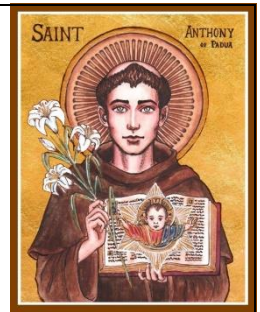


CORIO & LARA CATHOLIC PARISH

ST FRANCIS XAVIER, CORIO | ST ANTHONY OF PADUA, LARA



143 Bacchus Marsh Rd, Corio | 90 Kees Rd, Lara
Parish Office: 143 Bacchus Marsh Rd, Corio, VIC, 3214
T. 4212 0791 | E. fxcorio@iinet.net.au | W. pol.org.au/corio

Parish Priest: Fr Daryl Montecillo

Parish Secretary: Arlean Alex
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9 AM - 2 PM

Mass Times: Tuesday & Thursday: 9.15am (Corio) | Wednesday: 9.15 (Lara) | Friday: 7.30am (Corio)
Saturday 7pm Vigil (Corio) | Sunday 9am (Lara) 11am (Corio)
Holy Hour & Confessions: Tuesday 6pm (Corio)

Sunday 21st May 2023

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Entrance Antiphon

Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking in the sky? The Lord will return, just as you have seen him ascend, alleluia.

Communion Antiphon

I, the Lord, am with you always, until the end of the world, alleluia.

From a homily on today's Great Feast....

So what does the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord mean for us? It does not mean that the Lord has departed to some place far from people and from the world. Christ's Ascension is not a journey into space toward the most remote stars; for basically, the planets, like the earth, are also made of physical elements. Christ's Ascension means that he no longer belongs to the world of corruption and death that conditions our life. It means that he belongs entirely to God. He, the Eternal Son, led our human existence into God's presence, taking with him flesh and blood in a transfigured form.

The human being finds room in God; through Christ, the human being was introduced into the very life of God. And since God embraces and sustains the entire cosmos, the Ascension of the Lord means that Christ has not departed from us, but that he is now, thanks to his being with the Father, close to each one of us for ever. Each one of us can be on intimate terms with him; each can call upon him. The Lord is always within hearing. We can inwardly draw away from him. We can live turning our backs on him. But he always waits for us and is always close to us.

From the readings of today's liturgy we also learn something more about the concrete way the Lord makes himself close to us. The Lord promises the disciples his Holy Spirit... the Spirit's mission is to introduce the Church, in an ever new way from generation to generation, into the greatness of Christ's mystery. The Spirit places nothing different or new beside Christ.

The Holy Spirit, therefore, is the power through which Christ causes us to experience his closeness. But the first reading also has something else to say: you will be my witnesses. The Risen Christ needs witnesses who have met him, people who have known him intimately through the power of the Holy Spirit; those who have, so to speak, actually touched him, can witness to him... It is through witnesses that the Church was built - starting with Peter and Paul and the Twelve, to the point of including all who, filled with Christ, have rekindled down the centuries and will rekindle the flame of faith in a way that is ever new. All Christians in their own way can and must be witnesses of the Risen Lord.

Benedict XVI, excerpts from a homily on Feast of the Ascension 2005.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING *A reading from the Acts of Apostles*

(1: 1-11)

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 46* God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

SECOND READING *A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians* (1: 17-23)

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named not only in this age but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew* (28: 16-20)

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Next Sunday's Readings

Pentecost Sunday

First Reading: Acts 2:1-11 | Second Reading: Cor 12:3-7, 12-13 | Jn 20: 19-23

As a community we pray for

The Sick: Jessica De Grandis, John Thomas, Peter Franchina, Nicholas Francis, Bonnie Gilson, Ibi Bolyos, Dee Tetzloff, Michael Watson, Katareena Cabretti, Mark Tetzloff and Eva Watson, Michael Cabretti, Stella Rani.

Recently Deceased: Carlo DiGiandomenico

Anniversary: Daniel Stolk and Claire Muhlebach

Parish Thanksgiving: Parishioners, who have changed their residential address or phone numbers, please contact the Parish office, as it needs to be updated. Please ring the Parish Office to register or to set up the Thanksgiving by envelopes or by direct debit.

Infant Baptism: Please email us at fxcorio@inet.net.au for information regarding having your child baptized at Corio and Lara Parish. The next Baptism Preparation meeting is Sunday, 11th June at St Francis Xavier Church, Corio. The preparation session starts at 11:00 am Mass, followed by Sausage sizzle and sessions afterward.

Permanent Deacon Information Session: An information day is being held for men aged 30 – 60 who might sense that God is calling them to serve in this way: Saturday 3 June 2023, 10:00 -11.45 am at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), 278 Victorian Parade, East Melbourne. Wives are most welcome to come along. And a further link on the Permanent diaconate: [Melbourne Archdiocese Deacons - YouTube](#)

Help Marnie & Darcey get to World Youth Day. An immense thank you to everyone who has generously contributed to sending our young pilgrims to World Youth Day later this year. While the weather is no longer ideal for carwashes, donations are still gratefully received. They have also set up a bank account that people can send donations to: BSB: 733-226 and Acc no: 833 804.

St Vincent de Paul: Donations are requested of non-perishable foods for our regular home visits. We are especially in need of Long-Life milk, Cereals, Pasta and Pasta sauces. Donations to the Poor Box are also welcome. Any money donated goes directly to assist people in our own local community. A big thank you for the many donations already made!

Alpha: If anyone would like to help the organising team on one of the evenings with setting/packing up, or even cooking or contributing towards a meal for the attendees, please contact Ken on 0403 074 407.

Prayerful Preparation before Mass: From Pentecost Sunday, we will restart our period of prayerful silence before each of our weekend masses. Five minutes before each mass, the commentator and overhead slides will announce the beginning of the period allowing us to be recollected for the beginning of mass. All parishioners are asked to take responsibility in supporting each other in this.

Pilgrim Statue of Mary: Organised by the Legion of Mary in our Parish, the Pilgrim Statue of Mary will be returning for home visits from Pentecost. The statues will be on display over the coming weekends and parishioners are invited to sign up to host the statue for a particular week. Members of the Legion will contact you to arrange suitable drop off/pick up times and during that week, you might invite others to join you in prayer at your place. See the noticeboards for more information.

Save the Date: Parish Men's Weekend: We'll be running a Men Alive weekend at our Parish on Saturday 8th July and following up Sunday morning concluding with the 11am mass. More details to come next week.



Please keep in your prayers our sacramental program candidates as they prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation
Please also note that registrations are now open for Eucharist commencing August 2023

Should you have any queries please contact the parish office:
T. 4212 0791 | E. fxcorio@inet.net.au

PARISH CALENDAR

MONDAY 22 nd May	TUESDAY 23 rd May	WEDNESDAY 24 th May	THURSDAY 25 th May	FRIDAY 26 th May	SATURDAY 27 th May	SUNDAY 28 th May
	9.15am Mass Corio No Holy Hour	No Mass	9.15am Mass Corio	7:30 am Mass Corio	7:00 pm Mass Corio	9:00am Mass, Lara 11:00am Mass, Corio

ROSTERS

TIME AND DATE	READER/COMMENTATOR	EUCCHARIST MINISTERS
27 th May 7:00pm, Corio	B Bekema R Demicoli	M Delac
28 th May 9:00 am Lara	C Foley – C A Pearson- R	S Jackson
11:00am Corio	T Van Der Hoeven- C T Van Der Hoeven- R	V Neri R Buaya

Parish Prayer

We, the people of Corio & Lara Catholic Parish give thanks and praise to God the Father. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we become more like Jesus: listening to the Word of God and celebrating the Eucharist; sharing each other's lives and forgiving one another; respecting creation and taking responsibility for our world.

Like St Francis Xavier, may we offer light to those in darkness, and warmly welcome all people.

Like St Anthony of Padua, may we nourish the hungry with wise words and kind deeds.

St Francis Xavier, pray for us. St Anthony of Padua, pray for us.

Kingsfunerals.com.au
Ph. 5248 3444



Icons in the header of our Parish Bulletin by Cecilia Lawrence.

OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

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www.sfxcorio.catholic.edu.au

ST ANTHONY OF PADUA, LARA

90 Kees Rd, Lara
Principal: Natalie Heard
Ph. 5282 1415
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www.salara.catholic.edu.au

Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.