



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH, CRANEBROOK, NSW

The Net

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C

17TH AND 18TH MAY 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.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate City Life for True Lovers

'Love one another as I have loved you.' You may think that Our Lord's extravagant extreme of love in voluntarily undergoing death for us, is something no human being could ever measure up to.



But actually, something like this happens whenever a mother or father sits by the bedside of a child suffering the terrible pain of a chronic illness or traumatic accident and, perhaps, even facing the prospect of death. Such a parent will invariably say 'I would rather suffer and die than see my child suffer and die.' It is the same with a person seeing their much loved life partner in a similar situation.

Each of us, usually to a lesser degree and in less fraught circumstances, has the opportunity to absorb, to some extent, the sufferings of others. We are thus given the possibility of fulfilling the command: 'Love one another as I have loved you.'

The effect of this sort of loving will be realised at the end of history, not in a garden of Paradise, but as in a wonderful City where all tears will be wiped from our eyes.

We could pause for a moment on our way to that future City, resolving to be alert to opportunities to fulfil our Lord's command: 'Love one another as I have loved you.'

Throughout the month of May, we keep in our prayers the children of our parish who are preparing to receive the sacrament of confirmation in June.

Holy Spirit, guide these young people as they prepare for confirmation. Fill them with your gifts, that they may become fully initiated into the Church.

Grant them the wisdom to make good choices, the courage to stand for their faith, and the strength to live as disciples of Christ. We ask for the grace of your Spirit to be with them as well as their parents, sponsors and our Sacramental Team who are supporting them on this journey.



First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 13:14, 43-52
We are now turning to the gentiles.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 99:1-3. 5. R. v.3

(R.) We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Second Reading

Revelation 7:9, 14-17

The Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water.

Gospel Acclamation

John 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

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 5.00pm - 5.45pm in the Meeting Room

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

Address: 86-92 Andromeda Drive
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CorpusChristiParishCranebrook

Office Hours: 9:00 am - 3:30pm
(Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri)

PARISH TEAM:

Parish Priest-Fr Abraham Kunnatholy
CMI

-Abraham.Kunnatholy@parracatholic.org

- 02 4730 1249

- Presbytery: 4729 1675

(emergencies only)

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

Welcome Fr Abraham, Best Wishes Fr Jessie



The week Fr Abraham has joined us at Corpus Christi and began his journey with us as Parish Priest. We extend a heartfelt welcome to Fr Abraham as he settles into our parish.

Fr Abraham will celebrate his first weekend Mass with us this Saturday 17th of May at our 6pm Vigil. As a farewell gesture, Fr Jessie will be concelebrating. After Mass the parish is hosting a supper in celebration of both Fr Abraham and Fr Jessie. We warmly invite everyone to join. To assist with the catering we warmly encourage everyone to bring a plate of food to share. Please note that there will be no heating facilities available.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

Corpus Christi Youth Mass

Our next youth Mass will take place on

SUNDAY 18TH OF MAY AT 5.00PM

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.

'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. Our next senior's morning tea will take place on

FRIDAY 30TH MAY, 2025

Please bring a small plate of food to share for morning tea. New members are always welcome.

Parish Morning Tea



Our parish hosts a morning tea after our 9.30am Mass on the second Sunday of every month. Our next parish morning tea will take place on

SUNDAY 8TH JUNE, 2025

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*

CLERGY CONFERENCE

Next week from Tuesday evening, 20th of May until Friday 23rd of May, Fr Abraham will be attending a clergy conference on the Central Coast along with most other priests and deacons from our diocese.

DUE TO THIS WE WILL NOT BE HAVING WEEKDAY MASSES AT CORPUS CHRISTI NEXT WEEK.

Weekday Masses at neighbouring parishes will also be limited.

The closest available parish will be

St Nicholas of Myra Penrith on Tuesday 20th May to Thursday 23 May at 9:30am and Friday 23rd May at 12.10pm

Please join us for the Installation Mass of

Fr Abraham Kunnatholy CMI

as Parish Priest of

**CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC
CHURCH CRANEBROOK**

May 31st, 2025 6.00pm

Celebrated by

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv

*A reception will follow afterwards at the
Corpus Christi Primary School Hall*



CATERING FOR FR ABRAHAM'S INSTALLATION

As we gather together as a community of faith, we warmly invite everyone to share a little of their family with our community by bringing along a plate of a family favourite food to share at our gathering after Fr Abraham's Installation Mass. If you'd like to bring something along please write your family name and the food you will be bringing on the sheet that's available in the foyer. **Please note that there is no heating or cooling facilities available.**

FOYER CABINETS

We no longer need the four timber cabinets that are located in the foyer of our church. We are giving them away to anyone free of charge. If you are interested in taking one, please contact the parish office.

LET US OFFER GIFTS OF PRAYER

Recently Deceased:

Pope Francis, Donna Hall, Joyce Cauchi

Anniversaries:

John Costa, Anthony and Carmen Portelli, Carmelo and Giovanna Dingli, Joseph and Carmelina Micallef, Joseph and Tereza Vella, Pacienza Piscopo, Maryann Azzopardi, Isabelle Said

For those who are sick:

Darren Hooton, Ruta Pelenatino, Rose Zahra, Marlene Rodger, Fr Jerome

Parish News

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.



Diocesan News

Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal

Next weekend, our Parish is proud to support Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal. Your generosity will enable our Holy Spirit Seminary in Harris Park to support the formation of our seminarians who are committed to meeting the spiritual and pastoral needs of our community.

Our seminarians are called to be 'pilgrims and sowers of hope,' bringing Christ's love to our communities. In these times of fragility and despair, their mission is to spread God's love to all. Your caring and generous support will provide the education and spiritual formation they need to remain dedicated to their ministry for Christ's Church. Please give generously via the giving envelopes and place them in the receptacle provided [advise where] for the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal next weekend. Thank you.



NEW PARISHIONERS...

A very warm welcome to anyone who is new to the parish. So that we can get to know who you are, it would be great if you would please fill out a Census Card available in the foyer and hand it in at the sacristy or parish office

PARISH MINISTRIES... If at any time a member of the parish is seeking some involvement in parish ministries, you are warmly encouraged to contact the Parish Office.

PARISH LOST AND FOUND...

Our parish has a lost and found area which is located near the entrance to the sacristy. It's filled with many items such as books, glasses, umbrellas and water bottles. Please check if any of the items belong to you.



Parish Giving

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.

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities: 22-24 May

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Renewal Training will be held on Saturday 22 May at St Finbar's Church, Glenbrook for Cycle 2 (Module 5). Safeguarding Renewal Training Cycle 2 (Module 4-5) will be held at St Bernadette's Parish, Castle Hill on 24 May. 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

Laudato Si' Week (16 – 24 May): Celebrating 10 years of inspiration from Pope Francis

During Laudato Si' Week, 16 – 24 May, we are invited to celebrate the 10 year anniversary of the inspiring ecological encyclical "Laudato Si" of our late Pope and recommit ourselves to caring for God's creation. All are invited to a launch event themed "Turn Debt into Hope" hosted by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Caritas Australia. The launch will via a webinar on 16 May, 12pm-1pm to raise awareness of unjust international debts that are crushing many developing countries. Register at caritas.org.au/debt. More information can be found at: laudatosiweek.org or on page 7 of the bulletin.

Pentecost Scripture Reflection with Dr Deborah Snoddy: 28 May

What does the Holy Spirit look like in your life? How can Scripture stretch our imagination when comes to Pentecost and the Holy Spirit? Register for the Diocesan Pentecost Scripture Reflection Evening with Dr Deborah Snoddy on Wednesday 28 May at 6:30- 8:30pm. RSVP via parracatholic.org/events/pentecost-scripture-night or get in touch with the team via met@parracatholic.org

The Living Word

Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year C 17th and 18th of May 2025

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 97:1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has worked wonders;
in the sight of the nations
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe.

They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed.

On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:8-13. R. cf. v.1

(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

1. 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.)

2. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God, to make known to men your mighty deeds and the glorious splendour of your reign. (R.)

3. Yours is an everlasting kingdom; your rule lasts from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading

Revelation 21:1-5

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see

this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.'

Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new.'

Gospel Acclamation

John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 13:31-35

When Judas had gone Jesus said:
'Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified.
If God has been glorified in him,
God will in turn glorify him in himself,
and will glorify him very soon.

My little children,
I shall not be with you much longer.

I give you a new commandment:
love one another;
just as I have loved you,
you also must love one another.

By this love you have for one another,
everyone will know that you are my disciples.'

Communion Antiphon

Cf John 15:1,5

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.

Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bear fruit in plenty, alleluia.

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REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Everything is new! There is a new law of love, a new heaven and earth that is established in the church, a new depth of communion there, and a new glory of God that shines forth from its members.

The new commandment that Jesus announces is more than tolerance or mutual respect. It requires self-sacrificing love. Perhaps the greatest obstacle to this

love is the diversity discussed last Sunday. It is hard enough to love those who are like us; how can we possibly love those who are different? And how can we love those who do not love us? It is no wonder that the commandment is called new. It calls for something completely different.

The new commandment is the law of the new heaven and the new earth that are established in the new Jerusalem. Standards are entirely different there. The greater ones serve; the meek possess the earth; happy are the poor; woe to those who laugh. This is clearly a city that comes down from heaven, not one made by human hands. It is a city that embraces all who come to it. God dwells in the midst of this city, in the heart of this people. God dwells with them and they dwell with God. Through this new love, this new heaven and new earth, this new depth of communion, the glory of God is manifested in a new way. The eschatological future is anticipated in the present. The age of fulfilment has dawned.

REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE – by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

What is really good about our world? What is not so good? If you could help create the 'new heaven and the new earth', what would you want the design to include?

Why do you think so many schools require students to learn a foreign language? Why do you think countries have exchange student programs? How can we learn from visiting one another's countries, and from having people from other countries visit ours? What can different languages and cultures teach us?

Love seems to be a universal value in all cultures. All cultures celebrate marriage, children, family life, and friendship based on love and caring. If this is true, why is there so much friction between peoples of different countries and different races?



REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

Gospel Reflection

The passage from the Gospel of John actually comes from the Last Supper account, as is indicated by the opening line: 'When Judas had gone'. However, the passage is being used during the post-resurrection Easter season. The passage about being glorified can be read in this context as referring to the crucifixion that was, rather than the crucifixion that is still to come in the original setting. The reference that Jesus will not be with the disciples much longer can also be read as an indicator towards the Ascension. It is a clever liturgical use of a gospel passage out of its intended context.

The second half of the gospel passage is perhaps the more familiar section. It is a common text for marriage ceremonies. However, sometimes its selection is purely based on the use of the term 'love'. Earlier in his ministry, Jesus was asked which commandment was the most important. He replied that you must love the Lord your God with all your heart and that you must love your neighbour as yourself. (Mt 22) The 'new' commandment that he issues at the Last Supper is not so much a new commandment as a variation on a theme. The newness highlights the changes that are occurring in the small group of friends. His language conveys an imperative: you must love one another, 'just as I have loved you'. He tells the disciples – and us – that the way they behave towards one another must be with the same love that Jesus treated them. And the love that Jesus gave was the love of God for all the world. So the love that Jesus commands the disciples (us) to show one another is nothing less than the powerful love of God.

Have you thought? Love

I love my dog! I love your hair! I love that new song! I absolutely love chocolate! We throw around the word 'love' so casually today that it has almost lost its meaning. The decision whether or not to say 'I love you' in a relationship has become a major dilemma – or alternatively, just the formula that has to be said to get what you want! Jesus did not use the word so casually or so inappropriately. He spoke of love very deliberately and very specifically. Jesus calls us to share in the selfless love that he modelled and to follow his example.

Gospel Focus – God's Love

What does it mean to love as Jesus loved? The love Jesus poured out to all was an expression of God's love that has been poured out to all creation since the very beginning and continues to be poured out today. God's love doesn't keep score. When human-kind turned its back on God, God's love continued to call them back to faithful relationship. God's love is not conditional – whatever we do, God continues to love us. There is no barrier that we can construct that God's love cannot get around. It is this sort of love that the new commandment demands of us.

Living the Gospel – Love is all around

Love surrounds us all the time. It is impossible to turn on a radio without hearing 'love' used in one way or another. Love is the most common theme of songs, poetry, literature and art. Although we might bemoan the casual use of 'love', the fact remains that we fill our lives with the sounds and images of love. It's easier to imagine the all-pervasive nature of God's love when we recognise just how pervasive the commercial and artistic expressions of love have become. As Christian people, the challenge that faces us is to imbue these expressions with a richer, deeper notion of love.



Questions for Adolescents

- Q. Why did Jesus give this speech immediately after revealing the betrayal of Judas?
- Q. In what way/s is this commandment to love a new commandment?
- Q. What are some of the characteristics of Jesus' model of love?
- Q. How would demonstrating love for one another reveal you to be a disciple of Jesus?
- Q. Where in your life do you need to show more love?

Questions for Adults

- Q. What is the glorification to which Jesus refers?
 - Q. Why was it at this particular time that Jesus chose to give his disciples the new commandment?
 - Q. In what ways does 'love' get misused today?
 - Q. How does the command to love as Jesus loved challenge you?
- Learning moments

Construct a Futures Wheel or Consequences Wheel to explore the possible effects, impacts and consequences of: 'What if everybody did love one another as Jesus loved?'

Review the last few days / the last week. Identify instances where you had an opportunity to respond to an incident or to a person with love as Jesus loved. How did you do? What would you do differently next time? Is it possible to return to the person or incident and make a different response?



REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

'Jesus loved us first', Pope Francis reminded us. This is the key to the newness of Jesus' commandment.

As Francis pointed out, it was already an established principle that you should love your neighbour. What Jesus does is extend this, going beyond formal concern to a really deep love – 'as I have loved you'.

Jesus' love, Francis elaborates, 'is God's universal love, without any conditions or limits.'

Which is why it is important to start by knowing that Jesus already loves us, irrespective of who we are or what we have done. He loves us, Francis explains, 'despite our frailties, our limitations and our human weaknesses.'

In fact, as Francis adds, it was Jesus himself 'who ensured we become worthy of his boundless and never-ending love.' There is nothing we can do to make him love us more or less than he already does. God's love, by definition, is boundless.

So, aided by the Holy Spirit, we are called to experience and express the love of Christ. As the late Pope said, if we are truly open to this, then 'we can spread everywhere the seed of love that renews relationships between people and opens horizons of hope.'



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for May

For working conditions

Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.

Children's Worksheet



Jesus tells us to love each other as he loves us. How did Jesus show us that he loves us?



Write or draw

things you can do to show your love for others?

FAMILY

FRIENDS

PEOPLE IN NEED



Use the words below to
complete
these Scripture passages

"Love your _____, do good
to those who _____ you."
Luke 6:27

"You shall love the _____ your
God with all your _____
and with all your soul."
Matthew 22:37

"You shall love your _____
as yourself."
Matthew 22:39

"Just as I have _____ you, you
also should love one _____"
John 13:34

Lord enemies
hate loved heart
neighbour another


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