

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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

24 May 2020 - The Ascension of the Lord

The Bishop of Broken Bay, Bishop Anthony Randazzo has dispensed
with the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays.
We invite you to join in Masses that are available for a limit of 10 people in the Church and for all online, as listed below, and to continue to pray from home.

Mass at Corpus Christi for 10 people in the Church: Please see article for details of Masses.

Mass Online:
Corpus Christi Mass
Online. Sunday mass will
be available on Saturday
afternoon.

https:// www.youtube.com/ channel/UCB1Oa3Tx-92DbCAZfy7NqwQ

Links to this YouTube channel will be available on our website and on our FaceBook Account.

Mass on television: Mass for You at Home: 6am Channel 10 every Sunday morning.



As they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. ... Suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. (Gospel)

Dear Parishioners,

For forty days after Jesus' resurrection from the dead, he appeared to his disciples, sometimes to one person, sometimes to a small group and on one occasion to more than 500 people, as St Paul reports. Then after about forty days these appearances ceased and the disciples realised that he had returned to the Father having completed his mission on earth. He had ascended into heaven.

Jesus' return to the Father does not however mean that he is no longer with us. St Matthew wrote his Gospel to reassure Christians that Jesus is still with us. At the very beginning of his Gospel, the angel tells Joseph that the child will be called Emmanuel, a name which means 'God is with us'. And in the very last words of his Gospel, which we hear today, Jesus says, 'And know that I am with you always, yes, to the end of time.' And in the middle of the Gospel Jesus says, 'when two or three come together in my name, I am there with you' (Mt 18:20).

While Christ is with us in spirit, we are now the hands and feet and heart of Christ in our world. It is we who must go out and proclaim Christ to the ends of the earth. It is through us that people will meet the risen Christ.

My God bless you. Fr Greg Chee, OCD

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PARISH OFFICE TEAM Fr Greg Chee, OCD, Parish Priest

Belinda Camilleri, Office Manager Michelle Miles, Office Secretary Ed Wales, Parish Finance Jennifer Perrott, Faith Facilitator Gerri Hadwen, Sacramental Co-Ordinator HALL BOOKINGS John Huggett (Coordinator) 0412 882 263

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DRAFT VISION STATEMENT FOR REVIEW

I have a dream or vision for the parish. Where there is no vision a people perish, but when people live in accordance with God's law, they are happy and blessed (see Proverbs 29:18).

Only 10% of Catholics regularly attend Church; my dream is that we reach and welcome the 90% in a life-giving way; may we reach even wider than that. If we don't so act our churches will slowly decline and people will not have the opportunity to come to know Jesus.

There is an absence of young people in our churches. My dream is that a vibrant youth and families are part of our parish making their own contribution to the life of the church as they share in it.

There are people who are experiencing loneliness, mental suffering, poverty, domestic violence and people on the fringes. My dream is that we reach these people and bring Christ's life and healing love to them.

Many individuals do not relate to a personal loving God who has a wonderful plan for their lives. My dream is that as many people as possible have a life-changing encounter with God within and through the Church. Wouldn't it be great if the above and more were a reality!

Keeping these above points in mind I have been reflecting on a vision for some months with Jen, Linda, Pina and Tania and have given much thought to what underpins our future vision.

I would like to invite you to a meeting at 5pm on Sunday, the 7th of June where the origin and the vision would be shared with you with a view to hearing your comments and feedback. When the vision is complete to our satisfaction, we would then have direction for our parish. Everything we do would be consistent with our vision. If we have no vision we will be without a focus and a people perish as the wise man says in Proverbs. I need your help to finalise the vision for the parish. I am open to any vision and/or comments you may have for the parish and would love to hear them.

Come along to this zoom meeting on the 7th and help to shape our future. Details of the Zoom meeting will be provided closer to the time. See you there!

Fr Greg, OCD

Prayer Zone



Recently Deceased: Marie Frazer Anniversary: Clara Di Mauro

Please pray for the ill:

Grace Cheah; Jan Davies; Elizabeth Walsh; Rebecca Anderson: Maria and Jack Garcia: Jose Mestres; Meacheal; Estelle Sok; Lewis Crinitti; Thi Nguyen; Victoria; Carmel Hadley; Carmel Hurrell, Mary Sanzone, Fergus O'Brien, Michelle Soumier, Jane Donnelly, Lisa Doherty, Gina Jaksetic, Jeannie, Gracie Spencer, Brendan Stone

If you know of anyone who can no longer attend mass due to illness; or if you have noticed one of our parishioners is no longer attending mass, could you please let the office know.

FEAST DAYS -- MAY

Sunday 24 May, The Ascension of the Lord Monday 25 May, Our Lady, Help of Christians

Tuesday 26 May, St Philip Neri, priest

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.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

We wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of these lands on which we gather and show our respect to the Elders past and present. We also wish to pay our respects to all Aboriginal people.



If you have any questions, please contact Jon Horan (Jon Horan jonhoran@bigpond.com) or John

MASS IS RETURNING TO CORPUS CHRISTI To action and attend Mass, please call the office to book on 9144 6998 by 4pm the day before. Only those who have booked will be able to attend.

We are pleased to announce that Masses will recommence from Monday 25 May 2020. We will be holding mass at the following times:

- Monday to Friday at 9:00am Mass and the possibility of Reconciliation*
- Saturday at 9:00am Mass, the possibility of Reconciliation and Exposition
- Saturday at 6:00pm—Mass only
- Sunday at 10am—Mass only

* During the week, Reconciliation and/or private prayer will be available for 30 minutes immediately after Mass.

Reconciliation at other times is available by appointment.

Following the guidelines set by the NSW Government, masses will be limited to 10 people plus the priest. We are asking our Parishioners to consider others when booking for the Masses, allowing everyone to have an opportunity to attend and participate in the Eucharist again. More possibilities will evolve as government guidelines change.

In any gathering, social distancing measures of 4 square meters per person and hand sanitising needs to be maintained. We are also required to clean the church after each gathering.



Donations over \$2 are tax deductible and can be made online at www.givenow.com.au/cwf Any donation given will support our Parish quota. Please ensure you nominate your Parish as St Ives Corpus Christi

We give thanks to our Parish family who have continued to support the Charitable Works Fund (CWF). Your donations are distributed among 5 charities that provide faith based support to the people in the Diocese of Broken Bay. One of these charities is St Lucy's School, located in Wahroonga which provides a Catholic, nurturing education for children with disabilities. David Raphael, School Principal, kindly provided us with an update...

St Lucy's has continued to operate during the Covid-19 pandemic focusing on the health, wellbeing and safety of staff and students. Due to the critical need with our vulnerable families, we were pleased that St Lucy's was allowed to stay open through Term 1 and we started Term 2 with approx. 80% student attendance. For St Lucy's students, consistency, familiarity and security goes a long way to help them on their educational journey. For our parents, many of whom have had to work from home, the continued service was a major factor in their ability to navigate these unprecedented times. Students have also learnt a great deal more about hygiene in times of a global pandemic and have, to whatever degree possible, worked hard at being as independent as possible. Their ability to be flexible and adaptable has impressed their teachers and families alike.

FINANCE UPDATE - SIX MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2019

Dear Parishioners

Up until December last year we were still able to attend Mass in the church and have our morning teas and other Parish activities. It is certainly a different picture at the moment. However, we can't forget that our Parish still needs your support as it continues to function as best it can.

Our envelope and loose collections were slightly up compared to last year but are down on the same period in 2017. We do encourage all parishioners to participate in the planned giving by way of a direct debit or credit card. If you would like to know how to contribute by direct debit or credit card the Parish Office would be glad to assist.

Our other expenses are up as we are spending more money on electricity, with the addition of the air conditioning units.

We continue to operate at a deficit and this may continue for some time. Your finance committee is watching this very carefully and making sure we do not exhaust our cash resources.

The amount owing on the loan at 31 December 2019 was \$63,414.69 and we continue to make our normal monthly repayments.

We thank all parishioners for their continued support as we all work together during these difficult times to enhance our Parish.

Fr Greg and the Parish Finance Committee

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY IN TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH, ST IVES

Income & Expenditure

	ACTUAL \$	ACTUAL\$	ACTUAL \$
August The Decision of State Andrews State of	31-Dec-19	31-Dec-18	31-Dec-17
INCOME			
Planned Giving /Envelope Collection	81,815	77,328	90,433
Loose Second Collection	24,296	24,574	30,453
Donations	-	195	-
Pastoral Activities, Advertising and other inc.	7,737	6,300	9,433
Interest Received	2,591	3,523	502
Building Donations	900	1,509	2,084
Fund raising income	_	_	7,536
Total Income	117,339	113,429	140,441
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Church Requisites	3,716	6,684	6,604
Employment Expenses including on-costs	73,200	68,769	42,790
Insurance	21,101	19,649	19,163
Office Expenses	9,081	6,543	8,815
Pastoral programmes, Admin. & other exp.	24,170	18,192	14,760
Repairs and maintenance	16,363	35,933	57,100
Clergy Car Expenses	4,135	4,828	4,453
Interest repayment on Roof Loan	1,905	4,665	5,473
Total Operating Expenses	153,671	165,263	159,157
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	-36,333	-51,834	-18,716
Other income -specific sponsorship	_	37,340	-
Roof Repayments to 31 Dec 2019	(16,700)	(16,700)	(18,565)
Noor Nepayments to 31 Dec 2019	(10,700)	(10,700)	(10,000)
Surplus / (Deficit) after roof repayments	(53,033)	(31,195)	(37,282)

The Word

Sunday 24 May 2020: The Ascension of the Lord

First Reading

From the Acts of the Apostles Acts 1:1-11

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.

- 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.)
- 2. 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.)
- 3. 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

From the first letter of of St Paul to the Ephesians Eph 1:17-23

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

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

Gospel

From the holy Gospel according to Matthew Mt 28:16-20

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 commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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