



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.'

## Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

The disciples are full of premonitions that their beloved leader was about to be cruelly done to death, leaving them abandoned. Yet he tells them: 'Let not your hearts be troubled.'

Why shouldn't their hearts, our hearts, be troubled by the disappearance of Our Lord's physical presence? The answer is because there is a purpose to his passage through death. It was to bring about a situation where our Risen Lord could share his life in ever more intimate fashion with his followers.

How does this come about?

At every Mass, after the gifts are brought to the altar, I pour a little water into the chalice of wine, saying: 'By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.'

What a powerful verb! By grace, we can participate in the Divine Life of the Risen Lord.

As the Greek saints of the early church used to say in very daring fashion: 'God became human so that humans might become God.'

We anticipate this at every Holy Communion when, as Pope John Paul II used to say: 'We digest, as it were, the secret of the Resurrection.'

We could pause for a moment after Communion to reverence the Divine Life dwelling in us, a truly Holy Communion!

Alleluia!

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# The Living Word

Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year A

7 May 2023

## First Reading Acts 6:1-7

*They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.*

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.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:1-2. 4-5. 18-19. R. v.22

(R.) *Lord, let your mercy be on us,  
as we place our trust in you.*

or

(R.) *Alleluia.*

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. (R.)
2. For the word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. (R.)

3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

## Second Reading 1 Pt 2:4-9

*You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.*

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 Acclamation Jn 14:6

*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 Jn 14:1-12

*I am the way, the truth, and the life.*

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;



## Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven Georges Hall

**Administrator:** Rev. Peter Krigovsky  
**Secretary:** Mrs. Veronica Denning (Wednesday 9.30am—4pm)

**Address:** 15 Georges Cres, Georges Hall; **Telephone:** 9727 3759  
**Website:** <http://www.smgh.org.au> **Email:** [parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com)  
**Facebook:** [fb.me/smgh2](https://fb.me/smgh2) **Streaming:** <https://cutt.ly/StMarys>

**St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Georges Hall**

*God and us Together*

**Principal:** Mrs Monica Palmer **Website:** [www.stmgeorgheshall.syd.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmgeorgheshall.syd.catholic.edu.au)  
**School Tel:** 9727 0000 **School email:** [info@stmgeorgheshall.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stmgeorgheshall.catholic.edu.au)

### MASS TIMES (English):

Vigil Mass 5 pm (Saturday)  
Sunday 8.00 am & 10.00 am  
Weekdays: Wednesday 6pm  
Mon. Tue. Thu. Fri. Sat. 9.00 am

### VIETNAMESE MASS

Vigil Mass 6.30 pm (Saturday)  
Sunday 5.30PM

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4.30pm-4.55pm  
or anytime on request

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Friday after Mass 9am-10.30am

### SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Offered to those in need on  
1st Tuesday at 9.00am Mass

**Baptisms:** Sunday 11.000am,  
Bookings are necessary.

**Children first Sacraments:**  
Please contact Elaine Nehme  
Email:  
[nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au](mailto:nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au)

**Parish site maintenance:**  
John Impala Phone TBA  
Ivan Leskur Phone TBA

**Parish Pastoral Council:**  
Bernie Freeburn, Veronica Den-  
ing, Elaine Nehme, Zena Azar,  
Paul Abdul Ahad, Natalie Goetz,  
Monica Palmer, Linh Bui, Jan-  
nette Samawi, Grace Mokdassi

**Finance Committee:**  
Bernie Freeburn, Michael Ander-  
son, Ted Goetz, Veronica Dening,  
Eileen Stevenson

**Golden oldies:** Lorraine Impala

**St Vincent de Paul:** Mary Scott

**Music ministry:** TBA

**Youth Ministry:** TBA

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.



**COVID-19** is still around, Please use sanitiser when you enter the church.

**2023 WALK WITH CHRIST** event celebrates the Feast of Corpus Christi. In this Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, archbishop Fisher invites all the faithful in the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney to unite and honour the real presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. The walk will take place on Sunday 11th June commencing at 2:30pm from the corner of Pitt Street and Martin Place. It will be preceded by a Festival in Martin Place commencing at 1.00pm.

**PARISH BUS TRIP** to 2023 Walk of Christ. Fr. Peter is seeking a

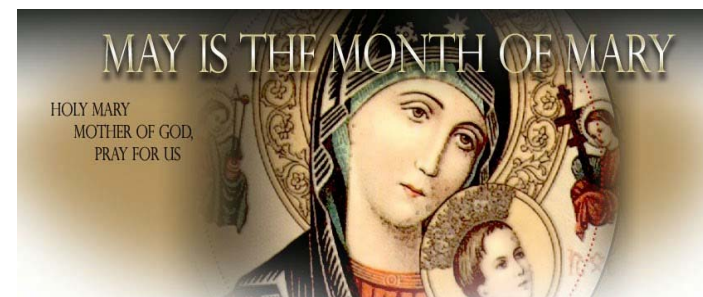
“champion” who would help with the logistics of organizing such trip. There are pamphlets to be hand out, a promotional video to be shown, and perhaps a promotional talk on weekend Masses and at school be given. The archdiocese will reimburse the cost of the bus.

**MASS TIME CHANGE** From this week the evening Mass will be on Wednesdays 6pm instead of Tuesdays 6pm. Likewise on Tuesdays there will be morning Mass at 9am instead of Wednesdays 9am. This change is due to Fr. Peter's Tuesdays' social evening. Thank you for understanding.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK** to those in need will be from now on offered during the Mass on 1st

Tuesday of the month.

**ADORATION AND BENEDICTION** will from now on be also available on Wednesdays prior to the evening Mass starting at 5pm.



**MAY THE MONTH OF MARY** To honour our Blessed Mother during May, let us pray the Rosary before every weekday Mass and a decade of the Rosary before every Sunday Mass. Free Rosary beads and Rosary cards are available at the back of the church.

**FLOWERS FOR OUR LADY** - during the month of May parishioners are invited to bring fresh flowers to place at the statue of Our Lady on the Sanctuary.

## Welcome to Year 5



**YEAR 5 AND THEIR FAMILIES** will assist at 10am Mass this weekend and offer hospitality after all Masses. Everyone is welcome to stay for a cuppa after Mass.



*Please Remember In Your Prayers Our Sick (please advise delisting)*



Daniel Clarke, Warren Clarke, Azelia Donati, Eileen Ellery, Kerry Gibbons, Kathleen Gibson, Christine Hughes, Sue James, Barbara Kains, Daniel Matesic, Phillip Nehme, David Sanders, Mary Strambio, Tony Strambio, Cornelius Van Baardwyk

*Let us Pray For All Those Who Have Died*



*Rest In Peace*

Ike Brooks, John Clarke, Vasco Zenere, Paul Almond, Joanne Litrico, Roger Luck, Umberto & Victoria Busuttil, Samir & Saba Jnr, Saba & Jamal Kairousz, Caterina & Giuseppe Turcato, Mato Stipich, Xavier Mayers, Josephine & Alojzy Pientka, Vicki Savvas, Enid Hancock, Primo Toigo, John Barlow, Harry Nasser, Andrew Doan, Licia Vaccaro, Olga Willoughby

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen.*

**2023 CWF APPEAL** - the first appeal for 2023 is held this weekend. It is a practical opportunity for most of us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and visit the sick and prisoners, as our donations are used by the Archdiocese to support the vital ministries of the Church in service to those who need it most.

Please give generously - donations to CWF are 100% tax-deductible. Use envelopes in the pews or envelopes or Credit Card donation slips at the back of the church.

**CONFIRMATION PROGRAM** -The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday 20 May 2023 at 11.30am. by Bishop Terry Brady. Lessons have started this week. Parents/guardians who missed information night and want to enroll their child in the sacrament please contact Elaine by email: [nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au](mailto:nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au) or the parish office: [parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com)

### **2023 SACRAMENTAL DATES**

#### Reconciliation

Information Night—Wednesday 21 June @ 7pm  
Commitment Weekend - any Mass 24/25 June  
Sacrament - Wed 16/8, Thurs 17/8, Fri 18/8

#### First Holy Communion

Information Night - Wednesday 13 September @ 7pm  
Commitment Weekend - any Mass 16/17 September  
Sacrament - Sunday 05 November @ 11.30am  
- Sunday 12 November @ 11.30am

All enquiries: email: [nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au](mailto:nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au) or the parish office: [parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com)

**SAFEGUARDING OUR PARISH** - Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding Office at 93905810 or Email: [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. **Our parish** has a folder (with Safeguarding information including quarterly newsletters) in the church – parishioners are welcome to view. A link to the Archdiocese's Child Safeguarding Policy is available from the homepage of our parish website and on display in the folder. Enquiries: Veronica via [parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com](mailto:parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com).