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18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YR A

**1ST & 2ND AUGUST,
2020**

WEEKEND MASSES

You are now invited to attend Mass every week at the time you were allocated by Fr Chris.

There is a cap of 100 people at all religious services held at places of worship. The four-square metre rule and 1.5m physical distancing requirements will continue to apply.

Online Masses are still available so if you are feeling unwell you are advised not to attend Mass.

WEEKDAY MASSES

TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS AT 6PM (NO ADORATION)

THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS AT 9.10AM

You are welcome to attend any of these Masses without a phone call or email invitation.

Fr Chris will record attendance at these Masses as per government guidelines.

**DUE TO COVID-19,
THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARISHIONERS
PER MASS IN OUR PARISH CHURCH IS**

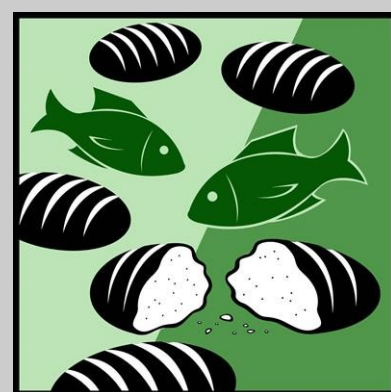
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**PLEASE PRACTISE SOCIAL DISTANCING BEFORE, DURING
AND AFTER LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS.**

As per government regulations,
please observe the 4 square metre rule.

Please note that hand sanitiser is available at the Church entrances for use upon entering and exiting the Church.



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

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Cranebrook, NSW, 2749

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Phone: 4730 1249

Fax: 4729 2989

Email: parishteam@corpuschristi.org.au

Presbytery: 4730 6258

Office Hours: 9am - 3.30pm (Tues-Fri)

PARISH TEAM:

Fr Christopher Antwi-Boasiako -
Parish Priest

Christopher.Antwi-Boasiako@parracatholic.org

Mobile: 0415 505 594

Deacon Owen Rogers
- owen.rogers7@bigpond.com

Mrs Marie Cottey - Parish Secretary
- mc@corpuschristi.org.au

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

Mrs Joanne Hocking - Sacrament
Support

SCHOOLS OF THE PARISH:

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

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

The Living Word

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2nd August, 2020

First Reading

Is 55:1-3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Hasten and eat.

Thus says the Lord: Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come!

Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk.

Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy?

Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:8-9. 15-18. R. v.16

(R.) The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**

The eyes of all creatures look to you and you give them their food in due time. You open wide your hand, grant the desires of all who live. **(R.)**

The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, call on him from their hearts. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Rom 8:35. 37-39

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

No creature can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ.

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 4:4

Alleluia, alleluia!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 14:13-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

They all ate and were satisfied.

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

Scriptural context – Food for all

This miraculous feeding is the first of two such accounts in the gospel of Matthew. (It also appears twice in Mark and once in both Luke and John.) In this account, there are twelve baskets of leftovers. These baskets represent the twelve tribes of Israel. It is a metaphor for Jesus as the one who provides nourishment and satisfaction for the entire Jewish population. The imagery in the second story (Mt 15:32-39) emphasises that Jesus also feeds and satisfies the gentile people. Between them, the two accounts present Jesus as the one who provides spiritual food for all.

Living the Gospel – Grieving John

The passage begins with Jesus receiving the news that his cousin, John the Baptist's death. In response, Jesus immediately withdraws to a lonely place where he can be alone with his disciples. His response to this terrible news is to take time out. He wants to go away to a quiet, lonely place to pray and grieve. He doesn't just take the news in his stride and carry on regardless; he steps back from the busy-ness of life to mourn. It's a lesson for us in times of stress and grief: the response Jesus models is to take time to grieve the loss.

Different View – A different miracle

A very different interpretation of this miraculous feeding suggests that what Jesus did was actually shame people into pulling out from under their cloaks the little bits of food that each of them were carrying. The scripture tells us that the event takes place in a 'lonely place'. People didn't tend to travel very far at all from home without taking with them a bit of food. This interpretation suggests that by his own generosity and willingness to share what little he had, Jesus shamed the crowd into sharing their own morsels of food and produce enough to feed the multitude that were gathered there.

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REFLECTION *by Fr Michael Tate* Feeding of the Hungry Crowd

Note the disciples' reaction to the plight of the hungry crowd: 'Send the people away so that *they* can *buy*.' The disciples have gone for the fix which puts no responsibility on them. They are willing to entrust the hungry crowd to market forces. Those with money can eat: those without, can't. For the disciples, money and commerce are the answers to hunger.

Jesus rejects that solution. 'There is no need for them to go; *give* them something to eat yourselves.' The solution to the hunger of that crowd was to give generously what little the disciples had. What they could have kept for themselves was to become gift. Once the disciples were in Jesus' frame of mind, the hunger of the crowd was satisfied. How did this come about? The answer lay in human cooperation with the impulse of Divine generosity which knows no limits. The story simply says that Jesus blessed and broke the loaves 'and handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowd.' Jesus depended on the disciples to obey him: 'Give them something to eat yourselves'.

Jesus still looks with gut-wrenching compassion on those who are hungry in our own society and throughout the world. If we answer that market forces will suffice, Jesus will reject our answer as decisively as he rejected the answer of his earliest disciples. We have to take responsibility to share what we have, to be generous with what we have. After all, Jesus, Our Lord and Master, *commands* us: 'Give them something to eat yourselves'. Note how Jesus blessed those loaves and broke them before they were distributed, which reminds us of the words of Pedro Arrupe, former General of the Jesuits, 'Eucharist will never be complete so long as people still go hungry in the world.'

We could pause for a moment at Mass to ask: Who are those hungry people crowding in on us, and then pray that we may respond to them as our Lord commanded, so that the hungry of the crowd, and our hunger to really follow our Lord, *will be satisfied*.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSS

Jesus nourishes us. In a world that is fraught with meaninglessness, he offers purpose; to a world that is stumbling in darkness and confusion, he provides direction. He satisfies the hungry heart; he enlivens the drooping spirit. Those who follow Jesus will never be left to languish in the desert. If we but open our eyes, we will be amazed at the bountifulness of the nourishment that is provided for us. We will discover that God is magnanimous, even prodigal in giving, that God's generosity exceeds all of our expectations and also our understanding.

Furthermore, we are nourished by God through the ministry of each other, through the simple things of life, (distributing bread and gathering up the fragments): visiting the sick and consoling the grieving; caring for a child and giving aid to an elder; bagging groceries and directing a choir. If we but open our eyes, we will be astounded at how ordinary actions can satisfy our hunger and the hunger of others.

Most amazing of all is that this nourishment is given freely; there was no thought of requiring payment. God simply invites: Come! All we have to do is reach out our hands to receive and we will never be sent away to find nourishment for ourselves. We will discover that a bond is established that endures. Jesus is filled with compassion, a compassion that is not a fleeting emotion, but an enduring attitude. Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ.



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for July

Our Families



We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

REFLECTION FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS

Questions for Adolescents

- * What are three different emotions Jesus might have experienced in the course of this passage?
- * Why might the people have been so determined in following Jesus?
- * How might the disciples have felt when Jesus told them to feed the loaves and fish to the people?
- * What message can you take from this passage that is applicable today?

Questions for Adults

- * What is the difference between the reaction of the disciples and the reaction of Jesus to the crowd?
- * When have you had to respond to the needs of others when you just wanted time alone?
- * When have you experienced a 'Eucharistic' meal outside the context of the Mass?
- * How do the words of Jesus, 'Give them something to eat yourselves', speak to us today?

This is an opportunity for parents to discuss today's Gospel with your children. The following questions and worksheet are a beginning point to assist with the discussion.

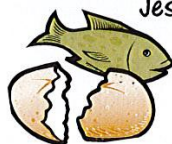
- * In today's gospel what did the disciples want the crowd to do after Jesus had healed those who were sick?
- * What was Jesus' reply?
- * What food did they have to share?
- * What did Jesus do to the food?
- * How much was left over?
- * Why didn't Jesus turn the crowd away?
- * What can we thank God for?



Everyone had plenty to eat

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Jesus fed the crowd of more than 5,000 people because they were hungry and needed food. In each loaf write down something else that people need and are "hungry" for.



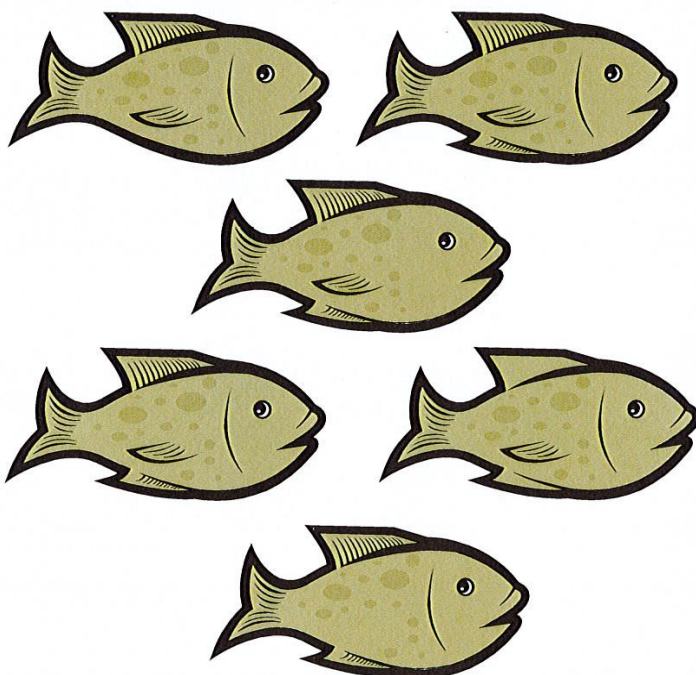
Jesus asked his disciples to help feed the hungry people. Likewise, Jesus wants us to share what we have with people in need. Draw a picture of yourself sharing with others.



LOAVES AND FISH

How many words can you make from the letters in LOAVES AND FISH?

Jesus managed to feed thousands of people with just five loaves of bread and two fish. Can you find two of the fish which are the same?



Sacrament of First Eucharist



Plans have been made to continue with the 2020 Sacrament Program under Covid-19 government restrictions. Letters regarding First Eucharist have been forwarded to all families whose children completed the Sacrament of First Reconciliation this year.

Parents are required to pick up Eucharist Information Packs on Wednesday 5th August between 6.30pm & 7.30pm in the church..

**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.**

**Thank You dear parishioners for your
ongoing financial support to the parish.
Your generosity is helping with the ongoing
running expenses of our parish.**

Ministry Roster

A Ministry Roster has been drafted until the end of August and emailed to volunteers. We are currently in the process of completing a roster until the end of October, which will be emailed in due course.

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy is still suspended until further notice.

Parish Office Hours

At this stage, the Parish Office operating hours have not returned to normal. If you need to visit the office please call first to ensure that someone is there. Please leave a message if we don't answer and we'll get back to you. You are also welcome to email. In the case of an emergency please contact Fr Chris on his mobile, 0415 505 594.

Let us Offer Gifts of Prayer:

Anniversaries:

Anthony Azzopardi (08/08/15), Bibiana Zahra (22/07/17)

Mass Intentions:

Cameron Hargreaves

Recently Deceased:

Paul Xiberras (07/07 – dear father/father-in-law and grandfather to many of our parishioners)

And for those who are sick:

Joan Schneider

If any parishioner would like Fr Chris to offer Mass for someone who is recently deceased, a loved one's anniversary or if someone is sick, please email the Parish Office. We can also include the person in The Net so everyone can pray for them.

PARISHES OF THE DIOCESE WHO ARE STREAMING MASS

PARISH	LOCATION	LINK TO LIVESTREAM
PADRE PIO PARISH	Glenmore Park Parish	Streaming through Facebook – https://www.facebook.com/gsk2223
ST JOSEPHS CHURCH	Kingswood Parish	Recording/streaming through YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIjpl5JI6H8TrHkEB6ISdw/featured
ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE	Marayong Parish	Streaming through Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/standrewsmarayong/
ST MARGARET MARYS	Merrylands Parish	Recording/streaming through YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6FezbQbHtuMSyWUSnaAcA
ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA	Penrith Parish	Streaming through Facebook Live - https://www.facebook.com/SNOMPenrith/
THE GOOD SHEPHERD	Plumpton Parish	Streaming through Facebook Live - https://www.facebook.com/goodshepherdparishplumpton/ https://www.facebook.com/goodshepherdparishplumpton/videos/163690304720839/
OUR LADY OF LOURDES	Seven Hills Parish	Streamed Mass over weekend to Facebook Live https://www.facebook.com/LOL7Hills/videos/206449013914284/
OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY	St Marys Parish	Streamed to Facebook https://www.facebook.com/OLRparishstmarys/

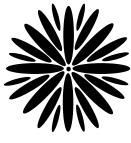
Act of Spiritual Communion

*My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment, receive you sacramentally,
please come spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you now as if you were already there and I unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen*



Parramatta Diocesan News

Plenary Council Discernment Papers Released



You are encouraged to take the discernment papers from the six national Plenary Council writing groups for your own discernment about how to bring to life a Christ-centred community in your area. These papers can be found at <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/continuing-the-journey-of-discernment/>. The Pastoral Planning Office can accompany you in reflecting on these papers. Please contact pastoralplanning@parracatholic.org to discuss ways to engage with these discernment papers.

Annulment Information Online Webinar: Tuesday 4th August

Each year, the Tribunal Office in the Diocese of Parramatta and CatholicCare's Solo Parent Service present an information session to help people understand the process of Annulments in the Catholic Church. This year, the event will be held as an online webinar via Zoom on Tuesday 4 August from 6pm to 8pm. **Registration is essential**, so to register, please call the Tribunal Office on 8838 3480 or email Rita at soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

Institute for Mission Scripture Reflection Night: 18th August

The Institute for Mission is hosting a free online scripture reflection night with Dr Laurie Woods on Tuesday 18 August at 7pm. The livestream will be hosted on the Institute for Mission's Facebook page www.facebook.com/ifmconnect. Registration is not required.

Institute for Mission – Reflective Ministry Program available online

The Institute for Mission's Reflective Ministry Program (Word and Mission) is going ahead starting from 18 August. Register here to participate ONLINE <https://www.ifm.org.au/reflective-ministry> or contact Sr Grace on grace.roclawska@ifm.org.au.

Office for Worship

Liturgical Ministry Formation Course

The Office For Worship's Liturgical Ministry Formation course will recommence in August at both the Institute for Mission, Blacktown and St Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith. Two workshops on Liturgical Ministry will also be provided in October at St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook. Note: due to restrictions there are limited places available. For more information, contact the Office for Worship on anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org

Office For Worship Resources Available

The Office For Worship has a range of resources available for purchase for individuals and parishes. Resources such as parent material for baptism or a collation of prayers can be purchased by contacting (02) 8838 3457.

CatholicCare is Still Open and Operational

CatholicCare Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains services remain open and operational during the current COVID-19 outbreak. Individual offices have been closed to clients, but the service continues to operate with care and support offered via phone, video conferencing/telehealth and online. To make a referral, call 8843 2500 (Mon-Thu 8.30am-8pm, Fri 8.30am-5pm, Sat 9am-1pm), email - enquiries@ccss.org.au or visit ccss.org.au.

SRE Learning From Home

During the school shutdown, CCD designed some faith resources for families to access for their children as they learned from home. These lessons are fun and prepared specifically for each age group 5-13. The lessons can be found at <https://www.cress.org.au/learning-from-home-sre-lessons/>. For more information contact cecilia.zammit@parracatholic.org

Life, Marriage and Family Office Pre-Marriage Weekends

The Life, Marriage and Family Office will recommence their pre-marriage education courses from the weekend of 24th and 26th July 2020. Social distancing and hygiene measures will be in place, with other arrangements to be made if government requirements change. To view course dates for the remainder of 2020 and to book and pay for your preferred pre-marriage course, visit www.parracatholic.org/pmp or call (02) 8838 3460.

Natural Fertility Services is still open

Following COVID-19 restrictions, Natural Fertility Services has reintroduced face-to-face instruction. We will, however, continue with Zoom meetings as this has enabled more couples access to information. We have educators available to teach any of the three methods of Natural Family Planning. If you would like more information, or to book an appointment, please contact Catherine via email catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org or call 0400 427 605.

Diocese of Parramatta Tribunal

The Tribunal of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Parramatta remains open and committed to assisting anyone who has questions regarding marriage annulments. Please direct all enquires to the Tribunal office on 8838 3480 or email tribunal@parracatholic.org. The office is open Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm.

Out of School Hours Care

The Diocese's network of 27 Catholic Out of School Hours Care services are all open and accepting enrolments for children in Years K-6 for Term 3. Child care fees are being reintroduced from 13 July and significant subsidies are available depending on your family circumstances. For more information and bookings, please contact eyec@parra.catholic.edu.au


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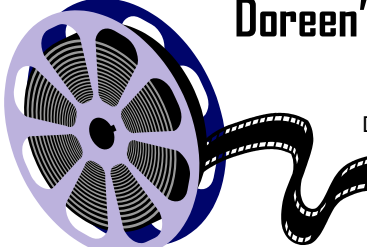
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Solutions

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Jesus managed to feed thousands of people
with just five loaves of bread and two fish.
Can you find two of the fish which are the same?

