

# Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

4<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Over the last few weeks, we have observed the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Now that Christmastide has concluded, we mark a few weeks of Ordinary Time. In a couple of weeks, we will begin the season of Lent. These rapid changes in liturgical season can often leave us a little bewildered. What do all these changes in season mean?

In the Catholic Church, the celebration of the sacred liturgy is ordered by the liturgical calendar. The liturgical calendar works on a yearly cycle that begins with the season of Advent and concludes with the Solemnity of Christ the King. The sequencing of the liturgical seasons over the course of each year immerses us in the history of God's dealings with humanity.

The liturgical year begins with Advent, which recapitulates the time before the birth of the Lord. During the four weeks of Advent, we are reminded of humanity's need for a Saviour from sin and eternal death, as well as the specific steps God took in history to prepare us for just such a Saviour.

Christmastide begins with the birth of the Saviour and incorporates the major events of the Lord's infancy, such as the execution of the Holy Innocents and the Lord's circumcision eight days after his birth (the Solemnity of the Mother of God). After Christmastide comes the feast of the Epiphany, which marks the visit of the Magi. In the post-Conciliar liturgical calendar, we then move into several weeks of Ordinary Time. In the pre-Conciliar calendar, however, these weeks were observed differently. The Epiphany was followed by Epiphanytide, which loosely corresponded to Our Lord's childhood, and three 'pre-Lenten' weeks, which loosely corresponded to Our Lord's 'hidden years'.

The penitential season of Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday, gives us a whistle-stop tour of Our Lord's public ministry. Thus, on the first Sunday of Lent, we always hear the Gospel of the temptation of the Lord in the wilderness, and on the second Sunday of Lent, we always hear the Gospel of the Transfiguration of the Lord. The third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent recount other major moments of Jesus' public ministry. Holy Week, which begins on Palm Sunday, walks us through the major events of Our Lord's betrayal, suffering and death.

The Easter season continues the timeline. Depending on what time of day you attend Mass on Easter Sunday, you will hear a Gospel that corresponds to the events that occurred at that time of day. One week later, on Divine Mercy Sunday, we hear the Gospel of the meeting between the doubting Saint Thomas and the Lord, which occurred on the Sunday after the Resurrection. Forty days after the Resurrection, on the feast of the Ascension, Our Lord ascended into heaven. Ten days after the Ascension, on the Jewish feast of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles as they gathered in the Upper Room.

After Pentecost, we resume the season of Ordinary Time. In the pre-Conciliar calendar, these Sundays were called 'Sundays post-Pentecost'. These weeks and months of 'post-Pentecost Ordinary Time', correspond to the era of the Catholic Church, when the grace of Christ is made accessible to humanity. This era of grace will be brought to a close with the Second Coming of Christ and the General Judgment, which we recall at the end of the liturgical year on the feast of Christ the King.

From beginning to end, the liturgical calendar immerses us in the history of God's efforts to save humanity from sin through the gift of Christ's grace.

### **CHURCHES**

St Francis Xavier Church, Corio St Anthony of Padua Church, Lara

#### **ADMINISTRATOR**

Fr Marcus Goulding marcus.goulding@cam.org.au

#### WEBSITE

www.pol.org.au/corio

#### **PARISH OFFICE**

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# PERMANENT DEACON

Rev. Royden D'Souza royden.dsouza@cam.org.au

#### **EVANGELISATION LEAD**

Gudrun Philipp gudrun.philipp@cam.org.au

## **MASS TIMES**

**Tue.** 9.15am | *Corio* **W**. 9.15am | *Lara* **Th.** 9.15am | *Corio* 

**F.** 9.15am | *Corio* **Sat.** 7pm (Vigil) | *Corio* 

Sun. 9am | Lara 11am | Corio

# **THE ROSARY**

8.50am | Prior to weekday Masses

#### **HOLY HOUR & CONFESSIONS**

**Tue.** 7.30pm - 8.30pm | *Corio* 

# **FIRST SATURDAYS**

8.30am Confessions | Corio9.30am Weekday Mass | Corio5.30pm Vietnamese Mass | Corio

# **Mass Readings**

**Entrance Antiphon** | Cf. Ps 94:6-7

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

**First Reading** | *Job 7:1-4,6-7* 

Responsorial Psalm | Psalm 146(147):1-6

**R.** Praise the Lord, who heals the broken-hearted.

Second Reading | 1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23

**Gospel Acclamation** | *Matthew 8:17* Alleluia, alleluia! He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering. Alleluia!

**Gospel** | *Mark* 1:29-39

Communion Antiphon | Cf. Ps 106:8-9

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

MASS ROSTER THIS WEEKEND		
7pm   Corio	Comm. Reader EMHC	Bec Watson Jim Forsmann Larry Pankhurst
9am   Lara	Comm. Reader EMHC	Angela Pearson Ana Cesar Sarah Jackson
11am   Corio	Comm. Reader EMHC	Gren Peters Sandra Peters Vicky Neri Mercy Leszyk

### PLEASE PRAY FOR

The faithful departed: Fr Leo Donolly,

Thomas Moloney

The sick: Milka Marsetti

**Pray for Seminarians! Pray for Vocations!** 

# **Parish Notices**

**'SPARK' U18 YOUTH GROUP LAUNCHING 18/02/24.** The first session of our new under 18s youth group will be held from 6.00pm-8.30pm on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2024. We will meet in St Francis Xavier Church foyer. Pizza dinner will be provided. Donations from attendees appreciated. Simply turn up, or email Gudrun (gudrun.philipp@cam.org.au) to register your interest.

**REOPENING OF CHURCH CAFÉ**. You are invited to enjoy the hospitality offered by our café teams at both churches after Sunday Masses this weekend. The café runs every Sunday after the 11am Mass at St Francis Xavier and on the first and third Sundays of the month after the 9am Mass at St Anthony of Padua. Donations are very welcome to assist in the ongoing operation of both cafés.

MONTHLY SAUSAGE SIZZLE AT CORIO NEXT SUNDAY. Next Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February we will have our monthly sausage sizzle after the 11am Mass at St Francis Xavier. Put it in your diary and plan to stay around for lunch. If you are able to sponsor the cost or food supplies for a monthly BBQ this year, please contact the Parish Office.

**AVOID PARKING NEXT TO THE RON LOWE ROOM ON WEEKDAYS.** The parking spaces adjacent to the Ron Lowe Room at Corio are needed for parish and school staff from 8am-5pm on weekdays. Weekday Mass attendees at Corio are asked to park in the marked places on the service road or on the service road nature strip.

**ALPHA 2024.** We are pleased to announce the next Alpha Experience will begin on 12th February 2024. The course will be held on Monday evenings in the Xavier Centre. To view the parish's Alpha promotional video and to register, visit www.pol.org.au/corio/alpha. This Sunday, Daniel Lowther will speak about Alpha at the 9am Mass, whilst Peter Turner will speak at the 11am Mass.

MASSES FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR. Children from St Francis Xavier School will attend the 9.15am Mass this Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> February, to mark the beginning of the school year. Children from St Anthony of Padua School will mark the beginning of the school year at the 9.15am Mass this Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> February.

**ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES.** Ash Wednesday will be observed on 14<sup>th</sup> February. Ash Wednesday Masses will be offered at Lara at 9.15am and Corio at 7.30pm. The children from St Anthony of Padua School will attend the 9.15am Mass.

**NEW ROSTER AND LETTER FOR READERS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION.**Readers and Extraordinary Ministers can collect a copy of your new roster for the month of February from the church sacristies. Please read the attached letter from Fr Marcus carefully.

