

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.

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YR B

11TH & 12TH SEPTEMBER 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

Diocesan News

Thank You to the **Corpus Christi Community**

We would like to thank the Corpus Christi Community for the kind words, prayers and support we have received over the past 2 weeks since Rosemary was suddenly taken from us.

There are no words that express our gratitude for the great kindness and love that has been shown to us and the kind words about Rosemary that has brightened our days and eased the pain of our loss.

We are truly blessed to belong to the Corpus Christi Catholic Community.

May God Bless all the parishioners of Corpus Christi.

God Bless

Greg Hall and Family

Parish office Hours

THE PARISH OFFICE IS CURRENTLY HAVING TELEPHONE AND INTERNET PROBLEMS AND AT THIS TIME THERE IS NO WAY TO CONTACT THE OFFICE.

We hope to get this rectified as soon as possible. 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 the UPDATES FROM THE GOVERNMENT REGARDING regarding Covid-19 Vaccination. 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.

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.

Let us Offer Gifts of Prayer:

Recently Deceased:

Rosemary Hall, Judy Baytch (Michael Blair's dear

Anniversaries:

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

Mass Intentions:

Iames Vella

And for those who are sick:

Esther Rodgers, Kevin & Mary O'Connor, Pauline Rugg

Safeguarding Sunday – 12th September

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters.

We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. We recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk.

You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: www.catholic.org.au/ safeguardingsunday

Caring for the Health and Wellbeing of our **Retired Priests**

Thank you for caring for our retired clergy

Thanks to your kind and compassionate support, the Clergy Support Foundation can continue to ensure that our priests' physical, emotional and mental wellbeing is nurtured. Also, where needed, the Foundation is able to support our aging priests' daily living, health and medical expenses; along with home comforts and essentials for living well.

Donations for the Father's Day Appeal can be made at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or call 8838 3482.

On the last page of The Net (page 8) please read the letter from Fr Peter G Williams, Vicar General & Moderator of Curia (Parramatta

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.

Diocese of Parramatta Launches Plenary Council Resource Website

A new website provides resources for parishioners in the Diocese of Parramatta to stay involved in the Plenary Council, which is exploring what the future of our Church should look like. The first assembly starts in October, so visit parracatholic.org/plenary-2021/ to find a range of information, a Diocesan prayer and more.

Join us on 'Home Ground'

Jovito Jr, Maria Aquilina, Josephine Portelli, Margaret & While in lockdown, you're invited to 'HOME Ground'. Ioin us online for chat, music, prayer, hot topics and most of all - fun and connection. All information for the events can be found on parracatholic.org/homeground.

The Living Word

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

12th September 2021

First Reading

Is 50:5-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I gave my body to those who struck me.

The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away.

I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults.

So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

My vindicator is here at hand.

Does anyone start proceedings against me?

Then let us go to court together. Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me.

The Lord is coming to my help, who dare condemn me?

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 114:1-6. 8-9. R. v.9

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

I love the Lord for he has heard the cry of my appeal;

for he turned his ear to me in the day when I called him. (R.)

They surrounded me, the snares of death, with anguish of the tomb; they caught me, sorrow and distress. I called on the Lord's name.

O Lord my God, deliver me! (R.)

How gracious is the Lord, and just; our God has compassion.

The Lord protects the simple hearts; I was helpless so he saved me. (R.)

He has kept my soul from death, my eyes from tears and my feet from stumbling.

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living. (R.)



Second Reading

Jas 2:14-18

A reading from the letter of St James

Faith without good works is dead.

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

Gospel Acclamation

Gal 6:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,

which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mk 8:27-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

You are the Christ ... the Son of Man was destined to suffer much.

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, '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, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'



Gospel Focus - Peter's insight

When Peter answers Jesus' question he demonstrates the disciples' dawning awareness of Jesus' true identity. It is the first occasion that the disciples are called to own what they think about Jesus. However, when Jesus begins to spell out what being the Messiah reality means - persecution and death - Peter tries to convince Jesus that he doesn't need to go down that path. Jesus turns on Peter and snaps, 'Get behind me, Satan!' It is a reminder of the desert temptation Jesus had to face at the start of his ministry when he wrestled with what sort of messiah he was called to be.



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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Peter: earthquaked and then upside down

Here in our Australian democracy we hardly feel the force of the famous gospel passage in which Jesus forewarns his disciples of the high cost of following him. We trivialise the meaning of taking up the cross to make it refer to bearing a chronic ailment, or putting up with a particularly irritating family member or work colleague: 'It/he/she is the cross I have to bear.'

No, our Lord was referring to the terrible reality which could be inflicted on his followers, as even happens today: the beheadings by ISIL in Iraq, the rape and enslavement of women in Nigeria, the displacement from homelands in Syria. The True Cross is not to be found in splinters of wood but in the various means by which suffering is inflicted on those whose * Why does Jesus want the disciples to admit what they beallegiance to Jesus Christ does not waiver.

Peter could not, would not, grasp this. His head was full of * Why do you think Jesus was so abrupt with Peter, saying, political fantasy, easy sovereignty. Jesus rebuked Peter quite savagely: 'Satan, get behind me.' Only after the resurrection, * What are the 'crosses' that followers of Jesus today are believing that our Lord had conquered the worst that death could do, did Peter follow Jesus to crucifixion, upside down at the base of the Vatican Hill.

We could take a moment to pray for and, where possible, give appropriate political support to, our fellow Christians wherever they are persecuted, forced to bear the true cross of suffering. May God give those Christian martyrs victory in the embrace of the resurrection power of Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

There are several messianic traditions, each one characterising the anointed one of the future in a unique way. Do we * Is being a follower of Jesus today as demanding as Jesus expect a prophetic figure who will enter our world and reform the structures of society, or a strong leader who will overturn these structures and establish a new order? Are we waiting for a teacher who will transform our minds and hearts, or a judge who will punish us for our infidelities? Are we expecting someone who will renew the face of the earth, or someone who will come in fire and brimstone to destroy it? What kind of a messiah do we expect? For what kind of a change are we preparing ourselves?

Jesus seems to overturn our expectations. We look for one who will save us from the predicaments in which we find ourselves, and he comes to us as one who seems to be a victim of his own predicament. God's thinking seems to be the reverse of ours: Those who save their lives, lose them; those who lose their lives, save them; the seed must die before it can bear fruit; Jesus will be killed, but will then be raised from the dead.

Can we claim to understand Jesus? Or are we more like the people in James' community: people who profess faith in Jesus, but who do not live it out; people who speak pleasant words to others, who say the right things, but who do not back up their words with good works?

Is our faith really living?

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for September

An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle



We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.



REFLECTION FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS

Questions for Adolescents

- * Why might people have thought Jesus was John the Baptist or Elijah reincarnated?
- lieve about him?
- 'Get behind me, Satan'?
- called to take up?
- * Is there a particular 'cross' or burden that you can bear in order to better follow Jesus?

Questions for Adults

- * Why did Peter argue with Jesus when he explained the destiny that lay before him?
- * In what way was Peter's argument like the temptation of Satan in the desert in chapter 1 of the gospel?
- * Why does Jesus portray discipleship in such demanding
- described?
- * What does it mean to 'lose' your life for Jesus' sake in order to save your life?

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.

- * Jesus asked the disciples 'Who do people say I am?' What are some words you would use to describe Jesus?
- * Jesus wants people to 'take up their cross' and follow him. What does that mean?
- * What are some of the 'crosses' that people carry?

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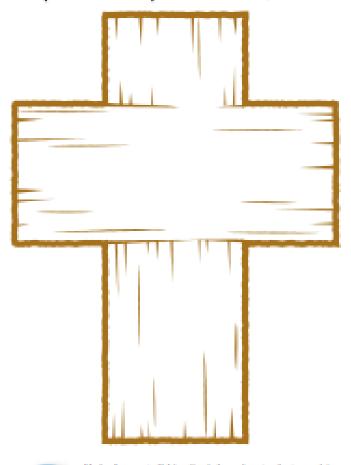


Take up your cross and



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

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."

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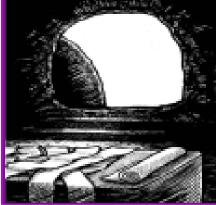
Help Jesus tell his disciples about what would soon be happening.

I must go to the city of Jerusalem.

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







Write what Jesus tells the disciples next

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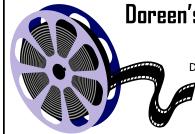
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Solutions

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

COMPLETE THE TEXT MAZE

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

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Mk 8:31-35

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Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia Diocese of Parramatta

Bethany Centre, 470 Church St, Parramatta NSW 2150, Australia PO Box 3066, North Parramatta NSW 1750, Australia

> T: 02 8838 3400 F: 02 9630 4813 E: peter.williams@parracatholic.org W: parracatholic.org

> > 3 September 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Re: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

Given the current debate on COVID-19 vaccines, the Diocese of Parramatta will be sharing information from the Catholic Church on this topic.

We have made available in 12 foreign languages the position of the Catholic Church – from the Holy Father to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith – on COVID-19 vaccines. This information has been supplied via social media tiles you can share with your faith communities and for those whom English is a second language.

These tiles can be downloaded here: parracatholic.org/covid19/#vaccine

We know that some Catholics have might have legitimate concerns about the ethical origins of some vaccines. The Catholic Church, through the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, has declared that the use of such vaccines does not constitute formal cooperation with abortion. Therefore, all vaccines which are recognised as clinically safe and effective may be taken by Catholics in good conscience.

See: vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20201221_notavaccini-anticovid_en.html

The Holy Father, Pope Francis, Pope Benedict XVI, Bishop Vincent, and several other bishops have also been vaccinated.

Of course, any decision regarding vaccines is to be left to the individual and should only be made in consultation with their doctor and health professional.

I encourage you to share these social media tiles with your parishioners, staff, and volunteers.

Yours in Christ.

Very Rev Peter G. Williams Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia