



St Mary's Parish Concord

6th Sunday of Easter

Year C

22 May 2022

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

It has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to impose on you no further burden than what is essential.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 67

O God, let all the nations praise you!

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23

The angel showed me the holy city Jerusalem.

GOSPEL: John 14:23-29

The Holy Spirit will teach you everything.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for Philip Doherty, George Jackson and all those who have died recently.

We pray for Gregory & Patricia McCue and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time; for Frank Agueci, Angelo Agueci, Silvana Crisione and for all our deceased family members, friends, and parishioners.

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

We pray for those who have been elected to the Australian Parliament.

We pray for peace in the world and especially for the people of Ukraine.

We pray for all those affected by floods and other natural disasters.

CWF APPEAL: Thank you to all those who were able to support the final Charitable Works Fund Appeal for the 2021-2022. Donations will still be received this Sunday. **Donations are 100% tax deductible. If you require a tax receipt, please complete all the details on the CWF envelope.**



Laudato Si' Week (16-24 May) is a celebration of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'* and a call to action for Catholics around the world to care for our common home. You can participate through prayer, action and reflection with the new resources for parishes, schools, organisations and individuals created by the ACBC Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace. Go to www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

Acknowledgement of Country



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



Caritas Australia Ukraine Appeal

The continuing violence in Ukraine is a humanitarian crisis. Over three million people have been forced from their homes and thousands of civilians have lost their lives. Our long-standing partner, Caritas Ukraine, is on the ground, supporting people in need during this humanitarian crisis.

Your urgent support today will help provide critical assistance including emergency shelter, food, clean water, transportation services, and psychological support to people affected by this crisis.

Donate today at www.caritas.org.au/ukraine or call 1800 024 413 toll free.

TAX RECEIPT FOR PLANNED GIVING

Thank you to all those who have been able to support the Mission of the parish through your contributions to the parish Sunday collections.

All those who contribute through the parish envelopes will receive a receipt but only those who have requested a **tax receipt** will receive one.

Because 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 have registered for 2021-2022 will receive a tax receipt that gives 50% tax deductibility for contributions **received by 30 June 2022**.

Any contributor who has not previously requested a tax receipt, may do so for **the new financial year (2022-2023)** by contacting the parish office, but we must receive your request by Friday 10 June 2022.

We will presume that those who have registered in the past still wish to receive a tax deduction. However, if your circumstances have changed and you no longer require a *tax receipt* for 2022-2023, please contact the parish office.

WINTER APPEAL The St Mary's Concord conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society will be seeking our support for the Vinnie's Winter Appeal at all Masses next Sunday.

EUTHANASIA LAWS IN NSW

Archbishop Anthony Fisher has released a Media Statement following the passing of the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021 by the NSW Parliament.

In part, he wrote:

"The disturbing nature of this legislation is compounded by the way the debate over amendments was conducted.

All amendments put forward by those who would seek to make this deadly regime even a little bit safer were rejected. That no meaningful amendments were accepted speaks to a 'winner takes all' approach by the proponents of this bill and reveals an ugliness that has invaded our politics.

This does not bode well for the protection of our most vulnerable citizens."

The full Media Statement can be found on the parish notice board and on the website for the Archdiocese of Sydney.

HERITAGE SIGNS: In 2020 St Mary's Parish commissioned five heritage signs to mark the sesquicentenary of the parish. They 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). The signs have been placed close to the original locations of the buildings.

St Mary's School Concord

The 1845 church also served as a hall and from 1846 as a classroom for a one-teacher school with John Clancy as the first schoolmaster.

When John Clancy retired due to ill health in 1858, he was followed by a series of lay teachers. Records are unclear about the school's operation in the 1860s but when St Mary's Parish was established in 1870, the existing one-teacher school became part of St Mary's Parish.

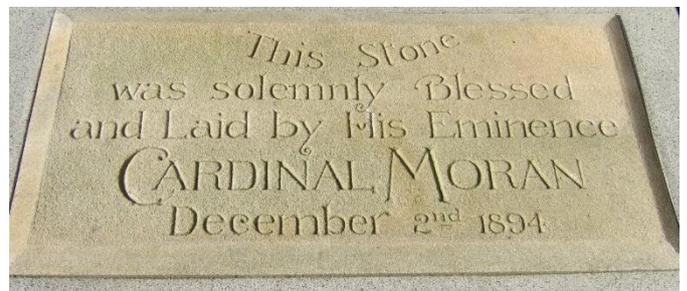


The First School Building 1894

The photo was taken 1917 as the hall was under construction (on the left).

When the New South Wales Colonial Government withdrew funding for denominational schools in 1879, it became more difficult for the parish to pay the salary of the teacher and to maintain the school.

Fr Callaghan McCarthy, the first parish priest, asked the Sisters of Charity to take charge of the school and in 1883 the Sisters began travelling each day from Ashfield to teach in the school-hall.



The first school building was erected on the parish site in 1894. It stood on the western side of the present Church Forecourt on what is now the "grass" area within the school precinct. The foundation stone laid by Cardinal Moran on 2 December 1894 can now be seen on the western side of the church steps. St Mary's School continued to grow and expand.

In 1917 a new hall was built with classrooms above and after the present church opened in 1929, the second church built in 1874 was used for classes.

In 1940 a new infants' school building was built facing Burton Street and in 1956 a Commercial College for girls was built on the site of the second church.



**The 1972 block after the 2000-2001 renovations.
It was demolished in 2011**

When more classrooms were needed in the 1970s, the first school building that had opened in 1894 was demolished to make way for a new block of classrooms which was blessed and opened by Archbishop James Freeman on 3 September 1972.

Kindergarten moved into the new classrooms until almost forty years later when, in 2011, another new classroom block was built for Kindergarten along the Parramatta Road boundary of the school precinct. That project also enabled the 1972 classrooms to be demolished to create the present "grass" area.

Didaskó Catholic Adult Faith Formation

The Parish Renewal Team of the Archdiocese of Sydney is offering Sydney Catholics an opportunity to grow in their faith with spiritual, intellectual and practical formation.

Didaskó offers an online short course each month which aims to build a culture of formation in our parishes. Courses are delivered online over three evenings at a cost of \$25 per course. Bishop Richard Umbers, Auxiliary Bishop in Sydney, will present the first course on Mondays 1 and 8 June, and Tuesday 14 June from 7:30pm-8:45pm, with the topic "What Catholic Christians Believe: An Introduction to the Catechism." Register at

www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events/
For more information, contact Helen Wagner at parishrenewal@sydneycatholic.org or go to the link to the information leaflet here: [A4 flyer](#)

PARKING ON SUNDAYS: One of the limitations that we face is the very limited parking that is available. Some off-street parking is available in the Church Forecourt via the Parramatta Road gates. The Burton Street entrance is the emergency access for St Mary's Villa and can only be used as a drop-off point.

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 Sesquicentenary of the founding of St Mary's Parish (1870-2020).



LIVE STREAMING FROM ST MARY'S

We began live streaming the parish 9.30 am Mass in December 2020. When we were locked-down from June to October 2021, the live streamed Mass provided a valuable link for our parish community.

The dynamic coverage is made possible because someone is directing the cameras. A small team of volunteers has enabled that to happen each Sunday.

The 9.30 am Sunday Mass is live streamed to on the parish Facebook page (St Marys Parish Church Concord) and to the parish YouTube channel.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL0awxfUmJ6XjHJZcqsR2_A

SYDNEY METRO WEST is the new metro railway connecting Parramatta to the Sydney central business district (CBD). One of the stations, to be called Burwood North, is located at the corner of Parramatta Road and Burwood Road For more information go to: <https://caportal.com.au/tfnsw/sydmetrowest/virtual-station>



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

