



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH, CRANEBROOK, NSW

The Net

Visit our website: www.corpuschristi.org.au

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.

THIRTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

**2ND & 3RD NOVEMBER,
2024**

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Israel was called by God. To what was Israel called? To what were the crowds who followed Jesus called? To what are we called? To a covenant relationship with the Lord who is God, the one who is Lord alone. We have been invited into an intimate personal relationship with the creator of the universe, the one who plays with black holes and white dwarfs and at the same time with infinite interest has numbered the very hairs on our head (cf. Matt 10:30). We have heard this so often that it may have become commonplace. The marvel of it may escape our attention, because it has become just a part of our religious language. It is well that once in a while we are shaken to our senses, 'Hear, O Israel! The Lord is your God, the Lord alone!'

It is not marvel enough that this mysterious God has created us; we have also been redeemed. As victim-priest Jesus has offered himself on our behalf. He is the sacrifice that sealed the covenant; his blood was the expiation for our sins; he is our rock, our fortress, our deliverer, our shield, our stronghold. Only one thing is asked of us in return: that we open ourselves to him and cling to the covenant, that we proclaim with all our hearts 'The Lord is our God, the Lord alone!' We are to love with all our heart and all our soul and all our strength; we are to love God and to love others.



Parish office update...

It is with sadness that we announce the retirement of our Parish Secretary, Marie Cottee from our parish. Marie has been a wonderful member, and friend in our parish community over the past 25 years, and has contributed significantly to the running of our parish.

We wish Marie all the very best and thank her for all her dedication, love and support. She will be very missed.

We will be organising an event in appreciation of Marie's service to our parish. More information is to follow.

We, the people of Corpus Christi,
seek to grow in living
a Christ-centred mission,
sharing our gifts to foster welcome,
justice and community in today's world.



A very warm welcome to anyone who
is new to the parish.

So that we can get to know who you are,
please introduce yourself to the priest or acolyte after Mass
and fill out a Census Card, which is available in the foyer.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGIL 6PM

SUNDAY 7.30AM & 9.30AM

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday & Wednesday at 6pm

Thursday & Friday at 9.10am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday evening from 5.15pm -
5.45pm in the Meeting Room

ADORATION AND DEVOTION

First Friday of each month after
9.10am Mass.

This is also an anointing Mass.

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

Address: 86-92 Andromeda Drive
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parishteam@corpuschristi.org.au

Facebook:
[www.facebook.com/
CorpusChristiParishCranebrook](http://www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiParishCranebrook)

Office Hours: 9am - 3.30pm
(Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri)

PARISH TEAM:

Administrator - Fr Jessie Balorio
- jessie.balorio@parracatholic.org
- 0451 851 610 (*emergencies only*)
- Presbytery: 4729 1675

Mrs Marie Cottee - Parish Secretary/
Sacrament Co-ordinator
- mc@corpuschristi.org.au

Mrs Sue Weekes - Office Support
- sw@corpuschristi.org.au

SCHOOLS OF THE PARISH:

Corpus Christi Primary - ph 4726 2200
(Principal - Mrs Sarah O'Rourke)

Xavier College - ph 4777 0900
(Principal - Mr Michael Pate)

Parish News

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Misa de Gallo or Misa de Aguinaldo at Corpus Christi

Misa de Gallo (Dawn Mass 6am) and Misa de Aguinaldo (Night Mass at 7.30pm) are long standing Catholic traditions where we celebrate Mass for 9 days, beginning on December 16th until December 24th.

We are hoping to start either of these traditions in the parish but only if we are able to gather enough interested parishioners to participate. Hope you will be one of them! Please register your interest by filling out your details on the form in the foyer.



SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Sacrament of Baptism

Parents wishing to have their children Baptised are asked to contact the Parish Office to book the date of Baptism and to register for the Rite of Welcome and Information Meeting.



First Holy Communion Photos

Congratulations to all our children who received First Holy Communion during the month of September. There has been a delay in the printing of the photos taken during the Masses. Hopefully they will be ready in the next week or two.

LET US OFFER GIFTS OF PRAYER

Recently Deceased:

Werner Rauker, Max Ducasse, Dianne Mannion.

Anniversaries:

Lonza Deguara, Tranquilino Nifas, Antonino Bacus, Bartolome Bacus, Godofredo Verceles, Felicidad Sampaga

For those who are sick:

Barbara Kemp, Rose Zahra, Eleanor Albertyn, Rosa Pronesti, Marlene Rodger, Lorna Christie

PARISH GIVING

Planned Giving/Parish Donations

Your gift to Planned Giving helps cover the running of the parish and also contributes towards outreach in our parish community and beyond.



If you would like to contribute directly, the parish bank details are:

BSB: 067 950

Acct No: 100000698

Acct Name: Cranebrook Parish

Please ensure you put your details in the reference section (ENVELOPE N# OR SURNAME)

Please contact Marie at the Parish Office if you

◇ are contributing to the Planned Giving Program via the envelope system and would like to change to credit card or direct debit;

NOVEMBER MASSES & BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

You are welcome to give names of those to be remembered during Masses in the November Book of Remembrance.

PLEASE PRINT THE NAMES OF PEOPLE CLEARLY ON AN ENVELOPE.

ENVELOPES CAN BE PLACED IN THE COLLECTION BASKETS OR DROP IT INTO THE PARISH OFFICE.

The Parish Book of Remembrance will be updated each week. Please note that the names will not be carried over from last year. Only names that are passed on to us this year will be included.



SAVE THE DATES

Parish Morning Tea

Morning tea will take place after 9.30am Sunday Mass on the following dates:

10th November and 8th December

Footprints Mass on the Solemnity of All Saints

Pregnancy and Infant Loss Memorial Mass

Friday 01 November 2024, 7:15 pm

All are invited

A Special Mass of Remembrance to Honour the brief life of the children who died too soon through miscarriage, stillbirth and infant death

Share this missing piece of your heart

All Souls Day

Saturday 2nd of November 2024, 9.30am

We invite you to bring a photo of a deceased friend or relative whom you are praying for or a flower to represent them and we will place these reverently before the altar as a symbol that we are offering this Mass to them. All are welcome

DIOCESAN INTERFAITH COMMISSION

The Diocesan Interfaith Commission has enriched the lives and mission of the Church in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains.



The commission aims to build bridges of understanding, inclusion and solidarity. As this Commission is seeking to renew its membership, all clergy, religious and parishioners are encouraged to consider being a member. The only qualification is the Gospel commitment to love your neighbour, who in this instance, belongs to another religion. If you are interested or would like more information, please speak with Fr Jessie

Parish News



PARISH WORKING BEE & BBQ

The parish will be having a working bee on

Saturday 30th of November from 9am – 12pm

to prepare the grounds for Christmas. BBQ will be provided after the working bee in appreciation of your support.

Please bring your gardening tools and any other equipment

CORPUS CHRISTI YOUTH MASS

SUNDAY 17TH OF NOVEMBER AT 5.00PM

Mass followed by refreshments.

Please note that parents are welcome to attend the Mass and registration is not necessary.

For more information about our parish Youth Masses please contact Fr Jessie or Kieran Faccin.

The next Corpus Christi Youth Mass is planned for Sunday 15th of December at 5pm



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Catechist News... *Are you able to help?*

If you can spare about an hour each week during school terms and would like to find out more about becoming a teacher or a helper, you can call the Parish Office or our Catechist Co Ordinator, Lorrene Gorman on 0414 471 329.

Children's Liturgy Volunteers Needed

Children's Liturgy is on during the school terms at 6pm and 9.30am Masses. We try to keep your rostered times to a maximum of 3 each term. Please contact the Parish Office for more details.

Adopt a Garden

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to adopt a section of the parish gardens. If you are experiencing any problems with the work you are doing in your section, if you have any queries or would like to join this group, please contact the Parish Office, who will put you in touch with Greg Hall, the coordinator.

'YOUNG IN SPIRIT' SENIORS GROUP

Our seniors group meets on the last Friday morning of each month after 9.10am Mass in the Parish Office.

Please bring a small plate of food to share for morning tea. New members are always welcome.

SAFEGUARDING

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The modules are available to complete online at

<https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding/training/>

Cycle 1 (New staff/volunteers who have not completed any training within the Diocese)

Cycle 2 (Renewal Training for staff/volunteers who completed Cycle 1 two years ago)

For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on Saturday 9 November at St Margaret Mary's Parish, Merrylands for Modules 4-5.

Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>. For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Diocesan News

PJE Sharing meets Mercy Futures Gathering: 6 November

The next quarterly *Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharing* coincides with a *Mercy Futures Gathering*. Anyone interested in attending either of the two series is warmly invited to learn more about the *Social Justice Statement 2024-25 "Truth & Peace"*, presented by Diocesan PJE Coordinator Sebastian Salaske-Lentern: 6 November 2024, 6:30pm – 8:00pm, Sisters of Mercy Parramatta. Find out more and register at tinyurl.com/pjesharing-nov24

MET Annual Bishop Vincent Vatican II Lecture: 20 November

You are invited to Bishop Vincent's annual lecture on Vatican II on Wednesday 20 November, 6:30pm – 8:30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street Blacktown, cnr Flushcombe Road. Register for limited seating via <https://parracatholic.org/events/vatican-ii-lecture/> for more information contact met@parracatholic.org

Launch of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan

The Diocese of Parramatta is excited to announce the launch of our **Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church 2024-2028: 'Behold, I am with you'**. This plan marks the culmination of our 16-month Synod journey, a time of listening, discernment, and envisioning the future of our Diocese. Now, we have a shared roadmap to revitalise our local communities and guide our mission in the years ahead. Copies of the Pastoral Plan are available in the church.

Catholic Care Mamre Supported Playgroup

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are offering a free supported playgroup which operates on Thursdays from 10am to 12pm during school terms at Mamre House, 181 Mamre Rd, Orchard Hills. If you are interested in enrolling, please contact Mamre Supported Playgroup on (02) 8843 2506.

The Living Word

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

3rd November 2024

First Reading

Dt 6:2-6

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Hear Israel, you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.

'Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R.v.2

(R.) I love you Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength, my rock, my fortress, my saviour.

My God is the rock where I take refuge; my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.

The Lord is worthy of all praise: when I call I am saved from my foes. **(R.)**

Long life to the Lord, my rock!

Praised be to the God that saves me.

He has given great victories to his king and shown love for his anointed. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Heb 7:23-28

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

This one, because he remains for ever, has an eternal priesthood.

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his

priesthood. It follows, then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him.

To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

Gospel

Mk 12:28-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

This is the first commandment, and the second is similar to it.

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.



GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS

Questions for Adolescents

- * How do you think Jesus would have felt when he first saw the scribe approach him?
- * Of all the commandments, why does Jesus name these two as first and second?
- * What does it mean to love your neighbour as yourself?
- * How might we better define 'neighbour'?
- * Who is a 'neighbour' you need to show more love towards?

Questions for Adults

- * What is significant about a scribe asking Jesus about the Law?
- * What does it mean to love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength?
- * Why is the qualifier of 'as yourself' important in the commandment to love your neighbour?
- * How would our world be different if people genuinely loved their neighbours?
- * Which aspect/s of the commandments Jesus named do you need to work on at the moment?



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REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE –

by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

Jesus tells us that loving God completely, loving our neighbors, and loving ourselves are our highest commandments.

How are all the other commandments based on these?

Is it ever all right (not sinful) to do something wrong, if no one will ever know about it and no one will ever be hurt by it? How does committing a sin—even a secret sin that is never caught—hurt you?

Every time you make a selfish decision, you teach yourself to be selfish. Every time you lie, you teach yourself to be dishonest. Every time you make a considerate decision, you teach yourself to be caring. Every time you make a moral choice, you teach yourself to have integrity. Every time you do the right thing, you feel more confident, you like yourself more, and you respect yourself more.

If everyone understood these concepts, how would it change the world?

Is it possible to know and understand these concepts, but to ignore them? What kind of decision would it be to ignore them? Why would someone do that?

Whom do you respect? Why do you respect him or her?

Do you respect yourself? Why or why not?

Jesus and this scribe seem to like each other. They affirm each other's words. It's hard to tell who's the teacher and who's the learner.

Do you know a teacher who has a similar relationship with you? What is that relationship like?

© St Mary's Press

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

The Dual Command

Jesus does not command us to love 'God' in the abstract. Teaching Jew to Jew he says: 'You shall love the Lord your God' – the Lord who had rescued the Jewish people from slavery. So, commanding a love which responds to an initiative of Divine Love.

Why wouldn't one respond 'heart, mind, strength, soul' in gratitude for the gift of life itself, for some particular person or incident, for the beauty and grandeur of nature, for rescue from some situation which seemed to engulf us? And if the Lord God loved you in such a way, why wouldn't you love yourself?

Then you can properly 'Love your neighbour as yourself'. There is nothing sentimental in his teaching from Leviticus 19:18 and the preceding verses. Jesus was pointing to the system of social justice which looked after the poor and which did not exploit workers. It is up to us as global citizens of the 21st century to recognise as 'neighbours' those beyond our borders and to love them in the practical 'Levitical' way.

Fulfilling the Dual Command, we guard against the extremes of religious piety or social activism and become Christian humanists loving God and neighbour.

We might pause a moment to pray in responsive gratitude to the Lord God, and to commit ourselves to loving our neighbour, hoping to hear the words of Jesus Christ: 'You are not far from the Kingdom of God.'

© Fr Michael Tate

REFLECTIONS by Greg Sunter

Historical Context

Sacrifice

We know from the Old Testament that sacrifice was an important religious practice dating back to the foundations of Jewish faith. After the construction of the Temple in Jerusalem, sacrifice of birds and animals was practised there as the highest form of worship. With the destruction of the Temple in 70 CE – about the time Mark's gospel was written – temple worship and sacrifice came to an abrupt end. The entire nature of Judaism changed from a Temple-centred faith to a much more decentralised faith. In this week's gospel, the gospel writer is projecting the reality of his time back into the scribe's encounter with Jesus.

Living the Gospel

Love

Jesus reminds us 'You must love your neighbour as yourself.' There's an unspoken, underlying idea here that is absolutely crucial. Before you can love your neighbour, you must first love yourself. To say that you love yourself today can imply a level of boastfulness or ego. However, what is required is a genuine love of self – an acceptance; a respect; a true valuing of self. Only then can we know how to treat others. When we ask ourselves how we would want to be treated it points us towards how we should treat others. What is summed up so simply by Jesus is a very tough ask!

Gospel Focus

First of all

Jesus is asked which commandment is first and he provides two commandments as his answer. However, he doesn't bundle them together as one overarching commandment – he very distinctly identifies them as first and second. Sometimes we can feel the way to express love for God is through demonstrating our love for other people in charitable or justice-focused actions. However, Jesus makes clear that the first commandment of all is the love of God with all our being – that God is worthy of love in God's own right. Our love of God may inspire us to action for others but the first step is loving God for who God is.



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for November

For anyone who has lost a child

We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.



Children's Worksheet

Which are the most important commandments?



Love GOD
& love your neighbour

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B



Jesus said that the most important commandments were to love God and to love others as we love ourselves. What are some ways we can show our love?

I show love for God when I

I show love for others when I



Whenever we show kindness, love and respect for others, we are loving God. Draw a picture of yourself doing something that shows love for God.

Fill in the missing words to complete the story.

- love
- second
- God
- answered
- yourself
- teacher
- heart
- first
- asked
- commandment

An expert in the Jewish law _____ Jesus, "_____, what is the most important _____ ?"



Jesus _____ : "Love the Lord your _____ with all your _____, soul and mind." This is the _____ and most important commandment. The _____ is like it : "_____ your neighbour as much as you love _____".



Solutions

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Fill in the missing words to complete the story.

- love
- second
- God
- answered
- yourself
- teacher
- heart
- first
- asked
- commandment

An expert in the Jewish law **asked** Jesus, "**Teacher**, what is the most important **commandment**?"



Jesus **answered** : "Love the Lord your **God** with all your **heart**, soul and mind." This is the **first** and most important commandment. The **second** is like it : "**love** your neighbour as much as you love **yourself**".



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who support our parish throughout the year.*

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