



Cared for by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart

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**Fourth Sunday
of Easter
Year A
2nd/3rd May
2020**

In a nutshell

We are not sheep, but we can make a choice to follow Jesus and be part of his flock.

Jesus promises us his life and love, to be shared with others.

We are not asked to be mindless imitators of another person or to be swayed by specious arguments.

Jesus is the gate through which we enter into the fullness of life he came to bring us.



Christ is Alive! He is our hope, and in a wonderful way he brings youth to our world, and everything he touches becomes young, new full of life. The very first words then, that I would like to say to every young Christian are these: Christ is alive and he wants you to be alive !

He is in you, he is with you and he never abandons you. However far you may wander, he is always there, the Risen one. He calls you and he waits for you to return to him and start over again. When you feel you are growing old out of sorrow, resentment or fear, doubt or failure, he will always be there to restore your strength and hope.

Pope Francis *Christ is Alive*, (Apostolic Exhortation to Young People)

Pope Francis Prayer for protection from Coronavirus

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you

will provide, so that,

as you did at Cana of Galilee,

joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,

to conform ourselves to the Father's will

and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself,

and bore our sorrows to bring us,

through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test

– and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

The Parish office remains open - Monday - Thursday 9am–3pm

Please call the office if you require any assistance

9315 7562

Fr Phil can be contacted on 0420 329 731

If you wish to have an anniversary mass offered or a mass or prayers offered for an intention, please email the parish office stbparish_coogee@yahoo.com.au or call 9315 7562.

Mass Offerings: ***Your prayers are requested for the following:***

Recently Deceased: Donald Knaggs, Jim Kavanagh, Paolo Bellini, Maureen O’Conner.

Anniversary: Sergio Ovelar, Ned Ferguson

Other Deceased: Francis and Will Champion, June Ann Knight, McGlinn Family, Eileen and Paul McMahon, Kit Sanders, Barry Telford, Alma & Jack Saidey, Bill Jack, Jack Olde, Marie Cunningham, Brenda Dore, Essie, Heather and Patricia Scott, Michael Cremin, John Keane.

Sick: Bernice Ralston, Chaiel Blacombe, Cathryn Ferguson, Paula Hudson, Elizabeth Khoury, Susan Behan, Anne Stirling, Maureen O’Connor, Neil Thornton, Tony Cruikshank, Diane Gordon, Therese Warfield, Lyn Sweeney, Paul Evans, Owen O’Conner, Margaret Mary Foody, Trish Shadwick, Roslyn Powell, Jake Hudson, Michelle Thornton, Justin Wood, Richard Healy, Joan Edwards, Marian Moreno, Judy Chock, Faye Mather, Alex Campbell, Maximilian Naum, Geoffrey Karpin, Chris Schneider.

Parishioners are invited to watch Masses streamed live as listed below.

OLSH Randwick has excellent online Masses and liturgies :

<https://www.facebook.com/olshparish.randwick/>

Wollongong Diocese has excellent Sunday Mass at 9am each week:

www.dow.org.au

We pray for families - supporting them with the increased stress of confinement.

Lord, these are difficult times. Covid-19 has brought many changes to our families. Children who spent their days at school and parents who spend their working lives travelling are now all home.

For some this is a blessing, a time to reconnect. But as the weeks of confinement stretch out ahead of us and the novelty of being home together wears thin, nerves might fray.

Give us the patience, Lord to live together as one. Help us be more tolerant of each other. Help us recognise when someone in our household needs space. Empower us to willingly play our part in keeping our families together. We especially remember and pray for those for whom home may be a place of hurt. O Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for people alone in isolation - Lord, we know that social distancing is the one chance we have to defeat Covid-19, to slow down its spread. But in distancing ourselves from others, many of us are home, alone. Our physical contact with others is limited or non-existent.

For most people, this level of isolation is hard to deal with. We’re used to meeting people in the street, in the shop, in our workplace, in our church. Activities we have taken for granted – eating in or out with friends, popping around to a neighbour for a cup of tea and a chat, going to concerts or plays - these have all been suspended. Some of us are still connected to the outside world by phone or internet. We can still see the faces of our friends and families on our phones or computer screens. We can still hear their voices. But for many, their view of the outside world is limited to the empty streets they can see from their windows.

Bless us in our new found isolation. Help us cope, knowing that as part of your family, we are never truly alone.

St Brigid's Parish News

Parish income has taken a bit of a “tumble”, with the church closed, and Masses canceled during the COVID 19 crisis. We still receive rental income from Only About Children child-care; however this also may reduce in the months ahead. We still also receive parishioners’ credit card planned giving contributions. **Thank you for this.** Some people have dropped their planned giving envelopes at the parish office. Again, **Thank you.** **If you wish to make a donation to the parish you may do so directly through our website** www.stbrigidscoogee.org.au If you click the **SUPPORT US** tab on the front page it will bring you to a secure donations page. Click on the green donate button, and choose which area you are donating to. “Planned giving” is fully tax deductible, or loose “2nd Collection” -supports the maintenance of parish buildings and pastoral programs; “1st Collection” is for the support of our MSC priests. Thank you, *Fr Phil Hicks msc (parish priest)*

This crisis will pass, thankfully the use of technology has made it possible for us to remain connected as a parish family. I encourage you to pray together with your families create a sacred space and be assured that you are all in my thoughts and prayers.

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney is an official sponsor of this virtual free pilgrimage which began on Sunday 26 April and will run for 6 weeks.

The pilgrimage is aimed at helping Catholics nurture their faith in the lead up to Pentecost while public Masses are suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each Wednesday and Sunday, formative videos from will be released for registered participants to engage 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 and enter your details to receive a link to the videos as they are released over the next six weeks.

Parousia media are offering four courses for free online starting next week:

“Altaration The mystery of the mass revealed” Monday 4th May (7.30pm)

“Chosen: This is your Catholic Faith” Tuesday 5th May (7.30pm)

“Unlocking the mystery of the Bible” Friday 8th May (7.30pm)

“Mary: A biblical walk with blessed Mother” Friday 8th May (7.30pm)

For information and to sign up go to <http://www.parousiamedia.com>

From the Archives: During our recent renovations at the Parish office, we came across a beautiful cookbook compiled by parishioners in 1992. **Foreword**— “The heart of St Brigid’s is the people who share their faith. This heart of this book is the people who share their recipes” *Leek and Potato Soup*

Ingredients:	50g Butter	1.25l chicken stock	Method: Heat oil and Butter, add leeks and fry. Add seasonings, nutmeg and simmer for 30 mins. Boil potatoes for 30 mins also. Cool and Blend until smooth. Add Cream and heat through (do not boil) Adjust seasoning, garnish with chives and enjoy
	1 tbl sp Oil	Salt, Pepper	
	4 Leeks, sliced	Pinch of Nutmeg	
	4 Potatoes, sliced	3/4 cups Cream	

**COVID-19
SUPPORT**
FEE-FREE COURSES



In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, TAFE NSW, in conjunction with the NSW Government, is offering a number of fee-free* short courses that can be completed in just days or weeks, offering practical skills and experiences across a range of industries.

If you’re considering a new direction, why not explore some of the fee-free* short courses as well as learn more about our Mature Age Scholarships, Destination Australia Scholarships and Women in Business program, among many others.

Whether or not you’ve studied at TAFE NSW before, we encourage you to explore some of the courses available today. Our course list is updated often, so be sure to check back regularly to find a fee-free* short course that's right for you.

<https://www.tafensw.edu.au/fee-free-short-courses>



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A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney Child sex Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org.

You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest, who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police,

St Brigid's Parish Coogee Safeguarding Officer is Sharon Waller.