



St Mary's Parish Concord

The Ascension of the Lord

Year C

29 May 2022

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11

Jesus was lifted up.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 47

*God mounts the throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.*

SECOND READING: Hebrews 9:24-28, 10:19-23

Christ entered into heaven itself.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:46-53

Jesus withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for George Jackson, Manuel Andres, Sr Patricia Leydon rsj and all those who have died recently.

We pray for Vincenzo Carrozza, Louise Massaria, Anna Melita, Santo Rizzo, S S Manuelpillai and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time; for Iolanda & Luigi Moschetti, C & G S Manuelpillai and for all our deceased family members, friends, and parishioners.

We pray for George Jackson, Manuel Andres, Sr
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.

WINTER APPEAL The St Mary's Concord conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society is seeking our support for their important outreach ministry to those in need in our local community. Envelopes are available on the pews and at the back of the church and can be placed on the parish collections. Donations over \$2 are 100% tax deductible. If you wish to receive a receipt from the SVdP Society, please ensure all your contact details are clearly written on the envelop.

ANNUAL LEAVE: Fr Paul will be away on his annual leave from Monday 30 May. For the next three Sundays, we welcome **Monsignor Vince Redden** who will be presiding at Vigil and 9.30 am Masses. **Fr Gerard Kelly** will preside at the Sunday 6.00 pm Mass.

There is no priest available for weekday Masses. Parish ministers are leading a Communion Service at 8.30 am Monday to Friday from Tuesday 31 May until Monday 20 June. The Parish Office is open Monday to Thursday from 8.30 am to 3.00 pm. For any non-urgent parish matters outside of those hours, please send an email to parish@stmarysconcord.org.au

For an urgent sick call, please contact one of the neighbouring parishes.



KAPITAC
УКРАЇНИ
CARITAS
UKRAINE



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

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.

SCHOOL ENROLMENT 2023: St Mary's School is now enrolling students for Kindergarten in 2023. An application form is available from the school office or phone 9744 0260 or email your request to info@stmconcord.catholic.edu.au Visit the school website for more information www.stmconcord.catholic.edu.au.

We look forward to welcoming new families into the school and parish communities.

Acknowledgement of Country



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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated within a special 11.00 am Mass on Sundays 21 and 28 August 2022.

Registration will only open on Monday 20 June and will close on Friday 1 July.

More details about how to register will be available in the coming weeks in the parish bulletin and on the parish website.

Due to the ongoing presence of COVID in the community the number of applicants for each First Holy Communion Mass will be limited and each date will be closed when that limit is reached.

The number of family members who can be present at those Masses will also be limited due to health issues.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ON OTHER DATES

As happened last year, a family can nominate to celebrate First Holy Communion at any parish Sunday Mass. There will be no limit placed on the number of family members present at a parish Mass.

If you wish to celebrate your child's First Holy Communion before August, please contact the Parish Office to discuss other possible dates.

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.

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.

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



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



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).

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>

