



## *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

*9th / 10th May 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](mailto:sacredheartna@gmail.com)**

**Web: <http://sacredheartnorthalbury.com/>**

### **Mass at Sacred Heart North Albury**

Join our virtual celebration of the Eucharist each Sunday while coronavirus restrictions remain. Simply click on the YouTube link provided on our website. Will be available for your participation by Saturday afternoon. Thanks to Nick Manning from the IT department at Xavier, Cameron Adam, to Ed & Marg Brown and James Burke (website) for their assistance in this regard.

**Prayer Resources:** Located on parish website under "Latest Newsletter".

**From Liturgy Brisbane:** The first document contains the Sunday readings with associated commentaries and prayers. It is suggested that families gather to read the scriptures aloud together.

The second resource is designed for families with young children. An extract from the Sunday gospel is provided, along with some reflection questions, a family activity and a worksheet for children.

### **The Church After Coronavirus**

#### **New Understandings of Social Mission**

At the end of Albert Camus', 'The Plague', the remarkable Dr Rieux realises that as the plague recedes, the survivors will honour the dead and return to normal life as if nothing happened even though the virus could come back at any time. Today, we face the fragility of life so immediately that at times, like the virus itself, we are left breathless.

When it recedes, what can the church do to help us learn from these experiences?

Consider this. Many of us are experiencing a pandemic for the first time, yet others have known the ravages of malaria, tuberculosis, maternal and infant mortality, AIDS, Ebola - the list goes on. Likewise, they know that treatments are there, but not within reach. We have kept those illnesses from our doorsteps for years, but not from theirs. Unaffected, we could live with news of their struggles.

Can we now? Now that we know the terror of a pandemic and the tangible alienation of lacking available resources, can we return to our old ways of living with news of their struggles?

Could our churches make us more mindful of health for all? In Latin, health means *salus*, the same root word as salvation. Can we now realise that when it comes to health or salvation, it's not for the 'many' but for all.

*(Fr James Keenan. Jesuit theologian at Boston College. Founder of Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church)*

# Parish Community



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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Gerard Sullivan, Joan McLaurin, Bill Rourke, Alan Cowan, Debbie Yensch, Peg Hanrahan, Timothy Davern, Bert Steenberg, Wayne Fulford, Brian Filliponi, Michael Bereza.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Trevor Newcombe, Kerry Dowling, Geoffrey Jervois, Margaret Maynard, Joe Vuga, Lorraine Vogel, David Purvey, Peter Maher, Noreen Roach, Norman Clear, Dominik Vildovas, Therese Chandler, Brian Cooper, Frederick Maher, John Barber, Robert Millea, Rita Murray, Matthew Blomeley, Betty Russell, Molly Davis, Nicholas Heaton-Harris, Des Cornford, Frederick Serbinek, Ern Gaudry, Alan Carter, Michael King, Robert Garland, Arthur Stout, Maurice Slattery, Edward O'Keefe, Joseph Connors.

*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*

## EASTER PRAYER

Ever present God,

you call us to life in Christ Jesus

with a love that is alive and sincere.

Empower us to be faithful disciples of Jesus

living his truth, walking his ways,

and loving one another with all our hearts.

We trust in your grace at work in our lives

through the Spirit you have given us.

Amen

## Prayer in Gratitude for Our Mothers / Women

Good and Gentle God, we pray in gratitude for our mothers and for all the women who have joined with you in the wonder of bringing forth new life. You who became human through a woman, grant to all mothers the courage they need to face the uncertain future that life with children always brings.

Give them the strength to live and to be loved in return, not perfectly, but humanly.

Give them the faithful support of husband, family and friends as they care for the physical and spiritual growth of their children.

Give them joy and delight in their children to sustain them through the trials of motherhood. Most of all, give them the wisdom to turn to you for help when they need it most.

We ask you to bless them with your own special love. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our brother.

Amen



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

*'A society without mothers would be an inhuman society, as mothers always know how to show tenderness, devotion and moral strength, even in the moments of greatest difficulty.'*

# Parish News

## **Bishops Propose Reopening Churches in Four Stages**

According to an article published in the Australian (4 May, 2020).

The Catholic bishops of New South Wales have proposed a four stage re-opening of churches as cases of COVID-19 abate.

Stage One would consist of opening churches for private prayer with strict protocols in place.

Stage Two envisages masses and services to be held in outdoor spaces such as carparks, with the number of attendees limited.

Stage Three would see masses and services moved indoors with coronavirus protocols in place.

Stage Four would involve a return to the new normal with learnings from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The bishops also appealed to the Premier to allow baptisms and weddings to take place in line with restrictions in place, around funerals with ministers and up to 10 people. They have also asked for the numbers of mourners at funerals and graveside services to be increased.

I can not see too many of you (let alone me) turning up to mass in the Sacred Heart car park in the middle of an Albury winter!

So until we reach stage three, our celebration of Eucharist will remain a virtual reality.

## **Update on Capital Works**

The successful tenders for the capital projects as regards Sacred Heart Church are Meredith Roofs (Replacement of Church Roof); O'Connells Refrigeration (Heating/Cooling).

The total cost of the project without added extras is \$174,500 GST inclusive. As previously indicated the project will be funded from our reserves held in the Diocesan Provident Fund.

Scaffolding has been erected on our car park side of church. Hopefully, weather permitting work will begin in the coming week.

## **Diocesan Newspaper 'Together' Online**

The new look 'Together' will be produced on a twice-monthly basis which will be online until our churches and schools open again.

You can access a copy online at:

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/togetherwagga](http://www.facebook.com/togetherwagga)

**Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/togetherwagga>

**Website:** [www.wagga.catholic.org.au/Diocesan-Paper-Together.aspx](http://www.wagga.catholic.org.au/Diocesan-Paper-Together.aspx)

## **Trust In The Lord**

The wind's not always at our back,  
The sky is not always blue.  
Sometimes, we crave the things we lack,  
And don't know what to do.

Sometimes life's an uphill ride,  
With mountains we must climb.  
At times the river's deep and wide  
And crossing takes some time.

No one said that life is easy  
There are no guarantees.  
So trust in the Lord continually  
On calm or stormy seas.

The challenges we face today  
Prepares us for tomorrow.  
For faith takes our fears away  
And peace replaces sorrow. (Anonymous)

## **Parish Pastoral Council**

Presuming that some restrictions on public gatherings will be eased in coming days it is intended to hold a meeting of the Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council on Thursday 21 May at 6.00pm in our hall facility. This will give us an opportunity to discuss plans for gradually transitioning back to normal parish life in a 'post COVID-19 restrictions world! If this physical gathering is still not possible we intend holding the meeting by Zoom/phone.

Any intended agenda items can be sent to Karen Purtle (Secretary) [bevispurtle@internode.on.net](mailto:bevispurtle@internode.on.net) or to our parish office.

## **Online Mass and Prayer Resources**

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

**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.

**1. Daily Mass:** Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn: [www.catholicvoice.org.au](http://www.catholicvoice.org.au) *Mass celebrated specifically for viewing online.*

**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 & also available as a recording on demand.*

## **Pentecost Pilgrimage 2020**

Another online resource, to join with thousands of people from around the world journeying towards Pentecost (Sunday 31 May.) Talks from various people speaking about the Holy Spirit in our church & the world. [Pentecost Pilgrimage 2020](#) and register for free. Sponsored by Catholic Diocese of Sydney.

### **Mother's Day Prayer**

Heavenly Father,  
We lift up all mothers today and  
thank them for their guidance and love.  
We ask You to bless them  
with Your own special love, today and always.  
Amen.



# Liturgy of the Word

## A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.



## Responsorial Psalm Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19

**Response:** Lord, let your mercy be on us,  
as we place our trust in you.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;  
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.  
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,  
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **R**

For the word of the Lord is faithful  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right  
and fills the earth with his love. **R**

The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine. **R**

## A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too.

You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.' Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?

Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. 'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

