



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH, CRANEBROOK, NSW

The Net

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C

26TH AND 27TH OF APRIL 2025

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.

POPE FRANCIS

Jorge Mario
Bergoglio
17 December 1936

◆
21 April 2025

*May he Rest in
Peace*



As we pray for Pope Francis, let us reflect on his prophetic words from his renowned encyclical, Laudato Si:

'At the end, we will find ourselves face to face with the infinite beauty of God (cf. 1 Cor 13:12), and be able to read with admiration and happiness the mystery of the universe, which with us will share in unending plenitude. Even now we are journeying towards the sabbath of eternity, the new Jerusalem, towards our common home in heaven. Jesus says: "I make all things new" (Rev 21:5). Eternal life will be a shared experience of awe, in which each creature, resplendently transfigured, will take its rightful place and have something to give those poor men and women who will have been liberated once and for all.' Laudato Si, no. 243.

Solemn Mass for Pope Francis will take place at St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta on Sunday 27th of April at 11am

The Mass will also be livestreamed on St Patrick's Cathedral YouTube channel.

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:2-4. 22-27. R. v.1

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Second Reading

Revelation 1:9-13, 17-19

I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.

Gospel Acclamation

John 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;

happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

Gospel

John 20:19-31

After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

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 5.15pm -

5.45pm in the Meeting Room

ADORATION AND DEVOTION

Second Friday of each month

(Healing Mass)

Fourth Friday of each month

(Anointing Mass)

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

Address: 86-92 Andromeda Drive
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Email: parissteam@corpuschristi.org.au

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiParishCranebrook)

CorpusChristiParishCranebrook

Office Hours: 9:00 am - 3:30pm

(Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri)

PARISH TEAM:

Administrator - Fr Jessie Balorio

- jessie.balorio@parracatholic.org

- 0451 851 610 (*emergencies only*)

- Presbytery: 4729 1675

Mrs Sue Weekes — Secretarial Support

- sw@corpuschristi.org.au

Mrs Vanessa Sultana — Office Support

- 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)

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

Visit our website: www.corpuschristi.org.au

Parish News

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Children who have completed the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist are invited to register for the Sacrament of Confirmation, which is taking place on Saturday 14th of June

**PARENTS ARE REQUIRED TO PICK UP
CONFIRMATION INFORMATION PACKS ON
WEDNESDAY 7TH MAY
BETWEEN 6.30PM & 7.15PM IN THE CHURCH FOYER.**



Sacraments 2025

First Eucharist

The registration date for First Eucharist is

Wednesday 20th August, 2025 at 6.30pm

The sacrament of First Eucharist will take place on the following dates:

Saturday 6th September at 11am

Saturday 6th September at 6pm

Saturday 13th September at 11am

Sunday 14th September at 9.30am

Confirmation

The registration date for Confirmation is

Wednesday 7th of May, 2025 at 6.30pm

The sacrament of Confirmation (for children who received Penance and First Eucharist last year) will take place on the following date:

Saturday 14th June, 2025 at 9:30 am & 11:30 am

Baptisms and Weddings

Baptisms take place in our parish on the first and third Sundays of each month at 11am. Parents wishing to have their children Baptised are asked to contact the Parish Office to book the date of Baptism and to register for the Rite of Welcome and Information Meeting.

Wedding bookings are taken by request. Please contact the parish office to discuss available dates and to make a booking.



NEW MINISTRY ROSTER

Thank you to all who support our parish as a Liturgical Minister. Your care and commitment to our parish community is truly appreciated!

A new ministry roster to cover the month of May was emailed out to all or volunteers on Wednesday.

If you are a volunteer and did not receive yours, please contact the parish office at cranebrook@parracatholic.org.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



What's on at Corpus Christi...



**Sunday
11th
May**

Parish Morning Tea

Our parish hosts a morning tea after our 9.30am Mass on the second Sunday of every month. Everyone is welcome. We warmly encourage you to invite your friends and family to join us both for Mass and morning tea

To support our parish with catering, you are most welcome to bring a plate to share or an optional gold coin donation can be made. We kindly ask that a list of ingredients is provided for any home prepared food to support anyone with food allergies

**Sunday 27th
April
Choir practice
(No Mass)**

Corpus Christi Youth Mass

Our youth Masses take place on the 3rd Sunday of Each Month at 5pm
Mass followed by refreshments.

Please note that parents are welcome to attend the Mass and registration is not necessary. For more information about our parish Youth Masses please contact the parish office or Kieran Faccin.

**Friday
2nd
May**

'Young in Spirit' Seniors Group

Our seniors group meets on the last Friday morning of each month after 9.10am Mass in the Parish Office.
Please bring a small plate of food to share for morning tea.
New members are always welcome. Please complete our new members form in the foyer if you'd like to join



PRIEST UPDATES AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fr Jessie's final weekend with us will be the weekend of the 10th and 11th of May. During this weekend we will take the opportunity to give thanks to Fr Jessie for his ministry and dedication to the parish over the past 12 months.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO A JOINT GIFT FOR FR JESSIE, THERE ARE ENVELOPES AVAILABLE AT THE ENTRANCES TO THE CHURCH. THESE CAN BE RETURNED TO THE BOX IN THE FOYER OR TAKEN TO THE PARISH OFFICE.

Fr Abraham will start here at our parish on the weekend of 17th and 18th of May. After our Vigil Mass on May 17th we will be hosting a supper in our outdoor courtyard as a joint farewell celebration to Fr Jessie and a welcome to Fr Abraham. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a plate to share.

Fr Abraham's Installation Mass and celebration will take place at our Vigil Mass on Saturday 31st of May.

Please spread the word and invite all your friends and family to join this joyful event.

May we warmly welcome Fr Abraham with open arms and look forward to his ministry with our parish!

Parish News

PARISH REMEMBRANCE BOARD

The remembrance board in the church has been cleared. If you had a photo of a loved one on the board that you'd like to collect, please collect them from the parish office.

This Anzac Day, we pause to remember those who have served and sacrificed for our country, especially the soldiers who were also guided by their faith. Their courage, selflessness, and dedication to peace are a testament to the human spirit. Let us honor their memory by reaffirming our commitment to peace, justice, and understanding in our own lives.



April 25th - Lest We Forget

LET US OFFER GIFTS OF PRAYER

Recently Deceased:

George Keane. Simon Camilleri, Pope Francis

Anniversaries:

John Costa

For those who are sick:

Ruta Pelenatino, Rose Zahra, Marlene Rodger, Fr Jerome Antogop

SAFEGUARDING FACE-TO-FACE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

The next session of face-to-face Safeguarding Renewal Training will be held on Saturday 3 May at Holy Family Emerton for Cycle 2 (Module 4-5). More training opportunities will be available soon. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>. For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

The modules are available to complete online at <https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding/training/>
Cycle 1: (New staff/volunteers who have not completed any training within the Diocese)

Cycle 2: Renewal Training for staff/volunteers who completed Cycle 1 two years ago) For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Planned Giving/Parish Donations

Your gift to Planned Giving helps cover the running of the parish and also contributes towards outreach in our parish community 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 if you

- ◇ are contributing to the Planned Giving Program via the envelope system and would like to change to credit card or direct debit;
- ◇ would like to join the Planned Giving Program.

Diocesan News

THANK YOU!



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

PROJECT
COMPASSION

Caritas Australia would like to express our heartfelt thanks for your incredible support of Project Compassion this Lent. If you still have your Project Compassion box or donation envelope at home, please return them this week at Mass. Your generosity is helping to empower the world's most vulnerable communities, enabling them to overcome challenges and lift themselves out of poverty.

Together, we are creating a better tomorrow, helping vulnerable communities build stronger futures for themselves and empowering them to break free from the cycle of poverty.

Thank you for standing with us!



It's not too late to donate.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

MET Natural Fertility Session: 3 May

Are you looking for help to track your fertility cycle? Come and explore a natural, effective, healthy and scientific approach to achieve, space/avoid pregnancy or monitor women's health. Engaged and married couples, single women and those wanting to know more about their menstrual cycles are welcome to attend. If you'd like to learn the Creighton Model FertilityCare System, this free session is valued at \$125 and gives you all the information you need to be ready for Session 2. To register or for more information visit parracatholic.org/natural-fertility

FaithLIFE Theology Short Course: Wednesdays in May

Considering learning about theology? Interested in faith seek understanding? Looking to learn more about the Jubilee Year of Hope? Sign up now for the 3-session FaithLIFE Theology short course with Alison Ryan from MET on Wednesdays 7 + 14 + 21 May: parracatholic.org/faithlife

Study of Luke's Gospel with Dr Laurie Woods: Fridays 2-30 May

Join us for an enriching study of Luke's Gospel, led by Dr Laurie Woods and hosted by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD). Sessions will take place each Friday in May from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. All parishioners are welcome to attend. For more information or to RSVP by 30 April, contact ccd.training@parracatholic.org



Special Mass for the Canonisation of Bl Carlo Acutis, Rouse Hill: 27 April

A special Mass will be celebrated by Fr Tom Green on Divine Mercy Sunday, 27 April at 10am at Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Rouse Hill in celebration of the Canonisation of Bl Carlo Acutis which will be held in Rome at the Jubilee of Teenagers.

The Living Word

Second Sunday of Easter - Year C 26th and 27th of April 2025

Entrance Antiphon

1 Peter 2:2

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:2-4. 22-27. R. v.1

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)

2. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

3. O Lord, grant us salvation; O Lord grant success.

Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord; the true God is our light. (R.)

Second Reading

Revelation 1:9-13, 17-19

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and wit-

nessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle. When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

Gospel Acclamation

John 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;

happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

Gospel

John 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,

so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood

among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

Communion Antiphon

Cf John 20:27

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE –

by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

Have you ever written in a journal or diary? Was it a hobby or an assignment from school? Was it something you kept in secret or something you shared? Did you like it? Why or why not?

If you could write a book, what kind of book would you write – a romance novel, a science fiction book, a historical document, a how-to manual? What would be your hope for people who read your book?

The Bible is like our faith family scrapbook. It has letters, stories, poetry, songs and information about events that have happened to the people of God ever since they became the people of God.

Do you think the gift of writing is a calling from God? Do you think the Bible is a sacred book? Do you think all family scrapbooks and photo albums are sacred books? Why or why not?

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REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

Gospel Reflection

This passage can be seen as the gospel writer's version of the Pentecost that was previously recorded by the writer of Luke-Acts. As the account of Pentecost in the book of Acts was already in existence, the gospel writer felt no concern about alluding to it in his version of the gospel story. The inclusion of this event in the gospel of John adds a 'completeness' to the gospel text – from the Word with God in chapter 1 through the ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus to this moment of charging his disciples with the task of carrying on his work and breathing on them the Holy Spirit. It seems that the gospel writer wanted to bring the story to its conclusion. The idea of Jesus 'breathing' the Holy Spirit onto the disciples is an interesting one. The Greek word *pneuma* carried two meanings: breath and spirit. So to deliberately breathe on someone was to share one's spirit with them. Jesus gives this act a greater meaning by declaring the spirit to be the Holy Spirit that will empower the disciples for the mission he is entrusting to them.

The disciple Thomas has received a pretty raw deal from history. The phrase, doubting Thomas, has found its way into our everyday language and condemns Thomas as the one who wouldn't take the word of his fellow disciples but wanted to see the Risen Lord himself. However, rather than remembering Thomas for his doubt, we should remember Thomas as the one who makes the extraordinary declaration of faith, 'My Lord and my God!' It is Thomas, alone amongst all those who recognise the greatness of Jesus across the four gospels, who acknowledges Jesus as not just the Messiah, but God.

Historical Context – My Lord and my God

By the time the Gospel of John was written – in the last decade of the 1st Century – there were already diverse beliefs about Jesus. As is recorded in the gospels, there were those who regarded Jesus as one of the prophets of Israel; others recognised him as the promised Messiah; others still had come to believe in Jesus the Christ as the incarnation of God. That is certainly the theology expressed in the Gospel of John. Perhaps as a means to further his community's theology and correct other ideas, the gospel writer has Thomas declare, 'My Lord and my God!'

Scriptural context – Holy Spirit

In the Gospel of John, during the Last Supper discourse, Jesus repeatedly assures his disciples that the Father will provide them with another Advocate to guide them. This advocate (or *paraclete*) is to be the Holy Spirit. Although 'advocate' carries a certain legal meaning, the gospel writer uses it to mean one who represents the continued presence of Jesus, just as Jesus was the advocate or *paraclete* of God. In the Holy Spirit that Jesus breathes on the disciples we see the final element of the Trinitarian experience of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Have you thought? – Does he mean us?

When Thomas made his declaration of faith, Jesus said, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy (or Blessed) are those who have not seen and yet believe.' (v29) Because this gospel was written 60 years or so after the time of Jesus, there were indeed many who believed but had not ever seen him. The blessing is on all those who believe without the benefit of a physical encounter of Jesus. Whilst the gospel was written as an acknowledgement of those at the end of the 1st Century, it is also a blessing and encouragement for believers of today!

Questions for Adolescents

Q. Why do you think Thomas was reluctant to believe what his friends told him about the Risen Jesus?

Q. How might the other disciples have reacted to Thomas' unbelief?

Q. Despite his earlier demand, why doesn't Thomas touch the wounds of Jesus?

Q. What does Thomas' experience say to 21st Century Christians?

Q. How do you respond to disbelief and doubt – within yourself or others?

Questions for Adults

Q. Which phrase or word from this gospel passage particularly stands out to you? Why?

Q. What understandings of the Holy Spirit emerge for you from today's gospel and reflection?

Q. Why does Jesus particularly focus the mission of the disciples on the forgiveness of sins?

Q. In what ways does Thomas personify elements of our own culture and society?

Q. When do you feel like Thomas?

Learning moments

Research the Greek word, *pneuma*, and suggest reasons why it was used to mean both 'breath' and 'spirit'.

Read the account of Pentecost in the book of Acts (Ch 2) and identify similarities and differences between this account and today's gospel passage.

Identify examples of the Spirit 'sending' people to carry out the mission of Jesus in the world today.

© Greg Sunter

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

The disciples did not purge their group of 'doubting Thomas'. They remained his companions, waiting for something or Someone to be revealed to him with them.

Doubt and questioning are a normal and proper part of being human. We should allow for this within the community of the Church. A point may come where a person may no longer remain in the Church with any integrity. But a dismissive, excluding Church is not the Church of this gospel story.

Within the companionship of the Church a doubter may hear the words: 'Peace be with you.' What sort of peace? It is that inner assurance that, in the midst of all the tribulations and the turmoil and the myriad precursor deaths which we suffer on all sorts of levels, the Conqueror of Death wants to be with us.

How can the Risen Lord be with us? In Holy Communion, and in those counted as least in the world. According to Matthew 25, He is those without the necessities of life: food, shelter, medical care, comfort in distress.

We could pause for a moment to savour that Peace which comes from faith in the Conqueror of Death and in his Real Presence in Holy Communion and in those in dire need.



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for

April

For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

Children's Worksheet

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY), YEAR C

Jn 20:19-29

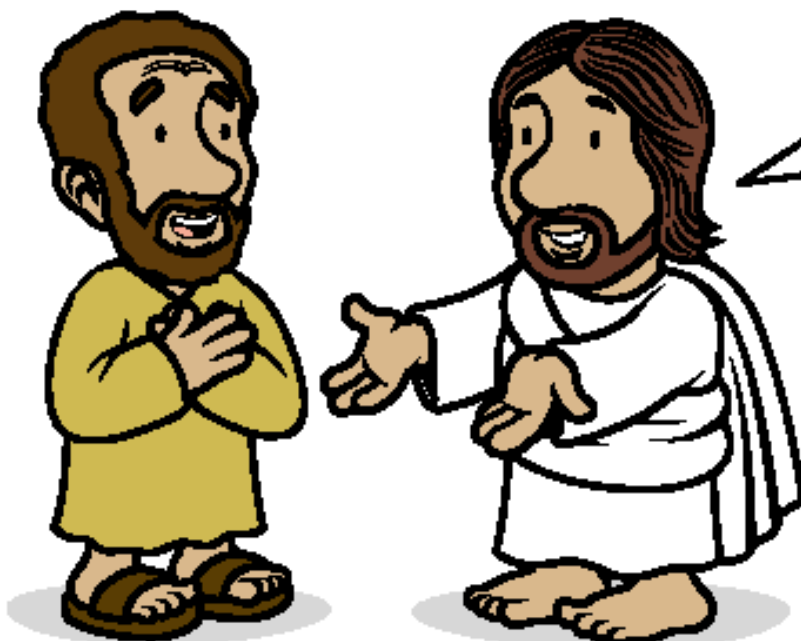
My name is

Have faith and you will be blessed

A week after Jesus died he appeared to his disciples. They were very happy to see him. Draw the risen Jesus.



Thomas had doubts about Jesus being alive. But later when he saw Jesus he did believe. Draw the nail marks in Jesus' hands and feet.



Have you believed because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

*With many thanks to all these local businesses
who support our parish throughout the year.*


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