

St Mary's Parish Concord

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

24 October 2021

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-9

I am going to bring my people home.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 126

R: The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:1-6

Christ did not glorify himself.

GOSPEL: Mark 10:46-52

What do you want me to do for you?

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for our fragile environment and for all who are working to address climate change.

We pray that our parish community will always be a place of safety for children and all vulnerable members of the community.

We pray for those who are suffering in many other places due to the COVID-19 pandemic and for those who have died.

We pray for all health care worker and those who continue to work to protect the community.

We pray for John Cammareri, Milenko Jurkovic, Mariyamuthu Jesuthasan, Giovanna Gallina, Charlie McDaid (Ireland), Anton Alfred (Botswana), Noel Ponnudurai (Canada) and all those recently. We remember and pray for Antonino Marchetta, Antonio Gentile, Angela Mancuso, Mary Attard, Carlo Travaglia, William Byron and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

The church is now open and normal parish Masses have resumed. Conditions apply:

•Attendees must check-in using the Service NSW App or by clearly recording their name and contact details on the form provided by the Parish.

•Social Distancing - 1 person per 4 square metres. Please only use every second pew. The capacity of the church is 150.

•Everyone must wear a mask, except when reading, presiding or singing.

•Hand Sanitiser is available at church entrances.

•Congregational singing is not permitted. A socially distanced choir of up to 10 fully vaccinated people is allowed.

The revised numbers for funerals and weddings only apply if everyone attending is fully vaccinated. If some remain unvaccinated, the former restrictions remain for weddings and funerals.

The 4 sqm rule limits the number who can attend a Mass in a particular church.

See the parish website for more details.

**PLEASE GET VACCINATED
to protect all those most at risk.**

CAN THE UNVACCINATED COME TO MASS?

Yes, because we are following the current NSW Health Guidelines. Those guidelines no longer list "Places of Worship" as higher risk sites and therefore, like shopping centres, churches are now open to all people regardless of their vaccination status, provided they are wearing masks and observing other social distancing requirements. The revised guidelines still require full vaccination for weddings and funerals.

Acknowledgement of Country



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

SUPPORTING THE PARISH

Thank you to all who have continued to support the parish in these difficult times.

Some parishioners have already opted to make a regular donation electronically. For more details please email the parish office.

Donations can also be made via the parish website. Go to the "Support Us" button at the top right of the Home Page. A drop-down menu offers various options.

Planned Giving Envelopes 2021-2022: New sets of envelopes are available in the church.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS: The normal practice of passing the collection plates remains suspended. There are two containers at the back of the church and at the side door marked 1st and 2nd Collection. Your regular donations can be placed in the appropriate containers.

For your convenience **Tap and Go stations** are now available at the doors of the church. Tap once to donate the amount shown. **Please note that receipts cannot be issued for donations and the transactions cannot be reversed.**

TAX RECEIPT FOR PLANNED GIVING

Printed tax receipts will be available next weekend for those who have not already received an emailed receipt. The tax deduction for the *Parish Planned Giving* is only provided for those contributors who have already nominated that they require a *tax receipt*.

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.

Many of the things that we took for granted in the past still cannot happen. We still cannot gather as a community for the celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday.

As we reopen, we need to rebuild our teams of volunteers, such as those who previously took Holy Communion to the sick at home or in Aged Care facilities.

Many of our volunteers are senior members of our community and face their own health issues. **We particularly need younger members of the parish to become more involved. Can you help?** Contact Fr Paul at the Parish Office for more details.

Are you struggling in this time of crisis?

Depression. Anxiety. Loneliness. Conflict. Stress. CatholicCare offer 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



All families are invited to join in praying the

Holy Rosary

every Thursday evening in
October at 7.30pm Via Zoom

*"Abandon yourself in the hands of Mary.
She will take care of you."
St Padre Pio*

Hosted by the Family Educators of the
Ashfield-Olympic Park Network

PRAYING THE ROSARY

October is traditionally the month of the Rosary. Each Thursday evening during October, we are invited to join a "Rosary Zoom" at 7.30pm. It has been organised by the Family Educators from our local Catholic Schools.

A slide presentation will accompany the prayers and it will be led by the Family Educators' team. A variety of community members will be invited to take part.

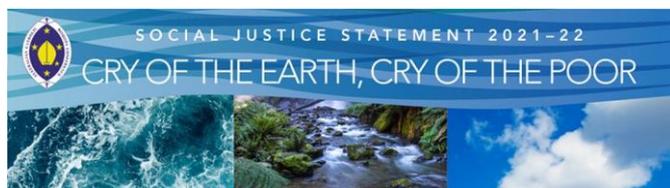
TIME: Thursday, 7:30-8:30pm weekly until 28 Oct 2021. LOCATION:

<https://scscatholic.zoom.us/j/65317311082>



St Mary's
Catholic Primary School
Concord

SCHOOL ENROLMENT 2022: St Mary's School is now enrolling students for Kindergarten in 2022. Email your request to info@stmconcord.catholic.edu.au or visit the school website for more information www.stmconcord.catholic.edu.au.



The Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement, *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*, invites us to join in responding to Pope Francis' invitation to take a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability.

The Statement provides theological foundations to ground and inspire our efforts to care for creation while responding to the needs of the disadvantaged and excluded. For more information go to the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference (ACBC) Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace, www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

GO MAKE DISCIPLES is 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/>

THE JOURNEY: Journey Catholic Radio is a weekly radio program and podcast developed by the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong all about faith, hope, love and life. It includes awesome music, a weekly Gospel reflection, interviews and a variety of weekly inputs from some of the best Catholic presenters in Australia.

Journey Catholic Radio is hosted by the director of the Office of Renewal and Evangelisation, Mr Jude Hennessy and produced by Mr Max Norden. For information about how to listen and subscribe go to <https://www.dow.org.au/media-resources/journey-radio/>

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/>

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 jpoinfo@sydneycatholic.org.

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 Church Concord

The painting of the Blessed Virgin Mary that is the dominant image of Mary in the church is a copy of *The Immaculate Virgin of Los Venerables* painted by the Spanish artist Bartolome Esteban Murillo (1618-1682) in about 1678.

It is believed that the original painting was commissioned from Bartolomé Esteban Murillo by Justino de Neve, who was ecclesiastical president of the *Hospital de los Venerables* in Seville. He later donated it to the chapel at the hospital. The original painting is now in the Prado Museum in Madrid

The title of Immaculate Virgin reflects the belief that Mary was without sin from the first moment of her being. Although it was only officially declared a dogma of the Church in 1854, belief in the Immaculate Conception of Mary had been a popular devotion in Spain since the 16th century.

In this painting Murillo combined two different iconographic traditions: the Immaculate Conception and the Assumption. Although the Assumption of Mary was only declared to be a dogma in 1950, it too had been a popular devotion for many centuries.

The parish's copy was cleaned and restored in February 2020 to mark the Sesqicentenary of the founding of St Mary's Parish (1870-2020).

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 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.



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.

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

PLAYGROUP: The Playgroup has suspended all meetings until further notice.

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