



## Sixth Sunday of Easter Yr A 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020

*Our Mission: We follow the words of our patron, St John Vianney, who said "He is here". We recognise Christ is in the Word, the Eucharist, and in us, His people with a special reverence for Him in the poor and marginalised. We are called to make Christ present through our prayer and charity. We seek to grow in our spiritual lives and create a community where everyone is welcome; the young and old, together to experience the loving presence of God. We believe He is here amongst us and we joyfully go out to make Him present to all.*

*(This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws)*

### **Jesus' best gift for us....**

As the weeks of the Easter Season continue, we hear more and more in our Gospel reading about God the Holy Spirit. In the Third Eucharistic Prayer, in the second petition following the consecration, the priest prays: "... grant that we, who are nourished by the Body and Blood of your Son, and filled with His Holy Spirit, may become one body, one spirit in Christ." This is where the Easter Season is leading us. It is the heart of the mystery of Pentecost.

The Holy Spirit helps us love others even when it is difficult to do so. Everyone around us is an important part of our spiritual life, whether we realise it or not. They all important in our journey on the way to Christ Jesus. Sometimes that way is not easy. Perhaps it requires reconciliation and forgiveness. The Gospel of today focuses on the gift of the Spirit, the Advocate who Jesus sends to us. The Holy Spirit helps us understand what we believe, draws us into the truth of Jesus and comforts us in our affliction.

We rely on the Spirit to help us to continue to grow. In these days leading up to the Solemnity of Pentecost, the feast of the sending of the Holy Spirit upon us, we are reminded to keep asking for this Spirit to be poured out on us and on all the earth. Let us ask the Holy Spirit today to give us wisdom and understanding, especially in our faith and our dealing with others. Let us walk more and more faithfully with Jesus each day and try to live as He did, enlightened by the Holy Spirit, loving others and giving our lives to the service of those around us so that our world can be transformed.

### **Easing of restrictions from 15 may**

We understand the desire of everyone to return to the Masses and sacraments, but we continue to cooperate with the policies developed to ensure the health and wellbeing of everyone. The Queensland Government has announced the implementation of step one which will allow for gatherings of up to 10 people for weddings, places of worship and religious ceremonies. Funerals will be increased to a maximum capacity of 20 people indoors and 30 people outdoors. These protocols will be in effect through to 12 June 2020 and are subject to change with any ongoing amendments to Queensland Health guidelines. All of these activities must continue to observe social distancing. This news requires further consultation in regards to implementation for parishes and workplaces. We are hoping for a statement that will be released from the Archbishop's office next week to outline how these new guidelines will be implemented within the Archdiocese of Brisbane.

Blessings,  
Fr. Dantus Thottathil.

### **QUOTE OF THE DAY:**

**Life is more strict  
than a teacher.  
A teacher teaches a  
lesson  
and takes an exam,  
but life takes an  
exam  
and then teaches a  
lesson.**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK:** Karen Booker, Michael Gibbings, Mary Schmidt, Joyce Starkey, Pat Wilson, Sandra Wilson, Maddie Bell, Teresa Geraghty, Mary Forrester, Krystyna Kelly, Sheila Petersen, Richard Pook, Violet Maureen Phillips, Ash Dean, Dennis Patterson, Carmen Phairs, Irene Gavrila, Rosa Maria Santos, Dawn O'Sullivan, Leon and Roz Thomas, Maura Poots, Angela Geraghty, Hugo Callan, Joan Francis, Angela de Weger, Terry Coles, Margaret Brennan, Ted Chapman, Leslee O'Connell, Katherine Pickering, Stacie Stonier, Val Steeden, Don Fraser

For a name to be included in the 'Prayer for our Sick' list, the Privacy Act now requires the personal permission of the nominee or a close relative.

**ANNIVERSARIES** Ethel Barker, Andrew Caltabiano, George Carney, Breeanna Castillon, Sr (James) Cavanagh, Sr Emmanuel (Mary) Conneely, Gerald Costello, Agnes (Nancy) Davies, Andreas de Bruijn, Hester Deutschmann, Clarence Dunlop, Jacqueline Farmer, Geoffrey Harrison, Kathleen Hodge, Alan Kane, Francis Kate, Naomi Keller, Jackie Kneeshaw, Bessie Lucker, Patrick McDonald, Christins McMahon, Clara Mills, Agnes Marano, Monica Mulheran, Kate Newman, Mary O'Shea, Richard Pittock, Josefa Raleigh, Francis Ritchie, Lenore Segeren, Lawreen Smith, Terence Shephard, Helen Stewart, Lothar Thiel, Dudley Taylor, Sr Francis Perry, Annie Smith, Eva Mancktelow, Harold Smith, Helen Stewart, Phyllis Sticher, Monica Wells, Kenneth White, Geoffrey Williams

**Pastor: Fr Dantus Thottathil MCBS** Associate Pastor: Fr Prem Rethnamony  
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Acting Parish Secretary: Kate Sellwood Office hours: 9.00am to 12.30pm Wed, Fri

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Website: [manlycatholicparish.org.au](http://manlycatholicparish.org.au)

### **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Les Sellwood (Chairperson) Joshua Walsh (Secretary), Bruce Corrie, Helen McNamara, Paola Nunez, Maria Jones, Pam Chapman and Julia McLean.

**This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws. A copy of the Child Safety and Protection of Vulnerable Adults policy is situated in the foyer of the church.**

**Archdiocesan Safeguarding Officer for Manly is Les Sellwood: 0401 235 739 STOPLINE Contact; [AOB@stopline.com.au](mailto:AOB@stopline.com.au)**

**First Reading:** Acts 8: 8, 14-17

***They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.***

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 65: 1-7, 16, 20 ***Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.***

Cry out with joy to God all the earth, O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise. Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! <b>R.</b>	'Before you all the earth shall bow; shall sing to you, sing to your name! Come and see the works of God, tremendous his deeds among men. <b>R.</b>	He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the river dry-shod Let our joy then be in him; he rules for ever by his might. <b>R.</b>	Come and hear, all who fear God. I will tell what he did for my soul: Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer nor withhold his love from me. <b>R.</b>
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**Second Reading:** 1 Peter 3: 15-18

***In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.***

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

**Gospel:** John 14:15-21

***I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.***

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you. I will not leave your orphans; I will come back to you. In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you. Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

**Prayers of the Faithful:**

For our world that we may be free of COVID-19 and those who are sick or anxious because of COVID-19, that God comfort and heal them. **Lord, hear us.**

For people bored and lonely at home, that they may have God's gift of courage. **Lord, hear us.**

That the members of this community may continue to grow in faith, hope and love, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord hear us.**

That the Holy Spirit, our Advocate, may empower us to pray and work for world peace and justice to all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord hear us.**

That those who have died recently may share the victory over death won by Christ, and all who have died because of COVID-19.

**Lord hear us**

## **Announcements:**

- The parish office will only be open on **Wednesdays and Fridays between 9am and 12:30pm**. *In the event of an emergency, please contact Fr Dantus on 3396 0742.* During this time, we are providing the newsletter and other weekly resources to parishioners via email. If you wish to receive the newsletter via email. Please email your details (email address and phone number) to: [manly@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:manly@bne.catholic.net.au)
- **Please note that fencing has been installed on the parish boundary for security reasons. Parishioners are welcome to enter the parish through two gates located in the fence.**
- As you know, with the suspension of public Masses, collections are not taking place, which places some strain on our parish finances through considerably reduced income. We understand that many are facing the task of preparing for the financial difficulties that lie ahead. If you are able, please remember the parish in your thinking and planning ahead. We are most grateful for the assistance you feel you are able to offer in this difficult time. May I express our deepest thanks and appreciation to our parishioners for your continued support of our Parish. Our parish account details:  
*Account Name: Manly Parish BSB: 064786 A/C Number: 006716002*
- We are now on Facebook. Please like and follow us at: <https://www.facebook.com/St-John-Vianneys-Catholic-Parish-Manly-QLD-103593494688237/> for parish updates.
- **From this Sunday we will be able to hold mass with 8 people in attendance. Attendance at these masses will be on a roster basis. If you wish to be included on this roster, please contact the parish office via email [manly@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:manly@bne.catholic.edu.au) or phone 3131 2610. Please include the number of people that would be attending with you.**