



St Mary's Parish Concord

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

21 June 2020

LITURGY OF THE WORD Year A

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 20:7, 10-13
*The Lord has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 69
Lord, in your great love, answer me.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-15
The free gift is not like the trespass.

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:26-33
Do not fear those who kill the body.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for all those who have died recently. We pray for those whose anniversaries occur about this time and all our deceased parishioners, family members and friends.

We pray for those in many places who have died of the COVID-19 virus, for their families and all who mourn for them.

We pray for all those who are sick and for the health workers who care for the sick.

NSW Government Public Health Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gathering and Movement) Order under the Public Health Act 2010

St Mary's Parish is following the restrictions for the "Road to Recovery" that have been set out in the revised NSW Government Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gathering and Movement) under the Public Health Act 2010.

MASSES IN ST MARY'S CHURCH WILL RESUME ON SUNDAY 5 JULY

Fr Paul Crowley, who is the only priest at St Mary's, Concord, will be away on his annual leave until 3 July. At present only 50 people can be in the church for a Mass. Details regarding registering for Masses will be confirmed closer to July.

We regret that it is not possible to open the church for private prayer. Churches can only be open when someone is present to supervise, to record names and contact details, and to clean and sanitise the pews after every visitor.

All other parish events and programs remain suspended. To help you to keep in touch with the latest parish news please regularly visit this website.

VINNIES COVID-19 WINTER APPEAL



Vinnies St Mary's Concord is now undertaking its annual Winter Appeal and seeking your financial contribution to assist those in need within our community.

Each year, the Vinnies Winter Appeal raises crucial funds that enable local volunteers to continue providing financial, material and emotional support to the many in our community who are living in poverty and in need of assistance.

This year, as a result of COVID-19, many more are suffering from economic hardship, social isolation, homelessness and mental health issues.

Please help Vinnies to provide support to those in our community by donating via the below link:

<https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/fundraise-your-way/st-mary-s-concord>

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible and your receipt will be automatically processed and sent via email.

We thank you in advance for your support,

Vinnies - St Mary's Concord

Help us keep Aussies hit hardest by
the pandemic **safe, fed & supported.**





TAX RECEIPT FOR PLANNED GIVING

Thank you to all those who have been able to support the Mission of the parish through your contributions. Since the COVID-19 closure many parishioners have switched to electronic giving or have dropped their envelopes into the Parish Office.

Because of changes made by the NSW Government regarding school funding, in May 2017 all parishioners were asked to register with the parish if they required a tax receipt for their donation to the parish Planned Giving envelopes.

While all who contribute through the parish envelopes receive a receipt, only those who have registered receive tax receipt.

Those who previously registered will receive a tax receipt for contributions received by 30 June 2020.

Any contributor who has not previously requested a tax receipt, may do so for the new financial year (2020-2021) by contacting parish office. A tax receipt will only be available for contributions made *after* your contact with the office.

For 2020-2021, St Mary's Parish Concord will be able to offer 50% tax deductibility for contributions to the Parish Planned Giving.

PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office provides support and training for parish communities to ensure that our communities offer a safe and caring environment. The Safeguarding Office also provides support for those who have suffered abuse.

If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney, the Safeguarding Office will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on phone: 9390 5812.

St Mary's Catholic Primary School ENROL NOW FOR 2021

St Mary's Catholic Primary School Concord is a welcoming, diverse community that ensures every child is nurtured to achieve their potential. The collective spirit of our students, parents and staff makes St Mary's an excellent choice for parents looking for a school that can prepare their children for a successful and thriving future.

For an enrolment form or to organize a personal tour of the school, contact the school by email: info@stmconcord.catholic.edu.au or call the school office tel 02 97440260. Download an enrolment application online via the school website <https://www.stmconcord.catholic.edu.au/>

GIFT OF BREAD: Due to the current COVID-19 health restrictions many of the organisations who previously supported the *Gift of Bread* outreach program are no longer able to continue their support. The calls for assistance and support from *Gift of Bread* have significantly increased over the past three months which leaves the GOB program in need of financial assistance. The *Gift of Bread* program has created a donation page called "**Who gives a loaf? You can.**" The banner photo on the donate page is the team from St Mary's Concord in the parish hall.

The program needs cash donations to keep their outreach services operational. If you are able to support this program, please go to:

<https://www.givenow.com.au/givealoaf>

HERITAGE SIGNS: St Mary's Parish commissioned five heritage signs to mark the sesquicentenary of the parish. They have now been installed in the Church Forecourt and recall 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). They have been placed close to the original locations of the buildings.



THE FIRST CHURCH: As well as celebrating the 150th anniversary of the founding of St Mary's Parish, this year also marks the 175th anniversary of the opening of the first church on 7 December 1845. The sign recalling the first church can be found next to the Parramatta Road gates.

The first church was located near Parramatta Road in front of the present parish hall. The photo used for the sign was taken in 1917 when the hall was under construction. Once the hall and classrooms were completed the original church was demolished.

It is possible to view all the signs via the Burton Street entrance to the parish site.

FACEBOOK: If you are on Facebook, you may wish to join our new parish group, *St Mary's Parish Concord*. It has been created as a private group so that only those who join can see the posts. Search for us and ask to join. Only members can add posts. It is one opportunity to interact with each other and share news.

Please note that there is also a Facebook page called *St Mary's Parish Church Concord*. As noted in last week's bulletin, it was an "unofficial page". The parish has now claimed that page as a general site for parish information and contact.

Please note that it has a different name to the Facebook Group as it included "Church" in its name.



HOPE CAMPAIGN:

St Martha's Parish Strathfield is asking for help promoting its *Hope Campaign* to encourage everyone to spread and carry hope in these uncertain times. The prayer card that accompanies the *Hope* keepsake was designed and

printed by St Martha's Parish Office. It can be downloaded from the homepage of the parish

www.stmarthas.org.au as a Word doc for easy editing and adaptation. Alternatively, you are welcome to contact the parish office on 9746 6131 should you require any further information or assistance. Below is a link to the *Catholic Weekly* story about what St Martha's Parish is trying to achieve <https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/even-in-lockdown-st-marthas-keeps-busy/>

CELEBRATING AT HOME

We can be united with each other in prayer by setting aside a time when we can pause and read the Word of God and share our reflections. Many find it helpful to create a "prayer space" that helps us to focus. We can also find those places where the Mass is being televised or live streamed.

For those who have access to the Internet there are many places that offer prayers and resources to help us. Those listed below are some examples.

LITURGY BRISBANE offers a range of resources that are updated each week. They can be found on the Liturgy Brisbane website at <https://www.liturgybrisbane.net.au/prepare/sunday-readings-and-family-prayer/>

SUNDAY READINGS
READ AT HOME

The Brisbane Liturgy website gives the Sunday readings with associated commentaries and prayers. It is suggested that families gather to read the Scriptures aloud together.

FAMILY PRAYER
WEEK BY WEEK

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.

We invite you to share these resources with anyone who may find them useful.

THE MASS Watch Mass online if you have a computer or a TV that allows you to search the Internet. There are many places now streaming the Mass.

GO TO THE WEBSITE of The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney www.sydneycatholic.org On the Home page there is a WATCH HERE button that gives links to parishes that are live-streaming Sunday Mass and in some cases weekday Masses and other devotions.

SACRED SCRIPTURE Set aside a time each day to read the Bible by taking a book, such as one of the Gospels or the Psalms, and working your way through it together. Pause and reflect on the passage. Use *Lectio Divina* when reading a bible text – this is explained in **Universalis** (see below) and also on the Jamberoo Abbey website.

THE ROSARY is a prayer that a family can easily recite together or can be said by those living alone.

APPS and PODCASTS: For those with access to a smart phone or a computer, the following Apps and Podcasts may help families and individuals to set aside time for prayer.

The Examen is a daily reflection that aims to help us to review how God is present in the ordinary moments of life. It is done at the end of the day and is inspired by the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola.

Search iTunes or other platforms for the following podcasts:

The Examen with Fr James Martin SJ This 18 minute Podcast offers a guided reflection from the American Jesuits.

Follow us on Twitter 
St Marys@ParishConcord

FOODBANK DONATIONS: earlier this year a bin was placed at the back of the church and parishioners regularly donated food items to assist the Jesuit Refugee Service. With the church closed we can no longer donate food but we can still help.

For more information, please contact amelia.savage@jrs.org.au and/or zoe.grant@jrs.org.au

Are you struggling in this time of crisis?

Depression. Anxiety. Loneliness. Conflict. Stress. CCareline 13 18 19 is a free and confidential helpline for counselling, relationships, parenting, ageing, disabilities, addictions and mental health. For help finding help, call CCareline on 13 18 19.

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Emergency Cash Appeal.

During COVID-19, many refugees and people seeking asylum need help to prevent homelessness and entering into new heights of destitution and hunger. For many, JRS Australia is the only safety-net. Many cannot access Medicare. Our clients include children, women and men living in Sydney.

Donating to our Emergency Cash Appeal will help us replenish our foodbank, pay for urgent medication, rent, support women out of domestic violence situations and assist people who have lost their jobs.

It's hard for everyone right now, but together, we can make it through COVID-19.

- \$40 feeds a single adult for one week
- \$70 feeds one family for a week
- \$350-\$500 pays for a week's rent

To help, please call (02)9356 3888 or email: jrsreception@jrs.org.au or click the link above this post.



Pictured: a donation to our foodbank. This food will be delivered to people seeking asylum and refugees.

LIKE IT. SHARE IT. AND FINALLY, THANK YOU FOR STANDING WITH PEOPLE SEEKING ASYLUM AND REFUGEES

JRS Winter Blanket Collection

Please support people seeking asylum this Winter by donating **NEW** blankets to JRS. See second image for drop off point information.

C o n t a c t :
Amelia Savage
amelia.savage@jrs.org.au 9098 9336



Can you help?





We offer care, empathy and compassion to nurture all to live their grief



CATHOLIC CEMETERIES GRIEF CARE

Catholic Cemeteries is offering tailored Grief Care seminars hosted over Zoom. You'll find information in the attached flyers and should contact Leonie Duck to register via email:

Leonied@catholiccemeteries.com.au

- Parent seminar - Supporting your child following the death of someone they love
- Seasons for Growth seminar for Young people - aged 18 - 30 (Understanding Change Loss and Grief)
- COVID-19 specific seminar (Understanding Change Loss and Grief)
- Seasons for Growth small group - we have a couple of people keen for this already and are ideally wanting 2 more in order for it to run well.

Do you need help finding help?

Relationships. Parenting. Ageing. Disabilities. Addictions. Mental Health.



CCareline 131819
A free and confidential helpline.

- ✉ connect@catholiccare.org
- 📞 CCareline.org
- 🕒 8am - 6pm Monday - Friday

CATHOLICCARE OUTREACH TO THE LONELY AND ISOLATED CatholicCare and the Parishes of the Sydney Archdiocese are here to support vulnerable people in our local communities during lockdown. We can connect local volunteers to people who need help with their shopping and errands or even just for a regular friendly chat over the phone. If you, or someone you know, could use a little help during this time, CCareline 13 18 19 can connect you with a local volunteer from your community. CCareline 13 18 19 is a free and confidential helpline for counselling, relationships, parenting, ageing, disabilities, addictions and mental health. CCareline is here to help. Call 13 18 19 Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm. Please attached Parish newsletter for the contact details.

PLenary COUNCIL DISCERNMENT PAPERS RELEASED Due to the COVID 19 pandemic the National Plenary Council Assembly has been postponed to October 2021 (Adelaide) and April 2022 (Sydney). Importantly as part of the journey towards the national Assembly, the discernment papers foundational to the development of the working paper and ultimately the agenda for the Assembly are available on the National Plenary Council webpage under the Discernment tab: <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/continuing-the-journey-of-discernment/>

CATHOLICCARE MARRIAGE PREP

Marriage Education Goes Virtual: CatholicCare has quickly adapted to social distancing laws, providing marriage education virtually from mid March. If you are engaged and are planning on getting married soon, CatholicCare is still able to provide you with your marriage education course during this time. We expect demand to surge when social distancing rules are relaxed further, so don't miss out. Book now! Call 13 18 19. "Considering we were attending remotely, [the educator] still made the experience feel collaborative and a safe space in which to share.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON COVID-19

To help parishioners with any questions they may have around COVID-19 and its impact on sacraments such as weddings, baptisms and funerals, you may find the FAQs page on the Archdiocese of Sydney website helpful at this time by clicking - [here](#)

PETITION BY CATHOLICS TO ASK THAT NO ONE IS LEFT BEHIND

As the COVID-19 pandemic tightens its grip, people seeking protection and migrants in vulnerable situations have been left with no safety net. Please join us by signing and sharing the Catholic petition to leave no one behind during the COVID-19 Pandemic: <https://www.change.org/nooneleftbehind>

DANCING AT THE VATICAN: FILM FUNDRAISER TO FIGHT HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE

Pope Francis became the first world leader to recognise the devastating plight of those living with what is among the most common hereditary brain disorders when he met with families affected by it in an audience at the Vatican in 2017.

Watch the documentary that captures this story in an online screening with all proceeds going to support Huntington's NSW/ACT.

When: Friday 12 June 2020 at 7-9 pm or Friday 14 August at 7-9 pm
 Cost: \$20 per [household via Eventbrite](#)
 Where: In the comfort of your home