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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YR B

20TH & 21ST MARCH, 2021

WEARING OF MASKS FOR MASS

In consideration of your safety and the safety of others, it is strongly recommended that you wear a mask during all Masses.

We understand the inconvenience that masks may pose, but the health of our parishioners and the wider community is our highest concern.

We sincerely thank you for understanding, and for playing your part in keeping our community safe.

WEEKEND MASSES

SATURDAY VIGIL 5PM & 6PM

& SUNDAY 7.30AM, 8.30AM & 9.30AM

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

If you need to change your allocated time, please phone Fr Chris.

ALL RELIGIOUS SERVICES HELD AT PLACES OF WORSHIP ADHERE TO THE 2 SQUARE METRE RULE AND AS SUCH WE HAVE A LIMIT OF 120 PEOPLE.

Online Masses are still available so if you are feeling unwell or 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.

*****PLEASE USE THE QR CODE TO SIGN IN**

RECONCILIATION BY APPOINTMENT

Please contact Fr Chris on his mobile 0415 505 594 to make an appointment.

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

120

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



As per government regulations, please observe the 2 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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Presbytery: 4730 6258

Office Hours: 9am - 3.30pm
(Tuesday & Thursday)

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)

Parish News

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
WILL BE CELEBRATED DURING LENT EACH
FRIDAY AT 7.00PM IN THE CHURCH.

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HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

Thursday 1st April - 7.30pm

Mass of the Lord's Supper

A beautiful celebration of the origins of our Eucharist.

Friday 2nd April - 10.00am

**The Stations of the Cross
(in school grounds)**

Friday 2nd April - 3.00pm

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ

This moving ceremony honours the
great sacrifice of Christ.

(in school grounds - BYO Chairs)

Saturday 3rd April - 7.00pm

(Note not 5.00pm & 6.00pm)

The Easter Vigil

This is the highlight of the Church year when we celebrate the
greatest hope ever given to humanity.

Sunday 4th April - 7.30am, 8.30am & 9.30am

Masses of Easter Morning

A continuation of the celebration of resurrection when
the new Easter light and Easter water of Baptism

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Ministry Roster for Palm Sunday & Easter Liturgies

If you are able to assist in volunteering in the ministries of
Acolyte, Reader, Commentator and Data Operator for the
Easter Liturgies, please put your name on the list in the
foyer. Thank you!

Good Friday Stations of the Cross

This year the Stations of the Cross [at 10am](#) on Good Friday
will once again be a pilgrimage with Jesus around the
school grounds led by Corpus Christi 2749, our Youth
Group. Although we will be moving from station to station
around the school, seating will be available for those
who are unable to walk or stand for the duration.

Anyone in Year 6 to Year 12 who would like to join our
Youth Group in leading the Stations is welcome.

We will be holding our first rehearsal [this Sunday, 21st
March after 9:30am](#) Mass. Please contact Denise Caffrey
on [0409 558 553](tel:0409558553) if you would like more information.

Good Friday Adoration/Vigil at the Tomb for all Parishioners

All members of the Parish are invited to join our Youth
Group as they lead a reflection on The Passion in the
church [at 7:30pm](#). This will be followed by Adoration in
the Chapel. The Chapel will be available for individual
Adoration by candlelight [from 7:45pm - 8:45pm](#).
This is a wonderful time to reflect on the readings of the
Passion and to prepare for the joyful resurrection to come.

Friday Communion Service

As from Friday 19th March there will
no longer be a morning Mass.

Deacon Owen will lead a **Communion Service**
every Friday at 9.10am.

Easter Parish Working Bee for Front Gardens

SATURDAY 27TH MARCH FROM 8.30AM – 1PM

Bring your own brooms, rakes and weeding equipment.

Many hands make light work.

Planned Giving Envelopes

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- ◇ or if you would like to join the Planned Giving Pro-
gramme, please contact Marie at the Parish Office.

Let us Offer Gifts of Prayer:

Recently Deceased:

Bishop Bede Heather, Fr Mick O'Callaghan (former PP of Emu
Plains Parish), Sam Vassallo (brother of Rita Vella)

Mass Intentions:

Maria Aquilina, Josephine Portelli, Margaret & James Vella

Anniversaries:

Mario Vella (16/03/06)

And for those who are sick:

Kevin & Mary O'Connor, Robyn Toose, Pauline Rugg



Fifth Sunday of Lent 21st March 2021



Halima is raising two children in a Bangladeshi refugee camp while caring for her mother, who has a disability. A Caritas Australia-supported program helped her with a shelter, cooking equipment and hygiene training. Halima now earns a small income as a trainer, helping to maintain the health and cleanliness of her community.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and support people like Oliva's gain access to
education to build a brighter future and live in communities that upholds everyone's dignity.**

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning
1800 024 413.

The Living Word

Fifth Sunday of Lent

21st March 2021

First Reading

Jer 31:31-34

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-4. 12-15. R. v.12

(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.

In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. **(R.)**

A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **(R.)**

Give me again the joy of your help with a spirit of fervour sustain me, that I may teach transgressors your ways and sinners may return to you. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Heb 5:7-9

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 12:26

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;

and where I am, my servant will also be.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

Jn 12:20-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, ‘Sir, we should like to see Jesus.’ Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

‘Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life.

If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too.

If anyone serves me, my Father will hon-

our him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.

Father, glorify your name!’

A voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, ‘It was an angel speaking to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

‘Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.

And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.’

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

Gospel Focus – Love of life

Jesus says, ‘Anyone who loves (their) life loses it; anyone who hates (their) life in this world will keep it for the eternal life.’ This can seem pretty tough! It challenges us about how much we cling to the ‘things’ of this life. Are we concerned about the labels on our clothes; the number of our friends; how much money we have; the sort of house we live in? If this is the ‘life’ that we place meaning on, then we will surely lose it. However, if we put aside the world’s focus on material things and focus our attention on others then we are assured of eternal life.



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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

We want to see Jesus

I can observe a baby, but the parents 'see' their baby very differently. They gaze with total fascination, trying to perceive what this little bundle of flesh is really all about, trying to get an insight into its personality, visualising a possible future, hoping for a response.

This Gospel passage begins with a request from some Greeks 'to see Jesus', surely in all the ways parents see their baby. They were trying to perceive what this Jesus was really all about, trying to get an insight into his personality, imagining a possible future, hoping for a response.

And there was a response full of allusions to the future.

Jesus was as a grain of wheat. He died and was buried in the earth and that death was fruitful for the whole of humankind. He foresaw being nailed to the cross which would be dropped upright into a hole in the ground.

Our Lord says of that scene: 'When I am lifted up I will draw all people to myself.' How were people drawn to this scene?

People saw the length to which Jesus was prepared to go in order to persevere in his mission to live out the message that his Heavenly Father was full of mercy and wanted all people to share in Divine Life. This led to his being lifted up on the cross, being buried in the ground like a grain of wheat, only to rise to new life.

We could take a moment to pray that we will shortly see all this with the eyes of faith as we participate in the rituals of Good Friday and Easter.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The moment of eschatological fulfilment gathers together the sense of the past ('the days when Christ was in the flesh'), the future ('the days are coming'), and the present ('the hour has come'). We live in the time when the past and the future are made present; we live in the 'already-but-not-yet' time of anticipation/fulfilment. This is a moment of great ambiguity, of fear and trepidation but of electric excitement. It is a moment of decision. We hover at the edge of dawn, weighing whether or not to step forward into the new day or to return to the darkness of night.

This 'hour' brings a new covenant, a deep interior relationship with God that is not based on law but which overflows from a commitment of the heart. It brings an abundant harvest that springs from a simple grain of wheat. It brings a promise from God's own Son that those who serve him will be honoured by God, and those who obey him will enjoy eternal life.

Although the 'hour' brings all of these blessings, it only does so with a price. The new covenant could only be written on new hearts; the abundant harvest sprang from the dying grain of wheat; eternal salvation was won at the price of Christ's blood. As challenging as the message of these readings may be, the last note is one of hope. It can overcome the demons that control us, because it is the power of the almighty God.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for March

Intention for evangelization -



Sacrament of reconciliation

Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.



REFLECTION FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS

Questions for Adolescents

- * How is the image of the grain of wheat relevant to Jesus' life and mission?
- * How do you think the disciples might have responded to what Jesus said in this gospel passage?
- * What are some of the 'trappings' or 'things' of this world that people find difficult to let go of?
- * Do you know anyone who has put other people's needs before their own comfort and status?
- * What do you need to 'let go of' in your life to really flourish and 'produce a harvest'?

Questions for Adults

- * How does the Jeremiah image of God's Law 'written on our hearts' challenge you?
- * What experiences in your own life prove the truth of the image of the grain of wheat that must die?
- * How can good come from hurt and pain?
- * What do you need to 'let go of' in your life to really flourish and 'produce a harvest'?

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.

- * Who has seen seeds form on a plant?
- * What happens to the plant after it makes seeds?
- * The plant or flowers eventually die and the seed dries, ready for planting.
- * How do you make a seed grow?
- * How does choosing to follow Jesus give us new life?
- * When should we die to ourselves and choose Jesus' path rather than our own?

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The grain that dies gives much wheat

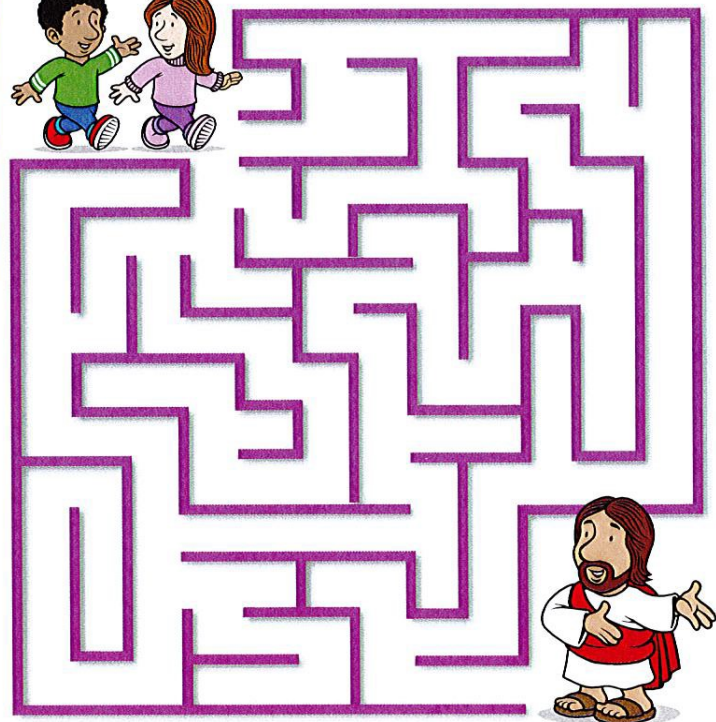
5th Sunday of Lent, Year B

Draw or write about a person that you know who serves and follows Jesus.



In the grains of wheat, draw or write some of the ways that you can serve Jesus.

These children want to follow Jesus. Help them find their way to him through the maze



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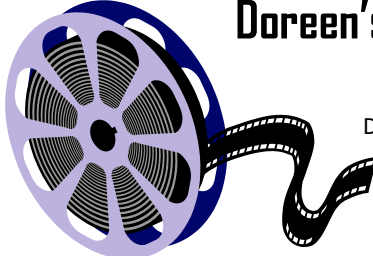
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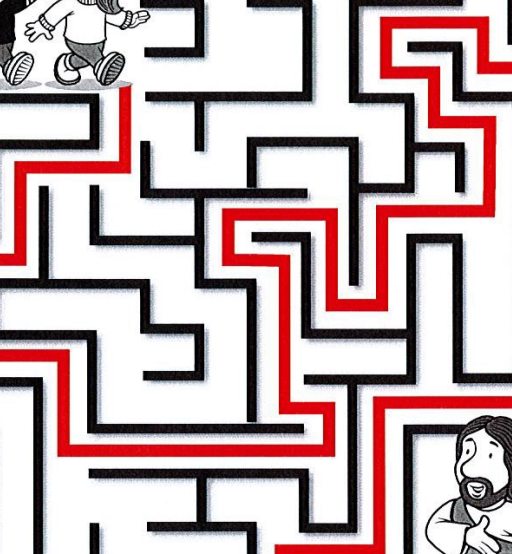
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5th Sunday of Lent, Year B

their way to him through the maze

A large square maze with a complex network of black lines. A single path is highlighted in red, starting from the top left corner and winding through the maze to end at the bottom right corner. At the top left entrance of the maze, a cartoon boy and girl are walking towards the path. At the bottom right exit, a cartoon drawing of Jesus with long brown hair, a beard, and wearing a white robe with a brown sash is standing and gesturing with his hands. The background is white.