

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY ON ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C 19TH AND 20TH JULY 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.

Message from the parish priest.

Dear Parishioners,

We all worry. About health, children, finances, relationships, the future — the list goes on. Yet Jesus tells us plainly: "Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life?" (Matthew 6:27). Worrying is not the same as planning or problem-solving. In fact, it often prevents us from thinking clearly or acting wisely. It drains our energy, clouds our faith, and adds emotional weight to burdens we already carry.

So, how do we go about life without worrying?

First, we must distinguish between responsible concern and crippling worry. Responsible concern prompts us to act: we save for the future, prepare our children, or consult a doctor. But crippling worry freezes us or sends our thoughts spiraling into fear. It assumes we're alone, without help. But we are not.

The key lies in trusting God. As St. Paul reminds us: "Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God" (Philippians 4:6). Trust does not mean passivity; it means doing our part, then entrusting the rest to God's providence.

Next, we need to stay present. Most of our worries are about tomorrow. But Jesus taught: "Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own" (Matthew 6:34). When we live fully in the present — listening to others, appreciating the small blessings, doing today's duties — we find peace.

Also, remember the power of prayer. When anxiety knocks, let prayer answer. Name your fears before God. Say, "Lord, I don't know what to do, but I trust You." Even Jesus in Gethsemane prayed in anguish, but surrendered: "Not my will, but yours be done."

Lastly, community helps. Speak to a friend, priest, or spiritual companion. We were not made to carry our burdens alone.

Worrying solves nothing. Faith, love, and wise action — these are God's tools for real problem-solving. Let us walk forward together, not weighed down by fear, but lifted by hope.



Fr Abraham Kunnatholy CMI

First Reading Genesis 18:1-10 Lord, do not bypass your servant. Responsorial Psalm Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1 (R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord. Second Reading Colossians 1:24-28 The mystery hidden for centuries has now been revealed to his saints. Gospel Acclamation See Luke 8:15 Alleluia, alleluia! Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance. Alleluia! Gospel Luke 10:38-42 Martha took up the duties in the house. Mary chose the better part. 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 Cranebrook, NSW, 2749

Postal: PO Box 21 Cranebrook , NSW, 2749

Phone: 4730 1249

Email: cranebrook@parracatholic.org Facebook:

www.facebook.com/ CorpusChristiParishCranebrook

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

PARISH TEAM:

Parish Priest-Fr Abraham Kunnatholy CMI

-Abraham.Kunnatholy@parracatholic.org

- 0492 894 167 (emergencies only)
- Presbytery: 4729 1675

Mrs Sue Weekes — Secretarial Support

Mrs Vanessa Sultana – Office 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)

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

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH VINNIES WINTER APPEAL

THE VINNIES WINTER APPEAL WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE WEEKEND OF <u>16TH/17TH AUGUST</u>.

Closer to the date buckets will be placed at the church doors for cash donations. Non Perishable foods are also welcome. More information will be announced next weekend.

The conference thanks the parishioners for their on going support.

PARISH WORKING BEE

Our parish will be holding a working bee on

Saturday 26th of July from 9am to 12pm

The work that we hope to get through on the day include:

- Weeding and tidying of our garden beds
- Clearing out our two storage garages
- Deep cleaning in the church especially the ceiling fans.
- General tidying of the church storage areas. •
- Cleaning of the gutters

Please bring along any gardening tools, cleaning and safety equipment that you will need

A BBQ will be provided for lunch afterwards in

appreciation of your support.



LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSE



We warmly invite everyone to consider participating in the diocese Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses The Office for Worship is taking enrolments for this from September-

November for those interested in being Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick, Senior Servers and Acolytes. The courses are free.

> Bede Heather Centre: 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown Mondays at 7pm

8th September: Compulsory Introduction Session. 15th & 22nd September: Ministers of the Word. 13th & 20th October: Ministers of Communion. 27th October: Communion to the Sick & Dying.* 3rd November & 10th November: Ministers at the Altar.** * If you wish to complete Communion to the Sick & Dying, it is compulsory to attend the Extraordinary Ministers of Communion Sessions first. ** If you wish to become an Adult Altar Server or Acolyte, you must attend all 8 sessions.

> Deadline for enrolments: 19th August. An enrolment form can be downloaded at www.oficeforworship.org.au

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL RENEWAL

Thank you to all who submitted an expression of interest in joining our Parish Pastoral Council.

We will continue to accept expressions of interest throughout the months of July and August, with plans to meet together for the first time in September.

For more information, please contact the parish office.

WITH THANKS

Special Thanks to Tony Baldacchino who completed the job of painting all the line markings in our carpark. We are grateful to

Tony for his time and effort as this will help with safety and ease of parking for both our parish and school community.



FR ABRAHAM'S ANNUAL LEAVE

Fr Abraham will be taking annual leave from Sunday 27th of July until Thursday 28th of August.



During this time our weekend Masses will be celebrated by visiting priests. Our weekday Masses will not take place.



Congratulations to all those who recieved the sacraments of first reconciliation or confirmation in 2025. The dates for these sacraments in 2026 will be published later in the year.

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

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.



LET US OFFER GIFTS OF PRAYER

Recently Deceased: Rev Tim Hogan, Dolores Xuereb **Anniversaries:** William Tate, Joseph and Theresa Schembri, Angelo 'Gino' Vassallo, Paul Vassallo For those who are sick: Darren Hooton, Ruta Pelenatino, Rose Zahra, Marlene Rodger, Fr. Jerome Antogop

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

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 10TH OF AUGUST

Everyone is welcome. We warmly encourage you to invite your friends and family to join us both for Mass and morning tea



Corpus Christi Youth Group

Our monthly Youth Masses will be on hold during the months of July and August. They will recommence in the month of September.

Beginning in October we will be starting a youth group for our over 18 year old youth. The aim of this group will be fellowship as well as leading a 6pm Vigil once a month. To register to be a part of this, please place your contact details on the sheet available in the foyer. For more information, please contact the parish office.

'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 25TH JULY

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

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.



GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

Over 4,500 people have been made amputees due to the current conflict.

Your support can help provide prosthetic limbs and rehabilitation.

DONATE NOW www.caritas.org.au/gaza 1800 024 413



Diocesan News

Rome from Home (Youth and Young Adults): 2 August A retreat for young adults aged between 13 and 35, who want to grow in faith, find community, and be inspired on their journey. To be held on Saturday 2 August (12:30pm – 6pm) at St Andrew the Apostle Parish, Marayong, 36-40 Breakfast Rd, Marayong. Register by 26 July: <u>https://parracatholic.org/events/rome-from-home/</u>

MET Natural Fertility Couples hoping to Conceive Seminar: 2 August

MET Natural Fertility is holding a free seminar for couples hoping to conceive on Saturday 2 August from 1pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Hear about Restorative Reproductive Medicine and natural methods of achieving pregnancy. We will have couples present to share their amazing stories of how their fertility has been restored and they've achieved pregnancy. To register, visit <u>parracatholic.org/natural-fertility</u>

HOPEFEST: 8-10 August

HOPEFEST is a Diocesan Jubilee of Hope three-day experience for all ages hosted by St John XXIII Parish, Glenwood-Stanhope Gardens. Experiences will include praise & worship, a local pilgrimage from Stanhope Parish to the Franciscan Shrine in Kellyville, community activities, life & faith workshops and opportunities to celebrate the sacraments. Register via https://parracatholic.org/events/hopefest/ A special Charismatic Healing Mass will be held on Sunday, 20th July at 2:00pm at Our Lady of the Rosary Church 26 Swanston St, St Marys. The prayer ministry team from Miracle Prayers, WA, will be joining to offer prayers for healing.

Diocesan Homelessness Week Memorial Service Wrapped in Love: 8 August

You're warmly invited to a Memorial Service during Homelessness Week on Friday 8 August 2025, 6:30pm–7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta. Together, let us honour and remember those who have died while experiencing homelessness or hardship, through prayer, reflection and a spirit of compassion. Whether you want to commemorate a friend or stand in solidarity, all are welcome. This heartfelt gathering is hosted by the Diocese of Parramatta, St Patrick's Cathedral, Catholic Care, and other community partners. You can find more information at parracatholic.org/ events/homeless-memorial-service

Safeguarding

As part of the Diocese of Parramatta's commitment to ensuring all children and adults at risk are safe, respected, protected and supported in our care, all staff and volunteers in our parishes, chaplaincies, agencies, ministries and councils are required to complete Mandatory Safeguarding.

All staff and volunteers are required to undertake safeguarding training and must complete three mandatory modules which total six points.

 $\ensuremath{\text{Cycle 1}}$ (New staff/volunteers who have not completed any training within the Diocese)

Module 1: Understanding Safeguarding and the Child Safe Standards Module 2: Legal Compliance, ROSH (Risk Of Significant Harm) and RC (Reportable Conduct)

Module 3: Working with Adults at Risk and Understanding Boundaries **Cycle 2** (Renewal Training for staff/volunteers who completed Cycle 1 two years ago)

Module 4: Applying the Child Safe Standards to Safeguard Children & Adults at Risk

Module 5: Legal Compliance: Risk of Significant Harm (ROSH) and Reportable Conduct

For online safeguarding training opportunities please visit: https:learning.safeguarding.org.au/

The Living Word

Sixteenth Sunday on Ordinary Time - Year C

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 53:6,8 See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

First Reading

Genesis 18:1-10

The Lord appeared to Abraham at the Oak of Mamre while he was sitting by the entrance of the tent during the hottest part of the day. He looked up, and there he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them, and bowed to the ground. 'My lord,' he said, 'I beg you, if I find favour with you, kindly do not pass your servant by. A little water shall be brought; you shall wash your feet and lie down under the tree. Let me fetch a little bread and you shall refresh yourselves before going further. That is why you have come in your servant's direction.' They replied, 'Do as you say.'

Abraham hastened to the tent to find Sarah. 'Hurry,' he said, 'knead three bushels Alleluia, alleluia! of flour and make loaves.' Then running to the cattle Abraham took a fine and tender calf and gave it to the servant, who hurried to prepare it. Then taking cream, milk and the calf he had prepared, he laid all before them, and they ate while he remained standing near them under the tree.

'Where is your wife Sarah?' they asked him. 'She is in the tent,' he replied. Then his guest said, 'I shall visit you again next year without fail and your wife will then have a son.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1

(R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?

He who walks without fault;

he who acts with justice

and speaks the truth from his heart;

he who does not slander with his tongue. (R.)

2. He who does no wrong to his brother, who casts no slur on his neighbour, who holds the godless in disdain,

but honours those who fear the Lord. (R.)

3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may;

who takes no interest on a loan and accepts no bribes against the innocent.

Such a man will stand firm for ever. (R.)

Second Reading

Colossians 1:24-28

It makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering now, and in my body to do what I can to make up all that has still to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body, the Church. I became the servant of the Church when God made me responsible for delivering God's message to you, the message which was a mystery hidden for generations and centuries and has now been revealed to his saints. It was God's purpose to reveal it to them and to show all the rich glory of this mystery to pagans. The mystery is Christ among you, your hope of glory: this is the Christ we proclaim, this is the wisdom in which we thoroughly train everyone and instruct everyone, to make them all perfect in Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

See Luke 8:15

Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart

and yield a harvest through perseverance. Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 10:38-42

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said, 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 110:4-5

The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of his wonders; he gives food to those who fear him.



19th and 20th July 2025

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate A Cardinal Role for Women?

Jesus turned the customs and taboos of his society upside down. In this Gospel, against all the rules of segregation, Jesus is alone with women who are not his relatives, completely at ease with their hospitality. It is personal relationships, not gender determined relationships, which are important to him.

Further, here is Mary assuming the posture of a student at the feet of a Rabbi (teacher) listening to his teaching. We remember that Jesus had chosen his male disciples in order to teach them. Mary chooses Him to teach her! Maybe it was a counter-cultural step too far for Martha. Is that what she is really 'anxious and troubled' about?

Jesus was willing to upset the social conventions and religious taboos of his day in respect of women. What would be a good contemporary response of the Catholic Church?

The word 'cardinal' means hinge - 'hinge of the door' - an essential part of the structure of the Church which is our home, in which we listen to the words of Jesus Christ. Could the College of Cardinals be supplemented to include women alongside the ordained male prelates? Outstanding women, religious or lay, could head some Vatican departments and take part in the election of the Pope.

That would be a strongly symbolic step with repercussions throughout the Church.

We could pause for a moment to pray for the Church to show a greater willingness to sit, like Mary, at the feet of Jesus so that we may hear his words: 'You have chosen the better portion.'



'Martha,' he said, 'you worry and fret about so many things, ... It is Mary who has chosen the better part. Luke 10:41-42

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter Gospel Reflection

Like so much of the Gospel of Luke, this week's passage is, at its heart, all about hospitality. This theme has featured in the gospel readings for the last couple of weeks. It is a theme that the writer returns to over and over again throughout the gospel to reinforce not only the importance of welcoming the message of Q. How can a guest be seen as a gift to the host? Jesus, but also the extravagantly generous hospitality and wel- Q. What implications arise for the way in which we treat newcome that God extends to all people.

Taken at a literal level, this week's gospel passage can be a problematic one. Jesus is dining at the house of Martha and she busies herself trying to be a good host and serving her guest, while and Mary? her sister, Mary, simply sits and enjoys the company of Jesus. Martha complains about her sister's apparent laziness and finds herself chastised by Jesus.

On the surface, Martha is doing the right thing: providing hospitality for her guest. Yet Mary is the one whose actions are Q. What conclusions could be drawn from a poorly-informed affirmed. Like in the parable of the Good Samaritan last week, the gospel writer reminds us that being preoccupied with one's duty – even in service of God – is not what God desires. Martha has forgotten that the guest is also a gift! Having welcomed and shown appropriate hospitality to her guest, Martha should have then accepted the gift of the guest, that is, the company and presence of the welcome guest. Instead she continues to busy herself with serving while her sister shows true welcome: accepting the gift of the guest's company.

When we welcome a guest into our house, we can be too worried about impressing the guest with lavish hospitality and our best serving ware, rather than relaxing and enjoying the company of the guest. Like Martha, we can overlook the fact that God is present when we welcome a guest.

Scriptural context

It is no accident that this story about Martha and Mary immediately follows the parable of the Good Samaritan. We must remember that Jesus is portrayed as telling that parable as clarification of the law to love God and love neighbour. The Samaritan provides an example of what it means to love one's neighbour whilst in this story, Mary provides an example of what it means to love God. Together, the two stories tell us that compassionate service to one's neighbour is crucial but that God does not require service, simply love.

Different View – Feminist critique

Feminist theologian Elizabeth Schussler Fiorenza suggests that this story is less about an event in the life of Jesus than it is about events in the life of the early Church. In the first 30 to 40 years after the death of Jesus, women played an equal role in leadership and ministry to the community. However, by the time of Luke's gospel, men were becoming more dominant in the community. By portraying Jesus as admonishing Martha's active service and praising Mary's passive listening role, the passage can be interpreted as endorsing the relegation of women to less active roles.

Have you thought? - Action vs Reflection

This gospel is sometimes portrayed as a dichotomy between action and reflection. Many within the Christian tradition adopt the Martha approach of responding to Christ through service and action while others see Mary sitting at the feet of Jesus as a model for contemplation and reflection. The two different models have developed quite distinctly in the history of the Church and it must be said that the Martha approach of service and action has been in the ascendance for some time. However,

action that is not grounded in prayerful reflection runs the risk of becoming well-intentioned busy-ness.

Questions for Adolescents

Q. Why might Martha have been frustrated with Mary?

Q. In what way can Mary's actions be seen as the actions of a disciple?

comers to our community?

Questions for Adults

Q. How would you characterise the different attitudes of Martha

Q. How does the theme of hospitality fit with another theme of this gospel: care for the outcast?

Q. Why is it so important for Christian communities to be welcoming?

interpretation of this text?

Learning moments

Host a lunch or morning tea for a group of people in your community who are often overlooked or taken for granted. Ensure that your planning allows you to simply spend time with your guests and appreciate the gift of their company.

Invite someone involved in a local homeless shelter or street coffee van to speak about their experiences of receiving from those they seek to serve. Your group may be able to volunteer with the local shelter/coffee van or support their work in some other way.

Conduct an audit of how welcoming and hospitable your parish/ school community is to visitors. Identify ways in which your group could make visitors and guests feel more welcome in your community.

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

Martha and Mary are often seen as symbols for a balance of hospitality. Martha represents the tasks of preparation - cleaning the house, cooking, setting the table, and the like. Mary represents the personal care of the visitor - listening, paying attention, spending quality time in conversation. Both are important.

If you were invited to someone's home for dinner and the house was a total mess and no food was prepared, but the person cleared the junk off the sofa so you both would have a place to sit and talk, how would you feel?

If you were invited to someone's home for dinner and the gourmet meal was so complicated that you were completely ignored until dinner was on the table, how would you feel?

Some people are the 'perfect blend' of the Martha-Mary examples of hospitality, but others fall off to one side or the other, being more talkers than housekeepers, or being more housekeepers than talkers.

When you have people around, do you tend to be more of a talker or more of a housekeeper? Or do you think you have a good balance, having all the preparations done ahead of time so that the focus of your attention is your guest?

Do you know anyone who has a perfect balance?



Children's Worksheet



Diocesan News

Discover and share in our story

The Sisters of Charity Heritage Centre brings alive the spirit of the Congregation, it's history and heritage.

Australia's first religious sisters have been of service to the community regardless of creed, wealth or ethnicity, for over 185 years.

Tuesday – Thursday 10.00am-3.00pm or by appointment Free entry, parking available Bookings recommended



You too are part of this continuing and living heritage and we'd love to welcome you.





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1 Rockwall Cres, Potts Point, NSW T: 02 9138 0835 W: socheritagecentre.org.au E: heritagecentre@rscoffice.com







ASSEMBLY AT 1:00 PM INCLUDING A BLESSING OF THE NEWLY REFURBISHED CLASSROOMS AND LIBRARY

PLEASE RSVP BY FRIDAY, 20TH OF JUNE 2025 BY SCANNING THE QR CODE AND COMPLETING THE FORM

34-38 WILLIAM HOWELL DR, GLENMORE PARK NSW 2745

Enquiries: pp@mibp.org.au or text a message to 0417 259 617

JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMAGE COINCIDES WITH CELEBRATION OF JUBILEE OF CATECHISTS 25th SEPTEMBER to Return to Sydney 4th OCTOBER 2025 ROME, LANCIANO, POMPEI, AMALFI COAST, Optional trip to St Carlo Acutis



Pilgrimage organised by the Catholic Parish of Mary Immaculate, Bossley Park NSW, ABN 36947366893 Email enquiries to pp@mibp.org.au or Text a message to 0417 259 617

Some Highlights

Join in the Program for Jubilee of Catechists, including Sunday Mass with Pope Leo XIV.

Optional Day trip to St Carlo Acutis, at Assisi.

Walk through Holy Doors of a couple of Rome's Major Basilicas. See some of Rome's holy places and other places famous in Rome (e.g. Trevi fountain). Stay at Domus Australia. Daily Mass.

Day trip to Lanciano (Eucharistic Miracle).

Visit Pompei's Major Basilica going to the Amalfi Coast. On the way back, visit the famous Abbey of Montecassino (where St Benedict is buried). Visit Cathedral at Amalfi (Relics of St Andrew).

Pilgrimage Cost, plus Cost of Airfare,

Share Accommodation w/ breakfast & dinner (for single room, add a single supplement cost)

25-30 September: Hotel Domus Australia 15 minutes walk from Roma Termini.

30/9-2/10: Hotel Panorama in Maiori which is on the Amalfi Coast.

2/10-3/10: Hotel near Rome airport after returning from Amalfi Coast, chance to rest before flight home, or extend your stay to return to Sydney later.

Several Airlines flying to Rome including: Qantas has 3 direct flights a week to Rome (best Tues 23/9 arriving a day earlier to our hotel booking), some will travel with Emirates, Etihad, Thai Airways, Qatar. The Parish can help you in booking Qantas and Emirates flights to be able to access flight discounts with Qantas and Emirates. But prices are going to be better the earlier you book.

With many thanks to all these local businesses who support our parish throughout the year. Please consider supporting them when in need of these services...

