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.

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YR B

21ST & 22ND AUGUST 2021

COVID-19 UPDATE

Places of Worship and Religious Services

DUE TO COVID-19 PUBLIC MASSES AND CHURCH BUILDINGS ARE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

NSW Police have visited parishes in the Diocese of Parramatta to check on the use of buildings. Fines can be issued to each person who is in attendance if a breach has been identified.

Please visit our website or Facebook page for any updates.

Website:
www.corpuschristi.org.au
Facebook:
www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiParishCranebrook

Funerals

Funerals are permitted with a maximum number of 10 attendees only.
If the funeral takes place in a church building the physical distancing rule of 1.5 metres must be observed and face masks must be worn.

Weddings

Weddings are now on hold until further notice.

Live Streaming

Live streaming of Mass is recommended. Priests may have up to five assistants at the Mass, including personnel who are operating the live stream. Many of our parishes are also live streaming their services.
For a list of these parishes, please visit: https://parracatholic.org/covid19.

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

Address: 86-92 Andromeda Drive
Cranebrook, NSW, 2749

Postal: PO Box 21
Cranebrook , NSW, 2749

Phone: 4730 1249

Fax: 4729 2989

Email: parishteam@corpuschristi.org.au

Presbytery: 4730 6258

Office Hours: 9am - 3.30pm
(Tuesday—Friday)

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 Cottee - 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

Parish office Hours

During this time of church closure the parish office will remain open at reduced hours. You are welcome to telephone or email and please leave a message if we don't answer the phone and we will get back to you.
In case you need any pastoral support please contact Fr Chris on 0415 505 594.

Sacrament of First Communion 2021

PLEASE WATCH THIS SPACE. WE ARE WAITING ON UPDATES FROM THE GOVERNMENT REGARDING RESTRICTIONS AND HOW THEY WILL AFFECT THE SACRAMENT PROGRAM.

DATES HAVE BEEN PUT ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

CATECHISTS AND CATECHIST HELPERS NEEDED

Sharing our faith with the children of our parish community is a very rewarding opportunity. This period of staying at home is a perfect time to reflect on your faith and consider sharing your journey with Christ with the children in our government schools.

What's Involved?

* Teaching time (30 minutes) and preparation.

What do I need?

* An interest in children and the ability to communicate with them.

What help will I get?

* Training to help you develop basic teaching skills and make the best use of your talents.
* A teacher's manual containing easy lesson plans.
* Student activity books for each child.
* Other resources to help make lessons interesting.

If you feel you can help as a teacher or assistant once our Covid-19 lockdown is over or to find out more information contact Marie at the Parish Office by telephone or email.

Advertising in The Net

Are you interested in advertising your business in The Net??? Or know anyone who might be??? Ads run for 12 months or there is the opportunity to run an ad on a monthly or three monthly basis. For more details, contact Marie at the Parish Office during office hours.

Let us Offer Gifts of Prayer:

Recently Deceased:
Magda Ghali *(14/06)*, Charlie Vassallo, Joseph O'Neill, Sam Vassallo

Anniversaries:
James William Sinnet *(20/08)*, Kevin Hennessey *(30/08)*, Anthony Azzopardi *(08/08/2015)*, Bibiana Zahra *(22/07)*

Mass Intentions:
Jovito Jr, Maria Aquilina, Josephine Portelli, Margaret & James Vella

And for those who are sick:
Esther Rodgers, Kevin & Mary O'Connor, Pauline Rugg

Diocesan News

Online Masses in the Parramatta Diocese

ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA PENRITH:
FACEBOOK
Monday—Friday at 9.30am
Saturday Vigil at 6pm; Sunday at 10am

ST MATTHEW'S WINDSOR:
YOUTUBE
Sunday at 9am

PADRE PIO GLENMORE PARK:
FACEBOOK
Sunday at 10am

Please visit www.parracatholic.org to check which other parishes are celebrating Mass online.

Join us on 'Home Ground'

While in lockdown, you're invited to 'HOME Ground'. Online every weeknight, join us for chat, music, prayer, hot topics and most of all – fun and connection.
This latest initiative continues this week engaging people across the Diocese.
All information for the events can be found on parracatholic.org/homeground.
If there are any issues, or if you need more information, please email our team at met@parracatholic.org
The Diocese of Parramatta's Mission Enhancement Team look forward to seeing you on HOME Ground soon.

Pastoral Formation Reflective Ministry Program

This program is an online self-paced leadership development program to renew or encourage people in ministry. Produced by the Pastoral Formation team, it covers biblical spirituality, ministry skilling and pastoral theology. Kick off for the program is 24th August. Express your interest today via https://tinyurl.com/RMIFM

'The Well' Offers Spiritual Nourishment During Lockdown

Need some inspiration and spiritual encouragement during lockdown? Why not check out The Well? The Diocese's 'on demand' streaming site has a tonne of video and prayer resources for you to explore and engage with during this difficult time. Check it out on www.thewell.org.au

Manage your Fertility Naturally!

Are you looking for a natural effective method to manage your fertility? Are you trying to achieve pregnancy?
Are you breastfeeding and looking for a natural way to space your children? **Natural Fertility Services – Diocese of Parramatta** might just have the answers you're searching for. For more information, or to book an appointment, contact Catherine on 0400 427 605 or catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org or visit www.parralmf.org.au

The Living Word

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B **22nd August 2021**

First Reading

Jos 24:1-2. 15-18

A reading from the book of Joshua

We will serve the Lord God, because he is our God.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33:2-3. 16-23. R. v.9

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. ***(R.)***

The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The Lord turns his eyes to the just and his ears to their appeal. ***(R.)***

They call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress.
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save. ***(R.)***

Many are the trials of the just man but from them all the Lord will rescue him.
He will keep guard over all his bones, not one of his bones shall be broken. ***(R)***

Evil brings death to the wicked;
those who hate the good are doomed.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. ***(R.)***

Second Reading

Eph 5:21-32

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

This is the great mystery, it applies to Christ and the Church.

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

Gospel Acclamation

See Jn 6:63. 68

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your words, Lord, are spirit and life:
you have the words of everlasting life.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Jn 6:60-69

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the words of everlasting life.

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?

'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer.

The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

Living the WORD THIS WEEK

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REFLECTION *by Fr Michael Tate*

The Word of Eternal Life

I remember seeing a James Bond film in which the Voodoo priest could summon the Living Dead – called Zombies – people hovering between life in the grave and life above ground level, but ultimately trapped as human beings living a grave-dominated existence.

There are billions of the Living Dead around the world. People, apparently like you and me, but in fact living with the belief that the grave will mark the extinction of their life.

But *our* ears are attuned to pick up words which sound the possibility of a different destiny, a different reality. We have heard a voice which speaks the truth, a voice which speaks of a more beautiful reality. That voice says that you and I, individually, personally, are star dust with a marvellous destiny: a destiny that will see our ensouled bodies transformed, transfigured, translucent with Divine Light and energy.

The voice is that of Our Lord Jesus Christ. We hear that voice from within the Church, which has transmitted the tradition of 'The Voice' for twenty centuries.

Heeding that Voice, I move from the company of the Living Dead to the companionship of the Conqueror of Death. I am no longer a 'Dead Man Walking' but a man alive with the reality of eternal life already within me.

That is why when I hear the challenge: 'Do you also wish to go away?' I enter into that tradition and answer with St Peter, I answer in the company of billions of others over twenty centuries: 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.'

We could pause for a moment and pray that, living in the tradition of the Church, I may hear the Word in the Gospel and take that Word within myself in Holy Communion so that I might be no longer a 'Dead Man Walking', but a human being alive with the reality of eternal life already within me.

———————————————

REFLECTION *by Dianne Bergant CSA*

The decisions called for in today's readings are life decisions. The people at the time of Joshua had to decide which god they would worship. The disciples of Jesus had to decide if he was the one who would fulfill their messianic expectations. We have life decisions to make as well. How will we choose?

The choices we make determine the character of our union with God. God called us out of the slavery of sin and protected us throughout the journey of our lives. Jesus walked with us through the challenges of life and performed wonders for us. Why should we look elsewhere? Because we face new challenges. The new demands placed on us may be so great, or the commitment required of us may be so demanding that we feel that we can no longer walk with him. The church may be changing in ways we do not appreciate, or it may not be changing in the ways we believe it should, and so we may feel that we can walk with him no longer.

If we decide to commit ourselves, we will enter into a union with God that is deeper than anything we have previously known. However, this union will be based on faith. We may understand no more than we did in the past, things may be no more to our liking. But, 'to whom shall we go?' Jesus is God's holy one; he has the words of eternal life.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for August

Intention for evangelization - The Church

Let us pray for the Church,
that She may receive from the Holy Spirit
the grace and strength to reform herself
in the light of the Gospel.

Reflection for Adults and Adolescents

Questions for Adolescents

* How do you think Jesus felt when his audience rejected what he'd been saying?
* What did Jesus mean when he said, 'The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life'?
* Why do you think so many followers left Jesus after this event?
* When have you learnt something important from an unlikely source?
* In what ways do your words and actions convey Jesus' message?

Questions for Adults

* What historical reality might be captured by the description of disciples not accepting Jesus' teaching?
* In what ways can John, chapter 6, be seen as a defence of early Christian belief and practice?
* Why does Jesus appear to simply accept that some people do not believe what he says?
* How might the Twelve have responded to so many people leaving Jesus after this gospel event?

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.

* What are the important things that you have to do each day?
* Why do you do them?
* Which are the hardest for you to do?
* Why do you keep doing them?
* In today's Gospel some people could not believe Jesus. What did these people do?
* The people turned away from Jesus. Following Jesus is not always easy but our faith gives us strength.
* We pray that we will choose to follow Jesus in all we say and do this week.

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Lord, your words give everlasting life

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

By listening to Jesus, we too can have everlasting life. What are some things Jesus is telling us? Draw the missing pictures, then circle the correct answers.

Love one another

Do anything you want

Always be the winner

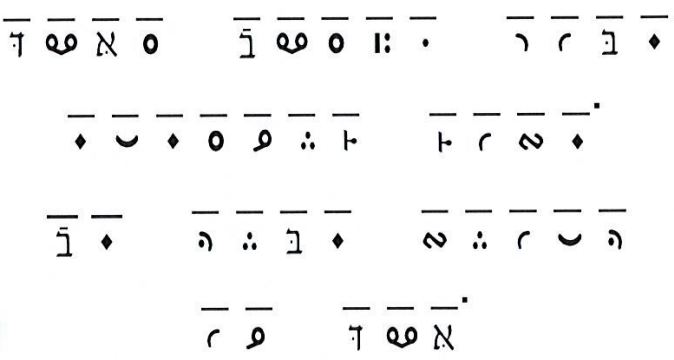
Help others

Be stronger than others

Pray to God

Simon Peter said that Jesus' words give eternal life. Can you think of some other things that Jesus gives us? Write or draw your answers.

Jesus spoke to his disciples about the bread of life. It was hard to understand, but those who had faith continued to follow him. Crack the code to find out what Simon Peter said to Jesus.



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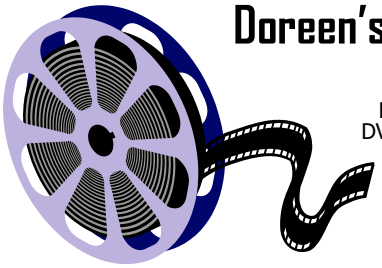

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Solutions

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Jesus spoke to his disciples about the bread of life. It was hard to understand, but those who had faith continued to follow him. Crack the code to find out what Simon Peter said to Jesus.

YOUR WORDS GIVE
ETERNAL LIFE.
WE HAVE FAITH
IN YOU.

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