

# COVID-19 PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL



## ***1-Pray for people who are infected with COVID-19 or facing quarantine.***

Jesus, during Your ministry on Earth You showed Your power and caring by healing people of all ages and stations of life from physical, mental, and spiritual ailments. Be present now to people who need Your loving touch because of COVID-19. May they feel Your power of healing through the care of doctors and nurses.

Take away the fear, anxiety, and feelings of isolation from people receiving treatment or under quarantine. Give them a sense of purpose in pursuing health and protecting others from exposure to the disease. Protect their families and friends and bring peace to all who love them.

## ***2-Pray for people at higher risk of developing the disease.***

Dear Lord, we lift to You our concern for people who are more likely than others to become severely ill from COVID-19 — the elderly and people with chronic health conditions. Protect them from harm and be their comfort in this time of uncertainty and, for many, preventive isolation from loved ones.

## ***3-Pray for medical professionals, caregivers, and researchers responsible for fighting the new coronavirus.***

God, as more people get sick, healthcare workers and first responders are working longer hours with fewer supplies and with more risk of contracting the new coronavirus themselves. Renew their energy and sustain them on long shifts. Bring Your protection upon them as they work with patients. Multiply their supplies so they have the protective items needed to stay safe on the job.

Inspire and invigorate the research doctors developing better tests to diagnose the virus, create vaccines to prevent it, and identify protocols to eliminate the disease's spread.

## ***4-Pray for leaders responsible for making decisions about the new coronavirus.***

Father, we seek Your wisdom daily. Be with people making decisions that affect the lives and futures of our families, communities, countries, and the wider world. We pray that they communicate clearly, truthfully, and calmly — with each other and with the public — and that their messages are received and heeded. May truth and empathy be the touchstones of people setting policies for our protection.

## ***5-Pray for families adjusting to new ways of life.***

Holy Spirit, as families adjust to everyone being home as businesses and schools close, we ask that You guide people in their new realities. Give spouses grace for each other. Prompt worn-out parents to speak words of kindness and encouragement to their children. Help children find creative ways to experience the beauty of all You have created and continue learning.

## ***6-Pray for business owners and families facing financial stress.***

Jesus, we thank You for Your faithfulness in how you have guided and equipped people in their jobs and have provided in the past. It can be scary and overwhelming not knowing how bills and obligations will be met or to not be able to provide for families. As people feel financial strain during the uncertainty, bring them comfort and peace, reminding them that You are there for them. Provide for them in their times of need.

## ***7-Pray for grocery store workers and delivery drivers.***

Lord, we are so grateful for all the people who continue to work each day so that people are able to eat. We ask that You bless and protect them as they serve. Give them grace to handle disgruntled customers during supplies shortages. Keep their bodies healthy as they unload and stock boxes of supplies. Keep their cars and trucks running smoothly as they deliver needed supplies and food people have ordered online. And please protect them all from contracting the new coronavirus.

## ***8-Pray for the disease to stop spreading.***

Almighty God, we know that everything is in Your sovereign control. We ask that You keep this new coronavirus from continuing to spread. Give government officials the ability to safely handle people arriving from other countries. Help people decide to stay home instead of traveling or going out needlessly. Holy Spirit, remind people to wash their hands properly. And while it may be heartbreaking, comfort families as they decide to keep their distance from elderly or other high-risk family members.

***9-For those who died of the COVID-19,*** may God grant them eternal rest, and we pray for their families, may the Lord give them strength during this time of loss.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good  
will.

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great  
glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten  
Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the  
Father, have mercy on us.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

### FIRST READING *Deut 8:2-3,14-16*

*A Reading from the book of  
Deuteronomy.*

Moses said to the people: 'Remember  
how the Lord your God led you for  
forty years in the wilderness, to humble  
you, to test you and know your inmost  
heart – whether you would keep his  
commandments or not. He humbled  
you, he made you feel hunger, he fed  
you with manna which neither you nor  
your fathers had known, to make you  
understand that man does not live on  
bread alone but that man lives on  
everything that comes from the mouth  
of the Lord. 'Do not become proud of  
heart. Do not forget the Lord your God  
who brought you out of the land of  
Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who  
guided you through this vast and  
dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery  
serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this  
waterless place brought you water from  
the hardest rock; who in this wilderness

fed you with manna that your fathers  
had not known.'

The Word of the Lord.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Psalm 147:12-15,19-20*

#### R. *Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.*

1. O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!  
Zion, praise your God!  
He has strengthened the bars of  
your gates, he has blessed the  
children within you. R.
2. He established peace on your  
borders, he feeds you with finest  
wheat. He sends out his word to  
the earth and swiftly runs his  
command. R.
3. He makes his word known to  
Jacob, to Israel his laws and  
decrees. He has not dealt thus with  
other nations; he has not taught  
them his decrees. R.

### SECOND READING

*1 Corinthians 10:16-17*

*A reading from the first letter of St.  
Paul to the Corinthians.*

The blessing-cup that we bless is a  
communion with the blood of Christ,  
and the bread that we break is a  
communion with the body of Christ.  
The fact that there is only one loaf  
means that, though there are many of  
us, we form a single body because we  
all have a share in this one loaf.

The word of the Lord.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*John 6:51-52*

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the living bread from heaven,  
says the Lord. Whoever eats this bread  
will live for ever.  
Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

*John 6:51-58*

*A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to John.*

Jesus said to the Jews: 'I am the living  
bread which has come down from

heaven. Anyone who eats this bread  
will live for ever; and the bread that I  
shall give is my flesh, for the life of the  
world.' Then the Jews started arguing  
with one another: 'How can this man  
give us his flesh to eat?' they said.  
Jesus replied: 'I tell you most solemnly,  
if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of  
Man and drink his blood, you will not  
have life in you. Anyone who does eat  
my flesh and drink my blood has  
eternal life, and I shall raise him up on  
the last day. For my flesh is real food  
and my blood is real drink. He who eats  
my flesh and drinks my blood lives in  
me and I live in him. As I, who am sent  
by the living Father, myself draw life  
from the Father, so whoever eats me  
will draw life from me. This is the  
bread come down from heaven; not like  
the bread our ancestors ate: they are  
dead, but anyone who eats this bread  
will live for ever.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

### CREED

I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our  
Lord,  
*(All bow during these two lines)*  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin M  
ary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again  
from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God  
the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting.  
Amen.

# ST PAUL'S PARISH

562 SYDNEY ROAD, COBURG. VIC 3058

Tel: 9354-1564

Email: [stpaulcoburg@yahoo.com.au](mailto:stpaulcoburg@yahoo.com.au)

Website: [cam.org.au/coburg](http://cam.org.au/coburg)

Parish Priest: Fr. Raymond Bugeja

Parish Secretary: Mrs Loretta Meilak

St Paul's School Principal: Mrs Maria Mercuri

School Tel: 9354-8970

*St Paul's Parish strives to create an environment where children are safe, respected and cared for.*



## PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon - Friday: 10.30am to 3.30 pm.

## MASSES:

**Weekends: Saturday:** 6:00 pm (vigil),  
8.00pm (Neo Catechumenate)

**Sunday:** 9:00am, 10.30am (Italian),

**Weekdays: Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri:** 10.00 am.

**CONFESSIONS:** Saturdays - 11am and 6.45pm

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month-9am Mass

**ADORATION:** First Friday of the month: 10.30 am to 12pm

**BAPTISMS:** Sundays at 12.00 pm.

**BAPTISM PREPERATION MEETINGS:** Once Monthly

**MARRIAGE PREP MEETINGS:** Wed 8pm or Sat 4pm

**WEDDING REHEARSALS:** Mon or Fri – 8pm

**COMMUNION TO THE HOUSEBOUND:** Thurs & Fri.

**COMMUNION TO SICK at Bupa & Northern Gardens:**

every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** 2 times a year (Lent & Advent).

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** 10am

**YOUTH & KIDS GROUP:** 4th Friday of the month.

**ITALIAN PRAYER GROUP:** Wednesdays at 10.30 am

**Legion of Mary:** Monday mornings at 10.30 am.

**Knights of the Southern Cross:** Monday mornings.

**ANNUAL ITALIAN FEASTS 2020:**

**St Joseph:** Sun 15<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm.

**Way of the Cross:** Good Friday at 7pm.

**St Anthony:** Sun 14<sup>th</sup> June at 10.30am

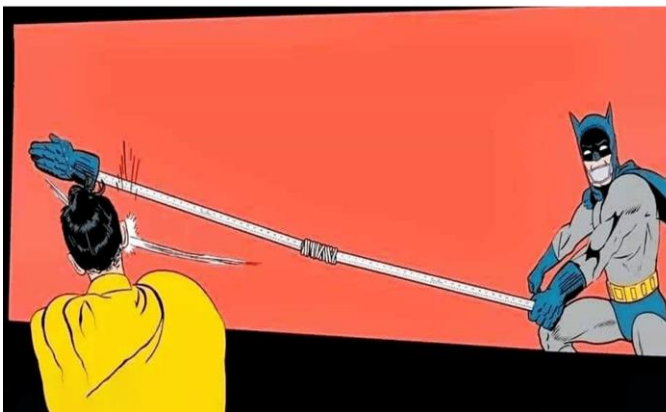
**St Gregory:** Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Nov at 10.30 am.

**Our Lady of Mt Carmel:** Sun 29<sup>th</sup> Nov at 2pm.

**St Lucy:** Sun 6<sup>th</sup> Dec at 2pm.

## JOKE OF THE WEEK:

### EVEN BATMAN IS TAKING SOCIAL DISTANCING SERIOUSLY



## IMPORTANT NEWS: REOPENING OF ST PAUL'S

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

What an awkward situation we've been through, and we are not out of the woods, yet. During this time, you were in my prayers. The good news is that I would like to inform that the church is open again, observing the Covid-19 restrictions.

Anyone who would like to participate in the weekend Eucharist need to book, by calling the parish office (9354-1564) to confirm his/her booking, for the following weekend; the booking has to be made by Thursday, prior to the weekend. Only the first 20 bookings can attend. As from the third weekend of June, 50 people can attend.

### Restrictions to be observed:

1. Those who attend mass need to enter from the side door of the church, as this is the official entrance during this time, and exit from the main door.
2. As one enters the church, sanitizes his hands, then write his full name, contact number, date and time of entry in church. These names will be kept on record for 28 days.
3. At the entrance and rear disinfectant wipes are provided for the attendees to wipe their seat or wherever one touched, after the celebration. Small containers are provided to throw in the used wipes.

Thank you for your sacrifice, discipline, understanding and cooperation.

You will find at the rear of the church the next set of Thanksgiving envelopes, for the next four months. Your continued support has been always appreciated, but especially, in these times that affected financially, everyone, including the parish. There is also the opportunity for cashless online payments via CDFPay for Parishes online payment portal. This site enables you to make quick and easy online thanksgiving payments. The St Paul's Catholic Church, Coburg site is live and can be found via this link: <https://secure.artezpacific.com/registant/donate.aspx?eventId=52905&spid=5635719>

Alternatively, the Parish Bank Details for Direct Debit are:

BSB: 083-347

Account Number: 67541 0884

Account Name: St Paul's Catholic Church

Thank you for your continued support of the parish during this difficult time.

Peace.

Fr. Raymond Bugeja

## MAY 2020 COLLECTION:

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Collection</b>	Sacrificial Offering	\$ 1963.05
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Collection:</b>	Presbytery	\$ 444.30



## WE PRAY FOR

We pray for those in our local community who are **sick** and vulnerable: may they see in us the followers of a God who heals and serves.

**Let us pray for those who have died, recently: and those whose anniversaries we remember at this time:** Antonio Pugliano, Theresa Ciantar, Fr Rodney Pitts, Fr John Bathersby, Andrea Stanislava Vidic, **that they may enter the peace of God.**

## STEWARDSHIP:

**“Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.” (1 Corinthians 10:17)**

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to lead holy lives and invite others to join us. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, serves a twofold purpose. One, it helps build God’s kingdom here on earth. Two, it helps us strengthen each other’s relationship with God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. It becomes our road map to Heaven. Let’s help each other get there!

## REFLECTION: “Real Presence”

**Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. John 6:54**

Imagine if you had been part of the crowd listening to Jesus when he tells them that they are to eat his flesh and drink his blood if they are to have eternal life!

Would you have been tempted to join with those disciples who said, “This saying is hard; who can accept it?” (verse 60). The early Christians knew that it was difficult, as difficult as accepting that their saviour had been crucified. Yet the apostles and their disciples were adamant that, as St. Paul writes, in the cup and the bread, we participate in the body and blood of Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16).

Since 1264, the Church has celebrated the Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. As in every generation, some Catholics today may struggle with the Church’s teaching on the Real Presence. Yet for 2,000 years, we turn to Jesus and say with St. Peter, “You have the words of eternal life” (verse 68).

*Lord, thank you for the great gift of the Holy Eucharist.*

Greg Erlandson

## PRAYER OF THE WEEK

That we answer God’s call to build his kingdom on earth and help each other get to Heaven!

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK - Ignorance

No one knows what he can do until he tries.

Publius Syrus

## VOCATION VIEW

That we can collaborate with God is a humbling truth. That God lives among us is startling. That we are the Body of Christ is our vocation.

## NEWS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE

### The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

14 June 2020



## REFLECTION

As if the Church were not satisfied with fifty days of paschal feasting, the festivals continue beyond the season. First the Holy Trinity is honoured, and now the Body and Blood of Christ. Many still know today’s feast by its shorter Latin name, Corpus Christi. This observance originated in the Belgian city of Liège in the 13th century. Very soon after, in 1264, Pope Urban IV decreed that the feast be celebrated by the whole Western Church. From then until the reforms of the Second Vatican Council the popular focus of the feast was on the presence of Christ in the consecrated bread, the Blessed Sacrament.

Nowadays the feast invites us to enter into the whole mystery of Jesus’ self-gift to us in the eucharistic meal. We are reminded that the eucharist is first and foremost an action that engages us heart and soul. Our communion in the Body and Blood of Christ makes the Church the Body of Christ. Like Jesus we break the bread and pour out the wine of our lives for the sake of the world.

## Something to Think About

This special day in the Church year is a time to remember the great gift of Eucharist in our lives.

The bread which is broken and shared for us at Mass is a sign of our unity.

The word Eucharist means ‘thanksgiving’. Let us give thanks today for Jesus who remains with us always. What would you like to thank Jesus for today?

## Family Discussion

In the gospel story, Jesus refers to himself as ‘bread from heaven’. Bread is a symbol of nourishment. Talk about the image of nourishing and ‘feeding’. Many people ‘feed’ us in different ways. Some people provide for our physical needs.

Others teach us important things. Some people help us grow through friendship. Chat about the ways in which we are ‘fed’ and the people who ‘feed’ us.

## Family Activity

This week be a family that nourishes and ‘feeds’ each other and the people you meet during the week through prayer, words and actions.

Try praying together at bedtime; trying to always use words that are loving and kind; giving to and helping others; caring for our environment.