



THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF ROSE BAY AND DOVER HEIGHTS



Issue 2

Sixth Sunday of Easter

21 May 2017



Shepherd's Message — Fr Chris Slattery



It was wonderful to meet the young men and women along with their families last Sunday as they formally commenced their preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The candidates committed themselves to prepare for the completion of their Sacraments of Initiation. I thank the candidates for their cooperation and enthusiasm and the parents who are supporting them. I ask that we keep the candidates and their families in our prayers.

I would like to invite a parishioner who is a Lector (Minister of the Word) to co-ordinate this ministry. This will involve: preparing the roster, being a contact person if a rostered parishioner needs to swap a time or date, recruiting new parishioners to assist with this ministry, communicating resources that may assist with this very special ministry, assisting to prepare new Ministers of the Word with myself. Parishioners who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation are very welcome to exercise this ministry. My aim in appointing Ministry Co-ordinators is to encourage parishioners to share in the gift and responsibility of leadership in the parishes, recognising and knowing there are so many gifted parishioners who have much to offer us all.

It is with sadness that Tess Hardman has stepped down from working in the parish office due to ill health. On behalf of the parish, I would like to thank Tess for her support and enthusiasm in her role of editing the bulletins and preparing rosters for the Parishes. Tess will be greatly missed. On behalf of the parish, I would like to assure Tess of our prayerful support and love during this challenging time.

I am keen to establish what has been developed in the Wollongong Diocese as 'Faith Circles'. These are small groups who meet for around an hour each week where the aim is to turn the 'rows of seats in the Church' into circles bringing about: a sense of belonging and sharing life through the lens of faith, a growing knowledge of faith, a group and personal encounter with the risen Lord, growing confidence to share faith with others, and to evangelise, a place to invite people who are not attending church but who want to grow in faith. It is recommended that each group has 6-8 people - then it's time to start a new group. The parish centre is available for gatherings. There is a weekly resource for the group based on the Sunday's readings and Pope Francis' weekly accompanying catechesis. The resource also contains reflection questions and prayer points. It is 'simple, accessible, well-balanced and free. It has the potential to offer us a richer sense of belonging to the parish, personal and parish renewal and evangelisation. If you are interested in knowing more about this resource or initiating a group, could you kindly contact me through the parish office. I pray that we take up this wonderful opportunity to grow and journey together in faith and love! May we pray that the Lord continues to show himself to us throughout the coming week!



Prayer of the Week

Almighty God, deepen in our hearts our love of Mary Help of Christians. Through her prayers and under her protection, may the light of Christ shine over our land. May Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace. Grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

A Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Harold Messenger will be celebrated by Mons Tony Doherty on Wednesday 12th June at 12:30pm. Harold has been a long-term member of the Parishes.

Weekly Liturgies

Sunday Mass
St Mary Magdalene: 8am, 10am, 6pm
St Therese (Sat night vigil): 5pm
Weekday Mass
St Mary Magdalene, Rose Bay: Tue-Fri 9am
Confession
Tues-Fri after 9am Mass (or by appointment)
Eucharistic Adoration
Friday 8.30am-9am

Announcements

Lismore Flood Appeal Archbishop Fisher is supporting the Diocese of Lismore Flood Appeal launched by Bishop Gregory Homeming. To donate to the Appeal go to www.dioceseoflismorefloodappeal.org. Our new website www.magdalene.org.au is up and running, with more content to be added in the coming weeks.

Australian Catholic Youth Festival, Sydney 7-9 December 2017. The event will attract 15,000 young people aged Year 9 to 30 years. Register online today at www.acyf.org.au.

McAuley Primary School is now enrolling students for Kindergarten 2018. Please call 9371 8786 for an appointment.

Spirituality in the Pub: 7th June at 7:30pm Paddington RSL 220-232 Oxford Street Paddington. Mark Lieschke and Debra Snoddy will be talking about the reformation and its continuing influence.

The Sacrament of Confirmation for adults will be held at St Mary's Cathedral on Sunday, 4th June 2017 at 10:30am. If theirs is any adult that wishes to be confirmed, please contact the parish office.

Confirmation Prep Class:
21 May, 5pm.
Confirmation: 26 May, 7pm.

We extend a warm welcome to Stephen and Sarah McArdle and their son Ethan, who will today receive the sacrament of Baptism. We pray that his life will be gently nourished in the midst of our parish family!

THANK YOU TO ROSE BAY FLORIST FOR THE BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS DISTRIBUTED ON MOTHER'S DAY!
9371 5300

Let Us Pray For...

The Sick: Barbara Leslie, Bernice Miles, Ross Clifton, Michelle Jones, Paddy Nolan, Janaya Zohs, Georgia Cleaici, Fr Brian Yates, Natalie Connors, Elaine Oong, Harry Vanda, Alan Backman, John Johnson, Mary Marando, Tom Clark, Fabien Drif, Sarah Walke.
The Deceased: Moira Gannon, Vincent Purcell, Joan Lovegrove, Jack Zucco, John Costello, Mary Ellen George, Bruce Conolly, Domenico & Elena Malzone, Billy Dolan, Adrian Lee, Marie Turnbull, Sonya Lineham, Mark McGowen, Anne Pohlmann, John Fenech, Nell Moylan, Norman and Josephine Slattery, John Chaplian.



St Mary Magdalene, 835 New South Head Rd, Rose Bay NSW
ABN: 78134 879 965

St Therese, cnr Napier St and Dover Rd, Dover Heights NSW
ABN: 96464 703 191

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Weekly Reflection

I go to the place where I like to pray. I settle down, perhaps put on some quiet, reflective music. I try and empty my mind of all ideas, of all images. As I begin this time of prayer, I try to become silent and still, aware of God's presence, ready to receive all that God desires to offer. I read the prayer slowly, reflectively, letting the words touch my heart and lead me to deeper appreciation of all God's gifts, especially the gift of Jesus. I am reminded of how Jesus became human, suffered and died but now 'lives forever' and I let the joy of his victory over death, the joy of the resurrection, fill my whole being. I pray with Christians everywhere that we may so live our lives as followers of the risen Christ that we share 'the ultimate joy' of rising with him. In my prayer this week I may want to spend time asking the Lord to help me keep his commandments and show me how I can love him even more so that, like Philip, I can speak to others about him more confidently. I also ask for the help of his Spirit to sustain me in everything I do. Today's Gospel signifies a time of transition: Jesus prepares his friends for his departing and the Spirit's coming. They and the early Church begin to understand this new (unseen) presence of Jesus. How are they to respond? I may like to reflect on the 'comings' and 'goings' of my life. 'I will not leave you orphans...' I may ask to feel the depth of Jesus' love for his disciples - for me. The word 'Advocate' can mean one who comforts - and even more than this: one who gives power and courage to help me cope calmly with life. I may feel moved to pray for an even deeper understanding of the effects of the Spirit of Jesus in me: to be a person of deeper faith; to make wise decisions; to be open-minded and accepting of others, and so on. 'Anyone who loves me will be loved by my Father' How am I moved to end my prayer?

St Mary Magdalene Roster—7th Sunday

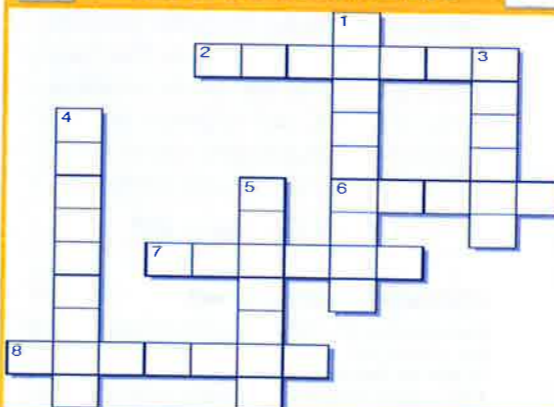
28th May	8am	10am	6pm
Welcomer	Maureen Coffey		
1st Reader	Mark O'Brien	Nicholas Carney	Kerry Gazal
2nd Reader	Therese O'Brien	Sue Heavener	Lindsay Gazal
Eucharistic Minister	Carmen Kapfenstein	Sue Heavener Glenys Granger	Thomas Jones
Information Desk		Hazel Mezger	

St Therese, Dover Heights Roster—7th Sunday

Commentator— Trish Persson
First Reader— Maureen Brian
Second Reader— Rob Brian
Acolyte/Senior Server— Danny Au-Yeung



KID'S CORNER!



Across
2. The disciples went to a mountain in _____
5. Jesus said, "All _____ in heaven and on earth has been given to me."
7. Jesus told the disciples to baptize in the name of the _____, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
8. When the disciples saw Jesus, they worshipped but they _____.

Down
1. "Go, therefore, and make _____ of all nations"
3. How many disciples are mentioned in the first line of this gospel?
4. Today, we celebrate the _____ of the Lord.
5. This week, we read from the Gospel according to _____.

E	S	S	W	O	R	L	D	E	S
R	E	E	P	N	E	S	N	N	E
E	L	T	M	E	E	K	A	S	T
H	P	R	A	R	E	H	T	A	F
T	I	U	E	C	P	K	S	A	L
O	C	T	V	R	O	P	R	E	E
N	S	H	O	W	I	V	E	S	S
A	I	E	L	R	V	S	D	K	Y
E	D	S	I	V	O	L	N	A	M
N	A	T	R	E	D	N	U	R	T

DISCIPLES	LOVE	FATHER
ANOTHER	ADVOCATE	SPIRIT
TRUTH	WORLD	ORPHANS
UNDERSTAND	SHOW	MYSELF

Mary Help Of Christians



Feast Day: 24th May

When Cardinal Patrick Moran of Sydney wrote his History of the Catholic Church in Australia, he recalled the laying of the foundation stone of what was to become the first cathedral in this land. His eminence declared: "Who was the patron selected by the people and their newly arrived pastor, Father Therry, for the Mother Church? Mary, the Immaculate Mother of God, under the special invocation of Help of Christians, was chosen patroness. In choosing Mary, the young Church was following a sure Catholic instinct. But why the particular title of Help of Christians? Events had happened in Europe only several years earlier, and this no doubt was still fresh in people's minds. Napoleon Bonaparte had jailed Pope Pius VI

who died in goal, after which Pope Pius VII was elected. Just a short time later, he too was jailed by Napoleon, who kept him prisoner at Fontainebleau, 35 miles from Paris. The Holy Father vowed to God that, if he were restored to the Roman See, he would institute a special feast in honour of Mary. Military reverses forced Napoleon to release the Pope, and on May 24th 1814, Pius VII returned in triumph to Rome. Twelve months later, the Pope decreed that the feast of Mary Help of Christians, be kept on the 24th of May. The infant Church in Australia had a special reason for turning to Mary. In those early and mostly priestless days, it was largely the Rosary that kept the faith alive. Catholic Australia remained faithful to Mary, and was the first nation to choose her, under the title of Help of Christians, as principal Patroness. Although not officially approved by Rome, 1852 (due to the decree going astray in Bishop Pompallier's mislaid suitcase), our patronal feast was already being celebrated in Sydney as early as 1844. It seems likely that it was the choice of the lay Catholics themselves, as they leaned heavily, as the Church did, on Mary's help for the establishment of the institutional church. It was precisely during this priestless period (1802-1819) that Pius VII returned to Rome from exile and instituted the feast 24th of May. This dramatic episode had deeply impressed and struck a sympathetic chord in the hearts of Irish Catholics in this new nation Australia. So, in 1816 Edmund Rice asked the Christian Brothers "to offer special prayers to Mary Help of Christians", when their young institution was under threat. To confirm this, Archbishop Kelly wrote: "The first Catholics here had brought strong devotion to Mary, Help Christians, who was the Patroness selected by the people and Father Therry for their mother-church, Mary Immaculate under the special invocation of Help of Christians". The altar at St. Mary's, with its statue of Mary Help of Christians, was erected as a memorial to Fr. Therry's name. In this remarkable way Australia became the first nation in the world to have, Mary, Help of Christians as Patroness: the first church to celebrate May 24th on a national scale (elsewhere the feast was restricted to Rome and specified places); and the first country to have a mother-cathedral under the same title. Today, we live in a very fragile world where mortal sin is glorified. We constantly need to be reminded of Mary's powerful intercession throughout the centuries under the title Help of Christians. We need to pray relentlessly for her power intercession as we enter perseverance and discernment while we are facing a very different enemy, who loves the body, while killing the soul. Mary Help of Christians. Pray for us!



"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth..."

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

21 May 2017

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,

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.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord, together with the sacrificial offerings, so that, purified by your graciousness, we may be conformed to the mysteries of your mighty love. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I-V OF EASTER

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

All: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray...

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said...

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Jn 14:15-16

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Almighty ever-living God, who restore us to eternal life in the Resurrection of Christ, increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this paschal Sacrament and pour into our hearts the strength of this saving food. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go in peace.

R. Thanks be to God.

REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL

LOVE RECEIVED, LOVE SHARED

Pope Benedict XVI's first encyclical *Deus caritas est* ('God is love') points to the heart and reason for every reality – LOVE. Love is the primal image of God and the resulting image of humankind and its dignity.

The heart of divine revelation and of the Christian message is one and the same: LOVE – the love of God gratuitously given to us, and the love directed to human beings in response to that love. This is emphasised in Jesus' discourse at the Last Supper, of which today's Gospel reading is part. In this very intimate moment, Jesus gives his commandment: 'As I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples' (Jn 13:34-35). Love is the mark of Jesus' discipleship, and ours.

Pope Benedict explains the truth about God's love: 'God has loved us first and he continues to do so; we, too, then, can respond with love. God does not demand of us a feeling which we ourselves are incapable of producing. He loves us, he makes us see and experience his love, and since he has loved us first, love can also blossom as a response within us.'

In giving his commandment of love, Jesus promises a gift which will make this loving possible, namely the Holy Spirit who will act as comforter, guide, teacher, and defender. Love, ultimately, is the work of the Trinity: the Father shows his love by sending his Son, Jesus. The Spirit will teach the disciples of the sacrificing love of Christ, and empower them to respond to that gratuitous love by loving one another as Christ has loved them.

FR GIL ALINSANGAN SSP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS. The early Christian community could not remain as an enclosed, self-contained group in Jerusalem. Its members felt impelled by Christ to bring the Good News to Samaria and then to the ends of the earth. Christians in every age are called to be fully involved in the life and joys and pains of the world. At times this can be difficult but the Spirit of God is always with us to help us.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Isa 48:20

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. Have mercy on us, O Lord.

R. For we have sinned against you.

P. Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

R. And grant us your salvation.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

V. Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.



COLLECT

P. Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy, which we keep in honour of the risen Lord, and that what we relive in remembrance we may always hold to in what we do. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 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.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20. R. cf. v. 2

R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. (or Alleluia!)

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 for me. R.

SECOND READING 1 Pet 3:15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Peter 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.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 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!

GOSPEL Jn 14:15-21

P. The Lord be with you. R. And with your spirit. P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

R. Glory to you, O Lord. I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.