



*Please pray for:* Frank & Alice May Purcell (deceased)

**Mass Times: Sunday 3rd May 2020 – Fourth Sunday of Easter (A)**

Sunday, 03 May	<b>No Mass</b>	Solemn Mass
Sunday, 03 May	<b>No Mass</b>	Young Adults Mass
Monday, 04 May	<b>No Mass</b>	Monday – 4th Week of Easter
Tuesday, 05 May	<b>No Mass</b>	Tuesday – 4th Week of Easter
Wednesday, 06 May	<b>No Mass</b>	Wednesday – 4th Week of Easter
Thursday, 07 May	<b>No Mass</b>	Thursday – 4th Week of Easter
Friday, 08 May	<b>No Mass</b>	Friday – 4th Week of Easter
Saturday, 09 May	<b>No Mass</b>	Saturday – 4th Week of Easter

**Regular Confession Times:**

Monday to Friday: 11.45 am – 12.30 pm (before 12.35 pm Mass)  
Sunday: 5.30 pm (before 6.00 pm Mass) *(Not available at this time)*

**The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office**



If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. Please contact the **Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office** on ph 02 9390 5812.



A VOCATION VIEW: 'The most beautiful discovery true friends make is that they can grow separately without growing apart.' *Elisabeth Foley - writer*

**CatholicCare – is available on their Care line – 13 18 19 – to lend a helping hand to those in need – 8am–6pm, Monday–Friday – or email – [connect@catholiccare.org](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org) or go to – [www.catholiccare.org](http://www.catholiccare.org)**

**Virtual Pentecost Pilgrimage**

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney is an official sponsor of this *virtual* free pilgrimage which began on Sunday 26th April and runs for 6 weeks until we celebrate Pentecost on Sunday 31st May. The pilgrimage is aimed at helping Catholics nurture their faith in the lead up to Pentecost, while public Masses are suspended. Each Wednesday and Sunday, formative videos will be released for registered participants to engage in online. Each set of videos will reflect on the Sunday readings of that week with a particular focus on the role of the Holy Spirit in our Church and world. To register for this free online pilgrimage to Pentecost, simply go to – [www.pentecostpilgrimage.com](http://www.pentecostpilgrimage.com) – and enter your details to receive a link to the videos as they are released over the next six weeks.

**Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Parish Safeguarding Volunteer Online Induction Training, Working With Children Check & Code of Conduct** – St Benedict's Parish, Chippendale (Broadway) requires all of our volunteers to complete the Parish Safeguarding Volunteer online training, obtain a Working With Children Check and sign a Code of Conduct. It is MANDATORY that volunteers in all parishes comply with the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office training. Please contact Amanda or Brooke at St James' Parish, Forest Lodge on 9660 1407 or email [info@stjames-stbede.org.au](mailto:info@stjames-stbede.org.au) to obtain the link to the online training and required forms which will be sent to you via email. Thank you.

**Streaming of Sunday Mass – from St James' Parish, Glebe – 5pm**

**Sunday Mass is now being celebrated by the Dominican community and streamed from St James' Parish in Glebe (Forest Lodge) at 5pm each Sunday. Here is the link to this Sunday's Mass – Fourth Sunday of Easter (3rd May 2020) – <https://youtu.be/eTcPqg2R4FM>**

**Sunday Mass** – is also televised by **Channel Ten**, every Sunday at **6am** – this service is called '*Mass for you at Home*' – it is not known which church in Australia the Mass will be televised from and may vary each week

**Donations to Caritas for Project Compassion 2020**

Dear everyone, if you would like to make a donation to Caritas Australia for Project Compassion 2020, here are the options for this year:

- To make a credit card or direct deposit payment, call 1800 024 413 or visit [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au)
- To post a cheque or money order – GPO Box 9830, Sydney NSW 2001

**Prayer Resources during time of Pandemic**

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney has a dedicated webpage with prayers and scriptural reflections to help nurture your faith during these difficult times. You'll find the webpage here:

<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/coronavirus-updates/prayer-resources-for-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

**Jesuit Refugee Service Emergency Cash Appeal**

During COVID-19, many refugees and people seeking asylum in Sydney need help to prevent them from becoming homeless and destitute. For many of these men, women and children, the Jesuit Refugee Service is their only safety net. To donate to the Jesuit Refugee Service Emergency Cash Appeal, please call – (02) 9356 3888 or email – [jrsreception@jrs.org.au](mailto:jrsreception@jrs.org.au)

**Urgent Appeal for Personal Hygiene products – for Seafarers**

Donations of personal hygiene products are urgently sought for Care Packages being put together for the thousands of seafarers trapped on ships coming into Sydney waters. Chaplain to the Seafarers, Sr Mary Leahy, rsj, says donations of shampoo, body-wash, toothpaste, deodorant, razors, knitted beanies and chocolates are desperately needed for the thousands of seamen currently stranded on ships on our waterfront, due to Corona Virus. Sr Mary has spent the past 20 years helping those who earn a living on the seas and says she has never seen conditions so dire. The parishes of St Andrew's, Malabar – St Charles Borromeo, Ryde / Gladesville and Our Lady Star of the Sea, Miranda have agreed to be drop-off points for any hygiene products (and other mentioned goods) anyone wishes to donate. Thank you for your support.

**Hope Campaign**

St Martha's Parish, Strathfield, is seeking assistance in promoting their *Hope* campaign across the Archdiocese, to encourage everyone to carry and spread *Hope*, especially in these uncertain times. The following link from the Catholic Weekly contains the story of what St Martha's are hoping to achieve – <https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/even-in-lockdown-st-marthas-keeps-busy/> Any assistance that you can provide to help them promote *Hope* would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Nicole Mazzaferro on – 0421 959 636 if you have any questions or would like to help.

**Petition – for vulnerable people – during COVID-19**

As the COVID-19 pandemic tightens its grip, many migrants in vulnerable situations are seeking protection and have been left without a safety net. Our government has excluded them from all support packages and we have seen the devastating effects on the community on a daily basis. Please join in signing and sharing the Catholic petition to leave no one behind during the COVID-19 pandemic – <https://www.change.org/nooneleftbehind>

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*I am the gate of the sheepfold.*

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,  
I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come  
are thieves and brigands;

but the sheep took no notice of them.

I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:  
he will go freely in and out  
and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes

only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come

so that they may have life  
and have it to the full.'

#### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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# Reflections on the Gospel



# THE SAVING WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

03 MAY 2020

## JESUS: SHEPHERD AND GATE

To appreciate today's Gospel and the images it features, we have to understand something of shepherding practices in Palestine at the time of Jesus.

In applying to himself the image of shepherd, Jesus presupposes the intimate knowledge that should exist between a shepherd and his sheep. Sheep from various flocks would be penned up at night in communal sheepfolds. At daybreak, shepherds would come to the gate, call, and gather their sheep to lead them out to pasture. While during the night the sheep were all mixed up together, the shepherd could rely on the fact that his sheep would recognise his voice, separate themselves from the rest, and willingly follow him through the gate of the sheepfold.

Jesus contrasts a 'good shepherd' like this with others who come only to steal, harass, and ultimately bring about the loss of sheep that do not belong to them.

Jesus goes on to identify himself with the 'gate' of the sheepfold. This adds a fresh dimension. If the sheep are to flourish, they have to go out each morning and find pasture. Yet, if they do not return to the fold at night, they will be at risk. So daily they have to come and go through the gate. The gate is their means of access to both protection and growth.

As 'Gate' Jesus performs this function for the community. Through continual interaction with him in prayer and worship its members find life and growth.

In this sense he 'has come that they may have life and have it to the full' (v. 10).

Brendan Byrne, SJ

## FIRST READING

Acts 2:14, 36-41

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

*God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.*

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.'

#### ■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22:1-6. R. v. 1

**R. The Lord is my shepherd;**

**there is nothing I shall want. (or Alleluia!)**

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is nothing I shall want. / Fresh and green are the pastures / where he gives me repose. / Near restful waters he leads me, / to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

2. He guides me along the right path; / he is true to his name. / If I should walk in the valley of darkness / no evil would I fear. / You are there with your crook and your staff; / with these you give me comfort. **R.**

3. You have prepared a banquet for me / in the sight of my foes. / My head you have anointed with oil; / my cup is overflowing. **R.**



4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me / all the days of my life. / In the Lord's own house shall I dwell / for ever and ever. **R.**

## SECOND READING

1 Pet 2:20-25

**A reading from the first letter of St Peter**

*You had gone astray but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.*

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you are called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

#### ■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 10:14

**Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!**