



ST. PAUL PARISH

Under the Care of the Claretian Missionaries

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PARISH STAFF Parish Priest: Fr. Renato Manubag, CMF. Assistant Priest: Fr Joseph Van Lang Ngo, CMF.

Parish Secretary: Ms. Audrey Williamson

SCHOOLS Mr Damian Casamento (Principal) St Paul's Primary School 9363 1568

Ms Karen Bergin (Principal) St Peter's Primary School 8312 6900



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS. Collection Total = \$2230.00

A Mothers' Day Prayer— Loving God, we pray: for new mothers, coming to terms with new responsibility; for expectant mothers, wondering and waiting; for those who are tired, stressed or depressed; for those who struggle to balance the tasks of work and family; for those who are unable to feed their children due to poverty; for those whose children have physical, mental or emotional disabilities; for those who raise children on their own; for those who have lost a child; for those who care for the children of others; for those whose children have left home; and for those whose desire to be a mother has not been fulfilled.

Bless all mothers, that their love may be deep and tender, and that they may lead their children to know and do what is good, living not for themselves alone, but for God and for others. Amen.

Congratulations to all the boys and girls from St Paul's Primary school who will make their First Communion this week. May the Lord bless them today and always. Please keep them in your prayers.



Commitment Ceremony— At the masses of the Pentecost (27th and 28th of May), all people who work in the parish will be making their commitment to the St Paul's Church. Brother Joe will be available after all English masses to talk to readers, ministers of Holy Communion and all others who work at St Paul's Church. He will be available after all masses for 2 weekends 13/14th and 20/21st May. Please see him especially those who are new and need training.

Morning Tea—Tuesday 30.05.2023 Speaker - Alice, Topic - Extreme Weather. All welcome. Run by the Elderly Support Group

WE PRAY FOR: **Mothers Day:** Patricia Snaize, Mary Dalli, Rita Borg, Maranne Sacco, Maria Cutajar, Carmela Cauchi, **For Healing:** Carol McGloughlan, Pat & Skyla Reynolds, Betty Kent, Thomas Cassidy, Charlie Zarb, Charlie Bonello, **Recently Deceased:** Joan Marie Bettin, Conchetta Di Stefano, Maria DeBono, Anthony Spiteri, Servero Nini, Anna Candy, **Anniversaries:** Dora Mercieca, Frances, Laurie, Anthony Caruana, Maria & Anthony Sant, Golina, Michael & Laurie Cini, George & Joe Spiteri, Frank & Max Cini, Charlie Spiteri, Joe, Anthony & Zaren Vella, Ted & Michelle Caruana, Frank & Doris Spiteri, Rita & Wayne Vella, Amelia, Theresa & Tony Fenech, **Our Dear Departed:** Iginio Zanni, Joan & Carmelo Micallef, Natu Portelli, Liberata, Carmelo, Mikelina, Cikku, Carmena, Guzeppi, Mathew & Gloria Montebello, Tereza, Guzeppi & Carmenu Mifsud, Nina, Carmenu & Salvu Portelli, Sam & Vicky Cassar, Grace Avellino, Joe Caruana, Emy Saffarese, Patricia Snaize, Snaize, Cleur & Dougherty families, Michael & Jerry Borg, Pat Maunders & Nora Flynn, and all Souls.

Church Diary (Week beginning 14th May 2023)

Saturday 13th/14th May Baptism:

Saturday Mass	8.00am	English Mass Freddie Villaflor + Michael Muscat, + Daisy Ahtuam
	9.00am	Vietnamese Mass followed by Rosary till 10.15am
6.00pm	Vigil Mass + Daisy Ahtuam, + Mary Calleja & Calleja Family, + Rita Vella, + Tarcisio Cutajar	
Sunday Masses (Confession half an hour before all Masses on Sunday)		
8.00 am	English Mass + John M Vella, + Maryanne, Michael & Joe Azzopardi, Frank, Carmen & Joseph Gauci, Kalina & John Grech	
9.30am	English Mass + Joan & Carmelo Micallef, & Felix Camilleri, + Rose & Sylvia Pace, + Frank, George & Jimmy Azzopardi, Michael Cassar, Bill Camilleri, Phillip Magri & Tony Mizzi, + Frank Pace, Maria Tonna, Lorenzo Grech, + Emmanuel Fenech	
11.30am	Vietnamese Mass	
1.00pm	Spanish Mass	
6.00pm	Youth Mass + Van Thi Le, Michael My Quan Le & Maria Kiem Thi Nguyen	



Monday 15th May	8.00am	English Mass +
	9.00am	Vietnamese Mass
	11.00am	Lady of Knots
	7.00pm	Choir Practice
	7.00pm	Mass
Tuesday 16th May	8.00am	English Mass +
	9.00am	Vietnamese Mass
	10.00am	Italian Prayer Group
	5.45pm	Benediction, Novena, Adoration
	7.00pm	Mass
Wednesday 17th May	8.00am	English Mass + Mary Calleja & Calleja Family,
	9.00am	Vietnamese Mass
	10.00am	Funeral for Michael Muscat
	7.00pm	Mass
	7.30pm	Legion of Mary (Vietnamese)
Thursday 18th May	8.00am	English Mass +
The Ascension of the Lord	9.00am	Vietnamese Mass
	9.30am	Legion of Mary (English)
	10.00am to 10pm	Adoration of the Holy Eucharist
	2.00pm	Benlyne Nursing Home
	7.00pm	Mass
	7.30pm	Spanish Prayer Group
Friday 19th May	8.00am	English Mass +
	9.00am	Vietnamese Mass
	3.00pm	Divine Mercy
	6.30pm	First Holy Communion - St Paul's School



Saturday 20th/21st May Baptism:

Saturday Mass	8.00am	English Mass
	9.00am	Vietnamese Mass followed by Rosary till 10.15am
6.00pm	Vigil Mass + Mary Calleja & Calleja Family,	
Sunday Masses (Confession half an hour before all Masses on Sunday)		
8.00 am	English Mass + John M Vella	
9.30am	English Mass + Joan & Carmelo Micallef, & Felix Camilleri, + Frank & Michael Borg	
11.30am	Vietnamese Mass	
1.00pm	Spanish Mass	
6.00pm	Youth Mass +Van Thi Le, Michael My Quan Le & Maria Kiem Thi Nguyen	



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!
 All who love me will keep my words,
 and my Father will love them and we will
 come to them.
 Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 14:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
 John.

*I shall ask the Father and he will give you another
 Advocate.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my
 commandments.

I shall ask the Father,
 and he will give you another Advocate
 to be with you for ever,

that Spirit of truth
 whom the world can never receive
 since it neither sees nor knows him;

but you know him,

because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans;

I will come back to you.
 In a short time the world will no longer
 see me;

but you will see me,

because I live and you will live.

On that day

you will understand that I am in my Father
 and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments
 and keeps them

will be one who loves me

and anybody who loves me will be loved by
 my Father,

and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

14 MAY 2023

I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU ORPHANS

One of the most touching phrases in John's Gospel is Jesus' promise before his death that he would not leave his disciples orphans. The quality of his presence among them would change after the resurrection. In the future the Spirit would be the one instructing, strengthening, and protecting disciples. Jesus promises that whoever receives his commandments will be loved by the Father. This promise is fulfilled when the Samaritans become believers through Philip's ministry of preaching and healing. Samaritans were considered heretical Jews, but their positive reception of the word prompted the Jerusalem community to think again and to send Peter and John to welcome them into the larger community. The gift of the Spirit through the laying on of hands is the sign of God's blessing and of their full incorporation into the growing Christian family.

The first letter of Peter was written in a time of great trial and opposition. How were Christians going to respond to false charges against them? How were they able to give a credible account of their Christian faith? These early Christians were urged to remain steadfast and true to their values and belief. Like them, we are encouraged to find our source of strength in the example of Jesus who suffered and died for us even though he was innocent. It is not an easy path we are asked to tread but we are encouraged to see that our best defence is the quality of our lives and the depth of our hope.

FIRST READING

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They laid hands on them, and they received the
 Holy Spirit.*

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PSALM

Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20. R. cf. v. 2

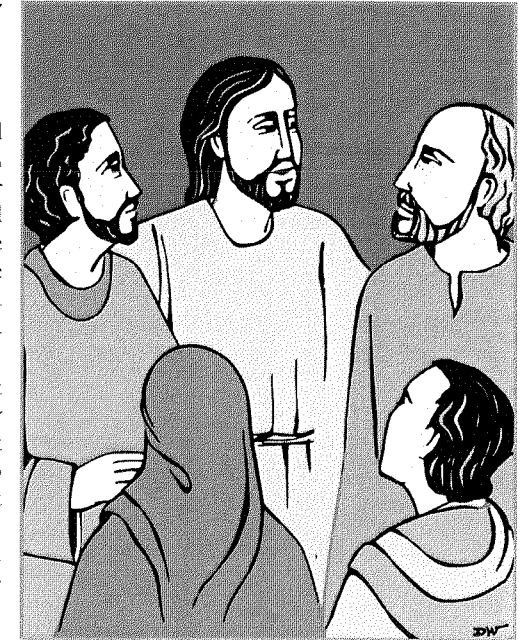
R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. (or Alleluia!)

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth, /
 O sing to the glory of his name. / O render
 him glorious praise. / Say to God: 'How
 tremendous your deeds! **R.**

2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow; / shall
 sing to you, sing to your name!' / Come and
 see the works of God, / tremendous his deeds
 among men. **R.**

3. He turned the sea into dry land, / they
 passed through the river dry-shod. / Let our
 joy then be in him; / he rules for ever by his
 might. **R.**

4. Come and hear, all who fear God. / I will
 tell what he did for my soul: / Blessed be God
 who did not reject my prayer / nor withhold
 his love for me. **R.**

**SECOND READING**

1 Pet 3:15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

*In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was
 raised to life.*

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and
 always have your answer ready for people who
 ask you the reason for the hope that you all
 have. But give it with courtesy and respect
 and with a clear conscience, so that those who
 slander you when you are living a good life in
 Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations
 that they bring. And if it is the will of God that
 you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing
 right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he
 was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty,
 to lead us to God. In the body he was put to
 death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

■ **The word of the Lord.**