



Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

(This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws)



Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year A - 10th May 2020

JESUS

THE WAY,
THE TRUTH,
AND
THE LIFE



Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life...

One of the greatest truths of the Christian faith is that we can know the living God. Our experience of God is not simply limited to knowing something about God, but we can know God personally. On this Fifth Sunday of Easter we reflect on Jesus as our way, truth and life and we receive the fullness of life in and through Him. Jesus assures us of a place in His kingdom: "Let not your hearts be troubled...there are many rooms in my father's house...so that where I am you may be too." This is a clear indication that by virtue of baptism we are truly children of God. This is why He considers us worthy of being where He is going to be. Jesus reveals the Father to us. He is the life that is not mere existence but sharing in the very life of God and communicating that life. Thus anyone who wants to know who God is and what He is like, must know Jesus. He has revealed the Father to us in His very being and life. He not only taught about a loving and forgiving Father, He lived His own life in a loving and forgiving way. He practiced what He preached. He taught in a very simple, down-to-earth way. To know Jesus means to have a personal, deep, warm relationship with Him. To follow the Way of Jesus is not to go anywhere. It is to become a special kind of person, whose whole being reflects the Truth and Life that Jesus reveals to us. It is to be a follower who is totally identified with the vision and the values of Jesus. It is to walk in Truth and Life.

Let us pray today that we may let the Lord form us by His words and example. Let our hearts accept whatever rejection or difficulties of life we are called to face to follow Jesus. May our hearts be on fire with love of the Lord.

This weekend, we give thanks to God for all mothers on this Mother's Day weekend. We acknowledge the care and love of mothers and pray that they receive joy, health and peace.

Blessings,
Fr. Dantus Thottathil.



This Week's Readings:

First Reading: Acts 6:1-7 – They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.

Psalm Response: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Second Reading: 1 Pet 2:4-9 – You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way, the truth and the life, says the Lord;
No one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia.

Gospel: John 14:1-12 – I am the way, the truth and the life.

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

*Without crossing the
worst situations, no one
can touch the best corners of life.
Dare to face anything in life...*

Next week's Readings First: Acts 6:1-7

Second: 1 Pet 2:4-9

Gospel: John 14:1-12

Mass Times: Weekend Masses Cancelled until further notice

Reconciliation: Cancelled until further notice

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday & Friday 9am to 2pm.

Parish Council Members: Chris Mahoney, Therese Evans,
Cathy McGrath, Lorraine Kumar, John Spillane

Pastor: Fr Dantus Thottathil thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au

Associate Pastor: Fr Prem Rethnamony

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A VOCATION VIEW:

The new ministry of "Deacon" is mentioned in today's Scripture. Perhaps the Lord is calling you to assist with the charitable, educational or liturgical needs of the Lord's People today.

Vocation Brisbane. P: (07) 3336 9392 E: vocation@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Primary School

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Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them: Pat and Jack Cochrane, Kevin Kranz, Patricia Briscoe, Alicia Black, Tessa Gorogo, Mick Gauci, Paul McKean, Geoffrey Whall, Kevin Harrop, Judy Mullan, Charles Lilley, Ann Brown, Sally Legarda, Gemma Paxman, James Thomas, Cindy Cummins, John Bacon, Winifred Linton, Jodie Bromiley, Casey Whitby, Trish Swan, Ian Splatt, Jan Hurst, Steven West, Ava Loda, Joan Thorpe, Patricia Haines, Belinda Wheeler, Cely Salisbury, The Bade Family, Carol Parker, Brian Crimmins, Brian Johnston, Medi Camelli, Hazel Foster, Dan Mullan, Stana Matic, Page Brosnan, Dot Abrahams, Amelia Ramsay, Jeanette Moore, Nola Murphy, Christiana Becker, Cathy Leane, Pauline McNamee, Pat Crimmins, Gina Mather.

May God embrace all who have recently died: Mildred Ball-Wilson, John Mills.

Anniversaries & Remembrances May: Josephine Romero, Babs Gilhooley, Amber Rose (birthday) daughter of Celina and David McGovern, Michael Czapkowski (birthday), Anastacia Wieland, Bill Cluck, Matha Cluck, Flo Conway, Aristeo Avenia, Denis Glanville, Edward Bartlett, Barbara McGhee, Denise Hodgson, Alma Maclean, Jessie Maclean, Kerry Powell, Norma Cowsell, Simon Bromley, Giovanni Ragagnin, Betty Avenia, Sr Anne Pulling RSH, Dr Salolatore Vitali, Laureen Smith, Maureen McNab, Nell Elliott, Bede Ryan, Aldo Bandiera, James Harrison, Ann Hockings, Nellie Modral, Saul David, Alberto Bandiera, Patricia Watson, Noel & Role Gablonski, Luigi Basso, Irma Moroney, Moira Peterson, Margaret Knights, Jessie Maclean, James King. *Please record any further names in the Anniversaries & Remembrance Diary at the Welcome Desk*

Keep in touch with your parish We are here to support you. If you or someone you know needs pastoral care, help to stay connected with the parish community or more information about sacraments please contact the parish office. If you regularly make a weekly contribution to the running of the Church on the collection plate and you are able to keep making your contributions without causing you any financial hardship, please contact the Parish Office to discuss the options available to continue your support.

Our planned giving bank account details for direct deposits are as follows:

BSB: 064 786 Account No: 100017027 Account name: Birkdale Parish Planned Giving

Kindly reference your deposit with your surname and your planned giving number/envelope number if you have one.

Parish Office – open on **Tuesdays and Fridays (excluding Public Holidays) between 9:00am and 2:00pm** until further notice. The preferred contact method is by phone 3822 2139 or email birkmmack@bne.catholic.net.au. If you require a priest IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY ONLY please phone 3396 0742

Free Subscriptions to The Catholic Leader: Parishioners can now receive The Catholic Leader digital newspaper straight to your inbox every Thursday morning. This free subscription is available while Masses are suspended and churches are closed across the Archdiocese of Brisbane due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Sign up here <https://buff.ly/35j9Jsl> to subscribe.

The Journey - Catholic Radio: The Journey is a weekly program developed by the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong and is the only Catholic radio program in Australia aired on general Christian radio. Visit www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

SVdP Donation: Our Birkdale St Vincent de Paul group are seeking donations of new born baby clothes, baby cot, pram and any items for a newborn to support a person in need who has recently moved to this area. If you have any suitable items, please contact the parish office on 3822 2139 to arrange delivery/collection.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

Second Reading: A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me? To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'