



The Catholic Parish of Pittwater

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

God Is An Artist

You are proof
that God is an artist.
He took you,
and he took your sin.
He made you clean,
washed white with blood.
You became a canvas
for Him to paint
images of grace and glory upon.
You became a blank page
for Him to write sonnets
of peace and of love,
and He named you worthy.
You became a stone slab
which God is now chipping away at,
creating in you a new heart
and shaping you
into who you were always
meant to be:
His child.

**If you have used this bulletin,
please take it home with you.**



Thoughts of Fr Francis Jordan

O Lord, help me, show me the way! Without you, I can do nothing. I hope all things from You. In you, O Lord, I have hoped, I will not be confounded for ever.



Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions For May



The World of Finance

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.



The Service NSW QR codes are now available at the entrance of both of our churches, for you to use to check in. If you do not have a smartphone or you're not carrying it with you, please provide your contact details via the sign-in sheets provided. If you have checked-in with the QR code, you do not have to use the sign-in sheets. Thank you

A warm welcome to all especially our parishioners and visitors who are celebrating the Eucharist with us at Pittwater Parish - Sacred Heart Church Mona Vale and Maria Regina Church, Avalon.

On Saturday 22 May, we welcome the children in Kindy, Yr 1 and Yr 2 Maria Regina School, Avalon to our 6pm Mass, at Maria Regina Church, Avalon.

PARISH DIRECTORY

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Parish Office Hours
Monday to Thursday
9.00am to 4.00pm
Friday 9am to 12 noon

Sacred Heart Church
1 Keenan Street Mona Vale

Maria Regina Church
7 Central Road Avalon

Mona Vale
Sacred Heart School
Tel 9999 3264
Principal: Mrs Suellen Garey

Avalon
Maria Regina School
Tel 9918 2608
Principal: Miss Kirsty Thorpe

Warriewood
Mater Maria Catholic College
Tel 9997 7044
Principal: Mr Marc Reicher

We acknowledge the lifelong trauma of abuse victims, survivors and their families, the failures of the Catholic Church to protect, believe and respond justly to children and vulnerable adults, and the consequent breach of community trust.

We Pray for

Deceased Anniversary

Joseph Calleia
Barbara Cincotta
Laura D'Souza
Holy Souls in Purgatory

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.

Recently Deceased

Paul Miller

We are deeply saddened by the news of Paul's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with Lynn and the family.

Paul Miller was a valued member of our Pittwater Parish community. He was the president of St Vincent de Paul, Avalon Conference and was involved in various ministries and served as a senior server. Paul was always someone we could depend on.

**Eternal Rest Grant Unto Him O Lord,
And Let Perpetual Light Shine
Upon Him. May He Rest in Peace.
Amen.**

**May His Soul And The Souls Of The
Faithful Departed, Through The Mercy
Of God, Rest In Peace.
Amen.**

Prayers for the Sick

Philip Maddrel
Gail Reiher
Imelda Vince
Ben Castillo
Moira Howie
Christine Hills
Donald McRae
Sara Zofrea
Beryl Peo-Duncan
John Andrew Graham
John Charles Graham
Michael Carrodus
Pat Regan
Robyn Sheather
Candida Hernandez
Chin Quang Le
Tony Quatroville
Garry Gleeson
Elizabeth Kral
Nazarena Custodio
Annette Davis
Andrew Hood
Jeff Langley
Peter Vorlicek
Warwick Chipman
Erin Ocampo
Mark Lindfield
Chico Mesina
Vicky Kalingasan
Cos Coniglio

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

THURSDAY MORNING SPIRITUALITY GROUP

Our study this year continues with Pope Francis' new Encyclical Letter on Fraternity and Social Friendship. Pope Francis gives us insight into a way of life which allows to acknowledge, appreciate and love each person, regardless of physical proximity and regardless of where they were born or live. "God has created all human beings equal in rights, duties and dignity and has called them to live together as brothers and sisters."

We meet after 10am mass (around 10:30) for morning tea, followed by study and contemplation until 12 noon. We read through the book in a very relaxed manner gaining new insights from each other. All are invited.

Contact Margaret Abrahams via the Parish office on 9157 0999.

TAP TO REPLACE



Our air-conditioning units in our Maria Regina Church, Avalon, which were generously donated by a parishioner, have been irreparably damaged by some uninvited lizards and now the Church is in need of new air conditioning units.

Our aim is to raise \$17,500.00 to cover the cost of the supply and installation of new units. It would be wonderful if we could achieve this goal quickly so that we can make the Church cosy in the fast approaching winter months as well as when we need it to cool in our hot Summer.

To help reach this target, our Tap & GO Device in our Maria Regina Church, Avalon will be temporarily set to \$50 and all proceeds will go directly to cover the cost of the new air conditioning.

Envelopes are also available in the Church for your cash and cheque donations and can be placed in the collection baskets.

Credit Card donations can be made via our website through BPoint

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/pittwater/archive/donations-and-giving> and selecting "Other" from the drop down Biller Code list and using "Air Conditioning" as the Reference.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support.

from Our Schools



Mater Maria Catholic College

This week our Year 7 and 9 students applied themselves with diligence to the NAPLAN tests, which this year have been online.

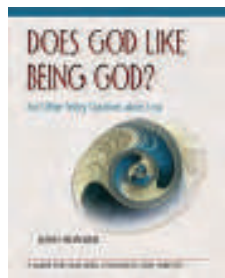


On Wednesday we celebrated our Technology teacher, David Kennedy, for his 40 years of service, and on Thursday, Mr Danny Casey the Director of Catholic Schools visited Mater Maria. Mr Casey presented our Creative Arts and Performing Arts Coordinator, Klara Hollestelle-Watson, with the Highly Accomplished Teacher accreditation award. This is a very prestigious award which takes years to earn. Mrs Klara Hollestelle-Watson has a deep love of teaching and watching her students develop their skills over the years at the College is extremely rewarding. We are very fortunate to have such wonderful teachers in our College community.

Our small group tours are now available. Please note that places are limited and therefore registration for all tours is essential. To book a tour please visit www.matermaria.nsw.edu.au/enrolment/s/book-a-tour/.

To read the messages from Bishop Anthony and from the people Vox Populi please go to www.pittwaterparish.org. News and events tile and Messages from Bishop Anthony on the drop down menu.

From this weekend (15 and 16 May) we welcome the children preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation who will be participating in rituals during all the weekend Masses. Please pray for them as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on the 19 and 20 June 2021.



As part of our preparation of children for the sacraments, during Masses on evening 15-16 May in Mona Vale, Masses at Avalon on 22-23 May, and both Masses on the morning of 6 June at Mona Vale, we will be promoting a book called **"Does God Like Being God?"** published by Paulist Press in New York. The author, John Honner, is from our parish and he has kindly agreed to speak at several weekend Masses

during this period.

The book is a mix of scholarly wisdom and family stories. It is written to help parents and grandparents respond to young people's questions in an informed way. These are real questions asked by real children. For example,

- Why is God called God?
- If God made the world, who made God?
- If God is almighty, why is there so much suffering?
- Where is God?
- Does God have a plan for me?
- Does God like being God?

The book deals with seventeen questions in short chapters. It is suggested that you start with the questions that most interest you and then follow your nose through the rest of the book. John hopes the book will also help you

grow in your own faith. He reminds us that our words about God are only "pointing words". They should not capture God so much as enhance our wonder that there is a loving eternal holy mystery at the heart of the universe.

John and his wife Colleen have been active members of the Parish since they moved to Avalon at the beginning of 2014. He is a reader at Mass, has guided two recent parish retreats and, with Fabien Delerue, offered a wonderful series of talks on faith and science in Mona Vale and Narrabeen.



John completed a doctorate in physics and theology at Oxford University. He is a widely published author, was rector at Jesuit Theological College in Melbourne, and later a member of faculty at the BBI—The Australian Institute of Theological Education. He served on national leadership teams in Catholic education and was part of a discerning and writing group in preparation for the coming Plenary Council of the Catholic Church.

The Parish has a hundred copies of the book for sale. It can be purchased after the Masses which John has spoken at, or during office hours from the Parish Office, at a special price of \$25 (cash only at the Masses).

Maria Regina Church, Avalon Air-Conditioning Replacement

Target → \$17,500



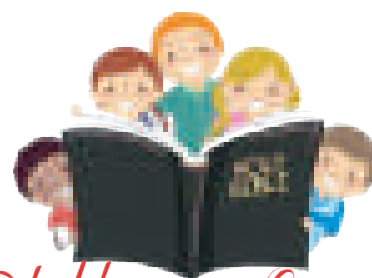
14 May 2021 - \$2050

Pope Francis nominates Sydney for May Rosary pandemic 'marathon'

Sydney's St Mary's Cathedral has been named by Pope Francis as one of 30 Marian Shrines around the world to participate in a Rosary Marathon to help end the Coronavirus pandemic. Throughout May, the shrines are encouraged to seek the participation of the local population to devote a moment to a different prayer intention related to COVID-19. Sydneysiders have been encouraged to come together in prayer at St Mary's Cathedral on 16 May at 6pm



Pope Francis wants "vehicles of prayer" It is the deep desire of the Holy Father that the month of May be dedicated to a prayer marathon conducted by Catholics across the globe to become "vehicles of the prayer of the entire Church," said the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelisation in a press release on 21 April.



Children's Liturgy

Starts this weekend 15 May 2021

- Saturday 5pm Mass at Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale
- Sunday 9am Mass at Maria Regina Church, Avalon.



Congratulations to Bishop Bernard who celebrates his 26th Episcopal Ordination on 19 May 2021.

The Catholic Parish of Pittwater

We welcome to Pittwater Parish
Maverick Johnson
Ariana Subloo
Penelope Rozairo
Riley Shanahan

on 16th May 2021 at Maria Regina Church, Avalon for the Sacrament of Baptism



You can find us on Instagram
(pittwater_parish)



Vinnies

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

Blessed Francis Mary of the Cross Jordan: Founder of the Salvatorians

Early life and study in Germany



It was Gurtweil, a small place in southwestern Baden, just a few kilometers from the district town of Waldshut, close to the Swiss border, that became the hometown of Father Francis Mary of the Cross Jordan, founder of the Salvatorians. Father Francis Jordan was born on June 16, 1848, second son to Lawrence and Notburga nee Peter. On the following day he was baptised at the local parish church with the name John Baptist.

Being brought up in a poor family, he was not able to realise his dream of becoming a priest, although as a teenager he had already become aware of his vocation at the moment of his First Communion. After finishing primary school he worked as a labourer and painter-decorator, travelling in what was then Germany.

He noticed the difficult spiritual situation of his homeland and of the other European countries. The people would turn away from God and leave the faith. The Church was limited in performing its mission by the state (Kulturkampf). All these experiences made Jordan's faith stronger and his conviction of being called to the priesthood clearer. He finally decided to follow his vocation and to begin studies in theology.

In 1869 he started private lessons with his priest friends in Waldshut; after that, he studied at the gymnasium in Constance. The time of secondary studies required much effort from Jordan but, at the same time, despite his difficulties with sciences, he developed his talent for languages. For the graduation exam he presented an essay in eight European languages and another one in four other languages.

Early life and study in Germany

In 1874 John Baptist began his studies of theology and philology at the Ludwig Albert University in Freiburg in Breisgau. After successfully finishing it, he started his preparation for the priesthood at St. Peter Seminary, close to that town. He used the time of theological studies to deepen his faith and spirituality.

He continued receiving the sacraments regularly, which had been his usual practice since childhood, and he devoted much time to prayer. Also, he began writing his spiritual diary, in which he would note the most

important insights until his death. This diary has become an invaluable source of knowledge for his personality and spiritual profile.

On July 21, 1878, Jordan was ordained to the priesthood and later, on the order of his bishop, he left for Rome to begin studies of oriental languages: Syrian, Aramaic, Coptic, Arabic, as well as Hebrew and Greek.

From the time of his theological studies he had a growing conviction that he was being called by God to found a new apostolic work in the Church, in which members would defend the faith and contribute to enlivening it, by proclaiming to all people that Jesus Christ is the only Saviour.

This conviction became even stronger during a trip to the Middle East in 1880. After returning to Rome he started implementing his idea of founding a community of religious and lay with the above mentioned apostolic purpose.

This would be organised into three groups, called "grades": the first one for those who, like the Apostles, leave everything and, living community life, devote themselves entirely to proclaiming the Good News; the second for academics, who spread the Divine truths by publications; and the third for those lay people who, remaining in their families and within the reality of their everyday life, would proclaim the Saviour above all through the witness of a good Christian life.

Developing Two Branches of the Society

Father Jordan's work received the name Apostolic Teaching Society, and on December 8, 1881, its first grade was officially inaugurated in Rome, at Piazza Farnese 96. A year later the name was changed to the Catholic Teaching Society, and in November, 1882, the growing community with Father Jordan moved to a building in Borgo Vecchio 165, which became their Motherhouse.

Several months later the structure was changed into two religious congregations, one of men and one of women. A few years later the community of women separated from Jordan and became the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother. In 1893 the men's community received its current name: Society of the Divine Saviour.

Father Jordan devoted himself totally to the work of developing his institute as its founder, spiritual guide, and superior general. This multiple role was not easy for him, as it entailed serious effort, especially when he faced different organisational, financial and personnel difficulties.

At the same time, however, it gave him a profound internal joy, based on his unshakeable trust in Divine Providence and on his deep conviction that it was the way of putting into life his foundational vocation and a contribution to the salvation of souls.

Thanks to his great determination he founded a second female religious congregation (Sisters of the Divine Saviour) in 1888 with Therese von Wuellenweber (Blessed Mary of the Apostles).

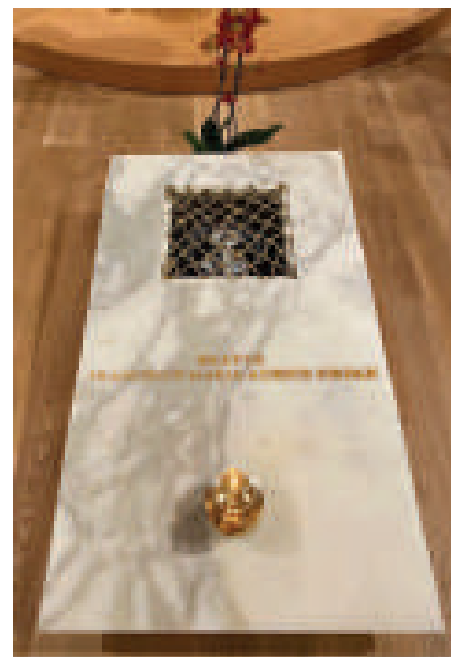
A man who led a holy life till the end...

Another important development was taking over a mission in Assam, as well as founding new houses of

the Society in various countries of Europe and other parts of the world. Through all these experiences Father Jordan matured as a human being, as a religious, and as a priest and founder, developing his personality and growing spiritually.

The foundation of this spiritual growth was his deep love of God and neighbour, his perseverance in prayer, his trust in Divine Providence, as well as his humility, love for the Eucharist, courageous acceptance of the cross, and fidelity to the Church. Over the course of time Father Jordan began to be considered as a man who led a holy life, both by the members of his community and by people from outside. At the same time he witnessed the important development of his work both geographically and numerically.

In 1915, because of World War I, the Society leadership, together with Father Francis Jordan, was forced to move from Rome to neutral Switzerland. After withdrawing from the active administration of his institute at the general chapter in 1915, Father Jordan spent the last three years of his life in Fribourg (Switzerland).



He died in a small hospice in Tavers near Fribourg on September 8, 1918, and was buried in the local parish church. In 1956 his mortal remains were transferred to the Society Motherhouse in Rome. In 1942 his process for beatification was officially started, and in 2011 the Decree on the Heroicity of Virtues was published.

Father Francis Mary of the Cross Jordan *We call him Blessed*

On **May 15, 2021**, the Basilica of St. John Lateran in Rome, Italy our founder, Father Francis Jordan will be beatified by Pope Francis.

The Solemn Celebration in Rome will take place in two stages:

Saturday 15 May 2021 at 10.30 a.m. (Italian time) / 6.30pm (New South Wales)
Basilica of St. John Lateran: Rite of Beatification

Sunday 16 May 2021 at 3pm (Italian time) / 11pm (New South Wales) St. Peter's Basilica:
Mass of thanksgiving for the new Blessed Francis Jordan

An Invitation to the Salvatorian Thanksgiving Mass

Father Francis Jordan was born on 16 June 1848 in Gurtweil, Germany. After ordination to the priesthood on 21 July 1878, he was sent to Rome. He founded the Society of the Divine Saviour (Salvatorians) in 1881 and the Congregation of the Sisters of the Divine Saviour (Salvatorian Sisters) in 1888. He died on 8 September 1918 in Tafers in Switzerland.

The Salvatorians in Australia began in 1961.

The declaration of Pope Francis on 19 June 2020 finished the process on the miracle and opened the way towards the beatification of Fr. Francis Jordan.

The Solemn Beatification Celebration in Rome was on 15 May 2021, at the Basilica of St. John Lateran.

We invite you, to our Mass of Thanksgiving, celebrating the Beatification of Fr Francis Jordan, the 60th Anniversary of the Australian Region and 140th Anniversary of the Salvatorian Order, at Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale on Friday, 18 June 2021 at 6pm. Mass will be followed by a light supper.

Please RSVP: www.trybooking.com/BRIFX by 10 June 2021 or the Parish Office on 9157 0999



Blessed Francis Jordan
Founder of the Salvatorians

The *Living* Word

Entrance Antiphon

Acts 1:11

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

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

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.'

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 46:2-3, 6-9, R. v.6

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

or

(R.) Alleluia!

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)**

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)**

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

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

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.

The word of the Lord

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

Mk 16:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised is saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working

with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Mt 28:20

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

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSS

The Feast of the Ascension is really a kind of liminal moment in the Easter season. It is a time between times; a moment when we have left one place in our journey, but have not yet arrived at a second. While the narratives that describe the Ascension fit well into the unfolding story of redemption, the feast itself celebrates one aspect of the resurrection itself, namely, the exaltation of Jesus. The readings help us through this paradox. They allow us to focus on this theological point while we commemorate a turning point in the life of the church. We do this by considering both the enthronement of Christ in the heavens and the new body of Christ on earth.

Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be enthroned at God's right hand. Today we are overwhelmed by the divinity of the one whom we have known in his humanity. Amidst shouts of joy and exaltation, Christ is enthroned in heaven in both his divinity and his glorified humanity. Now he is present with us in a new way, in a new body, in the church. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists; he ministers through its prophets and pastors. Through us he continues to heal and to comfort; to forgive and to include. We have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have each other; together we make up the new body of Christ.

© Dianne Bergant CSS

With the current restrictions in NSW, the capacity of our Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale is 200 and 250 for Maria Regina Church, Avalon.

Masks are now compulsory in Church.

It is our responsibility to protect others and ourselves and stop the spread of COVID-19 in Australia.

Continue to practise good hygiene.
Please use the hand sanitisers provided in both of our Churches.

Everyone must also stay 1.5 metres away from other people whenever possible.



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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. Whilst you are unable to attend Mass, you are able to make your regular donation by way of automatic direct debit from your credit card, please contact the Parish office for more information. 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.



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Liturgy for the Week

- 17/05 **Monday of the 7th Week of Easter**
Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33
- 18/05 **Tuesday of the 7th Week of Easter**
Acts 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11
- 19/05 **Wednesday of the 7th Week of Easter**
Acts 20:28-38; Jn 17:11-19
- 20/05 **Thursday of the 7th Week of Easter**
Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26
- 21/05 **Friday of the 7th Week of Easter**
Acts 25:13-21; Jn 21:15-19
- 22/05 **Saturday of the 7th Week of Easter**
Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn 21:20-25

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Our team live, work and play on the Beaches. We understand the local community and are here for you when you need us most. Whether it's to plan an immediate funeral for a loved one or plan ahead for your own with a prepaid funeral, we're here to help.

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