



*Fifth Sunday of Lent*  
*28th March / 29th March 2020*

**Parish Clergy**  
Fr Martin Cruickshank

**Parish Office**  
Gemma Whitehead—Monday  
Fran Kernaghan—Wednesday, Friday  
9.00 am – 2.00 pm  
Phone: 60251516

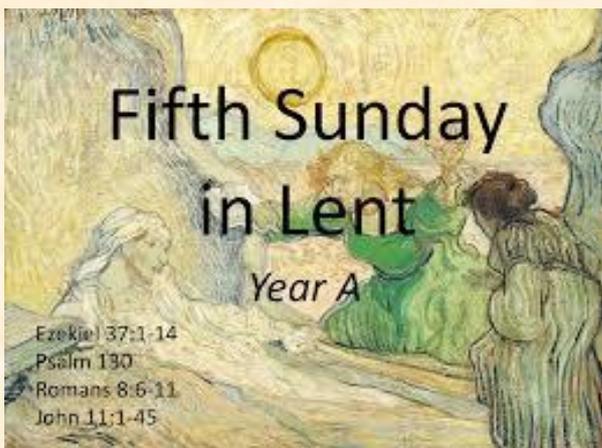
Email: sacredheartna@gmail.com  
Web: <http://sacredheartnorthalbury.com/>

When the penitent is under 18 years of age, the confession should be witnessed by an adult, who can see, but not hear the confession.

Priests may respond to individual requests for the sacrament of penance but may not advertise or open the church for confessions.

**Holy Week**

- There will be no liturgical celebrations with a congregation. Online resources will be forthcoming.



**Updated Diocesan Protocols**  
**Re: The Corona Virus (COVID—19)**  
**As Of: Friday 27th March**

**Effective Immediately**

- Sunday obligation to attend mass suspended.
- Churches are to be closed 24 hours each day.
- There are to be no catechetical, spiritual or social gatherings in parishes.

**Eucharist**

- No public masses or private masses in churches/homes are to be celebrated until further notice.

**Communion to Sick People and Elderly Persons**

- No communion to sick persons in hospitals, aged care homes or private homes until further notice.

**Anointing of the Sick**

- In hospitals and in aged care homes only in emergency or life threatening situations. Health protocols to be strictly followed. Contact will be made through health professional staff.
- In private homes. Only in emergency or life threatening situations. Health protocols to be strictly followed.

**Funerals and Weddings**

- Graveside funerals only with a maximum of 10 people, including celebrant. Numbers now depending on state government legislation.
- Weddings to be conducted outside the sacred space only (ie garden of church), with a maximum of 5 people, including celebrant.

**Baptism**

- Baptisms are suspended in all spaces at this time except in case of emergency. Baptism of desire still operates.

**Penance (Reconciliation)**

- First rite of penance can be conducted in an open space with priest and penitent observing 1.5 spacing.

(Continues in next column)

# Parish Community



*We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith especially:*

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Mary Nolan, Kerry Rohrich, Henry Burton, Bob Hazelman, Peter Gill, Gwen Fenwick, Philip Rolfe, Wayne Edwards, Pat Scott.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Charles Borg, Jack Dempsey, Robert Killelea, Bep Van Kerk Oerle, Penny Johnson, Mary Cromerty, Robert Grealy, Delma Mullavey, Shirley Foster, Patti Crozier, Geraldine Grimson, Darryn Graeber, Mary Benefield, Mary Curley, Evelyn Esler, Kathleen Johnson, Mija Matijevic, Kevin Lester, Robert Newberry, Joyce Lawson, Wayne Johnson, Lawrence Hennessy, Bill McGrath, David Paull, John Smith.

*Gather our loved ones into your arms. Quiet our doubt and anger and send us your healing grace. Through Christ our Lord.*

## Prayer for the Sick

*We pray for all those who are sick. May they draw strength and healing from God's presence with them and from our prayers and thoughts for them.*

*May they have peace in their hearts and know they are greatly loved by all.*

*We offer our prayers believing that God's presence and power can do more than we can ever know. Amen*

## Prayer Fifth Sunday of Lent

*God of Freedom,*

*You remove all that binds us into patterns of death and breathe new life into every worn-out soul.*

*We cry to you for release from all that binds us.*

*Roll away the stone that blocks;*

*Loosen the tightness of our lives;*

*Calls us forth from the tomb of despair into the newness of life.*

*We ask this prayer in the name of your Son, Jesus, who is the life of the world.*

*Amen*

The videos of the gospel reflections and personal stories from the Brisbane Lenten Discussion Programme as well as transcripts are available through visiting: [www.lentprogram.com](http://www.lentprogram.com) for the links

Restrictions on our movement and the disruption to the normal pattern of our daily lives caused by the Corona Virus has the capacity to heighten the levels of fear and anxiety.

At this time it is important as the community of Sacred Heart North Albury to enact the principles of our parish prayer; to keep in contact with not just our friends but those who sit behind or in front of us at mass, to carry out a simple act of kindness for someone each day.

The prayer written by Archbishop Mark Coleridge gives us an excellent starting point for our own prayer and reflection.

## Coronavirus Prayer

Almighty and all-merciful God,  
Lover of the human race, healer of all our wounds,  
in whom there is no shadow of death,  
save us in this time of crisis;  
grant wisdom and courage to our leaders;  
watch over all medical people  
as they tend the sick and work for a cure;  
stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation;  
If our doors are closed, let our hearts be open.  
By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear,  
that hope may never die and the light of Easter, the  
triumph of life, may shine upon us and the whole  
world.

Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the dead,  
who loves and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen

## A Thought for the Week ( Pope Francis):

“ United to Christ we are never alone, we form one body, of which he is the head.” It is a union that is nourished with prayer, and also with spiritual communion in the Eucharist, a practice that is much recommended when it is not possible to receive the sacrament.”

# Parish News

## Update on Proposed Capital Works

At the meeting of the Sacred Heart Parish Finance Committee held on Monday 23 March it was decided to seek approval from the Diocesan Consultors for the replacement of the church roof and the installation of heating/cooling in the church itself. The decision comes after much discussion and a lengthy and considered process. The committee engaged Mr Ian Bennett (Regional Project Managers Australia) who is employed by the Catholic Schools Office to investigate the feasibility of the project and to obtain tenders.

On Wednesday 25 March we received approval from Fr Kevin O'Reilly (Apostolic Administrator—Delegate) to accept the recommended tenders and to proceed with the project as soon as possible.

I am conscious that we will be spending a considerable amount of money drawn from our DPF investment account in these uncertain and difficult times. However, the replacement of the church roof is essential and the provision of heating/cooling will enhance the environment for prayer/worship as well as helping to address health issues relating to our ageing congregation.

## Second Collection

I am conscious that all around us people are losing their jobs and that this will create an unprecedented level of stress and anxiety.

Thanks for your continued support of our parish community through your generous contributions to the second collection. It may be some time before we will be able to resume gathering as a Eucharistic community.

If possible please continue to contribute to the financial security of our parish community through the direct deposit scheme. For those using envelopes, if you are able to put away your regular contribution each week and store it until life as we have known it returns to normal, that would be most appreciated.

Planned giving contributions can also be left at the Presbytery during office hours Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.00am—2.00pm following coronavirus social distancing and medical protocol.

## Plenary Council Delegates

The Plenary Council delegates to represent the Diocese of Wagga Wagga are as follows:

Clergy: Fr Kevin O'Reilly—Delegate to Apostolic Administrator.

Mons. Doug George—Delegate to Apostolic Administrator.

Fr Peter Thompson—Seminary Rector as required by Canon Law.

The two additional delegates are Mr Edmund Brown and Mrs Wendy Cattell.

We offer our congratulations to Ed for being chosen from a cast of thousands (Melbourne Cup Field) and promise him our prayerful support & encouragement.

## Project Compassion 2020

Tawonga is a 10 year old girl living with a disability and struggling with food insecurity and discrimination in Malawi. Since participating in Caritas Australian supported program, Tawonga's life has transformed. Read her story on the back page of the newsletter.

Reflecting on Tawonga's story can also bring about a change in us. In what ways can we go further together to ensure the inherent dignity of all?

If possible please continue to put aside your Project Compassion donation or go to [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) for further information.

## SVDP Bushfire Appeal

Our total parish contribution amounted to \$4,536.35. Many thanks for your incredible generosity in this regard.

## Online Mass and Prayer Resources

### **Options for viewing Mass online:**

1. **Daily Mass:** Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn: [www.catholicvoice.org.au](http://www.catholicvoice.org.au) *Mass celebrated specifically for viewing online. Available from daily at 6.00am (Beginning Sunday 22 March 2020)*

2. **Daily Mass:** Archdiocese of Melbourne: <https://Melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

*Daily Mass: The 1.00pm Mass is streamed live daily (Mon-Fri) from St Patrick's Cathedral in Melbourne and is then available as a recording on demand until one hour prior to the next 1.00pm Mass.*

*Sunday Mass: On Sundays, the 11.00am Mass is streamed and is also available as a recording on demand.*

**Website:** [northsydney Catholics.com](http://northsydney Catholics.com) then 'Mass on Demand' (Mass 9.00am every day) can be viewed anytime after that. Lavender Bay, North Sydney.

### **Two Prayer Resources:** located on parish website

1. Fifth Sunday of Lent - Unbind him. Let him go free.
2. Prayers at home - when gathering for mass is not

In the coming week we will formulate a process for keeping in contact with each other particularly the distribution of the weekly newsletter for those who do not have a computer.

Stay healthy!

## St Vincent de Paul News

Currently St Vincent de Paul (Mate Street) remains open to provide assistance.

Monday & Tuesday 10.30am—12.30pm & 1.30pm—3.30pm

Wednesday 1.30pm—3.30pm

Please observe coronavirus protocol.

# Liturgy of the Word

## Gospel of John

The sisters of Lazarus sent this message to Jesus, "Lord, the man you love is ill." On receiving the message, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death but in God's glory and through it the Son of God will be glorified." Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea." On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard the Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you." "Your brother" said Jesus to her "will rise again." Martha said, "I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said: "I am the resurrection. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" "Yes, Lord", she said "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world." Jesus said

in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, "Lord, come and see." Jesus wept; and the Jews said, "See how much he loved him!" But there were some who remarked, "He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?" Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb; it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, "Take the stone away." Martha said to him, "Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day." Jesus replied, "Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: "Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer, I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me." When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, "Lazarus, here! Come out!" The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, let him go free." Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him. This is the gospel of the Lord

## *Project Compassion Stories— TAWONGA - MALAWI*

Tawonga is a ten-year-old girl, living with a disability. She lives in a village in northern Malawi in a region plagued by food insecurity and poverty. For most of her life, her parents have struggled to put meals on the table. Tawonga often had to miss school because she was too sick from hunger. The family also faced discrimination in their community due to her disability.

Since participating in a Caritas Australia supported program, Tawonga's life has transformed. Her family now grows enough food to provide three meals a day, ending the struggle of malnutrition, and helping her thrive at school.

Tawonga, whose name means 'thank you', says her community is blessed with many resources, like rivers, fertile soil and hills. However, with dry spells followed by floods, armyworm infestations and crop failures, her parents struggled to make a living.

In 2016, Tawonga's parents heard about the A+ program run by Caritas Australia's partner, CADECOM (Catholic Development Commission in Malawi). They learnt irrigation farming and were given fertiliser and high-yield seeds. With these new techniques, their production of crops almost tripled.

With your help, this transformational program can continue to empower vulnerable women, men and children, and strengthen the communities around them. Let's Go Further, Together.

We pray for our sisters and brothers throughout the world who are denied their basic human rights. May we stand in solidarity as a global community, working courageously to promote justice and uphold the dignity of all people.



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