



St Mary's Parish Concord The Body & Blood of Christ Year A

11 June 2023

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16

*God gave you food which you and
your ancestors did not know.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 147

Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:16-17

*Because there is one bread,
we who are many are one body.*

GOSPEL: John 6: 51-58

My flesh is true food and my blood is true drink.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who continue to suffer because of war and civil unrest.

We pray for reconciliation between all people who share this land, and especially with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We pray for the sick and the dying, especially those who have no one to care for them.

We pray for Patricia Tudehope, Joanne Travaglia, Graham McKenzie, Lesina Masoe Levy, Flora Iunius and all those who have died recently; we pray Sebastiano Pollicina, Serena Navarro and for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time; and for Mary & Joseph Sackar and all our deceased relatives and friends.

WELCOME TO THE FAMILIES FROM ST MARY'S SCHOOL

At the 930am Mass this Sunday we welcome the children and their families from the Xavier (blue) House in St Mary's School.

WALK WITH CHRIST: The annual Eucharistic procession through the streets of Sydney will be held this Sunday (11 June), the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi). Those who wish to participate in the procession are asked to gather at the corner of Martin Place and Pitt Street. Entertainment in Martin Place from 1.00 pm with the procession beginning at 2.30 pm. The procession ends at St Mary's Cathedral.

Acknowledgement of Country



We acknowledge the Wangal people of the Eora nation as the traditional custodians of this land.

TAX RECEIPT FOR PLANNED GIVING

Thank you for supporting the Mission of the parish through your contributions to the parish Sunday collections.

Families contributing through parish planned giving will receive a **tax receipt** if they have previously registered to receive one.

As not all contributors require a tax receipt, in 2017 parishioners were asked to register with the parish if they did **require** a tax receipt.

Those who registered for 2022-2023 will receive a tax receipt that gives 50% tax deductibility for contributions **received by 30 June 2023.**

Any contributor who has not previously requested a tax receipt, may do so for **the new financial year (2023-2024)** by contacting the parish office by Friday 9 June 2023.

Existing registrations for tax deductions remain in place for 2023-2024. However, if your circumstances have changed and you no longer require a tax receipt, please contact the parish office.

COVID HEALTH REPORT: A 2023 COVID-19 vaccine booster dose is recommended for adults who have not had a COVID infection or a vaccine dose in the past 6 months. This will provide an increase in protection against severe illness. If you are unwell or at risk, please consider wearing a mask at Mass to protect yourself and the older members of our parish community.

MOMENTS IN HISTORY

THE RENOVATION OF THE CHURCH

Ten years ago, in June 2013, we began a major renovation project for the interior of the church. From the Vigil Mass on Saturday 8 June 2013 the Sunday Masses were celebrated in the Hall.

A group of volunteers set up the chairs on Friday nights and others stacked the chairs each Sunday night after the 6.00 pm Mass. We were able to return to the church on Saturday 24 August.



The renovation project included a new ceiling, new lights, a new sound system and AV projection. The floorboards were replaced and a new carpet was laid. The pews were restored and the statues, the marble areas and the stained-glass windows were all professionally cleaned.



A new noticeboard and a new ramp were added at the eastern entrance and new doors and new steps on the western side of the church. CCTV was installed in the church to provide security.

We are fortunate to have a beautiful and prayerful church in which to gather each Sunday. Thank you to those who help to maintain and clean the church. More volunteers are needed.

Paul Crowley

ORDINARY TIME

The Liturgical Year of the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church is framed by the two great feasts: Easter and Christmas. The Liturgical Year begins with Advent, the season when we prepare for Christmas.

In between the Advent-Christmas and Lent-Easter seasons are what we call the Ordinary Sundays or Ordinary Time. It is a short-hand name for *Ordinary Time throughout the Year* (in Latin *tempus per annum*).

When the Church's calendar was revised in 1969, the term *Ordinary Time* was introduced to indicate that these Sundays are not associated with any particular season or feast but are celebrations of our ongoing relationship with God in Christ.

Although we celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ with special solemnity each year during the Easter Triduum, we also recognize that the whole of the Christian life is about becoming one with Christ in his death and resurrection.

In the Eucharist we become one with Christ in his offering of himself to the Father. It is for that reason that we gather to celebrate the Eucharist each Sunday.

That is also why the Church teaches us that Sunday Mass is an important obligation because it is the best way for us to thank God for all that God has done for us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This Sunday the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ takes precedence over the Tenth Sunday of Ordinary Time.

Paul Crowley

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL The Parish Pastoral Council is a consultative body entrusted with the task of reflecting on the parish's vision and mission. In a spirit of service to the community the Pastoral Council works with the parish priest to foster and support appropriate pastoral action. Members serve a four-year term with half the Council changing every two years. Any active parishioner 18 years of age or older may be nominated or may nominate his/herself. If you are interested, please contact Fr Paul. For more information go to the "Our Parish" tab on the Home Page of the parish website www.stmarysconcord.org.au

ST MARY'S PLAYGROUP has concluded for Term 2. Playgroup will resume on Friday 4 August at 9.30 am in the parish hall. Please contact the parish office for more information and to register.

MARRIAGE ANNULMENT: The Tribunal of the Catholic Church offers advice to all of those who have experienced a marriage breakdown and question the validity of their first marriage as understood by the Church. Inquiries: 9307 8300 or email: admin@sydneytribunal.org.au

HOW CAN I MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

As a parish, we need to rebuild the various parish ministry teams: those who support the community at Sunday Masses and those who extend the Mission of the parish in the wider community.

We thank those who continue to support the parish community each Sunday as readers and ministers of Holy Communion. However, we need more people to become active members of our community.

For more information, contact Fr Paul or the Parish Office: parish@stmarysconcord.org.au

HOW DO I BECOME A CATHOLIC? Adults who have not been baptized and wish to become part of the community of the Catholic Church receive the Sacraments of Christian Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) in the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* (RCIA).

The RCIA presumes that there is an extended period of formation and preparation, usually leading to the celebration of Baptism at Easter.

Baptised members of other Christian Churches who wish to become members of the Catholic Church do so through *Reception into Full Communion*.

If you are interested, or if you know of someone who may be interested in becoming a Catholic, please contact Fr Paul or the Parish Office tel 9747 4210 or email parish@stmarysconcord.org.au.

Help with Alcoholism and Addiction

Do you, a family member, or friend need help with an addiction concern? You can reach out to the **Calix Society**. Calix is an association of Catholic alcoholics, drug addicts, and family members and friends affected by addiction, who are maintaining their sobriety through participation in their Catholic faith and a 12 Step program. We welcome anyone concerned with the illness of alcoholism or addiction who wish to join with us in prayer for *the virtue of total abstinence, promoting our spiritual development, and striving for the sanctification of the whole personality of each member*.

Contact calixsydney@outlook.com for meeting times and resources. Perhaps this could be a crucial step toward recovery and saving a life.

JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE FOODBANK

The JRS continues to support those seeking asylum and temporary migrants in Australia, as they remain excluded from all forms of Federal government support. This has meant that people who were once working and self-sufficient have had to rely on charities, like JRS, for rent, medication, bills and food. To help keep everyone fed, we are asking those who can to donate one item a week (1 or 2 Kg bags of Basmati Rice, Tuna in oil, Cooking Oil (750ml/1L/2L bottles), tinned tomatoes, tinned lentils, chickpeas, red kidney beans, pasta (spaghetti, penne, spiral) but please not tinned spaghetti. Donations can be placed in the blue bin on the table at the back of the church.

HERITAGE SIGNS: St Mary's Parish commissioned five heritage signs to mark the sesquicentenary of the parish in 2020.

The signs are located in the Church Forecourt and recall the historical parish buildings that once existed on the parish site: the first church (1845), the second church (1874), the presbytery (1882), the first school building (1894) and the convent (1898). Each sign has been placed close to the original location of that building.



The Presbytery c 2003

When Father McCarthy was appointed parish priest in 1870, he lived in a cottage on the Burwood side of Parramatta Road until the Presbytery (the priest's residence) was built in 1882. It stood on the northern side of the 1874 church facing Burton Street.

The original building was extended several times as the needs of the parish changed. As well as providing a residence for the priests, it also served as the office for the parish until 1994 when the Parish Office was relocated to a cottage at 4 Ada Street.

The Presbytery continued to be the residence for the priests of the parish until 2002. As part of the strategic plan for the development of the parish site, in 2002 the residence for the parish priest was relocated to a cottage at 6 Ada Street that the parish had purchased in 1995.



In 2008 the Presbytery, the Convent and the 1950s school building were all demolished to make way for the new St Mary's Villa.