the suffering he would send them in reparation for sins and for the conversion of sinners. They answered yes and Our Lady said they would have to suffer much but that the grace of God would be their comfort. She also asked them to recite the rosary every day to obtain peace for the world and the end of the war. It should be remembered that the First World War was then raging and it would end the following year on November 11.

In the June apparition, with some 50 others present, Our Lady told the children that she would take Francisco and Jacinta to heaven but that Lucia would remain on earth for a long time to promote devotion to Mary's Immaculate Heart for the salvation of souls.

In fact Francisco died in 1919 at the age of 10

and Jacinta died the following year, aged nine. They were beatified by Pope John Paul II on 13 May, 2000.

In the July apparition Our Lady repeated the plea to say the rosary every day and she said that in October she would reveal who she was and she would do a miracle that all would see. She also showed the children a vision of hell and said that to save souls God wanted to establish devotion to her Immaculate Heart.

She said that if her requests were granted, Russia would be converted and there would be peace but, if not, that country would spread its errors throughout the world, provoking wars and persecution of the Church. She taught the children to say the prayer we now say at the end of each mystery of the rosary: ***"Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, and lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy."***

The children could not go to Cova da Iria on 13 August because they were detained by the authorities, but Our Lady did appear to them on 19 August. She told them to pray very much and to offer sacrifices for sinners, adding, "You know that many souls go to hell because there is no one who prays for them."

On 13 September some 30,000 people accompanied the children to Cova da Iria, where they recited the rosary before Our Lady appeared. She reminded them to continue to recite the rosary and she said God was happy with their sacrifices but that they shouldn't sleep with the rough rope around their waists, which they had been doing for penance, but should use it only during the day.

Finally, 13 October came and some 70,000 people braved the torrential rain, mud and cold to go to Cova da Iria. When Our Lady appeared she

identified herself as the Lady of the Rosary and asked that a chapel be built there in her honour. She asked the people to continue to recite the rosary everyday and said the war would end soon.

Then she launched a ray of light towards the sun, which had suddenly broken through the clouds as the rain stopped. The sun began to revolve, sending out rays of light of different colours that lit up the surroundings. Then it went back to its place for a short time before seeming to fall from the sky towards the people, who fell to their knees and begged God for mercy.

The sun then returned to its normal place.

Meanwhile the children saw Our Lady dressed in white with a blue cope, St Joseph with the Child Jesus who blessed the crowd, and then Our Lord blessing the world standing next to Our Lady of Sorrows. At the end Our Lady appeared as Our Lady of Mt Carmel.

The people all saw the miracle of the sun. Even sceptics reported seeing it and anti-clerical newspapers in Lisbon wrote articles on it. The apparitions at Fatima were impressive indeed.



Prayer to Our Lady of Fatima

O Most Holy Virgin Mary, Queen of the most holy Rosary, you were pleased to appear to the children of Fatima and reveal a glorious message. We implore you, inspire in our hearts a fervent love for the recitation of the Rosary. By meditating on the mysteries of the redemption that are recalled therein may we obtain the graces and virtues that we ask, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

Amid pandemic, Pope Francis prays for Europe and for all mothers on Mother's Day

Pope Francis prayed especially for Europe on Sunday, May 10, both at Mass and in his midday address, and told the leaders of the 27 member states of the European Union that they "are called to face together in a spirit of harmony and of collaboration the social and economic consequences caused by the [coronavirus] pandemic."



He began by recalling at Mass this morning in the chapel of the Vatican's Santa Marta guesthouse where he lives that Europe has celebrated two important anniversaries in these past days: the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Europe on May 8, 1945, and the 70th anniversary of the Declaration of Robert Schuman, on May 9, 1950, that inspired the foundation of the European Union.

Pope Francis also drew attention to Africa and recalled that 40 years ago, St. John Paul II spoke out about the plight of the people of the Sahel.

As he began Mass, he called on his virtual audience of more than one million people, who participate in the celebration every-day thanks to Vatican Media and the Italian state and Catholic television channels, to pray for Europe. "Let us ask the Lord for Europe, that it may grow in unity today, in that unity of fraternity that makes all its people grow in a unity in diversity," he said.

Later, at midday, speaking from the library of the Vatican's Apostolic Palace, he again drew attention to Europe, focusing especially on the European Union and again underlining the importance that it responds to the pandemic in a newfound spirit of solidarity and unity.

He recalled that yesterday was the 70th anniversary of the famous declaration by Robert Schuman, the French foreign minister, which, he said, "inspired the process of European integration, and allowed the reconciliation of peoples of this continent after the Second World War and the long period of stability and peace that we still enjoy today."

Pope Francis underlined the importance of Europe responding to the pandemic in a spirit of solidarity and unity.

As the historical record shows, Schuman in his speech sought to prevent future conflict between France and Germany by proposing that the "Franco-German production of coal and steel as a whole be placed under a common High Authority, within the framework of an organisation open to the participation of the other countries of Europe." He then envisaged "the setting up of common foundations for economic development as a first step in the federation of Europe" that would "change the destinies of those regions which have long been devoted to the manufacture of munitions of war, of which they have been the most constant victims."

Mr. Schuman's speech inspired the establishment of the European Coal and Steel Community, which included the founding members of France, West Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg. This was the first of a series of supranational European institutions that would ultimately

become today's "European Union."

Francis congratulated the many young people who, inspired by the encyclical "Laudato Si'", are planting more than one million trees in the Sahel region.

Pope Francis today prayed that "the spirit" of Schuman's declaration "may inspire all those who have responsibility in the European Union" at this moment when "they are called to face, in a spirit of harmony and of collaboration, the social and economic consequences provoked by the pandemic."

Since becoming pope, Francis has sought in many ways to promote greater unity and solidarity within the European Union and opposed the populist movements that seek to undermine it. He believes a strong and united European Union can play a major role in promoting peace and solidarity in the world. He is convinced that if the 27 member states can work together in harmony and solidarity, then they can not only help protect their own 445 million people from the virus and its socio-economic effects, but can also make a major contribution to world peace and assisting poor countries.

He has sought to encourage the leaders of the European Union countries on this path of unity and solidarity, as they seek to agree to a "recovery fund" for all states suffering from this pandemic. He did so forcefully in his Easter Message, "Urbi et Orbi," on Easter Sunday. Moreover, in recent weeks, he has had private conversations by phone on these subjects with four European leaders: President Emmanuel Macron of France, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte of Italy, President Andrzej Duda of Poland, and last week with Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany.

In his address at midday today, Pope Francis also drew attention to Africa and recalled that 40 years ago today, St. John Paul II, on his first visit to Africa, spoke out about the plight of the people of the Sahel who were suffering from drought. Today, Francis congratulated the many young people who, inspired by the encyclical "Laudato Si'", are planting more than one million trees in the Sahel region, thereby building "the Great Green Wall of Africa." He expressed the hope that others would follow "this example of solidarity."

Pope Francis concluded his midday address by recalling that Mother's Day is celebrated in many countries today, including Italy: "I wish to remember with gratitude and affection all mothers, and entrust them to the protection of Mary, our mother in heaven." He remembered too "the mothers who have gone to the other life and accompany us from heaven." Then addressing his global audience, Francis asked people to spend a moment in silence and "let each of us remember our own mother."

He then went from the library to the papal study window on the third floor of the Apostolic Palace, and looking out from the window on the empty St. Peter's Square, he imparted his blessing to the world.

Gerard O'Connell May 10, 2020



As we celebrate the Year of Prayer in our parish... Pope Francis' Catechesis at the General Audience on 6th May 2020

**Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!**

Today we begin a new cycle of catechesis on the theme of prayer. Prayer is the breath of faith. It is faith's most proper expression. It is like a cry that comes forth from the heart of the believer and is entrusted to God.

Let us think of the story of Bartimeus, a figure from the Gospel (cf Mk 10:46-52 and parallels) and, I confess to you, the one who appeals to me most of all. He was blind and sat begging on the side of the road on the outskirts of his city, Jericho. He is not an anonymous character. He has a face, a name: Bartimeus, which means, "son of Timeus". One day he hears that Jesus would be passing that way. Indeed, Jericho was a crossroads for people. Pilgrims and merchants continually passed through. So, Bartimeus was on the lookout: he would have done everything possible to meet Jesus. Many people did the same: remember Zacchaeus, who climbed the tree. Many people wanted to see Jesus, and he did too.

Thus, this man enters the Gospels like a voice screaming at the top of his lungs. He does not see. He does not know if Jesus is near or far, but he hears, he understands it because of the crowd that at a certain point grew larger and drew nearer. . . But he is all alone and no one bothers about him. So, what does

Bartimeus do? He yells. He yells, and continues to yell. He uses the only weapon at his disposal: his voice. He begins to cry out: "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" (v. 47). And so he continues, yelling. His repeated cries are annoying, they seem rude, and many reproach him, tell him to be quiet: "Be polite, don't do that!" But Bartimeus does not keep silent. Instead, he yells even louder: "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" (v. 47). That beautiful stubbornness of those who seek grace and knock, knock on the door of the heart of God. He yells, he knocks. That expression – "Son of David" – is very important. It means "the Messiah" – he confesses the Messiah. It is a profession of faith that flows from the mouth of this man regarded with disdain by everyone.

And Jesus hears his cry. Bartimeus' prayer touches His heart, God's heart, and the gates of salvation are opened for him. Jesus has him called. He jumps to his feet and those who previously had told him to be quiet are now leading him to the Master. Jesus speaks to him, asks him to express what he desires – this is important – and then his outcry becomes a request: "That I might see again!" (v. 51).

Jesus tells him: "Go, your faith has saved you" (v. 52). He recognises in this poor, helpless, despised man, the power of his faith in its entirety which attracts God's mercy and power. Faith is having two raised hands, a voice that cries out to implore the gift of salvation. The Catechism affirms that: "humility is the foundation of prayer" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2559). Prayer finds its origin in the earth, from the humus – from which the word "humble", "humility" derives. It comes from our precarious state, from our continual thirst for God (cf *ibid.*, 2560-2561).

Faith, we have seen in Bartimeus, is a cry; disbelief suffocates that cry. That attitude the people had, in silencing him: they were not people of faith, whereas he was. Suffocating that cry is a type of "omertà". Faith

is a protest against a painful condition for which we do not understand the reason. To disbelieve is to limit oneself to endure a situation to which we have adapted. Faith is the hope of being saved; disbelief is to become accustomed to the evil that oppresses us, and to continue in this way.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us begin this series of catechesis on Bartimeus' cry so that, perhaps in a figure such as this, everything is already written. Bartimeus is a persevering man. Surrounding him were people who were explaining to him that crying out was useless, that it would be a cry unanswered, that it was noisy and disturbing, nothing more, that he should please stop shouting. But he did not remain silent. And in the end he obtained what he desired.

There is a voice in the depths of mankind that prays which is stronger than any argument to the contrary. We all have this voice within. It is a voice that flows forth spontaneously without anyone commanding it. It is a voice that questions the meaning of our journey here below, above all when we find ourselves in darkness: "Jesus, have mercy on me! Jesus, have mercy on me!" This is a beautiful prayer.

But, perhaps these words, are they not inscribed on all of creation? Everything prays and begs so that the mystery of mercy might find its ultimate fulfilment. It is not only Christians who pray. They share this cry of prayer with every single man and woman. But the horizon can still be broadened: Paul affirms that all of creation "groans and suffers the pains of childbirth" (Rm 8:22). It is artists who often interpret this silent cry of creation which weighs on every creature and is expressed above all in the heart of men and women, for "man is a beggar before God" (cf CCC, 2559). This is a beautiful definition of man: "beggar before God". Thank you.

Looking for that special school to ensure your child reaches their best and beyond! Sacred Heart Mona Vale welcomes new families to join our wonderful community. Please contact the admin office to book a school tour or <https://forms.gle/cy3uZge8rNzVKsdh8> to join one of our Principal's Q&A sessions.

School Tours Now Available



Join Our Principal's Q&A Sessions
29 May 10am and 24 June 4pm

MASS TIMES

SACRED HEART CHURCH

1 Keenan Street, Mona Vale

Weekday Masses

Tuesday 9.30am

Wednesday 9.30am

Thursday 7pm

(Followed by Adoration and
Benediction at 9pm)

Friday 9.30am

*First Friday of the Month,**Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament,**Adoration,**Reconciliation**and Benediction**from 9.30am,**followed by Mass**with Anointing of the Sick
at 10.30am*

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 5.00pm

Sunday 8.00am - 10.00am •

4.00pm Croatian

(1st & 3rd Sunday)

6.00pm (SOUL)

Reconciliation

4.00pm to 4.30pm Saturday

Baptism

4th Sunday - 11.30am

MARIA REGINA CHURCH

7 Central Road, Avalon

Weekday Masses

Monday 8am

Wednesday 8am

Thursday 10am

9am Exposition of the

Blessed Sacrament,

Adoration and Benediction

at 9.45am

Friday 8am

Mass with Anointing of the Sick -
First Friday of the Month at 8am

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm

Sunday 9.00am

Reconciliation

Before Vigil Mass on Saturday

Baptism

3rd Sunday - 11.00am

Pope Francis hails St. John Paul II's 'great witness' ahead of centenary



Vatican City, May 5, 2020 / 11:00 am MT (CNA).

Pope Francis said that he has looked up to St. John Paul II throughout his priesthood in a book foreword he wrote ahead of the 100-year anniversary of the Polish pope's birth.

"St. John Paul II was a great witness of faith ... Many times, in the course of my life as a priest and bishop I have looked to him, asking in my prayers for the gift of being faithful to the Gospel as he witnessed to us," Pope Francis wrote in the forward of a recently published Italian book.

The book, "St. John Paul II: 100 Years. Words and images", is being issued by the Vatican Publishing House to mark the centenary of Karol Wojtyła's birth on May 18, 1920.

In his five-page foreword, Pope Francis wrote that St. John Paul II was "a great man of prayer who lived completely immersed in his time and constantly in contact with God, a sure guide for the Church in times of great change."

"He was a great witness of mercy and throughout his pontificate he called us to this characteristic of God," Francis said.

When Wojtyła became Pope John Paul II in 1978, a 41-year-old Fr. Jorge Mario Bergoglio was serving as the provincial superior of the Jesuits in Argentina.

Pope John Paul II appointed Bergoglio an auxiliary bishop in 1992, elevating him to become Archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1998, and creating him a cardinal in 2001. Pope Francis canonized St. John Paul II in 2014.

"Fifteen years now separate us from his death," Pope Francis said.

The pope pointed out that there are children and young people today who have not known or only have a vague memory of St. John Paul II.

"For this reason, on the centenary of his birth, it was right to remember this great holy witness of the faith that God has given to his Church and to humanity," he said.

"I hope that this text will reach the hands of many, above all young people. Let us remember his faith. He is an example for us to live our witness today," the pope said.

Pope Francis wrote that many may not realize how much St. John Paul II suffered in his life. He experienced the death of his mother, brother, and father by the age of 21, and then lived through World War II.

"The suffering that he experienced relying totally on the Lord forged him, and made even stronger the Christian faith in which he had been educated," Francis said.

"St. John Paul suffered as pope. He suffered a terrible attack in 1981, offered his life, shed his blood for the Church. He testified that even in the difficult trial of disease, shared daily with God made man and crucified for our salvation, we can remain happy. We can remain ourselves," he continued.

Pope Francis also commented on John Paul II's "great passion for the human person" and his openness to dialogue.

Earlier this year, Pope Francis co-authored a book of reflections on the life of St. John Paul II entitled "St. John Paul the Great." In this book, Pope Francis said he learned the importance of joy and mercy from the Polish pope.

"It is enough to look at his life" to see that John Paul II had "the smell of the sheep," Francis said. "He was a pastor who loved people and the people returned it with an immense love."



To ensure that we fulfil the requirements of the 10 people limit, we would like you to use the **Trybooking** website to book for our Masses.

The bookings are now open and will close at 4pm on the business day prior to the Mass. Further Masses will be added over the coming days and weeks, taking into consideration any changes in government restrictions.

Here are some pointers that might help:

1. Once you have selected the Mass you would like to book for, you will need to enter the quantity of tickets at the bottom of the page. Then click NEXT.
2. Once you have read and agreed to the "Additional Information" you will need to select "YES" from the dropdown box that says "I Agree to the Terms Above"
3. You will then need to enter the First Name and the Last Name of each of the Attendees. Then click NEXT.
4. In the Checkout, you will need to complete all the fields, First Name, Last Name, Phone Number, Address, Suburb, Postcode and Email Address. Then click PURCHASE.
5. If you have completed the transaction successfully, you will see "Transaction Successful" on the following page and you will receive an email with the "ticket" to the Mass you have selected.
6. If you do not see "Transaction Successful" and you do not receive an email (please remember to check your junk email) then the items may still be in your cart and you may need to re-complete one of the steps.
7. You do not need to print the ticket. We will have your name on the "Ticket Holder List" for each Mass.

To book for our Masses at Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale, please visit

<https://www.trybooking.com/BJPSE>

To book for our Masses at Maria Regina Church, Avalon, please visit

<https://www.trybooking.com/BJPSP>

Please do not hesitate to contact the Parish office 9157 0999 if you need any assistance.



Sunday 17 May 2020



WELCOME TO THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Being Christian we come from Christ and Christ lives in us. What does this mean then for the way we live our life as a witness to Christ who lives in us? We are an Easter people; people of love, hope and joy, filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. We are called to an agape love; when people experience this type of love from us, in the name of Jesus, we are to have an answer ready for them when they ask us the reason for the hope and love which we have (1 Pet 3:15).



GOSPEL READING: JOHN 14:15-21

"Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me."

Read the full text at

<https://www.universalis.com/Australia/mass.html>

REFLECTION:

"Jesus commanded his followers to love. This command had two consequences: the promise of the Spirit and life everlasting. Both were based on intimacy with the Lord."

<http://word-sunday.com/Files/a/6Easter-a/A-6Easter-a.html>



PRAYER:

O my God, I love you above all things,
with my whole heart and soul,
because you are all-good and worthy of all love.
I love my neighbour as myself for the love of you.
I forgive all who have injured me,
and I ask pardon of all whom I have injured. Amen

<https://www.ourcatholicprayers.com/act-of-love.html>



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Lectio Reflection – Centre for Christian Spirituality:

<http://centreforchristianspirituality.com.au/>

Who is the Holy Spirit? – Dynamic Catholic:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=quwKsFoXfSE>

SONG:

Standing in Your Light – Sarah Kroger:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fln2bl7fboo&feature=youtu.be>

THIS WEEK:

Each day make an act or give some words of kindness to a person you encounter in your day. See the face of Jesus in this person and allow them to encounter Jesus' love through you.

CHILDREN'S RESOURCES:

The Holy Spirit – Catholic Central:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iUFdHxBXM44>

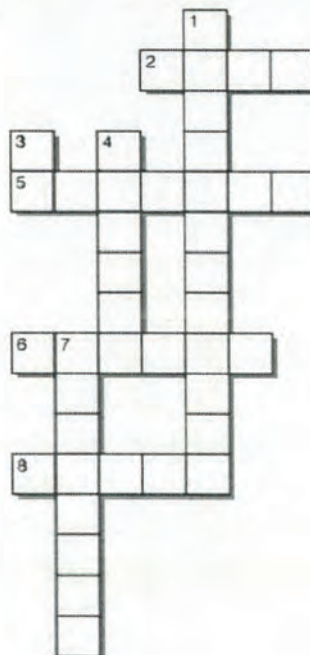
Sunday Liturgy for Children Activities:

<http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundayliturgy/worksheets/a-easter-06.PDF>



HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW TODAY'S GOSPEL?

(in your bible, look up John 14: 15-21 to find the answers to the crossword below)



Down

1. Jesus said to his disciples: "If you love me, you will keep my ____."
3. Can the "Advocate" be seen by the world? (Yes or No)
4. The "Advocate" Jesus speaks of is the ____ of truth.
7. Jesus said that the Father would send an ____ to be with us always.

Across

2. This Sunday, we read from the Gospel according to ____.
5. Jesus said, "I will not leave you ____."
6. Whoever loves Jesus will be loved by his ____.
8. Jesus said, "Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who ____ me."

MORE RESOURCES AT:
bbcatholic.org.au/connected



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The *Living* Word

First Reading Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

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.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20. R. see v.1

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

(R.) Alleluia!

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)

'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)**

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)**

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
A reading from the first letter of St Peter
In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

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.

The word of the Lord

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
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.

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.'

The Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

We live in hope because we have been blessed with the opportunity of participating in the exaltation of Jesus. This hope is based on promises: the promise that we will not be left orphaned when Jesus returns to his Father; the promise that we will be comforted by the Spirit whom Jesus will send. It is trust in God that enables us to live in this world as if the promises have already been fulfilled, for in fact, it is precisely such living that fulfils them.

We have not celebrated the Ascension, and yet all three readings speak of the Spirit. The same Spirit, who quickened the resurrected life of Jesus, enlivens us. This Spirit strengthens, comforts, guides and inspires us. Life in the Spirit requires that we conform our lives to the commandments of God, not in a legalistic or constraining way but out of love. The love that comes to us through the Spirit will then overflow into the lives of others, and we will be agents of God's love in the world.

The Spirit given by Christ is mediated through the laying on of hands. This still happens in our day in the gentle touch of friends, in the loving touch of parents,

in the healing touch of those who cure both the body and the spirit. The liturgical year is preparing us for the Ascension of Jesus into heaven, and Jesus is preparing us for life in the Spirit here on earth. This is the reason for our hope.



The Charitable Works Fund

Thank you for your continued connection

We are so grateful to our community who demonstrate their love for their neighbours by generously supporting the Charitable Works Fund. The CWF is still working by providing the funds to ensure our trained CatholicCare Pastoral Care Practitioners are available by mobile phone for those in hospitals in our Diocese. With restrictions on visitors, Pastoral Care Practitioners are needed more than ever for the patients, their families and the staff in the hospitals in our Diocese. The CWF is still working by providing the funds to create online resources for students in public schools in our Diocese to receive Catholic Special Religious Education Classes. This vital ministry will assist parents at home continue the valuable faith formation to Catholic students in the public schools in our Diocese.

The CWF is still working by assisting St Lucy's School and St Edmund's College care for students with special needs who are still attending providing additional funds to two schools with students with special needs.

The CWF works every day by providing funds to those who are deaf or hard of hearing through the Ephpheta Centre.

When you give to the CWF, you can be assured that your donation is working for the faith and the people of the Diocese of Broken Bay.

Donations to the CWF can be made online at www.givenow.com.au/cwf and will support our Parish quota.

Donations \$2 and over are tax-deductible.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 24 - 31 May 2020

This coming week is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, a week to remember our common faith in Jesus Christ and pray for unity with each other through the Holy Spirit.

Our theme is "They showed us unusual kindness" (Acts 28:2), which is taken from the kindness experienced by St Paul when shipwrecked in Malta and calls us to a greater generosity to those in need.

We recognise that we cannot face the storms of life alone. A boat moves forward when all row together. In the face of difficulties, we recognise the need to pull together and to unite our efforts.

We pray that all churches fix their course on Christ, the True Light, and that God will transform the many separations amongst our churches and faiths into harmony and our mistrust into mutual acceptance.





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Liturgy for the Week

18/05 **Monday Sixth week of Easter**
Acts 16:11-15; Jn 15:26 - 16:4

19/05 **Tuesday Sixth week of Easter**
Acts 16:22-34; Jn 16:5-11

20/05 **Wednesday Sixth week of Easter**
Acts 17:15, 22 - 18:1; Jn 16:12-15

21/05 **Thursday Sixth week of Easter**
Acts 18:1-8; Jn 16:16-20

22/05 **Friday Sixth week of Easter**
Acts 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23

23/05 **Saturday Sixth week of Easter**
Acts 18:23-28; Jn 16:23-28



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