



# St Brigid's Parish Catholic Church

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Administrator:  
Secretary:

Ft Vince Amaro 02 6746 1133  
Ms Bern Press Mon & Tues 9.00 - 11.00am  
Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm



## 9th May 2021 - 6th Sunday of Easter

### Please Pray For Those Who Have Died

**Recently Deceased:** Gayus Donoghue  
**Anniversary:** Terry Fitzpatrick; Kal Fitzpatrick  
**Deceased:** Barry Donnelly; Max Callaghan; Alex Bradley; Stuart Moore; Claude Perry; Philip Robertson; Richard Burraston; Lyle Press; James Neylon; Gladys Bannigan; Catherine Sevil; Molly Sweep; Samuel Elliott; Barry Hird; Leonard Conroy; Bede Wellard; Marie Perry; George Bonnett; Alice Fiasyhi; Petronella Vereyken; Kevin Conroy; Robert Robertson; Doug Plevy; Bob Robertson; Robert Klein; Johannes Vereyken; Graham Porter; Sr. Marie Aquinas McNamara; Shirley McCoubert; Anne Gorsman; Sybil Neylon; Bernard Perkins; Kathleen Lowe; Ann Viney; James Lawson; Stella Nelmes; Betty Costigan; Norman Mason  
*May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God Rest In Peace. Amen.*

### And for those who are ill:

Di Dillon, Michael Hausfeld; Sister Pat Bartley; Lisa Brown; Ray Lamb of Gunnedah; Les Ward, David Sailer; Rita Looney; Bobbie Palon; Fr. John Willis; Clare Crane; Bill Gleeson; Billy Gadden; Ros Turton; Gavin Sewell; Ian Gallagher; Fiona Nolan; Gail Marlin; Wendy Brown; Sue Thomson; Lucy Gigg; Father Pat O'Neill; Tom Sanderson; Colleen Hyatt; Michael McCormick; Dan O'Donnell; Marie Dalton; Jack Dunn; Colin Gallagher; Andrew McManus; Ivy Taylor; Joan Greenree; Rosalynn Chan; all the members of the Parish who are ill.

### Other Intentions:

**Roster**  
15/5/2021 R: B McNamara  
16/5/2021 R: P Perkins  
C: M & P Perkins

### Coming Events

Sat 9 Mass Count this weekend for the next 3 weekends  
Tues 11 Mass at Eloura at 2.00pm

### Coronavirus - The following must be observed at all Masses:

1. If you are unwell, stay at home and get tested as soon as possible.
2. Please check-in with your details by scanning the QR code using your smart phones or by the log sheet.
3. Sanitise your hands before entering and when leaving the church.
4. Please observe physical distancing inside the Church, at the foyer and immediate surroundings.
5. People from the same household may sit together.
6. Before and after Mass celebrant and faithful alike should minimize any time spent together, and particularly avoid gathering in large groups.
7. This church bulletin notice is for single use only. Kindly take this home with you or put it in the bin after use.

**Get vaccinated for the common good:** Vaccination against COVID-19 is a morally good thing, providing protection for the person vaccinated and the wider community. Some COVID-19 vaccines are associated with ethically questionable production and research practices, but Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops have advised that it is morally permissible to receive any vaccine made available. More information is available at <https://www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus>

**National Mass Count** will take place over the first four weekends in May starting this weekend. This is a count attendance of **All Masses** celebrated in the diocese, including all parishes.

**Prayer to St Joseph, Patron of the Holy Catholic Church**  
Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and defend us from every evil. Amen.

### A prayer for Mother's Day

Lord, we remember the mothers who have gone before us.  
**For their love, sacrifice, struggle and joy, we thank you.**

Lord, we remember the mothers of Scripture who are a part of our story as we are a part of our story.  
**For their courage, faith, love and fierceness, we thank you.**

Lord, we remember those who have not given birth to us, but are mothers to us.  
**For their gift of themselves that they have given, we thank you.**

For the women who struggle with fertility, for those women whom society labels as less in their childlessness, for those women who have lost children,  
**For their tears, for their strength, for their wisdom, for their lives, we thank you.**

In your name we pray. Amen.  
*by Claire Schoepf*

### COVID-19 PRAYER - PHILIPPINES & INDIA

Heavenly Father, You are the loving God of all the nations and peoples on this earth. Please look with mercy and compassion on all you have created. Deliver us we pray from the coronavirus and limit its impact on our global world. We pray especially at this time for the nations of the Philippines and India. In your mercy bring a swift end to this crisis. Heal and comfort those who are sick and suffering. Protect and guide the health professionals who are at the front line. We ask that wisdom and courage be given to those who bear responsibility for confronting this challenge. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

A special collection will be taken up next Sunday 16th May to send to the Philippines and India to assist with their struggle against the COVID19 pandemic currently causing havoc and despair in those countries. The funds collected will be forwarded to the La Salette Missionary Fathers in the Philippines and the Rogationist Missionary Fathers in India for them to distribute to people on the ground in communities where it is most needed. Our Diocese has a special relationship with both these missionary congregations and are appreciative that they can now help us to aid others in their respective countries with these funds from the parishioners of our Diocese.

**POPE FRANCIS IS URGING CATHOLICS TO PRAY THEIR ROSARIES THROUGH THE MONTH OF MAY** for an end to the COVID-19 pandemic. The movement has the involvement of 30 Marian Shrines from across the world. "The initiative will involve all the shrines of the world in a special way, so that they might encourage the faithful, families, and communities to recite the Rosary to pray for an end to the pandemic," the statement from the Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelisation said. Pope Francis will open the Marian month of prayer on May 1 with a Rosary broadcast across Vatican Media's platforms. Each day will see Vatican News broadcast the recitation of the Rosary at 6pm Rome-time from the various shrines taking part in the initiative. Pope Francis will also close the marathon on May 31 with another specially-broadcast Rosary. To date, more than three million people have died from COVID-19 with many countries experiencing their worst wave yet.

**Planned Giving \$469.00 + \$24.00 = \$493.00**

**First Collection \$370.25**

# Breaking Open the Word

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘As the Father has loved me,  
so have I loved you.

Remain in my love.

If you keep my commandments

you will remain in my love,

just as I have kept my Father’s commandments  
and remain in his love.

I have told you this

so that my own joy may be in you  
and your joy be complete.

This is my commandment:

love one another,

as I have loved you.

A man can have no greater love

than to lay down his life for his friends.

You are my friends,

if you do what I command you.

I shall not call you servants any more,

because a servant does not know

his master’s business;

I call you friends,

because I have made known to you

everything I have learnt from my Father.

You did not choose me,

no, I chose you;

and I commissioned you

to go out and to bear fruit,

fruit that will last;

and then the Father will give you

anything you ask him in my name.

What I command you

is to love one another.’

## ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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## LOVING ONE ANOTHER AS JESUS LOVED

We can only start to imagine the surprise and unsettling effect on Peter when Cornelius, a Roman centurion, prostrated himself before him. Cornelius was a representative of a hated and oppressive foreign government and here he publicly humiliates himself in front of a Galilean fisherman! Peter’s own response is as generous and spontaneous as that of Cornelius: ‘God has no favourites!’ In saying this the barrier separating Jews and Gentiles is in the process of being shattered. When the gift of the Spirit is poured out so obviously on this Gentile household Peter can no longer see any reason to maintain long-held prejudices and instructs his companions to baptise them. Breaking down barriers is at the heart of the readings for today as the Gospel invites us to no longer see God as a distant master to be feared. God loves us with that same love which leads Jesus to give his life for us. Changing our perception of God is one barrier to be overcome, but there is another, our perception of ourselves. Fear can keep us from God, from ourselves, and others. Invited to see ourselves as God’s friends we are also invited to respond by sharing in Jesus’ mission. To use the Gospel’s words, we are commissioned to bear fruit, to overcome our reserve, and join in the task of loving one another as Jesus has already loved us. In Jesus’ resurrection, we are not just saved from death, perhaps even more importantly, we are shown how to live.

**Christopher Monaghan CP**

# THE SAVING WORD

SIXTH WEEK OF EASTER / B

09 MAY 2021

## FIRST READING Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the gentiles also.*

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. ‘Stand up,’ he said ‘I am only a man after all!’

Then Peter addressed them: ‘The truth I have now come to realise’ he said ‘is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.’

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, ‘Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?’ He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.’

## ■ The word of the Lord.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 97: 1-4. R. cf. v. 2

**R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power. (or Alleluia)**

1. Sing a new song to the Lord / for he has worked wonders. / His right hand and his holy arm / have brought salvation. **R.**

2. The Lord has made known his salvation; / has shown his justice to the nations. / He has remembered his truth and love / for the house of Israel. **R.**

3. All the ends of the earth have seen / the salvation of our God. / Shout to the Lord all the earth, / ring out your joy. **R.**



## SECOND READING

1 Jn 4: 7-10

A reading from the first letter of St John

*God is love.*

My dear people,  
let us love one another  
since love comes from God  
and everyone who loves is begotten by God and  
knows God.

Anyone who fails to love can never have known  
God,  
because God is love.

God’s love for us was revealed

when God sent into the world his only Son

so that we could have life through him;

this is the love I mean:

not our love for God,

but God’s love for us when he sent his Son

to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

## ■ The word of the Lord.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

In 14: 23

Alleluia, alleluia! / All who love me will keep my  
words, / and my Father will love them and we  
will come to them. / Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

In 15: 9-17

A reading from the holy Gospel according  
to John

*No one can have greater love than to lay down his  
life for his friends.*