



St Mary's Parish Concord

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

27 June 2021

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: Wisdom: 1:13-15; 2:23-24
Through the devil's envy death entered the world.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps: 30
R: I will praise you, Lord,
for you have rescued me.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15
Your present abundance should cover their needs.

GOSPEL: Mark 5:21-43
Little girl, get up!

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for John Lillcrap, Vincenzo Carrozza, Filomena Pedretti (Italy), Biagio (Bill) Durante, Salvatore Mileta (Italy), Giuseppe Giglio, David Spence, Mary Doran and all those who have died recently.

We pray for Giovanni & Francesca Giannone, Sheamus McGhee and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time and for all our deceased family members, friends and parishioners.

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

1st HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated at a special 11.00am Mass on Sundays 22 and 29 August. **Registration opens Monday 21 June.**

To register, please email the parish office with your child's name and your preferred date. Places are limited and will be allocated as enrolment forms are received at the Parish Office. Further details available under Sacraments on the parish website.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

All are welcome to join us at our Sunday and weekday Masses. No bookings are required.

The most recent changes to the Government restrictions require masks to be worn and churches must again observe the 4 sq m rule.

Because of the importance of "social distancing" we have also returned to restricting seating to every second pew.

All those attending must still register using the QR Code. To use the QR Code you first need to download the Services NSW App to your phone.

Those who do not have a smart phone must record their name and contact details (phone or email) on the forms provided at the church doors. Please write clearly. It is very important that your details are accurately recorded.

The recent cases of community transmission in Sydney remind us not to become complacent about the ongoing risk.

NEW ENVELOPES: New sets of Planned Giving envelopes for 2021-2022 are available to be collected from the tables at the back of the church. They are arranged alphabetically in order of names.

Please note that due to a review of the Planned Giving envelopes, some numbers have changed. If you have been given a new number, please only use your new envelopes after this Sunday. For further information and to register to receive a set of Parish Planned Giving envelopes, please contact the Parish Office. Contributions can also be made electronically on our parish website.

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

Those who have registered will receive a tax receipt for contributions **received by 30 June 2021.**

We welcome the Knights and Dames of the Sovereign Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem, Knight of Malta, who are joining us at the 9.30 am Mass.

Acknowledgement of Country



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

SIERRA LEONE SUPPORT

In early 2003 the Parish Pastoral Council received a request from Br John Hay cfc, who asked if St Mary's Parish Concord would consider offering some support to Sacred Heart Parish Serabu in Sierra Leone, West Africa. John had previously worked in Serabu.

In 2003 Sierra Leone was still recovering from a decade long civil war that had started in 1991. The conflict had destroyed much of the local infrastructure including churches and schools.

The Parish Pastoral Council and the Parish Finance Committee supported the request. Every year since 2003 St Mary's Parish has sent a significant donation to the parish community in Serabu.



Our support has enabled that community to repair their church, school and parish house. A clinic to assist the sick has also been established. In more recent years our parish donation has enabled the Sacred Heart Parish to provide support for children who otherwise could not attend school.

Within our parish community individuals and families continue to support *Caritas Australia* through Project Compassion and support the work of *Catholic Mission*.

However, it is also appropriate that we as a parish community continue to share our blessings with the parish community of Sacred Heart, Serabu.

Paul Crowley
Parish Priest

SCHOOL ENROLMENT 2022: St Mary's School is now enrolling students for Kindergarten in 2022. An application form is available from the school office or phone 9744 0260 or email your request to info@stmconcord.catholic.edu.au. Please note that the school office is closed during school holidays.

Visit the school website for more information www.stmconcord.catholic.edu.au.

LIVE STREAMING MASS: The 9.30 am Sunday Mass is being live streamed to the parish YouTube channel. See our website for details. It is also possible to view the Mass on the parish Facebook page: St Mary's Parish Church Concord.

HOLY FATHER'S APPEAL: The Holy Father's Appeal is held each year around the feast of Sts Peter & Paul (29 June). It highlights the global charitable causes supported by Pope Francis and is aimed at giving him resources to assist those affected by natural disasters, wars, the refugee crisis and poverty. It is an opportunity for us to be involved in an important initiative of the Catholic Church.

Envelopes are available on the table at the back of the church and in the side porch. Your **donation by credit card** can be sent directly to the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney or the envelope can be placed in the parish collection buckets. Please do not send cash through the mail. **Cash donations can be placed in the appeal envelope and then be placed in the parish collection buckets.**

PARISH COLLECTIONS: We are still not able to pass around the plates for the traditional parish collections. If you are able to continue your support of the parish's Mission through the collections, buckets are available on the table at the back of the church and near the side entrance. They are marked 1st and 2nd Collection. Your regular donations can be placed in the appropriate containers.

For your convenience Tap and Go stations are available at the doors of the church. The station inside the main entrance is set for \$10 and the side entrance for \$5. Please note that receipts cannot be issued for donations and the transactions cannot be reversed.

CATHOLIC MISSION INDIA COVID-19 APPEAL

Catholic Mission has launched an urgent appeal to provide immediate help for vulnerable communities devastated by COVID-19 in India. Well over 300,000 people have died from the illness in India and the hospitals have been struggling to cope. Through donating to *Catholic Mission*, you will be playing a key role in supporting the valuable work of mission hospitals in the country. Donate online via the Catholic Mission website: <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/donate/your-donation?id=covid-19-india>

WOMEN ALIVE (Indian, Pakistani and Sri Lankan Catholic women's prayer group) - a Canberra - based initiative that predominantly serves Indian, Pakistani and Sri Lankan women but all women are welcome. How to get involved: We have a WhatsApp group (Women Alive Canberra). You can also join us by Zoom for the reflection at the end of our monthly Rosary. We are also beginning a nightly novena to Mother Mary from Sat Aug 29th to Mary's birthday Thu Sept 8th. **Contact the parish office for more details.**

GO MAKE DISCIPLES Archbishop Anthony Fisher has launched a new Archdiocesan Mission Plan *Go Make Disciples*. The new plan is aimed at renewing parishes as places of encounter with the living Christ and centres of outreach to our community in love and mercy.

To find out more about the Mission Plan go to <https://www.gomakedisciples.org.au/>

Tri-Diocesan Social Justice Twilight Reflection Evening, 30 June 2021, 6:00-8:00pm, Pennant Hills:

Join keynote speakers Bishop Anthony Randazzo, Dr. Robbie Lloyd and Ms Ashleigh Donnelly together with Catholics from the Archdiocese of Sydney, Parramatta Diocese and the Diocese of Broken Bay for a prayerful dinner event to celebrate our social justice work and reflect on the themes of this year's Social Justice Statement "To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today."

Date: Wednesday 30th June 2021. Time: 6.00pm – 8.30pm. Venue: Pennant Hills Bowling Club, 52 Yarrara Rd, Pennant Hills.

Please register your attendance here: <https://form.jotform.com/211228078037048> or by emailing ruth.moraes@sydneycatholic.org or phone 0439 584 221.

PARISH COMMUNITY AFTER COVID

The Parish Pastoral Council is currently reflecting on *Go Make Disciples*, the Mission Plan for the Archdiocese of Sydney. Their aim is to set our goals for the future. One of the foundation areas of the Mission Plan is Community.

As we slowly emerge from the COVID pandemic, one of the challenges we face is the rebuilding of our parish community.

Many of the things that we took for granted in the past still cannot happen. We cannot gather for the Morning Tea on the first Sunday of the month. As we begin preparing for 1st Holy Communion in August, we presume that some restrictions will still be in force.

The latest Sydney "hot spots" have reminded us that the COVID virus can quickly spread into any community.

An example of the challenges we face is the need to rebuild our team of volunteers who previously took Holy Communion to the sick at home or in Aged Care facilities. Many of our older parishioners are still not confident to come back to Mass.

If you are interested in being part of this important reflection, come and join the Pastoral Council. New members are welcome. Speak to Fr Paul or contact the Parish Office for more details.

PLAYGROUP: The Playgroup has currently suspended all meetings. An initiative of St Mary's School.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREATS: offer healing and hope to women and men hurt by an abortion experience. The next retreat will be held 5-7 Nov 2021. For more information phone their confidential phone line (0400092555) or see the parish notice board or go to rachelsaus.blogspot.com

If you have any questions, please email jpointo@sydneycatholic.org.

GIFT OF BREAD: 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 can support this program, please go to:

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

MEALS ON WHEELS: Volunteers are needed to assist with the delivery and/or packing of meals. If you can help or need more information, please contact: 9747-1135 or delivery@bcw.org.au

ST VINCENT DE PAUL - MEMBERS NEEDED:

The St Mary's Concord SVdP Conference is seeking new members. If you are interested in joining or in hearing more about their important ministry, please call or text Poppy on 0438430347 or email poppy@archb.com.au to express your interest.

The Concord Conference meets in the parish hall once a fortnight on Wednesday evening for about an hour. Between meetings members also help to distribute emergency assistance in the local area.

JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE FOODBANK

Right now, JRS is feeding 1000 people a week and the demand for help keeps growing. COVID-19 has disproportionately affected the lives of people seeking asylum and temporary migrants in Australia, as they remain excluded from all forms of Federal government support. 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.

PRIVATE PRAYER IN THE CHURCH: The church will be open for private prayer on Sunday after the 9.30 am Mass after the 6.00 pm Mass and on Monday to Friday from 9.00 am until 12 noon. All those entering the church must record their name and contact details.

ONLINE MARRIAGE SEMINAR: The Marriage Kit – Online Seminar is a six week workshop series for married couples wanting a lasting, passionate relationship. Facilitated through the SmartLoving learning platform, from the privacy of your home, the course includes self-directed learning with your spouse that you complete together.

Four facilitated Zoom meetings will provide you with opportunities to ask questions, share your insights and connect with other couples in the course. For more information go to:

<https://members.smartloving.org/rockhampton-marriage-kit-seminar/>

HERITAGE SIGNS: In 2020 St Mary's Parish commissioned five heritage signs to mark the sesquicentenary of the parish. They can be seen 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 OPENED IN 1845



The first church built of the St Mary's Parish site was blessed and opened by Archbishop Polding on 7 December 1845. The painting that now hangs in the parish hall is based on a photograph taken in 1917 when the hall was under construction.

Prior to European settlement, the Burwood-Concord district was occupied by the Wangal clan. They called themselves the Eora, meaning 'the people' and they had been living in the Sydney area for at least 10,000 years.

The British colony of New South Wales had been established in January 1788 with the arrival of the First Fleet under the command of Captain Arthur Phillip.

In late 1788 a small settlement was established at Parramatta and by 1791 a bush track had been built

between Sydney and Parramatta that became what is now Parramatta Road. In 1793 some free settlers received grants in the area then named Liberty Plains. In that same year, land grants were made to six non-commissioned officers in the district that came to be known as Concord.



The Concord-Burwood district continued to grow and in 1844 land was purchased by the Catholic Church on Parramatta Road at Concord for the site of a church and school. The first church stood in the present Church Forecourt in front of the parish hall. It was blessed by Archbishop Polding on 7 December 1845.

At that time there was no resident priest. A priest came from Parramatta, where the parish of St Patrick's had been established in 1827. When the parish of Petersham (now Lewisham) was established in 1851, the church at Concord became part of Petersham parish. St Mary's Concord became a parish in 1870.

The first church was also used as a hall and a school. A Catholic School, operating with Government funds, had begun operating on the parish site in 1846.

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.

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/>

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.

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.

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.

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



HOUSE OF WELCOME FOODBANK APPEAL



Foodbank provides household necessities for people seeking asylum who have limited or no income. People can access groceries on a weekly basis to alleviate the cost of living. The Foodbank program is largely stocked through the generosity of people in the community. No contribution is too small.

**Contact: office@houseofwelcome.com.au
197 The Trongate, Granville
Ph: 02 9727 9290
stfrancis.org.au/house-of-welcome**