

23/24 May 2020-Year A The Ascension of the Lord



ST ANTHONY'S PARISH CHURCH 105 ELEVENTH AVENUE AUSTRAL 2179

Pastor:
Fr. Robert Hayes PP RFD VF

Secretary: Cheryl McKell
House Manager: Cathy Sanders

Presbytery and Parish Office:
320 EDMONDSON AVENUE
AUSTRAL

Parish Office is open on:
Tuesday - Thursday
Closed for lunch 12.30-1.30 pm.

Phone: 9606 0206; **Fax:** 9606 0153

Email Address:
stanthonysaustral@bigpond.com

Web Address:
www.stanthonysaustral.org

Archdiocesan website:
www.sydney.catholic.org.au
Presbytery is closed on Mondays.

**St Anthony of Padua Catholic
College**

School Principal:
Mrs Lea De Angelis
Phone: 9606 8600
Email: info@stapaustral.catholic.edu.au

Sacramental Life

Celebration of the Eucharist:

Mass Schedule:

Saturday - 5.30pm Vigil (Includes Children's Liturgy during School Term)

Sunday - 7.30am

Sunday - 9am (Includes Children's Liturgy during School Term)

Monday - No Mass

Tuesday - 9am

Wednesday - 9am

Thursday - 9am

Friday - 9.00am Mass and Adoration till 10am.

Reconciliation: Saturday
4.30 - 5.15pm

Baptisms & Marriages:
By appointment at Presbytery

Anointing: Every 2 months - check bulletin for dates

Sick Calls: Any time - day/night.

Funeral Masses: In co-operation with Funeral Directors.

Entrance Antiphon: Vigil You kingdpmns of the earth, sing to God; praise the Lord, whoascends above the highest heavens; His majesty and might are in the skies, Alleluia.

Sunday Men of Galilea, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven wil return as you saw Him go, Alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: God mounts His throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people My Gospel, I am with you always, until the end of the world. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon: Vigil Christ, offering a single sacrifice for sins, is seated for ever at God's right hand, alleluia.

Sunday Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

**Dear Parishioners,
We celebrate the Ascension of the Lord**

1. Traveling Mercies

In the Gospel Reading, Christ gives his disciples a last command before his ascension: go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel. And in another Gospel (Mk 16:15-20), Christ adds a list of things that will characterize those of his followers who obey this command: they will drive out demons, speak new languages, handle snakes safely, drink deadly things without harm, and heal the sick by the laying on of hands.

Why *this* list? Isn't it supposed to be just *love* that characterizes Christ's followers?

Well, think of it this way.

Maybe it is only fair of Jesus to tell those who obey him that they don't need to worry.

When one of my children was traveling to Bangladesh, I made a list of dos and don'ts for him. It was a list intended to help keep him safe.

Finding housing with English speakers was on the list, so that there wouldn't be language problems. "Don't drink the water!" was definitely on the list, and so was "Stay away from people who are obviously sick!" The list finished with this prohibition: "Whatever you do, don't come into contact with the ground!" I know it sounds ridiculous; but hookworm is endemic in that part of the world, and you can get full of worms if you let a body part with an open wound come into contact with infected ground.

You can see that what was on my list of things to worry about are on Christ's list of things not to worry about: language problems, deadly drinks, sicknesses, even snakes—well, hookworms, anyway. (Demons weren't on my list, but maybe they would have been if I could have thought of anything to say about them.)

So the things on Christ's list are the things that you (or your mother) might worry about if you were traveling in dangerous places. Since Christ is commanding his followers to head out to all the world, maybe it is only fair of him to tell those who obey him that they don't need to worry about any of these things. Like a good mother, Christ has already thought about all these things for his traveling people, and in his mercy he has made provision for them all.

So here is one way to understand Christ's list of the things that characterize those who believe in Christ and obey him. Whatever roads the journey of your life takes you on, the care of the Lord encompasses you if you walk in his name. You can travel the road of your life without being anxious if you are working for him.

2. Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available at present on a "request only" situation. People are asked to ring or email and a suitable time for the penitent and priest will be arranged. You do not have to give your name. I can meet the penitent in the Church being in the confessional room before the appointed time in order to give "ANONYMITY" to the penitent and "social distancing."

Please Note: Entering the Church you are asked to use the sanitizer on the wall near the sacristy door. This is required for all entering the Church for Mass, Reconciliation or other sacramental celebrations.

3. Catechist News

Our catechist secretary has been informed that Special Religious Education (SRE) at Austral Public School is on hold till the Department of Education indicates that catechists can again commence SRE at Austral Public School.

Parents are encouraged to spend time with their child/children in talking about the faith, especially with those in the sacramental years who will be preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation or First Eucharist later in the year.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will not be celebrated in the parish until 2021. Sorry!

4. Scams

A reminder to all parishioners NOT to fall for any scams, people asking for donations to St Anthony's Austral during this time.

Apparently, phone calls and emails are circulating on behalf of a church (name given) seeking donations to support it.

Please Note: At St Anthony's for parishioners attending a weekday or weekend Mass there is a "offering plate" on the table where you sign-in etc or a donation can be made via the parish website (with the bank details) or by Direct Debit.

Please be careful when people ring or email for a donation to support the Church or some other worthy cause.

5. Celebrating the Eucharist this week May 25-31

Masses this week are:
9am Tuesday & Thursday.
9am & 7pm Wednesday, to assist those who are working.
9am Mass on Friday followed by Exposition till 10am.



Please Note: The rosary will be recited before the 9am Masses each day. So this gives parishioners an opportunity to return to their sacramental life.

It is a roster system for those who wish to attend so that the same parishioners are not attending Mass everyday.

We want to share the joy around.

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm

Sunday: 7.30am, 8.15 and 9am



Note: I am adding a third Mass at 8.15 in order to accommodate more parishioners.

I hope this helps more people attend Mass.

As you can appreciate only 10 people can attend each Mass, at present.

6. Funeral Mass for Annunziata Demaio

A rosary and requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Annunziata Demaio will be celebrated this coming week.

Monday May 25: 5pm in the Church

Tuesday May 26: 10.30am Funeral Mass

Due to "social distancing" only family can attend the rosary and Mass.



God Bless and Stay Safe

Fr. Bob

Fr Bob



POPE FRANCIS COLUMN



Pope Francis Marks Saint John Paul II Centenary with Video to Polish Youth

'Saint John Paul II was a Gift of God to the Church and to Poland, Your Motherland. 'MAY 19, 2020

Following is the full text of the Holy Father's message:

Dear young people, this year we celebrate 100 years since the birth of Saint John Paul II.

It is a wonderful opportunity for me to address you, young people of Krakow, thinking about how much he loved young people, and remembering my presence among you for WYD in 2016.

Saint John Paul II was a gift of God to the Church and to Poland, your motherland. His earthly pilgrimage, which began on 18 May 1920 in Wadowice and ended 15 years ago in Rome, was marked by his passion for life and by a fascination with the mystery of God, of the world and of humankind.

I remember him as a great man of mercy: I am thinking of his Encyclical Dives in Misericordia, of the canonization of Saint Faustina and of the establishment of Divine Mercy Sunday.

In the light of God's merciful love, he captured the specificity and beauty of the vocation of women and men, he understood the needs of children, of young people and of adults, also considering cultural and social conditioning. Everyone had an experience of him. Or, perhaps, everyone experienced him?

Today, you too can experience him, and know of his life and his teachings, which are available to everyone thanks to the internet. Each and every one of you, dear boys and girls, bears the imprint of your family, with its joys and sorrows.

Love and care for the family is a characteristic feature of John Paul II. His teachings are a secure point of reference for finding concrete solutions to difficulties and to the challenges that modern-day families face. But personal and family problems are not an obstacle on the road to holiness and happiness. They weren't for young Karol Wojtyła, either, who suffered the loss of his mother, brother, and father.

As a student, he experienced the atrocities of Nazism, that took so many of his friends from him. After the war, as a priest and bishop, he was forced to face Atheistic Communism. Difficulties, even tough ones, are proof of maturity and of faith; a test which can only be passed based on the power of Christ, who died and rose again.

John Paul II reminded the whole Church of this in his first Encyclical, Redemptor Hominis, where it says, "The man who wishes to understand himself thoroughly must with his unrest, uncertainty, and even his weakness and sinfulness, with his life and death draw near to Christ. He must, so to speak, enter into Him with all his own self".

Dear young people, this is what I hope for each and every one of you: to enter Christ with your whole life. And I hope that the celebrations of the centenary of the birth of Saint John Paul II will inspire within you the desire to walk bravely with Jesus, who is "the Lord of risk, he is the Lord of the eternal 'more'. As He did on Pentecost, the Lord wants to work one of the greatest miracles we can experience: He wants to turn your hands, my hands, our hands into signs of reconciliation, of communion, of creation. He wants your hands, boys and girls: He wants your hands to continue building the world of today".

I entrust you all to the intercession of Saint John Paul II and I bless you, wholeheartedly. And you, please, do not forget to pray for me.

Thank you!



JUST A FEW FUNNIES TO HELP KEEP US SANE



WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

Recently Deceased: Annunziata Demaio, Teresa Zucco.

Anniversaries: St Pope John Paul II.

Also for: Dec'd members of the Saverja Family, Charlie, Geita & Kaspan Cilia, Hanna Touma, William Christophers, Josephine Casha, George Casha, Christine Gixti, Joseph Gixti.

We remember those who are sick in the community that the Lord will be their comforter and healer as we pray for:

Ian & Shirley Farrell, Ken O'Leary, Paul Farnsworth, Marie Gough, Michael Jasenko, Tomislav Juric, James Dimech, Jean Poles, Margarita Vartuli, Hanee Abe Rached



Livestreaming of Parish Masses

The Archdiocese of Sydney is regularly updating its website and social media platforms with the latest information on parishes that are offering their Masses online for parishioners to watch. Please contact Michael Kenny via email to share any of these updates that can be posted online- Email: michael.kenny@sydneycatholic.org

Viewing numbers across the archdiocese with those streaming Masses are continuing to increase which is great. More than one million people across the country watched the Good Friday and Easter Sunday services live from St Mary's Cathedral last weekend on Channel 7.

The Passion of Our Lord on Good Friday reached 545,000 broadcast viewers with an additional 86,000 live-streaming and social media viewers reaching a total audience of 631,000, 42.4 per cent of the available audience. The Easter Sunday 10.30am Mass reached a whopping 568,000 broadcast viewers with a further 113,000 live-streaming and social media viewers reaching a total of 681,000 viewers – attracting a 46.3 per cent audience share.

Overwhelmingly, the audiences were highest in the Sydney metropolitan area, followed by NSW, the ACT, Western Australia and Queensland.

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Ph: 0415 123 807

E: teresa@calarcolegal.com.au

KID'S CORNER

Q. Why did the gum cross the road?

A. It was stuck to the chicken's foot.



Parish Hall for Hire

The Parish Hall has had a make-over, as those who have worked in it can testify.

The room has been painted, splash tiles around the sink area, a new oven and the cupboards have been repaired.

Parishioners are welcome to hire the hall for family celebrations, baptism parties, wedding anniversaries and birthday parties for children up to age 10.

Teenage parties may be an issue so the parish will NOT hire out to these events.

The cost of hire is: \$450 plus a bond of \$100 that will be returned as long as the Hall is left clean & tidy with no damages.

Anyone interested in hiring the hall should contact the parish secretary for the rental agreement and the hirer's responsibility using the hall.

A Message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT MORNINGS

This service is for family and friends who grieve the loss of a loved one and the changes that loss makes in one's life.

Morning tea is provided in a relaxed and caring setting.

For further information contact:

Bereavement support Ph: 02 9646 6908 or email: bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au

If you or a friend are in need of such support please ring and attend the session.

Sessions held: Every Third Wednesday of the Month from 10am-1pm.

READ THE DIGITAL EDITION OF THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

The Catholic Weekly has temporarily transitioned to a digital presence only due to the government's decision to close all Churches during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am pleased to inform you that has been adapted extremely well and they are continuing to produce the paper in a **digital form** making it available to everyone online at www.catholicweekly.com.au

What is a digital edition?

It is the current paper delivered on our website and which is formatted identically to the print edition.

The Chain of Mary Association Inc

The Chain of Mary Association Inc One Decade Rosary Booklets.

Please feel free to take the Chain of Mary one decade Rosary booklet and pray it each day with faith and devotion. Ask for any grace you need and Mother Mary will listen to you. Write your name and intentions in the book provided on the table at the back of the church and once a week Mass will be offered for you and your intentions.

For any enquiries please call
Sr-in-Christ Rosa
Ph: 96067571



We continue to need your support

We understand the difficulty some families are facing, however if you are able to continue your support of the parish this would be greatly appreciated as we still have much work to continue within our community and Church at this time, especially with those in need and the vulnerable of society.

Perhaps you might consider replacing the envelope contributions with a new direct debit at this time- either weekly, monthly or as a once only. Please contact our office and speak to Cheryl. Any assistance parishioners can give during the shut-down of the Church will be greatly appreciated.

We thank you for your support of the Church and your Faith Community.

Direct Debit:

Account Name: St Anthony's Austral Church Account

BSB: 062 784

Account No: 0492 5002



PARISH CENSUS FORM (PCF)

Have you filled in a PCF which can be found on the table behind the pews.

Why? It's important that we have your details if we need to contact you.

Please fill in the Census Form found on the table behind the pews and leave in the Census Box.

Using the Parish Toilets

A bin has been placed in the Ladies toilets for soiled nappies and sanitary napkins.

Please use the bags provided and the bin.

Please **DO NOT** throw them in the toilet, we have had to get the plumber out too many times, and this is a big cost to the parish.



The signs of the Spirit in our lives

by Mary Coloe

When you stand in an underground train station, the first sense you have of an approaching train is the wind as the train pushes the air in front of it. You cannot hear or see anything yet, but the wind announces the train is on its way.

I liken this to our experience of the Spirit. In both Hebrew and Greek, the word for spirit is the same as 'wind' or 'breath'. Like the wind, we do not see or hear the Spirit, but we experience its effects:

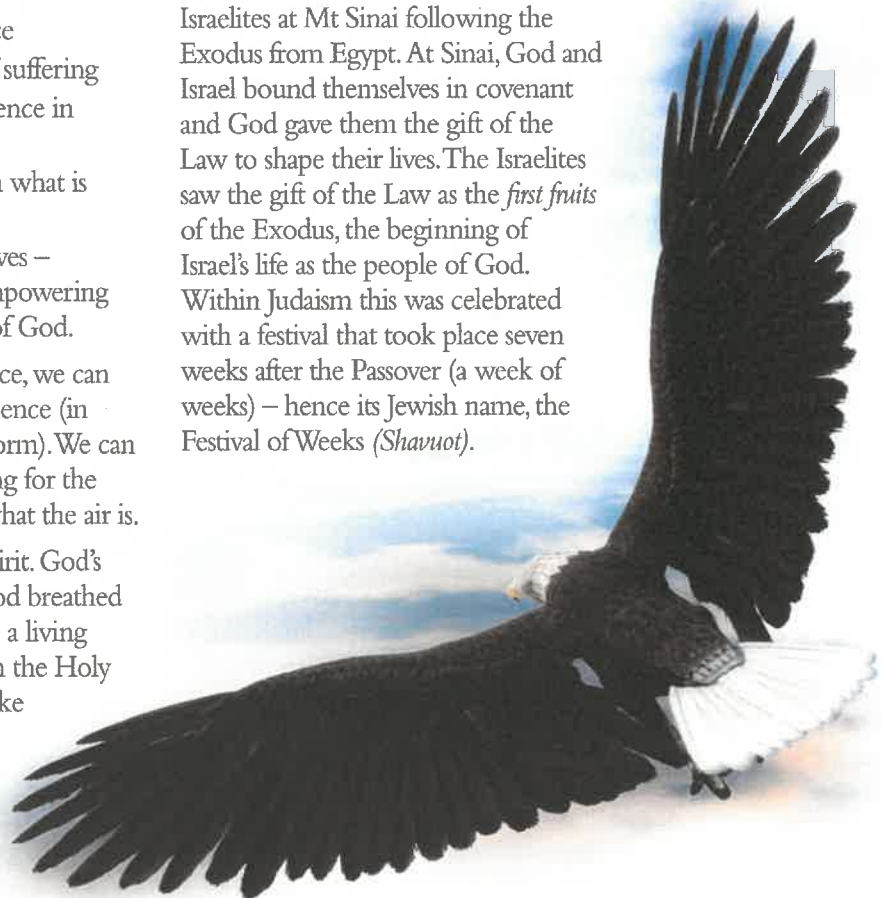
- the urge to respond to an issue of justice
- the move to compassion at the sight of suffering
- the ongoing, subtle sense of God's presence in our lives
- the ability to discern what is right from what is wrong.

These are the signs of the Spirit in our lives – prompting, encouraging, guiding and empowering us to live from Jesus' vision of the reign of God.

Because the Spirit is such a subtle presence, we can live our lives totally oblivious to her presence (in Hebrew, Spirit – *ruah* – is feminine in form). We can be like the fish swimming around looking for the ocean, or the soaring eagle wondering what the air is.

Our lives are utterly immersed in the Spirit. God's Holy Breath gave life to Adam when God breathed into the face of Adam who then became a living being (Gen 2:7). Similarly, we live within the Holy Breath of God. Hildegard of Bingen spoke of the Spirit as the One who vivifies all things, the one who is the "greenness" within.

The Feast of Pentecost began in Israel as a simple Harvest Festival to celebrate the first fruits of the crops at the beginning of summer. Later the festival came to be linked to the arrival of the Israelites at Mt Sinai following the Exodus from Egypt. At Sinai, God and Israel bound themselves in covenant and God gave them the gift of the Law to shape their lives. The Israelites saw the gift of the Law as the *first fruits* of the Exodus, the beginning of Israel's life as the people of God. Within Judaism this was celebrated with a festival that took place seven weeks after the Passover (a week of weeks) – hence its Jewish name, the Festival of Weeks (*Shavuot*).



Sunday, 24 May – Crowning Mary

Did you know? Various images and statues of Our Lady have been officially “crowned” with a Papal Bull of Canonical Coronation.



The very first Marian image crowned without a direct papal approval was by Cardinal Francesco Sforza Pallavicino with La Madonna della Oropa (Black Virgin of Mount Oropa) on 30 August 1620.



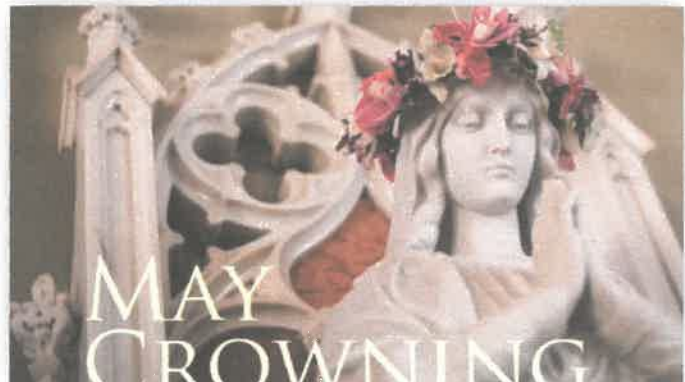
On March 28, 2019, Pope Francis granted the Canonical coronation of the image of La Purisima Concepcion in the Philippines.

The solemn prescription of ritual to crowning images is embedded in Ordo Coronandi Imaginem Beatae Mariae Virginis published by the Holy Office on 25 May 1981. Prior to 1989, papal bulls concerning the authorization of canonical coronations were handwritten on parchment. After 1989, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments began issuing the specific recognition to crown a religious image, spelling out its approved devotional title and authorizing Papal legate. Several venerated images of the Child Jesus and Saint Joseph have also been granted a Pontifical coronation.



The first Marian image pontifically crowned was the painted image of La Madonna della Febbre (Our Lady of the Fever) on 27 May 1631 by Pope Urban VIII through the Vatican Chapter located at the Sacristy of Saint Peter's Basilica.

Click the 'May Crowning' image to watch a video reflection.



Click [here](#) to see a complete list and pictures of the 63 officially crowned images/sculptures of Mary from around the world.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_canonically_crowned_images
<https://cbcnews.net/cbcnews/malolos-virgin-of-la-purisima-concepcion-receives-episcopal-crown/>