### Parish of Corio/Lara St Francis Xavier Church, Corio St Anthony of Padua Church, Lara Archdiocese of Melbourne Australia



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

#### PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Catholic people of Corio/Lara parish guided by the Spirit, participate in Christ's Mission. With our gifts we create a Parish that welcomes all people.

# Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020 The Ascension of the Lord

**Message from Fr Daryl** 

You sometimes here the old joke that the Church deals in centuries when it comes to change. That certainly isn't the case for us in these days of lockdown and now the easing of restrictions. This coming week, some of our school students begin returning to class rooms at both Corio and Lara. In light of this, and after seeking and considering advice, **from this week, our weekday masses will return to 9.15AM**: Tuesday and Thursday at St Francis Xavier; Wednesday and Friday at St Anthony's. (No changes to adoration times for now).

To further support our schools as they manage the return of students, for morning mass...

At Corio: Please enter and exit the grounds via the **Bacchus Marsh Rd gate only**.

At Lara: Please enter and exit the car park via the Gebbies Rd entrance.

Calling the Parish Office for registration has been working well, so we'll keep it going for both mass and adoration. Hopefully, this should now remain in place until the next easing of restrictions is announced by government and the Archdiocese.

Thank you again sincerely for your patience and kind support.

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Today is the Feast of the Ascension: The Lord's returning to heaven; and next week, Pentecost: the coming of the Holy Spirit into the Church. Both reminders of how close our loving God is with us, with you. Let's respond to his love, remaining close to God and each other in prayer.

God bless you!

Fr Daryl

#### FIRST READING A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 1: 1-11 Jesus was lifted up while they looked on

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.'

The Word of the Lord

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 46: 2-3, 6-9

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 God made him to sit at his right hand in heaven

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. *The Word of the Lord* 

#### **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 Go and make disciples of all nations

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.' *The Gospel of the Lord* 

Ascension of the Lord - Year A (Vocation View): Through his death, resurrection and ascension, Christ showed us the path to eternal life. Know that the Lord is with you always, through your struggles and triumphs, and that he will hear your prayers.

#### **Pope's Prayer Intention:**

We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

#### As a community we pray for

*Sick:* Maria do ceu Fernandes, Jessica De Grandis, Victor Lombo, Vince Marshall, John Thomas, Judith Cummins, Bill Rinaldi, Peter Franchina, Nicholas Francis, Bonnie Gilson, Mrs. Ibi Bolyos, Bonnie Gilson *Anniversary:* Derak Joseph Balfour

**Car Raffles:** At this stage, the car raffles are postponed. Still it will be good if you could return your raffle tickets ASAP. Please drop it off in the Parish office or in the Parish letter box. If any raffle book is lost or missing, please provide Statuary Declaration for the respective book. Your cooperation in this matter will be much appreciated. Please don't hesitate to call the Parish Office 0352754120.

## NAMES OF RECENT DEATHS & ANNIVERSARIES, and the UNWELL IN OUR PARISH FOR THE

**BULLETIN** We still accept the names of those Recently Deceased, Anniversary of Death and the names of those who are sick within our Parish. Please call the Office on: 52754120 or email: fxcorio@iinet.net.au

## 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.



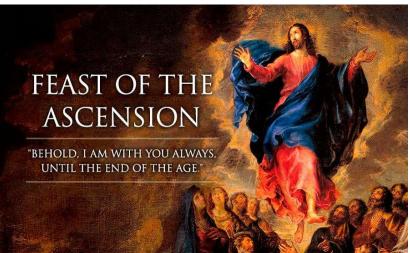
**THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES** – Thank you for the parishioners who drop their envelopes to the Parish office. The Parish Office is open during the week Monday - Friday from 9:00- 2:00, as the regular collections are not being taken up, we ask if you please drop off your envelopes to the Parish Post Box to continue your pledge, and keep it up to date. Alternatively, you can do an online transaction to the below details Ac. Name: St Francis Xavier Church BSB: 083347 Ac. No- 543292126 Thank you.

**Parish Thanksgiving:** People who reside in our parish zone, kindly register with our parish to join the thanksgiving a way to support our parish. Parishioners who doesn't have envelopes for thanksgiving and would like to join our new thanksgiving campaign for the next financial year, or to set up the thanksgiving by direct debit/ credit card please contact the parish office on 0352754120 or email fxcorio@iinet.net.au **PROJECT COMPASSION** It's time to bring them back. If you have filled up your box and are looking to return it, please head in to the Parish Office. We are open during the week and look forward taking your donation on behalf of Caritas. If you need to make other arrangements you can call the Office on: 52754120 for help and advice.

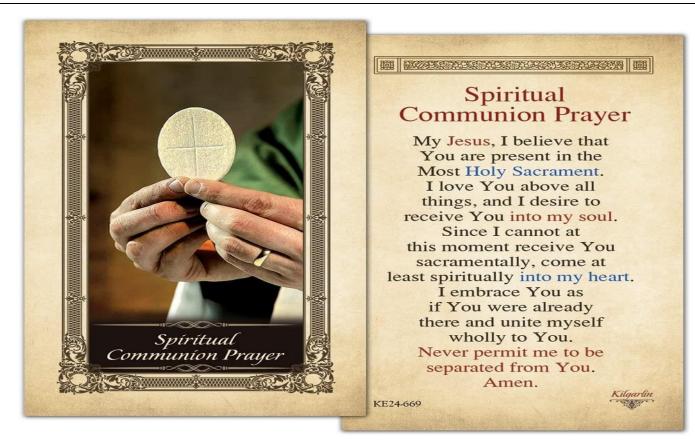
**CATHOLIC CLUB AT DEAKIN** A Deakin Catholic Club has now been established. At this stage, it is an on-line formation, friendship, and support group and we will gather when restrictions are lifted. For Deakin students who would like to join or would like further information, please contact Len Monk, Deakin Catholic Chaplain: lenjmonk@gmail.com or 0402082937.

## **REFLECTION ON THE SCRIPTURES**

The feast of the Ascension is really a kind of liminal moment in the Easter season. It is a time between times, a moment when we have left one place in our journey but have not yet arrived at a second. The glory of the Risen Christ has already been revealed in us, but not yet totally. The feast itself celebrates the exaltation of Jesus. Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be enthroned at the right hand of God. Today we are overwhelmed by the reality of the divinity of



the one whom we have known in his humanity. Like the conquering creator-god, he has overcome his enemy (death) and now reigns over his new creation (the church). Christ who ascended into heaven in his body carries on what he began on earth through his new body, the church. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists. He ministers through its prophets and pastors. In and through the church, Jesus continues to heal and to comfort; to forgive and to include. We have not been left alone; we have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have not been left alone; we have each other. Together we make up the new body of Christ. Together we await the fullness of this body. It is this new body that stands in between the times, secure in what we have, confident of what we will be given. © Dianne Bergent



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