

CATHOLIC PARISH OF CORPUS CHRISTI, CRANEBROOK

Sunday 30th of August 2026 | Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A



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

Address: 86-92 Andromeda Drive
Cranebrook, NSW, 2749
Postal: PO Box 21
Cranebrook, NSW, 2749
Phone: 4730 1249
Email: cranebrook@parracatholic.org
Facebook:
www.facebook.com/
CorpusChristiParishCranebrook
Office Hours: 9:00 am - 4:30pm
(Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri)

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 5.00pm -
5.45pm in the Meeting Room

Regular Events

Rosary

Fridays after morning Mass

'Young in Spirit' Seniors Group

Morning tea

Last Friday of the month after morning Mass

Parish Morning Tea

Second Sunday of the Month after the 9.30am Mass

Parish Woman's Group

Exclusive group with new members always welcome. Contact the Parish Office if you wish to be a part of the group



We, the people of *Corpus Christi*, seek to grow in living 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.

First Reading

Jeremiah 20:7-9

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'

The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. (R.)

3. So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands.

My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)

4. For you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. (R.)

Second Reading

Romans 12:1-2

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.



Continued on next page

PARISH TEAM:

Parish Priest-Fr Abraham Kunnatholy CMI

-Email: Abraham.Kunnatholy@parracatholic.org

-Ph: 0492 894 167 (Emergencies only)

Sue Weekes — Secretarial Support

Vanessa Sultana — Office Support/ Safeguarding Champion

- Email: cranebrook@parracatholic.org

SCHOOLS OF THE PARISH:

Corpus Christi Primary –

Ph 4726 2200

Principal - Mrs Sarah O'Rourke

Xavier College –

Ph 4777 0900

Principal - Mr Michael Pate

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Pope Leo XIV's Prayer Intention for August

For evangelization in the city

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

Feast Days this Week

September 3rd: Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

Let us Offer Gifts of Prayer

Recently Deceased:

Emanuel Camilleri

Anniversaries:

George Pirotta, James William Sinnett, Olinda Ornelas, Christine Jeffery, Marvin Walsh, Benita Azores, Liliane Ducasse, Kevin Hennessey.

For those who are sick:

Nick Scicluna, David Fisher, Darren Hooton, Ruta Pelenatino, Rose Zahra, Marlene Rodger, Fr. Jerome Antogop, Joseph Cauchi, Bartolo Barca.

Prayer for Nepal

We pray for the people of Nepal affected by the devastating floods and landslides. May God grant eternal rest to those who have lost their lives, comfort to grieving families, and strength and hope to those still awaiting news of loved ones. We pray also for all those involved in the rescue and recovery efforts.



Safeguarding Training – September

Safeguarding training helps us ensure that our parish is a safe and welcoming environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults. Face-to-face Safeguarding Training opportunities are available at various parishes throughout August, with online training also available for your convenience. To view upcoming face-to-face and online training opportunities and register, please visit: <https://parracatholic.org/connect-events/?series=safeguarding-training> For more information, please email safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Gospel Acclamation

See Ephesians 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 16:21-27

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

The Scripture Readings are taken from the Jerusalem Bible © 1966, 1967, 1968 Darton, Longman & Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co. Inc. Used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. Image taken from Liturgyhelp.com

From Parish Priest's Desk

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is a beautiful gift of God's mercy, strength, and consolation. Yet, sometimes, we call the priest only when a person is already unconscious, struggling to breathe, or very close to death. By then, it may be too late for the person to consciously receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Anointing and Holy Communion.

Please, do not wait until the last moment.

When a loved one is seriously ill, elderly and approaching the end of life, or facing a life-threatening situation, please contact the priest while the person is still conscious and able to participate in the Sacraments. There is no need to wait until the person is "dying" before asking for the priest.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation can bring the peace of God's forgiveness. The Anointing of the Sick can bring spiritual strength, courage and consolation. It can also, according to God's will, contribute to physical healing. But even when physical healing does not take place, the Sacrament can help the person face suffering and the final moments of life with greater peace, trust and confidence in God.

As family members, we sometimes hesitate because we think, "If we call the priest now, it might frighten Mum or Dad. They may think they are going to die." But receiving the Sacraments is not a declaration that death is immediately coming. It is an act of faith, care and love.

Please also remember that a priest may not always be able to come immediately. There may be another Mass, a funeral, another sick person, an emergency or other pastoral responsibilities. If we call only when death appears imminent, there is a real possibility that the priest may arrive too late for the person to receive the Sacraments consciously.

Therefore, dear families, please give your loved ones the opportunity to receive the comfort of the Church while they are still able to respond, pray and participate. Do not deprive them unintentionally of this precious moment of grace because we waited for the very last minute.

Calling the priest early is not giving up hope. It is placing the person more completely into God's hands. We continue to pray for healing, while also preparing the person spiritually for whatever God's will may be.

Let us care for our sick and elderly not only by providing medical attention, food and physical comfort, but also by caring for their spiritual and emotional wellbeing.

When someone is seriously ill, please call the priest early. Let us give them every opportunity to receive God's mercy, strength, healing and peace while they are still conscious. And there is no problem in receiving the anointing again even when the person survives the danger of death. Before one gets hospitalised you can invite your parish priest to pray over the person and anoint him or her,

May the Lord accompany every sick person in our parish and bless the families who lovingly care for them.

Fr Abraham Kunnatholy CMI
Parish Priest

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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR PARISH...

THE BIG PARISH DINNER

A Night of Food, Fellowship & Fun!

JOIN US FOR THE BIG PARISH DINNER ON SATURDAY, 24TH OF OCTOBER 2026 FROM 7.15PM – 10PM IN THE CORPUS CHRISTI PRIMARY SCHOOL HALL.

Enjoy a wonderful three-course meal with non-alcoholic drinks, while sharing an evening of food, fellowship and fun with our parish.

TICKETS ON SALE FROM THIS WEEKEND!

Tickets are \$60 for adults and \$30 for children (2-12 years) and will be available for purchase after all Masses, or from the Parish Office during Parish Office hours until Sunday October 4th.

Please note: There will be one ticket sales point after Masses, located outside the foyer door. Please proceed to this point to purchase your tickets.

As tables seat 8 people, families and groups are encouraged to purchase their tickets together where possible so that seating can be arranged accordingly.

Tickets are limited, so don't miss out!



PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our Parish Annual General Meeting was held last weekend, providing an opportunity to reflect on the life of our parish and look ahead to the future.

We thank Fr Abraham, together with our Parish Pastoral Council, Parish Finance Council and Ministry Leaders, for leading the meeting and for their ongoing commitment to our parish. As a synodal parish, we are called to walk and work together, sharing in the life and mission of our parish. A few copies of the Parish Annual Report are available to take from the church foyer. Additional copies can also be printed on request.

MINISTRY ROSTER FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

Thank you to all parishioners who so generously serve in our liturgical ministries. Your faithful support and willingness to assist in the life of the parish is greatly appreciated.

The September and October Liturgical Ministry Roster was emailed to all volunteers last Wednesday. If you are a volunteer and didn't receive it, please contact the Parish Office.

WOMEN'S GROUP INVITATION – THIS WEEKEND!

Our Parish Women's Group warmly invites all women to a special presentation, Mary, Our Pilgrim Mother, on Sunday 30th of August from 2.00pm to 4.00pm in the church. The session will be led by Sr Rita from Mt Schoenstatt and will offer an opportunity to reflect on Mary's role as our Pilgrim Mother.

Afternoon tea will be shared during the afternoon, and those attending are kindly invited to bring a plate to share. All women are most welcome.

PARISH WORKING BEE – SATURDAY 26TH OF SEPTEMBER
Our next Parish Working Bee will be held on Saturday 26th of September, from 9.00am–12.00pm.

There is plenty to be done around our parish, and we really need the support of our parishioners to make the morning a success. Even a few hours of your time can make a wonderful difference to our parish. Please come along, lend a hand and enjoy some fellowship with fellow parishioners.

Light refreshments will be provided. Everyone is welcome – *many hands make light work!*

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO MOUNT SCHOENSTATT

All parishioners are warmly invited to join us for a Parish Pilgrimage to Mount Schoenstatt Shrine, Mulgoa, on **Saturday, 5th of September, from 10:00am to 1:00pm**

The pilgrimage will include Holy Mass, a spiritual talk, and a BYO picnic lunch to enjoy together on the beautiful shrine grounds.

REGISTRATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL AND CAN BE MADE BY PLACING YOUR NAME ON THE SHEET IN THE FOYER OR CONTACTING THE PARISH OFFICE. REGISTRATIONS MUST BE MADE BY SUNDAY 30TH OF AUGUST



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

YOU'RE INVITED!

Parish Event

VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGE to the Holy Land

An afternoon of faith, discovery and spiritual renewal as we journey through the places where Jesus was born, walked with his disciples, died on the Cross and rose to new life.

SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER 2026
2:00PM – 5:00PM
Followed by **ADORATION & CONFESSION 5:00PM IN THE CHURCH**

ON OUR JOURNEY WE'LL VISIT...

- JORDAN**
 - Mt Sela
 - Bethany Beyond the Jordan
 - The Jordan River
- JUDEA**
 - Bethlehem
 - Jericho
 - Jerusalem
 - Mount Zion
 - Mount of Olives
- GALILEE**
 - Nazareth

PLEASE RSVP BY **FRIDAY, 2 OCTOBER 2026**
Parish Office: 4730 1249
cranebrook@parracatholic.org
Add your name to the sign on sheet in the foyer

Come and be a pilgrim with your parish family!

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations." Matthew 28:19

A parish event for all parishioners and friends.
Everyone is welcome!

10 DAYS OF THE ROSARY – OCTOBER

Friday 2nd October – Sunday 11th October

This October, our parish will come together for 10 special days of praying the Rosary, asking Our Blessed Mother to intercede for our parish, our families and our wider community.

The Rosary will be prayed in the evenings alongside Mass, with the exception of Sundays, when it will be prayed after the 9.30am Mass. The final day, Sunday 11th of October, will conclude with our Parish Morning Tea.

We are also looking for people to lead the Rosary each day. If you are able to assist, please add your name to the sign-on sheet in the church foyer. Exact times and further details will be announced closer to the date.

Everyone is warmly invited to join us for all or any of these special days of prayer. Come and pray the Rosary with us!

BISHOP'S FATHER'S DAY APPEAL – NEXT WEEKEND

We give thanks for the priests who have faithfully served God's people, celebrating the Sacraments, praying with us and accompanying our families throughout life. Many of our senior priests now need practical care and support as they face ageing, illness and retirement.

The Priests' Retirement Foundation Appeal will take place next weekend, helping provide our retired and unwell priests with the dignity, care and support they deserve. Your generous tax-deductible gift will make a meaningful difference.

Please give generously at:
parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or scan the QR code. **Thank you for caring for those who have spent their lives caring for us.**

Bishop's FATHER'S DAY APPEAL

Honour a lifetime of faithful service this Father's Day.



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Sacrament Dates 2026

First Reconciliation & Confirmation

The 2026 programs have now concluded. We thank our children, families, Sacramental Team and parish community for their support and prayers.

2027 program dates will be announced later this year.

First Eucharist

Registration took place on Wednesday 12th of August

Formation Sessions:

Wednesday evenings & Thursday afternoons, 19 August–10 September. Families are required to attend all four sessions, along with weekend Mass each week throughout the preparation period.

First Eucharist Celebrations:

- Saturday 12 September, 10.00am
- Saturday 12 September, 6.00pm
- Saturday 19 September, 10.00am
- Sunday 20 September, 9.30am

Baptisms

Baptisms are celebrated on the **1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 11.00am**. Parents are asked to contact the Parish Office to book a date and attend the **Rite of Welcome & Information Meeting**, held on the 4th Sunday of the month prior to Baptism.

Weddings & Funerals

Bookings are arranged through the Parish Office.



With thanks to all our local businesses who support our parish...

Steve Balassis
Director / Owner

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Planned Giving/Parish Donations

Your gift to Planned Giving helps cover the running of the parish and also contributes towards outreach in our parish 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 the Parish Office (02 4730 1249) if you are contributing to the Planned Giving Program via the envelope system and would like to change to credit card or direct debit or would like to join the Planned Giving Program.

Bateman Battersby | **Complete Legal.**

We invite members of the parish to take advantage of our legal services.

02 4731 5899
bbcl.com.au
enquiries@bbcl.com.au

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Robert Azize
Counsellor
0417 459 705

Chatnsw.com.au
F: Haveachat NSW
Chatnsw@outlook.com

Save the Dates!

SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST
Women's group presentation
2-4pm

SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER
Parish Pilgrimage to Mt Schoenstatt
10am-1pm

SAT 5TH & SUN 6TH SEPTEMBER
Bishop's Father's Day Appeal

SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER
Parish Morning tea
after the 9.30am Mass

FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER
Seniors Morning Tea
after the 9.10am Mass

SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER
Parish Working Bee
9am-12pm

SAT 26TH & SUN 27TH SEPTEMBER
Vinnies Post Winter Appeal

FRI 2ND - SUN 11TH OCTOBER
Ten Days of the Holy Rosary at Corpus Christi
Each day includes Mass beforehand.

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER
Parish Event – Virtual Pilgrimage to the Holy Land
2-5pm – in the church

SATURDAY 24TH OCTOBER
Big Parish Dinner
Tickets on sale NOW – in the Corpus Christi School Hall
7.15pm -10pm

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Gospel Reflection

This week's gospel is the first of three predictions of Jesus' death and resurrection in Matthew's gospel (see also Mark and Luke). Despite Peter's confession of faith that immediately precedes this passage (see last week's gospel), the disciples still do not have a very solid understanding of Jesus' purpose. They may regard him as the Messiah, but still do not fully understand what that means. In this passage, Jesus is beginning to prepare them for the events of the passion – his death and resurrection. He is trying to lead them to a greater understanding of his mission and message. But Peter abruptly 'rebukes' Jesus and tells him not to speak like that. One can almost hear Peter saying, 'Look, Jesus, you've got a good thing going here, don't spoil it by talking about dying!' However, Jesus responds to Peter very sharply, suggesting that his lack of understanding is inspired by evil and reflects human thought, not divine wisdom.

The passage then leads in to a description of the challenge of discipleship. To be a follower of Jesus means to 'deny' oneself, take up one's cross and follow Jesus. In the context of this passage, to 'deny' oneself means to not be concerned about 'I' but to be concerned about 'You' – to put others before self. To be a follower of Jesus means to be selfless, not self-centred. In the ultimate example of this, Jesus tells his disciples that whoever wishes to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for Jesus' sake will find it. To 'save' your life is to hold back from giving yourself fully to the message of Jesus – to be 'half-hearted' in your faith. But to 'lose' yourself in the message of Jesus is to fully give yourself over to living the reign of God and through 'losing' yourself in this way, Jesus tells us, is how to truly find life.

Historical Context. Whoever loses his life for my sake...

At the time of the writing of Matthew's gospel (around 75-80 CE), Christians were being persecuted and put to death for their beliefs. They were literally giving up their lives for their faith. These persecuted Christians saw Jesus' triumph over death as a sign of great hope and trust in the future for themselves. Jesus' words in the gospel – 'whoever loses his life for my sake will find it' – would give hope to those under persecution that ultimately they too would triumph and that the deaths of their friends were not in vain.

Scriptural context. Not quite there...

This passage immediately follows the passage of last week's gospel which featured Peter's confession of faith – his inspired revelation that 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God.' The reader might think, 'Aha, the disciples have finally got it!' But in a very clever piece of writing, the author of Matthew's gospel follows this revelation of faith immediately with an example of the lack of clarity that the disciples, including Peter, still possess. This happens throughout the gospels. Whenever the disciples have a bit of an insight, they are almost immediately shown to only have a partial understanding of the truth. The full revelation of Jesus' mission and ministry is not easy to grasp and even the disciples were not quite there until they had seen the 'full story' played out before and within them.

Living the Gospel. Have you got what it takes?

For some people, to be a Christian is a 'soft option' – they see being Christian as being a bit 'fluffy'. This week's gospel is a reminder of the real challenge of being a Christian. Jesus reminds us that to be one of his followers we must be prepared to pick up our cross – whatever our particular cross might be – and still follow his example. To be a Christian means that we don't fall in a heap when difficulty comes our way; we take up the burden – our cross – and continue to look forward with hope. To live like Jesus is no easy option.

Questions for Adolescents

- Q. If you were Peter in this story, how would you have reacted to Jesus?
- Q. How might the disciples have reacted to Jesus' prediction of his death?
- Q. In what ways do people today give up their lives for their beliefs?
- Q. In what ways has someone you know had to 'take up their cross' – deal with a great difficulty – and still lived in a positive and hopeful way?

Q. What makes it difficult at times for you to have faith?

Questions for Adults

- Q. What part of the gospel passage do you find most interesting / challenging? Why?
- Q. What are some of the challenges to being a follower of Jesus today?
- Q. In what ways have you had to 'take up your cross' – deal with a great difficulty – and still tried to live in a positive and hopeful way?
- Q. Our society today is very self-centred, there are not too many people who 'deny themselves' very much at all. What is one way that you can be more self-less?

Learning moments

- Conduct a media and internet search to compile a 'Wall of Hope' – stories of people who have faced difficult circumstances in their lives and have achieved great things in spite of, or through, their difficulties.
- Construct a concept map on 'discipleship' showing ways of being a follower of Jesus, even in the tough times.
- Create a 'swap card' profile of an early Christian martyr, put to death for their Christian beliefs.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate 'Get behind me, Satan'

We have to get one terrible thought out of our heads, i.e. that the Heavenly Father of Jesus wanted him to suffer a tortured, agonising death. Yet we do say: 'It was necessary that Jesus suffer and die.' What can this mean? I believe this refers to the necessity of divine mission and the necessity of divine love.

First, it was the Father's will that Jesus remain true to the mission to preach and embody the gospel of mercy and forgiveness. It was inevitable that powerful elites would find this intolerable and have Jesus eliminated. Secondly, God so loved the world where death ravages human beings, that God determined to absorb the suffering and pangs of death.

The temptation to avoid that dread-ful necessity lead Jesus to rebuke Peter: 'Get behind me, Satan', a terrible variation of the initial call: 'Come, follow me.'

We could pause for a moment to very consciously make the sign of the Cross, the consequence of Jesus' mission and love for us.

REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE – by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

The world is full of peer pressure. It doesn't go away when you grow out of your teenage years.

How are TV commercials and ad campaigns forms of peer pressure? What do they try to persuade us to do? How successful are they?

How are movies that contain a lot of violence or sexual activity forms of peer pressure? What do they persuade us to do? How successful are they?

How are the church and the Gospel message forms of peer pressure? How does the faith community try to persuade us to live? How successful is that effort? Why?

Being a disciple of Jesus' is not easy, because the world is filled with all kinds of temptations and negative messages, right alongside the support and the positive messages.

What are some negative messages in the real world that are hard to avoid? What's the secret to ignoring negative messages?

What are some positive messages in the real world? How can you support the positive messages? What would make them even more effective?



The **Living Word**

For Children

First Reading:

Jeremiah Complains to the Lord

You tricked me, Lord,
and I was really fooled.
You are stronger than I am,
and you have defeated me.
People never stop sneering
and insulting me.
You have let me announce
only injustice and death.
Your message has brought me
nothing but insults
and trouble.
Sometimes I tell myself
not to think about you, Lord,
or even mention your name.
But your message burns
in my heart and bones,
and I cannot keep silent.



Second Reading:

Christ Brings New Life

Dear friends, God is good. So I beg you to offer your bodies to him as a living sacrifice, pure and pleasing. That's the most sensible way to serve God. Don't be like the people of this world, but let God change the way you think. Then you will know how to do everything that is good and pleasing to him.

Gospel Reading:

Jesus Speaks about His Suffering and Death

From then on, Jesus began telling his disciples what would happen to him. He said, "I must go to Jerusalem. There the nation's leaders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the Law of Moses will make me suffer terribly. I will be killed, but three days later I will rise to life."

Peter took Jesus aside and told him to stop talking like that. He said, "God would never let this happen to you, Lord!"

Jesus turned to Peter and said, "Satan, get away from me! You're in my way because you think like everyone else and not like God."

Then Jesus said to his disciples:

If any of you want to be my followers, you must forget about yourself. You must take up your cross and follow me. If you want to save your life, you will destroy it. But if you give up your life for me, you will find it.

Discussion Questions:

What are some of your favourite games?

In which of these games do people have to take turns?

What happens if people do not take turns?

Jesus tells us in today's gospel that we must forget about ourselves and put others first. What does Jesus mean by this?

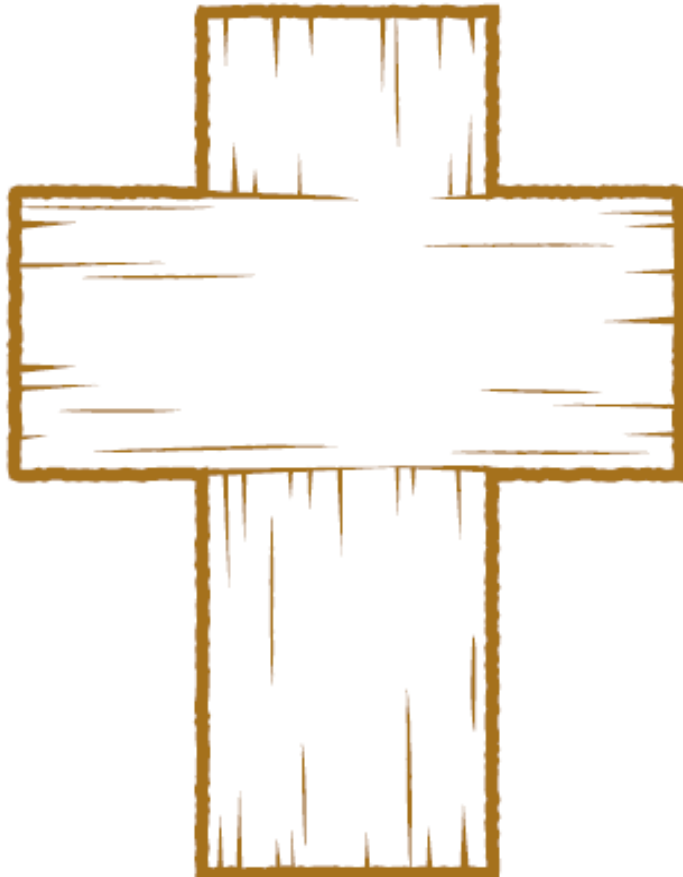
How can we put others' needs before our own?

Why is it sometimes hard to do this?

We pray that we will think about others before ourselves this week.



Write on the cross some of the hard things you need to do if you want to follow Jesus.



COMPLETE THE TEXT MAZE

"If you want to be my followers you must take up your cross and follow me."

START **I** F Y O E

Y D W U T

Z N A L W

V T U E R

D F Y M I T X P I A B O K

G O H E B O Y S R U S T U

J L R C A T A O U M H T J

F L O W E R S Y E T Q A W

S D L K O P F G P U E K B

E W S O Y

A V I U Z

T X C R A

S O R Q H

S D U E O

A R K Y S

N G L L O

D F O F W

R I E P M

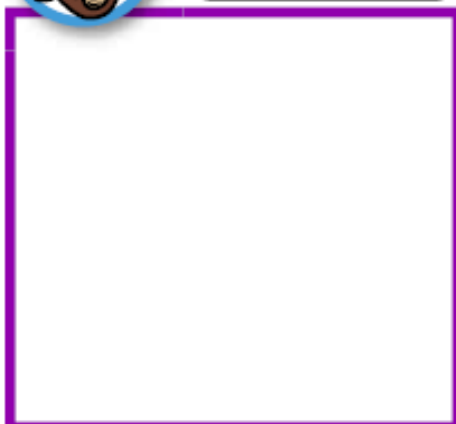
E U W T **E** FINISH

Help Jesus tell his disciples about the coming events in Jerusalem.



I must go to the city of Jerusalem...

...where people will make me suffer and I will be killed.



Draw Jesus entering the city on the donkey



Draw Jesus suffering on the cross



Write what Jesus tells the disciples next

Women's Group – Upcoming Gatherings

Our Women's Group is a wonderful opportunity for women of our parish to come together, build friendships, share faith and enjoy some time in good company. We warmly invite all women to join us at our upcoming gatherings!



Upcoming Schedule

August

- Aug 1 : Start of our 1st Saturday Marian devotion
- Aug 15 : **Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady**. Attend mass on this Holy Day of Obligation
- Aug 30 2-4pm : Women's Group Talk
Topic : Mary, Our Pilgrim Mother
By Sr. Rita from Mt Schoenstatt
(More details to follow)

September

- Sept 5, 5pm : 1st Saturday Marian devotion
- Sept 5, 10am-1pm : Parish pilgrimage to Mt. Schoenstatt. Sept month marks 100 years of the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary.
- Sept 8*: Start of Women's Group Bible Study with Fr. Abraham. Succeeding study dates to be discussed on the day.
* **Feast of the Nativity of Mary**
- Sept 26 : Caring for God's House Day (Keeping our parish church clean and welcoming for all!)

October

- Oct 3, 5pm : 1st Saturday Marian devotion
- Oct 2- 11 : 10-day rosary novena in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary. (7pm weekdays/Saturdays and 10:30am Sundays)
Note : Oct 7 is the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary
- Oct 10 : Parish Retreat
(More details to follow)
- Oct 24 : The BIG Parish Dinner! (More details to follow)

November

- Nov 7, 5pm : 1st Saturday Marian devotion
- Walking Group - around Jordan Spring's Village Center Lake
(Date to be confirmed)
- Pilgrimage to the Shrine of our Lady of Mercy, Penrose Park
(Date to be confirmed)

What's happening in the diocese and beyond...

You are invited to attend a

Married Couples' RETREAT

"Reflect, Renew & Reconnect"

Saturday 5th September 2026
Bishop Bede Heather Centre,
1 Marion Street, Blacktown
8:30am to 4:30pm

\$45 per couple
 Bookings essential
 Places strictly limited
 Register at:
parracatholic.org/marriedcouplesretreat/

Sessions
 Expressions of Love
 Living your Vocation of Marriage
 7 Principles of making Marriage Work
 Creating a Marriage First Aid Kit
 Couple Prayer + Commitment Ceremony + Mass with Bishop Vincent

Included
 Lunch + refreshments



be the witness

A MUSICAL
 By Carol & Jimmy Owens
 ON THE LIFE OF JESUS
 THROUGH THE EYES OF PETER
 Directed by Joe Cordio

10 - 13 SEPTEMBER, 2026
RIVERSIDE THEATRE, PARRAMATTA
www.bethewitness.com.au

BOOK NOW

Deepen your experience with the
HOLY SHROUD EXHIBITION
 Chapel of St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta
 6 - 9 September: Open all day
 10 - 13 September: Open till late

PRODUCED BY
 MARY QUEEN OF THE FAMILY

Suicide Memorial Service

ORCHARD HILLS

Memorial Service for Those We Have Lost

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, together with White Lady Funerals, invite you to a memorial service to remember loved ones who have died by suicide or tragically lost their lives. The service will include the opportunity to plant a rose bush in our Garden of Remembrance, followed by light refreshments.

We recognise the deep suffering experienced by those who die by suicide and the grief of their families and friends. This service is a space to honour their memory, find comfort, and support one another through shared remembrance.

Counsellors and a Chaplain will be present throughout the event to offer support if needed.

If you're struggling, Catholic Care is here to help. Please contact us (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm) for a confidential friendly chat, or arrange to speak to one of our professional and accredited counsellors.

For help outside these hours, please contact Lifeline on 131114 (24/7 hotline).

Supported by:
WHITE LADY FUNERALS
 Penrith 02 4731 4385

THURSDAY
10 SEPTEMBER 2026
11:00am

Mamre House & Farm
 181 Mamre Road,
 Orchard Hills NSW

Free

RSVP by 7 Sep 2026
 • Lisa, Catholic Care:
 0439 917 129 or 8843 2500
 • Christy, White Lady Funerals:
 4731 4385

catholic care
 Caring for you and your community



DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

Music Workshop for Weddings and Funerals

Join Mr Eric Grella for a workshop on how to select appropriate music for weddings and funerals

7pm
Thursday,
10 September, 2026

Bishop Bede Heather Centre
 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown

For more information,
ofw@parracatholic.org
 0460 037 795

Scan to register:






LORD, TO WHOM SHALL WE GO? YOU HAVE THE MESSAGE OF ETERNAL LIFE
 JOHN 6:69

GROW IN FAITH PROGRAM FOR ADULTS

Mon and Thurs 7:30pm
starting Monday 10th August 2026

Our Lady of Lourdes
Baulkham Hills Parish Hall
 (underneath the church)

For info call Lucas:
 0428 813 256

Dear Friends in Christ,
 Having received all the sacraments of initiation, some adults feel like their faith lives have plateaued. The demands of maintaining a home, a job, school, and relationships with friends and family can leave adults feeling drained. On the other hand, adults who struggle to find meaning in their daily work can feel restless.

This program will help you to discover the Faith in Christ, to deepen your understanding of the Faith and to grow in your relationship with God. I encourage you to give Faith a chance and to let yourself be transformed by the encounter with God's word and love.

Yours in Christ
FATHER MOISES TAPIA

ROSARY MAKING WORKSHOPS

BISHOP BEDE HEATHER CENTRE, BLACKTOWN 7-8:30PM

THURSDAY	20	AUGUST
THURSDAY	10	SEPTEMBER
WEDNESDAY	23	SEPTEMBER
THURSDAY	15	OCTOBER
THURSDAY	5	NOVEMBER

\$5 donation at the door
REGISTER ON OUR EVENTS PAGE:

OR contact the OFW Team
ofw@parracatholic.org.au or 0460 037 795

