



MANLY FRESHWATER CATHOLIC PARISH

Mary Immaculate and St John the Baptist Churches

Ascension of the Lord – 21st May 2023



Gospel Reflection

Today's Liturgy of the Word includes two accounts of Jesus' return to the Father:

Reading 1 is the beginning of the Acts of the Apostles, Luke's "Gospel of the Holy Spirit." Jesus' Ascension begins volume 2 of Luke's work. The words and images here invoke the First Covenant accounts of the ascension of Elijah (2 Kings 2) and the forty years of the Exodus: Luke considers the time that the Risen Lord spent with his disciples a sacred time, a "desert experience" for the apostles to prepare them for their new ministry of preaching the Gospel of the Resurrection. (Acts alone places the Ascension forty days after Easter; the synoptic Gospels – including, strangely, Luke's – specifically place the Ascension on the day of Easter; John writes of the "ascension" not as an event but as a new existence with the Father.) Responding to their question about the restoration of Israel, Jesus discourages his disciples from guessing what cannot be known. Greater things await them as his "witnesses." In the missionary work before them, Christ will be with them in the presence of the promised Spirit.

Matthew's Gospel begins with the promise of Emmanuel – "God is with us." It concludes on the Mount of the Ascension, with Emmanuel's promise, "I am with you always."

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PARISH GIVING – thank you for your generous support.

We encourage you to use the tap machines at the Church entrances. If you prefer to use cash there will be **ONE** collection during Mass at the offertory at Manly and **TWO** at Freshwater.



WORLD YOUTH DAY

An impromptu World Youth Day BBQ was held at St John's Freshwater last Saturday, which was well attended and raised \$380! This money goes towards supporting Josh Wright, Sampson Hyland and Richard Heasman in their World Youth Day pilgrimage to Lisbon, Portugal in late July to early August.



The next BBQ will be held at St Mary's Manly this Sunday 21st May following the 8:30am Mass.



Additionally, Josh and Richard attended a WYD Formation event at St Agatha's Pennant Hills on Tuesday 16th May. These events help to spiritually (and logistically!) prepare the boys for the trip. Please pray for them, that they may be safe and well prepared.



Finally, keep your calendars clear for the night of the 24th June! A Curry Night will be held at St Mary's on that date, featuring fine wine, the raffle draw and the musical finesse and expertise of Phil Nichol and Leigh Heasman! Details to come.

Upcoming fundraising events –

- Cake Stall at St Mary's on Sunday 11th June 9:30am – 11:30am.
- BBQ at St John's on Saturday 17th June following 5pm Mass.
- BBQ at St Mary's on Sunday 18th June following 10:30am Mass.
- Curry Night at St Mary's on Saturday 24th June following 6pm Mass.

Donations may be left at the Parish Office or placed in an envelope on the collection plate during weekend Masses. Please mark on the envelope – WYD Donation.

Thank you for your support!



Diocesan Mass Counts 2023

Each year we conduct the Diocesan Mass Count over four weekends in May.

LET US PRAY FOR

21st May 2023

Recently Deceased:

Anniversary: June Beninati; Anita Lo Cascio; Michael Moloney; Teresa Moloney; Edith Butler; Norman Cummins; Lorna Mary Argus; Joyce Parks; Olive Cummins

Prayers for the sick in our parish: "Lord, grant them and their carers strength and courage" Margaret Burridge; Stephen Robertson; Maureen Williams; Gerry Wybrandt; Amy Farrow; Patricia Duffy; Florencia Lira; Ken Waller; Mary Helen Fogarty; Belinda Nicholls; Jacqui Dawson; Gerry Ring; Zacchaeus Ratnam; Pat Smith; John Connors; Don Hews; Joan Jacobs; Sheila Lee; Donnacha Donnelly; Paul Donnelly; Julie & Rodney Wallis; Lyn Hillard; Ian Flynn; Jake Usher; Wayne Smedley; Shirley Ford; Apolinar Anasarias; Kay Flenady

Dates to remember...

- **Stella Maris School Mass** Fri 26 May 9:30am
- **Parish Mass** Friday 26th May at 12noon
- **Cenacle of Our Lady** Manly Tues 9:45am
- **Lectio Divina** Tues 7:30pm and Wed 10am
- **Eucharistic Adoration in Manly** Wed 6pm – 7:30pm

PIETY STORE MANLY has a new selection of Confirmation gifts. The piety store is open before and after weekend Masses or contact the Parish Office.

Movie of the month - For Greater Glory-A powerful movie, star studded cast and true story. Life for Catholics under a tyrannical masonic government in Mexico became unbearable and led to the rise of the "Cristeros". Only \$10 @ the piety store.

CD of the month – Moving heaven and earth – the true story of the Galileo affair

Christopher Check's 3 CD series corrects the prevailing narrative with the real facts on the Galileo affair, only \$5 @ the piety store.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION IN MANLY ON WEDNESDAYS

Quiet Prayer & Adoration
6:00pm – 7pm

Scripture Reflection on the Eucharist & Benediction 7pm – 7:30pm

Divine Mercy Chaplet will be said starting at 6pm



CAN'T GET TO MASS ON SUNDAY AND WANT TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION?

Many of you have not been able to come back to Mass on Sunday for different reasons. If you would like one of the Priest to visit you at home, please ring the parish office on 9977 5822.

Livestreaming on Facebook Sunday 8:30am
Mass manlyfreshwaterparishfacebook/videos



FREE Covid Testing Kits

We have been given a large supply of Covid Testing Kits and they will be **available free** from both Churches and from the Parish Office.

Bequests – Remembering your faith community in your Will

After providing for family members in your Will, have you ever considered leaving a bequest directly to your local parish or the Diocese of Broken Bay? This is called a legacy or bequest. Over the years, many people who have felt a special connection with their local parish and church have left part of their Estate to their Parish or the Diocese of Broken Bay. Like a gift to a charity, a bequest of any amount to the Church is a way of saying "thank you" for the spiritual nurturing provided to you and your family over the years.

If you would like further information on bequests including how we can acknowledge your generosity in your lifetime, please speak with your Parish Priest or the Broken Bay Diocese Office for Communications on 8379 1664.



FEAST OF ST ANTHONY OF PADOVA Sunday 18th June 2023

At St John the Baptist Church,
Freshwater. Program as follows...

- 1:00pm Confessions
- 1:30pm Holy Mass celebrated by Fr Anthony Fregolent with blessing of the bread and children during the Mass.
- 3:30pm Holy Procession accompanied by the Italian Brass Band of Giuseppe Verdi and escorted by the Italian Carabinieri in their colourful uniforms.



SUPPORT OUR PARISH & PRIESTS FINANCIALLY by using one of the following...

- 1. Planned Giving:** through a monthly direct debit or credit card. Please contact the parish office for more information 9977 5822.
- 2. Collection plates during Mass**
- 3. Tap and Go machines** using your credit/debit card or. **EFTPOS Terminals.**
- 4. Scan to Donate** using the QR code to access our BPoint Donation page.
- 5. Directly into Parish Bank Accounts**
- 6. 2nd collection Parish Bank Account**
Funds the running of the Parish
Account Name: Manly Freshwater Parish
Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank
Account # 100002025 BSB: 062 784
- 7. 1st collection** Supports our Priests
Account: Manly Freshwater Parish Pastoral
Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank
Account# 13958002 BSB: 062 784



URGENT HELP REQUIRED PLEASE...



Our Freshwater Morning Tea team of volunteers have lost two teams and we need a family or two to assist for the first two Sundays of the month please. Full support given to set up and tidy up. We need your assistance one Sunday a month. Please contact Francis Raymond 0418 850 815 or the Parish Office.

We would like to express our profound thanks to Andy and Becki Thiss, who looked after the first Sunday and Tim Markwart who looked after the second Sunday. They did a brilliant job for us and will be sorely missed.



FLOWER ROSTER ASSISTANCE REQUIRED

If you are interested in joining the Manly Flower Roster, please contact the parish office 9977 5822.



CATHEDRAL PRECINCT JOURNEY

Bishop Anthony Randazzo invites you to a Diocesan-wide presentation and

consultation in our Cathedral Precinct journey as we not only consider our Cathedral parish, but also the needs of the broader community. The Diocesan-wide consultation will begin with Mass as we celebrate our Patronal feast, Mary Star of the Sea.

This Vigil Mass will be at 5.30pm Tuesday 30 May 2023 at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara.

See Bishop's letter in this weekend's bulletin.

Manly Catenians



Would like to invite parishioners, family, friends, etc to a 2023 State of Origin night on Wednesday 31st May 2023 in the St Kieran's Parish Centre. Everyone is welcome. Doors open at 7:30pm, game starts at 8pm. Finger food will be provided. BYO drinks. \$5 per head. RSVP (for catering) by Mon 29 May to romano@romanodidonato.com.au

Manly Freshwater Parish promotes SAFEGUARDING which involves the implementation of proactive, common sense and practical ideas that ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults in our community.



This weekend Bishop Anthony Randazzo will confirm 84 young people from our Parish. The group is made of children from 8 schools in our area.

We invite you to pray the Litany to the Holy Spirit that the children will be open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

<i>Spirit of Wisdom</i>	<i>Make them wise</i>
<i>Spirit of fortitude</i>	<i>Strengthen them</i>
<i>Spirit of counsel</i>	<i>Guide their thoughts</i>
<i>Spirit of understanding</i>	<i>Enlighten them</i>
<i>Spirit of piety</i>	<i>Teach them about holiness</i>
<i>Spirit of knowledge</i>	<i>Inspire them</i>
<i>Spirit of fear of the Lord</i>	<i>Amaze them</i>



The children did a lot of research in choosing their saints names and some of the Saint Bio pages can be found at the back of the Church at Manly.

Adelaide	Joan	Michael
Adjutor	Joan of Arc	Monica
Ante	John	Nicholas
Anthony	John Paul II	Nicholas Owen
Ava	Jose	Olivia
Bernard	Joseph	Otto
Blaise	Justus	Patrick
Brendan	Kevin	Paul
Brigid	Laura	Phillip
Catherine	Leo	Rose
Cecilia	Lucy	Sebastian
Collette	Luigi Scrosoppi	Simon
Elizabeth	Luke	Sofia
Emma	Madeleine	Teresa
Francis of Assisi	Mary	Thomas
Henry	Mary MacKillop	Tobias
Ignatius	Matilda	Valentine
Isabella	Matthew	Zoe
James	Melangell	

Today let's remember our Confirmation day and pray to our saint.

All you holy men and women pray for us! 



Please sign the petition at savecalvary.com.au
https://comms.sydneycatholic.org/ch/75218/wnxqm/2220994/AZkbySjMR4twzXnNscbFTJI56uA.jl5veN.Vm_wI-2.html and share it with friends. Let the ACT Government know that we want our Catholic hospitals to stay Catholic. Yours sincerely in Christ

Important message from Archbishop Anthony Fischer

I am writing to ask for your assistance in petitioning the ACT Government to reverse a decision to take the ownership and management of Calvary Hospital away from Calvary Health Care – a Catholic operator and give the ownership to the government-run, non-faith-based Canberra Health Services instead.

Calvary Health Care operates hospitals and aged care facilities across the country and has been operating Calvary Hospital for 44 years. It is trusted to provide quality health care to Canberrans regardless of their religious belief.

The ACT Government is trying to ram through a bill that would allow this extreme land-and-assets grab to occur as soon as 3 July 2023. The bill was prepared in secret, with Calvary management and staff only finding out about it the day before it was tabled in parliament, and the government has scrapped the usual inquiry process so that the bill could be law as soon as 31 May 2023.

There is no time to lose: we must act now.

It's no secret that the ACT Government wants to force Calvary Hospital to provide abortions now, and euthanasia and assisted suicide in the future. Taking the land, buildings and hospital equipment and transferring staff employment across to Canberra Health Services allows them to push their anti-life agenda right through the hospital.

SIGN THE PETITION

https://comms.sydneycatholic.org/ch/75218/wnxqm/2220994/AZkbySjMR4twzXnNscbFTJI56uA.jl5veN.Vm_wI-1.html

This isn't just about Calvary Hospital. If the ACT Government can do this to a Catholic hospital, what is to stop them from doing it to a Catholic school or aged care facility or welfare agency? What's to stop the same thing happening to institutions run by other faith groups as well?

It's also not just an issue for the ACT. If the ACT Government is successful in this radical action, it could serve as a blueprint for other governments as well.

I'm asking for your help in stopping this nonsensical and anti-faith action.



THE IGNITE CONFERENCE

As you will be aware Bishop Anthony Randazzo and the Diocese of Broken Bay is hosting this

year's Ignite Conference in the Cathedral Precinct, Waitara between 28th September and 1st October.

The Ignite Conference is one of the most powerful Catholic youth conferences – but it is also so much more for people of all ages. Students, young adults, teachers, clergy, families are all welcome.

This year's theme for Ignite is "Wonder" and it will feature dynamic workshops and preaching, music, the sacraments and faith formation.

On Thursday, 25 May from 6.30pm to 9.00pm, the Diocese will host a Meet and Greet for our Conference Partners and you are most welcome to join us.



Mary Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia

The infant Church in Australia had a special reason for

turning to Mary. In those early and mostly priestless days, it was largely the Rosary that kept the faith alive. Catholic Australia remained faithful to Mary, and was the first nation to choose her, under the title of Help of Christians, as principal.

Almighty God, deepen in our hearts our love of Mary Help of Christians. Through her prayers and under her protection, may the light of Christ shine over our land. May Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace. Grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen. Mary Help of Christians, pray for us.





Tuesday 2 May 2023

Dear Fathers, Deacons, my sisters and brothers of the Diocese of Broken Bay,

In June last year I shared with you my hopes to begin a conversation about the life and culture of our Cathedral.

As I stated at the time, the Cathedral is at the heart of our Diocese, and a most important symbol of our identity. It is here that our local Church is brought together under the unity of your Bishop, together with my clergy, and the entire people of God entrusted to my care. It is the first Church amongst others, the one from which the Diocese radiates and returns.

Since that time, we have begun to articulate how we might best develop our identity as the Cathedral Precinct in the years to come. It is important we take our time to consider the needs of not only our Cathedral parish, but also the needs of the broader community, the Precinct, and its potential for mission, ministry, and life. As I had hoped, the journey which we have begun, has enabled and encouraged a great deal of creative thinking. Through a series of consultations we have begun to unlock many hope-filled ideas and innovative and collaborative conversations. Beginning with our Parish community we have also engaged with our Catholic Schools and CatholicCare services which are also located on the site.

Consultations have included the staff of the Chancery, Catholic Schools Broken Bay, teachers and parents, and CatholicCare to see how we might all best utilise current and new on-site resources, always with our focus on the mission which has been entrusted to us.

We now reach a new phase of our journey. I am inviting all the people of God in the Diocese of Broken Bay to join the conversation.

The Diocesan-wide consultation will begin with Mass as we celebrate our Patronal feast, Mary Star of the Sea.

I encourage you to join me at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral for Vigil Mass at 5.30pm on Tuesday, 30 May 2023 before we move to The Light of Christ Centre for a light supper and conversation as we continue our Cathedral Precinct journey together. A formal invitation will be sent out in the coming days and will detail further how clergy and parishioners are able to confirm their attendance.

I ask that you pray for this journey as it continues to unfold and for which I am sure, will be the source of many new blessings for our Diocese.

Mary Star of the Sea, pray for us.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads '+ Anthony Randazzo'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

MOST REVEREND ANTHONY RANDAZZO BISHOP OF BROKEN BAY
PO Box 340, Pennant Hills NSW 1715, Australia P +612 8379 1614 E bishop@bbcatholic.org.au

www.bbcatholic.org.au



Draw Jesus ascending into heaven.



Even though Jesus ascended into heaven he is always with us. Complete the sentences below.

Jesus is with me when....

Jesus is with me when....

Jesus is with me when....



ASCENSION

How many words can you make from the letters in the word ASCENSION?

Ascension of the Lord – Year A

First Reading

Acts 1:1-11 (JB)

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. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 46:2-3, 6-9 (JB)*

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

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

Ephesians 1:17-23 (JB)

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. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation *Matthew 28:19, 20 (JB)*

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 28:16-20 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SOUTH STEYNE medical CENTRE

Nestled between the pines at South Steyne – our Medical Centre born from the belief of looking from a fresh perspective towards healthcare. You will find highly trained, experienced GPs and Nursing Staff, with a range of skills to provide you with quality comprehensive care.



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Parish Priest: Fr David Taylor
manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr John Puliparambil
john.puliparambil@bbcatholic.org.au

Parish Secretary: Jenny Beninati
manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Mary Immaculate Church (Parish Office)

6 Raglan St, Manly 2095

Parish Office: Mon to Thurs 8:30am – 4:30pm

Phone: 9977 5822

manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

www.bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater

St John the Baptist Church

cnr Johnson & Oliver St, Freshwater 2096

Presbytery: 9977 2100

After Hours Sick Calls: 0499 910 010

Parish Pastoral Council: Paul Pervan (Chair);
Michael McGrath (Deputy Chair); Margaret Dent
(Secretary); Patricia Carroll; Joanne Druery;
Val Buono; Ivica Covic; Robert Marshall;
Peter Nacard, Ian Press, Katalina Taefotu

Weekend Masses:

Manly: Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am, 6:00pm

Freshwater: Saturday Vigil 5:00pm & Sunday 9am

Weekday Masses:

Manly: Tuesday – Friday 9:15am

Freshwater: Tuesday – Friday 9:15am

Baptisms: please contact the parish office

Manly: 4th Sunday of the month

Freshwater: 2nd Sunday of month

Reconciliation: *Manly* Sat 10am – 11am

St Mary's Primary School 9977 2225

Principal: Paul McGuire

St John the Baptist Primary School 9939 6699

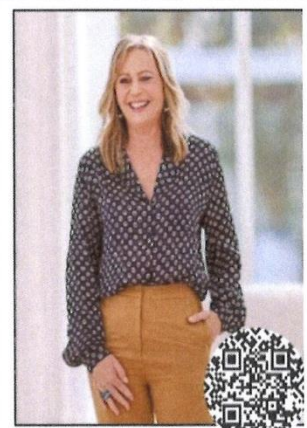
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