

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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

31 May 2020 -Pentecost Sunday

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, from Monday 1 June, of 50 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.



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

Dear Parishioners,

Today we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. We also celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit into our hearts at our Baptism and Confirmation. We have all received the Holy Spirit. As St Paul teaches in today's second reading, in the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as free, and the one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

In that reading St Paul goes on to say that there is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit. In other words, everyone receives the Holy Spirit but not everyone receives the same gifts from the Spirit. We each receive different gifts to help build up the body of Christ. In that we are like the human body which is made up of many different parts all working for the good of the whole body. The eyes see, the ears hear, the arms carry, the feet walk, the nose smells, and so on. Likewise, in the Christian community—the Body of Christ—we need different members with different gifts.

So to each of us is given a particular manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. The gifts of the Holy Spirit should never been seen as a personal possession, or as a source of boasting or being proud. They are given for the building up of the body of Christ. What gifts of the Holy Spirit do you have that contribute to the whole?

My God bless you. Fr Greg Chee, OCD

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PARISH OFFICE TEAM Fr Greg Chee, OCD, Parish Priest

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Catholic Parish Renewal

With the present realities in the Church of today, it can be hard to see how to begin to move our parish in a more positive direction which is growing and flourishing. Fortunately, there are examples of Catholic parishes that have done just this.

About 9 years ago, because of declining attendance, three parishes in the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth in Nova Scotia, Canada, joined together to become one parish. Two of the churches were sold, and one brand new Church was built: St Benedict's in Halifax. The newly appointed pastor, Fr James Mallon, rightly saw that if the parish continued as 'business-as-usual', then the same pattern of decline would likely continue. He decided to look at ways to renew the parish so that it became more authentic to its identity and mission.

He began with Jesus' 'Great Commission' in Matthew 28:19-20: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you."

Jesus' request to the apostles was to "make disciples", or followers of Jesus. So Fr James made this the parish's priority - to focus everything on making disciples of Jesus. A disciple is someone who has a relationship with Jesus, and has chosen to surrender and to follow him. The parish, therefore, created a space for people to meet Jesus, either for the first time, or to enter more deeply in relationship with Jesus (they use 'Alpha' for this). They became invitational, continually inviting everyone to come and share the Good News they had to offer; and they offer an extraordinary welcome to anyone who does come! This friendship with Jesus becomes the basis for the whole spiritual life, and people are then often hungry to learn more, and faith formation begins to thrive.

St Benedict's then invites people to be in small groups to continue fellowship and build community where people can journey together and share their faith and life. Every person is invited to use their gifts in ministry in the community, and the focus is on building up people. As Fr James says, "Don't use people to build up the Church; use the Church to build up people".

Fr James reminds us that the Church is in the business of changed lives, and this is what St Benedict's celebrates. Stories are regularly shared of how Jesus has made a difference to people's lives. They are slowly but surely changing parish culture so that it is more invitational, welcoming, and joyful, lived in real community where people belong, grow, serve and praise God in worship.

Fr James wrote his experience of parish renewal in a book titled, "Divine Renovation: From a Maintenance to a Missional Parish", and it provides principles for a way forward in turning a parish around. Many Catholic parishes and dioceses around the world are taking note. The focus is on being missionary and more outward focused so that parishes assume their true identity as being witnesses of Christ in the world.

To find out more, see the Divine Renovation website www.divinerenovation.net, or search for videos from Fr James Mallon at <u>youtube.com</u>, in particular a series of 5 short interviews.

Reflection and Sharing

- 1. Which of the elements of a renewed parish mentioned above do you see as the most important?
- 2. How might our parish become more missionary and outward-focused?

Other initiatives that give insights into the revitalisation of parishes are: Rebuilt (a parish in Baltimore): rebuiltparish.com and www.churchnativity.com Amazing Parish: amazingparish.org

Parish Planning Forums

All are invited to a zoom meeting on Sunday 7 June at 5pm to discuss our parish future. Please read the Draft Vision Statement on the next page—this will form the basis of our discussion.

Meeting details will be provided next week.

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



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/JUNE

Sunday 31 May, Pentecost Sunday Monday 1 June, The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church Wednesday 3 June, Charles Lwanga & companions, martyrs Friday 5 June, St Boniface, bishop, martyr

MASS HAS RETURNED TO CORPUS CHRISTI From Monday 1 June 50 parishioners will be allowed in the Church.

For that week 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 8am, 10am & 6pm 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 50 people plus the priest.

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.

To book online go to www.trybooking.com/BJUJG or call Belinda or Michelle in the office on 9144 6998. Bookings required by 4pm the day before the week day masses and 4pm on Friday 5 June for the weekend masses.

> Please do not attend mass if you are unwell.

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH, ST IVES

Income & Expenditure

	ACTUAL \$	ACTUAL\$	ACTUAL \$
Province of the Control of the Contr	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 analisis constraint		27 240	
Other income -specific sponsorship	-	37,340	-
Roof Repayments to 31 Dec 2019	(16,700)	(16,700)	(18,565)
	(10,100)	(.3,.33)	(.3,000)
Surplus / (Deficit) after roof repayments	(53,033)	(31,195)	(37,282)

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



SOCIAL JUSTICE CORNER:

The Revolution of Tenderness - Podcast from the Office for Social Justice

The Office for Social Justice, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has launched a new podcast entitled "The Revolution of Tenderness". The podcast will feature talks and conversations about living the tradition of Catholic social thought and practice.

In the first episode, "Catholic Social Teaching in the Current World Context", Dr Sandie Cornish shares reflections on Catholic Social Teaching in the current world context. The COVID-19 pandemic takes place in the context of several interconnected crises: an ecological crisis, a humanitarian crisis, a crisis of political authority and governance, and a crisis of meaning and purpose. So, what does Catholic Social Teaching have to do with all this? To listen to the podcast go to: https://anchor.fm/office-for-social-justice.

COVID-19 and International Refugee Law: Webinar
A webinar on COVID-19 and International Law will be cohosted by the International Law Association (Australia)
and the Andrew & Renata Kaldor Centre for
International Refugee Law, UNSW on Thursday 4th June
from 5pm - 6pm.

Refugees and other forced migrants are among the world's most resilient people. However, without medical, economic and social support, no one can escape the impacts of COVID-19. The webinar will explore the "new normal", and what it means for the legal landscape facing refugees, people seeking asylum and other forced migrants. It will also consider how human-rights-based laws, designed to protect people, are holding up under the pressure of this global public health crisis.

Panellists will include Scientia Professor Jane McAdam, Director of UNSW's Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law and Assistant Secretary-General Gillian Triggs, UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Protection. Each panellist will speak for approximately 10-15 minutes, allowing some time for responses to questions received via the online chat function. For more details and to register go to: https://www.kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/event/covid-19-and-international-refugee-law



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. Any shortfall is made up from our Parish funds. Our shortfall is currently \$15,000.

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 Edmund's College, a Catholic Secondary School in the Edmund Rice tradition which supports and educates students with disabilities. St Edmund's provides a Catholic education for students in Years 7 - 12. Mr Jon Franzin, Principal, kindly provided us with an update:

St Edmund's students, families and staff have remained very positive during this time. Important was ensuring our students maintained real connections with their teachers and peers. It was also very important to ensure regular communication and support for our families as several of our families were impacted. The College moved swiftly to off campus learning towards the end of Term 1 and our incredible teaching staff fast tracked resources and materials to accommodate delivering the curriculum to all students both at home and school.

Despite the enormous change to our students' routines and structures, our students showed resilience, rising to the challenge of online learning at home. Many photos and videos were shared to celebrate Easter, our Feast Day of Blessed Edmund Rice, and Mother's Day in an effort to remain connected as a community. In Term 2, the College has continued both off campus and on campus learning in support of all our families as they navigate the uncertainty and future of Covid-19.

The Word

Sunday 31 May 2020: Pentecost Sunday

First Reading

From the Acts of the Apostles Acts 2:1-11

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34, R, v.30

(R.) Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

- Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great you are, How many are your works, O Lord! The earth is full of your riches. (R.)
- 2. You take back your spirit, they die, returning to the dust from which they came. You send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the earth. (R.)
- 3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever! May the Lord rejoice in his works! May my thoughts be pleasing to him. I find my joy in the Lord. (R.)

Second Reading

From the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13

In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia!

Gospe

From the holy Gospel according to John Jn 20:19-23

As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,

they are forgiven:

for those whose sins you retain,

they are retained.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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