



Diocese of Broken Bay Under the Pastoral Care of the Discalced Carmelites since 2008

20May 2018 - Pentecost Sunday - Year B

Parish Mass Times:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 6:30am
Thursday: 9:15am
Saturday: 9:00am, 6:00pm (vigil)
Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am, 6:00pm
Public Holiday: 9:00am
Youth Mass: 6:00pm (1st Sunday of month)

Baptism: Fourth Sunday of each month by appointment

Wedding: Contact Parish Office at least 6 months prior notice
Morning Prayer: Monday - Wednesday & Friday: 6:10am Thursday: 8:40am
Anointing of Sick: 2nd Thursday of the month at 9:15am or by request
Eucharistic Adoration: Saturday 9:30 – 10am concluding with Benediction
Reconciliation: Saturday 9:30am
Rosary: Immediately after weekday Mass and Saturday (8:35am)



May 2018

Every Friday (during term time)

Lectio Divina facilitated by Fr Greg
10-11am, Hall Boardroom

Every Thursday

Prayer Group prior to mass
8:40am

Sunday 20 May

10am Mass— Junior Choir
Morning Tea after Mass for Fr Justin

Sunday 27 May

10am Mass— Parish Choir

Thursday 31 May

Parish Social Craft Group
10:30am—Hall Boardroom



*Then there appeared to them
tongues as of fire, which
parted and came to rest on
each one of them (First
Reading)*

Dear Parishioners and visitors to the Parish,

The Solemnity of Pentecost commemorates the coming of the Holy Spirit on the apostles in a powerful and dramatic way. Its presence was heralded by the sound of a mighty wind and the appearance of tongues of fire. Like fire, the Spirit both destroys and creates. Being the Spirit of Christ which is a Spirit of love coming from the Father, it burns the sins of men through forgiveness. From the Pentecost Sunday onwards the Church took on its missionary

role: the timid and the frightened apostles, transformed by the Spirit, rushed into the streets and fearlessly preached the Good News about the mighty acts of God. Ever since, the Holy Spirit has been a permanent presence and tower of strength in guiding, guarding and directing the Church. The Spirit is gift of the Father and the Son to us on Pentecost Sunday!

Today is also the day during which we, as a community, say good-bye to Justin. We will miss him and ask God's special blessings upon him as he, sadly for us, returns to Korea. May the Holy Spirit continue to anoint him and our community as we journey through life.

May God bless you.

Fr Greg Chee, OCD

CONTACT DETAILS

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Email: office@corpuschristi.com.au
In an emergency call 9144 6998
Web: www.stives.dbb.org.au

PARISH OFFICE TEAM

Fr Greg Chee, OCD, Parish Priest
Fr Sunny Abraham, OCD, Assistant Priest
Fr Johny Arattukulam, OCD, Assistant Priest
Belinda Camilleri, Office Manager
Michelle Miles, Office Secretary
Ed Wales, Parish Finance
Jennifer Perrott, Catechist Co-Ordinator
Gerri Hadwen, Sacramental Co-Ordinator

HALL BOOKINGS

John Huggett (Co-ordinator)
0412 882 263

Corpus Christi Parish School
Phone: 9988 3135, 9988 3136

17 Link Road, St Ives NSW 2075
Web: www.ccsidbb.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mrs Barbara Yee
Email: ccsi@dbb.catholic.edu.au

What's on...

Every First Friday, 7-8pm, Holy Hour for Vocations. Adoration, reflection, evening prayer of the Church. St Agatha's Parish, Pennant Hills. Email: vocations.ministry@dbb.org.au

Every Last Wednesday, 7-9pm, A Discernment Evening for young adults (18-35) who meet together once a month in order to pray, ask questions and discover their individual vocations or lifetime call from God. St Agatha's Parish, Pennant Hills. Email: vocations.ministry@dbb.org.au

Friday 25 May from 6pm-8pm; Saturday 26 May 8am-11am, A Prayer Vigil will be held at St Swithun's Anglican Church, Pymble.



"How marvellous would it be if, at the end of the day, each of us could say: today I have performed an act of charity towards others" – Pope Francis

We will be holding another collection today for CWF. Your donations will When you provide to the Charitable Works Fund today, your donations support your family and neighbours in our Diocese. Your donations provide financial support to the CatholicCare Hospital Chaplains and Pastoral Care Practitioners who minister across seven hospitals in our Diocese. The Hospital Chaplains and Pastoral Care practitioners care for our families, friends and neighbours during times of sickness and hospitalisation. Your generous donations provide for someone to bring God's love and comfort to new mothers and babies. Your donations also provide someone to bring sacraments and compassion to someone at the end of their life.

Your donations to the Charitable Works Funds provide support to five charities including **Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, St Lucy's School, St Edmund's College and Ephpheta Centre** that support the people of the Diocese of Broken Bay and today we say thank you.

Over the last Financial year, your donations have raised \$ 32,632 for our Parish. Every Parish in the Diocese is set a quota in order to meet our commitments to the charities receiving the funds. In order to meet our quota we still need to raise \$ 18,500 to meet ours. Please fill in one of the CWF envelopes that we have in the pews for you today and place it in the collection plate. All CWF donations are fully tax deductible.

Thank you.

Ku-Ring-Gai Interchurch Group

We will be praying for St John the Evangelist Anglican Church Gordon, and for Fr Keith Dalby.

Prayer Zone



Anniversary: Hendro Tedjokusumo; Clelia Silvio; John Shoppee

Please pray for the ill:

Meacheal; Estelle Sok; Maurice Martin; Lewis Crinitti; Phillip Johnson; Thi Nguyen; Victoria; Carmel Hadley; Clara Di Mauro; Tom Brewer; Anne Baillie, Francesco Macolino, Jan Davies, Carmel Hurrell, Mary Sanzone, Fergus O'Brien, Michelle Soumier, Jane Donnelly, Lisa Doherty, John Edwards, Carol-Anne Campbell, Jennifer Nancarro, Gina Jaksetic, Jeannie, Gracie Spencer, Brendan Stone, John Michael Walsh

Feast Days — May

20 May, Pentecost Sunday
21 May, Mary Mother of the Church
24 May, Our Lady, Help of Christians
26 May, St Philip Neri, priest

May Safeguarding Message

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults is a practical living out of the baptismal vocation of every member of the Church to ensure the safety and well-being of those whom the Lord sets before us as those to whom the 'Kingdom of God belongs' (Mt 19:14)

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020—LISTEN TO WHAT THE SPIRIT IS SAYING.

Pope Francis has approved the Australian Bishops' decision to hold a Plenary Council in Australia in 2020 and 2021. It is significant moment for the Church in Australia to make decisions about the future.

To prepare the agenda for the Plenary Council, all of God's people are invited to reflect on the question: *"What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?"* Find out more about the Plenary Council 2020 at the new website now online:

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au



Welcoming Ministry: Help Needed

The role of the Welcoming Ministry is to foster a welcoming environment that is outreaching, inviting and inclusive to all members and visitors of Corpus Christi Church, St Ives. This ministry sees the face of Jesus in each person that walks in our door.

At present there are 40 members rostered over a month. 48 are required to fill the month so we are currently down 8 members each month. This welcoming ministry says that this parish has room in our hearts for you. It would require a commitment once a month for 15 minutes before mass. We look forward to your response in contributing to this important ministry.

To respond please contact Denise Carmody who is the coordinator on 9488 9621, email dbcarmody@optusnet.com.au or the parish office on 9144 6998. Many thanks for your consideration.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for May

The Mission of the Laity

That the lay faithful may fulfil their specific mission, by responding with responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today



LITTLE CHURCH

Children's Liturgy of the Word is held every Sunday at the 10am Mass in the Parish Office Lounge Room, otherwise known as *Little Church*. The children listen to the Gospel and share their thoughts and beliefs about what it means to them. We also have music and, as long as there is time we sing a song that is appropriate for the theme for the day.

We do not close during the school holidays because there are always some children who want *Little Church* to be there for them. Numbers are not important. Jesus once said, "Where two or three are gathered together, there am I in the midst of them, so we are happy if two or three children want their Little Church".

However, the children are aware that they also belong with the community in "*Big Church*." So on special occasions we ask the children to stay with their parents. They have joined with the community to support the Confirmation children. This Sunday we celebrate the great Feast of Pentecost as well as Fr. Justin's farewell, so the children will again be joining the community.



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RESPONSE TO THE FEDERAL BUDGET

The St Vincent de Paul Society has spearheaded the Catholic response to the Federal budget, detailing how people on the lowest incomes will be worse off. "This is an irresponsible budget that will leave unemployed people, underemployed people, students and those struggling to pay high housing costs worse off," St Vincent's National

Council Chief Executive Officer, Dr. John Falzon said.

"Critically, the Budget has failed to lift unemployment payments, nor is there any action to address homelessness and Australia's housing affordability crisis."

"Modest cuts to income tax for low and middle-income earners will not offset rising costs of living and underinvestment in social and affordable housing, increased out-of-pocket expenses for medical services and aged care, and the lack of adequate and fairly funded education at all levels."

"Each of these failures leads to increases in out-of-pocket expenses which makes the struggle for survival just that much harder. For some the consequences will be homelessness and destitution. In a wealthy country such as ours we can do better than this," said Dr. Falzon.

"Over the past four budgets the Government cut \$15 billion from social security and community services, and billions more are in the pipeline.

"It is unconscionable to be pursuing massive tax cuts while these spending cuts stand, and people on the lowest incomes continue to go without food or secure housing."

For further information go to: <https://www.vinnies.org.au>.



Farewell

Remember to join us for morning tea on Sunday 20 May following the 10am mass to farewell Fr Justin before he heads home to Korea. We look forward to seeing you there.

Mary, Mother of the Church

The congregation of Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, 11th of February 2018 and decreed by Pope Francis gave us a new memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church. It will be celebrated on the first Monday after Pentecost in 2018 (Monday 21 May). Its aim is to foster the growth of the maternal sense of the Church in all the faithful as well as growth in genuine Marian devotion. Mary is inextricably connected with the Spirit. She is the spouse of the Spirit and according to St John of the Cross was always perfectly moved by the Spirit.

Today I will share with you true and deep devotion to Mary from one Marian giant, Marie de Montfort. I would like to do this in a way that will benefit your own relationship with Mary and will deepen your relationship with Jesus and the Spirit. There is a secret here. Mary as Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church was already present in the mind of the church. St Augustine says, "Mary is the Mother of the members of Christ, because with charity she cooperated in the rebirth of the faithful into the Church."

Marie de Montfort:

St John Paul II says that prayerfully reflecting on Marian devotion according to de Montfort, was a turning point in his life. It took him some time to appreciate what de Montfort was on about, but when he did, it was wonderful.

His motto: **Totus Tuus**, that is, total concentration to Jesus through Mary. He gave everything to Mary in a way that was totally for Christ. He was acknowledged as a saint very quickly after his death. So, this approach was very effective.

Marie de Montfort says that this way is the shortest and most perfect means of becoming a saint. We presently live in more than perilous times where unprecedented evil abounds but grace abounds even more in such times (Rom 5.20). When humans were infinitely distanced from God, the Father's mercy gave us Jesus Christ, our Saviour through Mary's free and responsible yes.

With us in these times of great evil, grace will be given to form great saints; God wants his mercy to triumph through Mary. Mary humbled herself and remained hidden as much as possible at the time of the apostles to allow the greatest glory to go to Jesus. Since God exalts the humble, He will exalt Mary in these latter times.

According to Marie de Montfort, Mary is a great secret and a great means to grow in holiness. This means must be proportional to the end. No other human person is more conformed to Christ than Mary. So, she is the best one to bring us to Christ from a human person standpoint. De Montfort's spirituality is total consecration to Jesus through Mary.

What was the task Jesus gave Mary?

God chose her to conceive, bear and nurture Jesus Christ, Our Saviour. But God went further. Look at Jesus, Mary and the Beloved disciple at the foot of the cross in John 19:26-27. John stands for us. "Woman, behold your son." "Son, behold your Mother." Jesus gave us one of the greatest gifts, his Mother as our spiritual Mother. It is part of Jesus' will; not only to give birth to the Saviour through Mary but also to give spiritual rebirth to Christians to enable them to grow to the full stature in Christ.

But, isn't the Holy Spirit meant to make us holy?

Yes, at baptism we receive the new life in Christ in the waters of baptism by the action of the Spirit. It is He who helps us in our ongoing transformation into Christ through continued conversion.

So, why Mary? Where does she fit?

Mary is the Spouse of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit overshadowed her at her fiat. When she gave her free and responsible 'yes' the Holy Spirit acted in Mary and from her flesh and blood gave rise to the greatest work ever, namely the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. So the Spirit is pleased to work and act through his spouse Mary, for the sanctification of the human race.

Pope St Leo the Great says, "The birth of the Head is also the birth of the body thus indicating that Mary is at once Mother of Christ, the Son of God and Mother of the members of the mystical Body, which is the Church."

There is no absolute necessity of God's part to so act but the Spirit freely chose to so act. So it is Mary's task in union with the Spirit to form human beings into other Christs i.e. to form each person into a fully mature member of the body of Christ. So if you want to become more fully Christ, then you need to belong more fully to Mary by entering into a covenant relationship with her.

This is like when two people get married. They say to each other, "All that I have I give to you." This is beautiful. The children do not lose because of this but they gain much because of the mutual covenant relationship the man and the woman have for each other which embraces their child, the fruit of their mutual love.

When we give Mary our heart, she under and with the action of the Spirit can then more easily achieve her mission to form us into great saints which has repercussions for others in the world. Like Jesus, Mary has a deep respect for human freedom. She does not force us into a deeper relationship with her. We are invited, but not forced, even though she cares for all her children but freedom and openness are significant. Our 'yes' to her gives her the freedom under the action of the Spirit to enable us to take on the form of Christ. So, that when the Father looks at us He sees Christ.

What is the place of parents and godparents at a child's baptism?

They have a very significant place. They mediate, like all of us, God's grace, but, Mary's place is unique and special. She is said to be the mediatrix of all grace under and with Jesus who is the source of all grace.

I there would want parents to realise their special place in imparting the faith and general development of their child but would also invite them to pray to Jesus, Mary and the Holy Spirit to bring their work to maturity.

If I was a parent, I would want a good prayer base with my wife for the well-being of our child. As a parish priest, I do not want to aim to bring the Church to maturity without a good prayer base invoking Jesus, Mary and the Holy Spirit. We may also invoke the heavenly Father as He is the best of Fathers and is touched by our confident trust in Him.

John of the Cross says: *"Those who are very active and think that they are going to encircle the earth with their preaching... should realise that they would do the church much more*

good, and please God much more... if they spent even half of this time with God in prayer. In this way they would certainly achieve more with less trouble, in one work than they would have done in a thousand: their prayer would merit it and would give them inner strength", (CB29.3)

Prayer: Mary, I want to be a great saint. I know that you want me to be a saint, mature in Christ and that is your God-given mission jointly with the Spirit to form me into one. So Mary, at this moment, on this day I freely choose to give you my full permission to do your work in me with your Spouse the Holy Spirit.

What is de Montfort's Consecration?

Two main aspects: a) Renewal and the living of our baptismal promises; and b) a particularly intimate gift of ourselves to Mary in a covenant or entrustment relationship.

a) Baptismal Promises: Baptism makes us sons and daughters of God. We reject Satan and make a sincere faith commitment to follow Christ in a habitual way. We don't always live these promises perfectly. We sin, we are weak, we experience concupiscence, we forget our solemn promises made to God. Let us live them and make them a regular lived heart commitment placing them in the hands of Mary. To do so will go a long way to help us overcome sin and live Gospel values.

"I ...name..., a faithless sinner renew and ratify in thy hands the vows of my baptism. I renounce forever Satan, his works and his pomps and I give myself entirely to Jesus Christ the incarnate wisdom to carry my cross after Him all the days of my life and to be faithful to Him than I have ever been before."

So, renounce sin in our lives and recommit to Christ through Mary. Mary has great power over Satan because of the infinite merits of Christ and the action of the Spirit, her Spouse.

Come Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Give me the grace to reject Satan and follow Christ more closely.

b) Intimate Gift of self to Mary:

This is in the pattern as exemplified by Jesus. He depended on Mary at the Incarnation, at his birth, when King Herod was out to kill Him and the Holy Family became refugees. He was subject to them. Since Jesus is our paradigm we also ought to so act; He is the way, the truth and the life.

Besides, it is clearly his will. On the cross he said, "Woman, behold thy son." And "Son, behold your Mother". We make a gift of our body with its senses and its members; we make a gift of our soul with its powers of intellect and will. We give our body, our soul and our heart holding nothing back in a covenant relationship.

Should we really give Mary everything?

I include here our interior and spiritual goods which are our merits and virtues and our good works past, present and future. Isn't that too much? Don't we lose the unconditional right to distribute the value of our prayers, good works and actions to others? Mary may use them as she pleases.

Since Mary is perfectly moved by the Spirit there is a big benefit. Our prayers, works and merited graces will be used in the best possible way giving the greatest glory to God even though we come to God with empty hands.

But what about my family and friends? I might lose the right to prayer for those I especially love. This is a legitimate concern. But Mary augments, increases, purifies the spiritual gifts and merits we give her. Therefore, there are more graces and merits to go around. Mary will be sensitive to our prayers for our family, friends and others to one who is so generous to her. She will not be outdone in generosity. If we give her our heart, everything she has is ours for it is the nature of love to share everything. She will care for our loved ones better than we can. We must still pray for them, but Mary has the final say. We have a covenant relationship here like in a marriage. The covenant relationship between a man and his wife enhances their love for their children, it does not diminish it; likewise, here.

Come Holy Spirit living in Mary. Help me to be generous in giving all I have to Mary.

That is what John Paul did.

It is what St Therese did in her Act of Oblation which is an expression of her famous Little Way. Both became saints soon after death. The latter is a doctor of the Church and that means eminent sanctity and eminent teaching acknowledged by the Church. When Therese says she comes to God with empty hands she means that she gives even her merits to Mary and through Mary all is given to Jesus. All she has to do is live the Golden Rule trusting in the Merciful Love of Jesus.

According to Marie de Montfort, Marian consecration is a relatively quick, easy and secure way to holiness. As there are secrets of nature by which natural operations are performed more easily, in a short time and at little cost, so also there are secrets in the order of grace by which supernatural operations such as ridding self of selfishness, filling ourselves with God and becoming perfect, are performed more easily.

Think of an infant with and without a mum. The child flourishes with the love of the mum and his growth is inhibited without that love of the mum.

Crosses must still be present but, according to Marie de Montfort, when we have a deep covenant relation with Mary we will carry those crosses with more ease, more merit and more glory because the good Mother, full of grace and the action of the Spirit prepares her servants' crosses with so much maternal sweetness and pure love as to make them gladly acceptable no matter how bitter they may be in themselves.

We make more progress in a brief period of submission to and dependence on Mary than in whole years following our own will and relying on our own ability to cooperate with grace. "By this practice faithfully observed you will give Jesus more glory in a month than by any other practice, however difficult in many years." (Marie de Montfort).

So remember your baptismal promises; be committed to live them with a total gift of self to Mary acting jointly with the Spirit in a beautiful covenant relationship. Her vocation given by Jesus on the cross is to be our spiritual Mother and to form Christ in us with the Spirit in order that we may become other Christs.

Fr Greg Chee, OCD



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