

Welcome to St. Patrick's Catholic Church Mortlake



6th Sunday of Easter
17 May 2020

ST PATRICK'S PARISH
MORTLAKE

Parish Administrator: Fr. Tom Stevens
Parish Secretary: Brenda Johnston
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Mortlake NSW 2137

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JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE FOOD APPEAL

The Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS) supports struggling asylum seekers, both individuals and families, who rely on donations to survive. During the current lockdown clients that come to JRS Services Foodbank have been unable to come to the Centre. JRS has developed a safe drop-off system of bags of groceries to clients' homes. However, the number of requests has grown week by week.

JRS would be most grateful if you could assist in providing items such as shampoo, deodorant, cooking oil, basmati rice (or other), instant coffee, tins of corn kernels/ tins of tomatoes.

Items can be left in the foyer of the Church or dropped off on Saturday's in the Parish Hall from 8am till 12pm.

Thank you for supporting this worthwhile cause. During these trying times, it is always those on the margins who are both the first and hardest hit.

Let's lend a hand where we can.

THANK YOU – VOLUNTEER GARDENERS

A special 'thank you' to Stephanie Parker, Rod Cooper and Ken Edwards for your hard work in the parish garden. Garden volunteers are always welcome.

If you would like to volunteer to assist in the ongoing maintenance of the parish gardens, you can contact the parish on 9743 1017 or email: parish@stpatsmortlake.org.au

PARISH GREEN SPACE REMEDICATION WORKS

GREEN SPACE: Remediation is essential to the green space adjacent to the Presbytery to allow for school use, parking, and church community use. We have had discussions with a landscape designer, Catholic Education Office (CEO) and their architect on the basis of remediating the space focusing on Parish longer term needs including a meeting and celebratory space.

Sketches are being produced for the concept which could provide a valuable resource to our community. The Architect costs are being paid by the CEO.

The Architect has also looked at the hall and been asked to provide some thoughts on its potential if upgraded. He has made an observation that the hall kitchen could be opened up allowing integration into the green space plans thus increasing its value to our community.

This is early stages with possible costs yet to be received and evaluated in conjunction with broader discussion to decide its place in the Parish financial plans.

Should you have any thoughts on this project please contact Fr Tom.

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FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
8:5-8. 14-17

They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Peter
1 Pt 3:15-18

In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 65:1-7. 16. 20. R. v.1

R: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! (R)
2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men. (R.)
3. He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might. (R.)
4. Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul:
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me. (R.)

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to John 14:15-21

I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.
I shall ask the Father,
and he will give you another Advocate
to be with you for ever,
that Spirit of truth
whom the world can never receive
since it neither sees nor knows him;
but you know him,

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GOSPEL (continued)

because he is with you, he is in you.
I will not leave you orphans;
I will come back to you.
In a short time the world will no longer see me;
but you will see me,
because I live and you will live.
On that day
you will understand that I am in my Father
and you in me and I in you.
Anybody who receives my commandments and
keeps them will be one who loves me;
and anybody who loves me will be loved by my
Father,
and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

PARISH FINANCES

Parish Finance: Due to the reduction in our turnover we have made successful applications for assistance under the Governments Covid Schemes. We have received \$10,000 from the Boosting Cash Flow Program and \$1500 per fortnight as a subsidy to continue paying employees under the JobKeeper program.

These subsidies will be vital in assisting our Parish over coming months.

A special thank you to all who have been able to support the parish with financial assistance during this time. It is greatly appreciated and we will come out of this a closer and stronger community I am sure.

For those wishing to make a contribution to the Parish, secure payments can be made through the website:
www.bpoint.com.au/payments/mortlakeparish

Thank you.

At St. Patrick's Parish Mortlake, the welfare and wellbeing of our children and vulnerable members of our Parish is of utmost importance. The Safeguarding Office can be contacted on (02) 9390 5810 if you wish to speak on any issue.

STEP 1 - RELAXING CHURCH RESTRICTIONS

My friends, as I write this, like many things in our Covid-world, details are emerging as to what we as a Church are permitted to do, as **Stage 1** of restrictions being eased takes effect from this **Friday 15 May**.

It is important to note that:

- **The 4 square metre rule applies to all activities that we engage in at all times.**
- **Regular hand washing using hand sanitisers is required.**

Moving forward, I advise of the following:

- **There remains NO PUBLIC MASSES.**
- **No public Masses will be available on Sunday.**
- **"Booked" Masses for gatherings of 10 people or less are now permitted from 15 May. See note below on how to register.**
- The gathering of 10 individuals does not include ministers and servers. I will be conducting private Masses for groupings of up to 10 people on the days Tuesday through to Friday, and a Mass on Sunday.
- If you would like to arrange to attend a Mass, please contact Fr Tom on 9743 1017 or thomas.stevens@sydneycatholic.org

I realise this is a novel, even a strange, concept for us to have to essentially "**Book a Mass**", but this is our reality at present. Please feel free to call to discuss any matters.

(The Pubs are still shut!!)

Fr Tom

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RECENTLY DECEASED: Lynette Monaro; Pamela Ryan; Luisa Segui; Fr. Peter Morrissey; Matthew Speers; Anita Johnson; Sr Sybille Colborne RSM; Andrew Deans; Audrey Vertannes; Jennifer McAfee; Gary Traill; Samira Hanna; John Walker; George Cepak; Michael Geoghegan; Raffaele Melizza (Italy); Maureen Johnson; John McAnelly; Gerard Lopez; Dovilio Favero; Brian Clark.

ANNIVERSARIES: Ciaran Phelan (1st Anniv - England); Simon-Peter Kolibac (14th anniv); Frances Gleeson (4 yrs); Renzo Trinco (1st Anniv); Carmelo Puglisi (14th anniv); Antonio Musolino (1st anniv); Vince Garcia (1st anniv); Mary Collins; Roy Cope; Denis Elliott; James Printer; William Dowling; Andrew Gill; Ivana Papias; John Hourigan; Judeth Flood; Mary Naylor; Albert Shipton; William Heffernan; Mercia Dawkings; Stephen Sawdy; Arthur Ninness; Patricia Sweetman; Joseph Steel; Anna Lewig; George Griffin; Ellen Morgan.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY: Damian King; Robert McAdam; Maddalena Ciacciarelli; Felicia Bugeja; Paul Dovico; Kevin Walker; Cecilia Kramar; Patrick Casey (Ireland); Magda Cassis; Sr Judith Clark; Nanette; George; Jill; Edward Azjan; Tony P; Marie; Loretta; Antonietta; Bill Young; Don Khoury.

To have your petitions included, please phone Carmel Moliterno 9736 1718.

PRAYING THE ROSARY IN MAY

In the Catholic tradition, May has been a month of special devotions to Mary the Mother of God. Your family may like to pray the Rosary this month. Rosary beads and leaflets are available in the basket outside the parish hall. As a community, we are invited to pray the rosary in May.
www.catholiccompany.com/content/how-to-pray-the-rosary

EASTER TO PENTECOST PRAYER SESSIONS

All are invited to participate from your home via Zoom, or you can receive and read the Scripture/ Prayer sessions between Easter and Pentecost. The sessions are via Zoon on Tuesday evenings at 7pm. ***If you are interested please phone Susan Neylan on 0400 195 350 or email thejourney.smn@gmail.com***

JUNE ONLINE FAITH FORMATION

During the month of June the Wollongong Diocese is hosting a four-part online series of talks seeking to deepen our understanding of the Eucharist, and what it means in our faith (especially in these times when we miss its reception). Using materials from Bishop Robert Barron, for more information and to register please visit:
<https://dow.sh/exploringeucharist>

ONLINE MASSES

St Ambrose Parish, Concord West have an online Mass every Saturday at 5pm celebrated by Fr Brian or Fr Chaminda which can be viewed at that time or at any time afterwards. The Mass can be viewed from the safety of your home, please go to www.stambrose.org.au

PASTORAL HELP / VOLUNTEERS

In these times especially, please let the parish know if you, or anyone you know, needs assistance with: food; a prepared meal; shopping; being a 'phone buddy' to check in on each other; or general welfare. Contact the parish.

Volunteers are always welcome.

SHARE YOUR STORIES & REFLECTIONS

Dear parishioners,

We are experiencing unusual times. What have you been doing during this period of social isolation? Who would have thought that our churches would ever be closed? We would like to hear your stories and thoughts. Maybe you have a photo or a drawing you would like to share. A special prayer or poem?

How have you found the connection with St Patrick's recently, through the [Bulletins](#), [Facebook](#) and its [website](#)? For some of us it's brought some consolation, that we have a connection to our parish, that we are part of a wider family.

Now it's your turn. Please send your stories, thoughts, prayers, photos etc to the parish via email parish@stpatmortlake.org.au