



St Catherine Labouré Gymea Parish

The 4th Sunday of Easter Good Shepherd Sunday

7/8 May 2022

Year C

*“I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my own sheep and my own know me.”*

John 10:14

WISHING ALL OUR MOTHERS A HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY

Dear Parishioners,

Today is a wonderful day to give thanks to God and to celebrate the gift of mothers and motherhood. To all the wonderful mum's in our parish, I hope you have a wonderful day; full of joy, peace, and familial affection. Of course, we also remember to give thanks to God and to pray for those mothers who now rest in the peace of Christ. I will be offering a Mass this weekend especially for this intention.

It is also important that we ask Our Lady, Mother of God, and Mother of all Mother's to intercede and defend the vocation to motherhood—its inestimable dignity, invaluable importance, and irreplaceable contribution — in a world that has become so confused about simple truths on the nature of family life. The family is at the heart of what has allowed civilization to flourish. We should not be surprised, then, that the devil would want to destroy it. It is the duty of the Church and all Catholics to do all we can to protect this sacred institution. As Saint Pope John Paul II so wisely said: “As the family goes, so goes the nation and so goes the whole world in which we live.” In other words, chaos in our understanding of the family inexorably leads to chaos and social upheaval in our world. We should all keep this point in mind and in our prayer. How about praying the rosary as a family this day?

As the old saying goes: “A family that prays together stays together,”

Today, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, is also Good Shepherd Sunday. (In many way, this is quite providential. Mothers can play a huge role in promoting vocations to the priesthood.) The Church dedicates this day to praying for an increase in vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. It is arguable that there is no greater need in the Church in Australia today than an increase in vocations; particularly, strong and faithful leaders—emboldened by the beauty of our rich tradition and clothed in prayer — to guide and inspire the flock into the future as ‘good shepherds after the heart of Jesus’. As you know, the Eucharist is the “source and summit” of our faith but we always need priests to act *in persona Christi* in order to confect this beautiful Sacrament. God always calls — the question is whether we are prepared to listen and respond generously. Please remember to pray for priests — we survive on the prayers of others. But do, also, remember to pray for an increase in vocations. Perhaps as you say grace as a family this Mothers' day you might also remember to include this intention.

Saint Pope John Paul II also spoke of how reverence at the altar and for the Eucharist is central to inspiring vocations. He wrote: “The Eucharist is at the centre of all prayer initiatives. The sacrament of the Altar holds a decisive value for the birth of vocations and for their perseverance, because from Christ's redemptive sacrifice those called are able to draw strength to dedicate themselves entirely to the proclamation of the Gospel. It is good that adoration of the Blessed Sacrament goes hand-in-hand with the Eucharistic Celebration, thus prolonging, in a certain sense, the mystery of the Holy Mass.” A reminder that we have adoration in this parish everyday (except Monday) from 8:30am-9:10am. May it bear much spiritual fruit for Gymea and beyond!

God bless you all, especially our beloved mothers.

In your charity, please pray for our recently deceased;

Rita Bernadette Pickard, Ederina Fabian, Margaret Hammel, Anita Reid, Martin Tonitto, David Wright, Frank Murray, Biagio 'Bill' Parrino, Terry Halls, Arthur Ollenrenshaw, Suzanne Miller, John Keys, Michael Malvern, Rex Watson.

We remember those whose Anniversaries we commemorate at this time:

Cec & Mary Baz, Jim Borg, John Bradley, Joe Caputo, Jim (James) Casey, Fred Cobcroft, Tracy de Lyall, Roy & Mary Esplin, Mary Garland, Fr. Peter Gillam, Bill Godfrey, Rod Halter, Felicity Ketel, Kathy Little, Lionel & Bev Hurst, Sid & Sylvia Mullen, Joe Sammut, John Vincent Sidgreaves, Antonio Sorbara, Betty White, Fr. Reg Wilson (1st Anniversary)

We pray for all the sick of our Parish Community and their carers. Especially:

Catherine Bassiuni, Gerry Banister, Jean Bell, Helen Bridges, Pamela Buckley, Patricia Butler, Hugh Casey, Elaine Coughlan, Patricia Cutcliffe, Alice Elliott, Dorothy Fraser-Bell, Jeff Greenaway, Patricia Gordon, Maree Hinton, Melina Grieco, Gloria Klein, Laurence McDonnell, Doug Maybon, Evie Morgan, Anthony Morris, Julia Quach, Marie Rayner, Tony Ryan, Evelyn Spiteri, Yin Kwan Tsang, Lindy Webb, Maree Whitaker, Gary Wood.

WE NEED YOU (CATECHISTS): Unfortunately, two of our catechists have had to withdraw from teaching and so we are in urgent need of two new catechists. Please think about stepping forward. Gymea Bay Primary School will commence Scripture classes from Term 2, Week 2 – Thurs 5th May & is in need of a teacher.

SAVE THE DATE: Our inaugural, though henceforth annual, “Labouré Lecture and Parish Dinner” will take place on **Friday, 25 November**. A distinguished guest speaker will be invited. Details to follow but please save the date in your calendars now.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: Enrolments for those children wanting to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation (Year 6 and above) will close on the **8th May**. Please go to our parish website to enrol your child. **First preparation class will begin next Sunday, 15th May; a reminder email will be sent this coming week.**

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE:

Thank you to all those who contacted the parish to form part of a newly founded committee to help oversee the care of the parish’s property. There is much to do on this front and so I would like to call a first meeting on **Thursday 12th May at 7:00pm** (please note the slight time change) at the presbytery. I am very grateful for your support on this front.

NEW PARISH “APOLOGETICS” GROUP: What is “apologetics”? Etymologically, the word means to “speak in defence” – in this case of the Catholic faith. Perhaps more than ever, knowing how to defend your faith in public and appreciating the intelligence of the Church’s teachings is a grave imperative. Although details are being finalised, at this stage, I intend to host this event on Wednesday evenings, beginning on the 1st of June. Further details will be provided but any thoughts and suggestions are, as always, most welcome. It is likely our first apologetics series will be a ten week course on the Eucharist/The Mass.

EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION: Sunday 19th June is the great Feast of Corpus Christi, the Body & Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ. I am hoping to arrange a procession after the 9:30am Mass down the high street and back – to bring Our Lord to the people and to bless this suburb. Please mark this event in your calendar as it would be a wonderful witness to have a large crowd follow Our Lord.

NEW! CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE (GYMEA):

CWL has now been launched in our parish. This wonderful organisation has a rich history of encouraging and empowering Catholic women to do incredible things for God and the Church. Membership to CWL will afford a free invitation to the retreat day, which will take place in the coming months. **Sign up forms can be found on the tables at the back of the Church or on the CWL website.** A first meeting will be held in May, a month specially dedicated to Our Lady, Mother of Christians.

NEXT “LECTURE” SERIES: Fr Greg will be giving a three-part series of talks for the Archdiocese titled **“Simple Suggestions to Spiritual Obstacles: Rekindling our Prayer Life after “Pandemic Procrastination”**. These talks will be delivered at St Cath’s on three consecutive Thursdays (**21st July, 28th July, 4th August**) from 7.30pm to 8.45pm but people across the Archdiocese will join us via Zoom. Please mark the dates in your diary. The working titles for these three talks are as follows:

- Lecture One, 21st July: *Silence – The Antidote to Spiritual Blindness & the Pathway to Truth*
- Lecture Two, 28th July: *Self-Knowledge – The Antidote to Spiritual Deception & the Pathway to Prudence*
- Lecture Three, 4th August: *Self-Sacrifice - The Antidote to Spiritual Acedia & the Pathway to Joy*

The original lecture series on the power of language will likely be held in the city at a date TBC.

HUGHES ELECTORATE: MEET THE CANDIDATES:

Jannali Anglican Church is hosting a "meet the candidates" event for the Hughes electorate, and all the churches in the electorate are invited. Come and hear what the candidates have to say to all Christians, especially regarding their positions on the Religious Discrimination Bill and religious freedom in general. This event will be held on **Thursday May 12, 7:30pm**, Jannali Anglican Church, 83 Wattle Rd, Jannali. They hope to provide a live stream for those who cannot make the event in person.

ADORATION: Remember, our parish has Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament available every day Tuesday - Saturday from 8:30 am - 9:10 am.

NEW RCIA PROGRAM: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults will be conducted for the first time in this parish this year. I'm looking for volunteers who have a good grounding in the faith to assist Fr. Ronnie and I in instructing potential converts. Please let one of the priest's know if you would be interested.

INVITATION: The Sydney Archdiocese Committee, of the World Apostolate of Fatima invite you to our May Celebration in St. Mary's Cathedral on Saturday May, 14th Honouring our Lady and intercede for peace in the World and the welfare of Australia. To commence at 11.30am with entrance procession (inside the Cathedral) with the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima (with the Immaculate Heart) Rosary, Litany of Loreto & Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary followed by Holy Mass at Noon. We look forward to you joining us in Prayer, especially for this recent outbreak in Ukraine. Further enquiries please contact us on - [0403578994](tel:0403578994).

FROM THE CATECHISM (ON THE POPE):

"**881** The Lord made Simon alone, whom he named Peter, the "rock" of his Church. He gave him the keys of his Church and instituted him shepherd of the whole flock.⁴⁰⁰ "The office of binding and loosing which was given to Peter was also assigned to the college of apostles united to its head."⁴⁰¹ This pastoral office of Peter and the other apostles belongs to the Church's very foundation and is continued by the bishops under the primacy of the Pope."

LONG TERM PARISHIONER DECEASED

We mourn the loss of long term parishioner, **NAME**, who passed away on **DATE**. May he rest in the peace of Christ.

CHILDREN NOW COMING TO MASS ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS From now on, students from St Catherine Labouré Primary School will be joining us for morning Mass on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays**. It is such a joy to have these children share in the Eucharistic celebration with us!

RECLAIMING EVANGELISATION: Live Online Renewal Series with Fr Mike Schmitz. Saturday **28 May 10.00 -11.30am**. Why Make Disciples?

LEGION OF MARY: Our Parish is blessed to have a longstanding Legion of Mary group, which meets every Thursday morning after the 9.15 am Mass. We are always on the look out for new members. Please get involved (or just come and see!) and do pray for our Legion members too! They do such wonderful works in honour of Our Blessed Mother.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM: Thank you to those parents who attended the information to launch our new Sacramental Program. It is not too late to register your children for any of this year's sacraments. Please visit our parish website to do so. **To watch a recording of what was discussed, please use the following link:** www.youtube.com/watch?v=T5eHFIDp5yk

COMMUNION TO THE SICK: I am grateful to Michele Anthony who has very generously agreed to become the Co-Ordinator of this important ministry. Please let Michele or the Parish Office know of anyone (perhaps a sick relative or friend in the parish) who might like to have Holy Communion brought to them.

MEDJUGORJE PRAYER GROUP: Did you know we have a wonderful group of faith-filled parishioners who gather each Thurs evening at 6pm in our church, to say the Rosary & pray & reflect on Our Lady's messages to the world. Why not join them, everyone is welcome!

EUTHANASIA BILL: This dreadful piece of legislation, which will undoubtedly impact upon the rights and protections of the sick and most vulnerable (as has been proven across the world), is now being debated in the Legislative Assembly in NSW. **Please sign the petition forms at the back of the Church today!** Incidentally, I was impressed that even the UK government realised the slippery slope of Euthanasia and recently refused to legalise assisted suicide in the country. We too should stand firm and be a sign of hope for a much better way forward. If you would like to hear some of the arguments as to why we should oppose it, you might like to listen to my talk www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIQKbrUV1VI (Or go to our parish's YouTube page). Please get involved: www.no euthanasia.org.au/petition_2108_ocp_nsw

CONFESSIONS: A reminder that confessions are available **before and after every weekday Mass** (including Saturdays). Please approach Fr Ronnie or myself if you wish to receive this Sacrament. .

PARISH DIRECTORY:

Parish Priest: Father Gregory Morgan
Assistant Priest: Father Ronnie Maree
Presbytery: 123 Gynea Bay Rd Gynea
Secretary: Kerry Ginman
Office Hours: Monday to Thursday being:
 8:30 am - 12 noon then 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm
 Friday: 8:30 am - 12:30 pm then closed.
Office & Presbytery telephone: 9525.9993
Email: office@stcaths.org.au
Website: www.stcaths.org.au
Facebook: <https://m.facebook.com/St-Catherine-Labour%C3%A9-Parish-Gynea-108678858244000/>
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiprf67dfGwEtt6hduzy7Og>
Parish Safeguarding Officer: Kerry
Email: safeguarding@stcaths.org.au
St Catherine Labouré Parish School
Principal: Jodie McKay
School Office: 9524.9706
Email: info@sclgynea.catholic.edu.au

PARISH DIRECTORY:

Sacramental Programme: Karen
Email: sacramentalprogramme@stcaths.org.au
Catechist Coordinator: Karen
Email: catechists@stcaths.org.au
Youth (Music) Coordinator: Genevieve
Email: youthministry@stcaths.org.au
Gynea Music/Choirs - Clare (Coordinator)
Email: musicgynea@stcaths.org.au
Legion of Mary - Mike (President)
Email: legionofmarygynea@stcaths.org.au
Medjugore Prayer Group - Bruno
Email: medumedjugorjeprayegroup@stcaths.org.au
St Catherine's Friendship Club:
Email: friendshipclub@stcaths.org.au

MASS TIMES

Monday - Saturday 9.15 am
Saturday 5 pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 7:30 am, 9:30 am & 5 pm

CONFESSION TIMES

Mondays - Saturdays

Before and after every weekday Mass (including Saturdays)

On Saturdays 4:30 pm - 4:55 pm

ADORATION TIMES

Tuesdays - Saturdays
 8:30 am - 9:10 am

*(Fridays and Saturdays:
 9:00 am Benediction)*



14 / 15 May 2022

The 5th Sunday of Easter - Year C

	Saturday Vigil 5.00pm	Sunday 7.30am	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday Evening 5.00pm
Acolytes & Ministers of Holy Communion:	Phil Boland Cathy Bonello Jodie McKay	Sam Keir Jim Gothard Doreen Vernon	Kevin Bourke Carole Venier Barbara Foster	David Gormley Margaret Reid Paul Marsden
1st Reader:	Natasha Metlege	Jim Gothard	Clare Cowley	Margaret Reid
Psalmist:	Emma Honey		Michele Anthony	
2nd Reader:	Margaret Morris	Adele Greenaway	Barbara Foster	Moira Loader
Intercessions:	Maureen Pocock	Doreen Vernon	Carole Venier	Jed Loader

Altar Servers:

Audio-Visual Pauline / Mark Natalie GPC Faye & James

Operators: NO SENIOR CHOIR

The Clean Team: Group B: Paras Family



The Altar Society: Group 2:

Doreen Vernon, Ava T Mahne & Aurora Hall.

In The Counting House:

Team :

NOT until further notice.

Thank you.



May God and our Lady of Lourdes care for and protect us all.