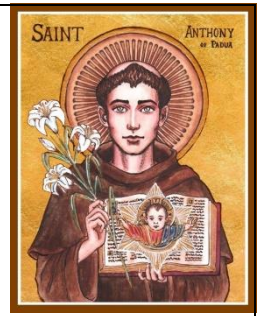


CORIO & LARA CATHOLIC PARISH

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

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Parish Priest: Fr Daryl Montecillo
Parish Secretary: Arlean Alex
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9AM - 2PM



Sunday 21st February 2021 **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (B)**

Entrance Antiphon

When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

Communion Antiphon

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Well, that certainly wasn't the start to Lent that we hoped for!

The little lockdown reminded us that we are still far from the 'old normal' that we might long for. Being unable to celebrate Ash Wednesday together was both sad and frustrating, and we pray that it isn't an indication of a possible repeat to Lent and Easter 2020. As a Parish, we've come out of the last year together strongly and we've adapted to face whatever has come our way and I'm sure we'll continue to do so. One adaptation is that we'll have the blessing and distribution of ashes at our masses this weekend.

Lent is a time of preparation and renewal. It's an invitation to commit or recommit to our friendship with the Lord. It's called a time of conversion, and the traditional practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving are put before us to help us 'repent and believe in the Gospel.'

One powerful way that we can turn back to God is through Sacramental Confession. In it, we can hear the words of God's loving mercy and reconciliation. Let's not be afraid to receive such a great gift, even if it's been a long time. During Lent, Reconciliation will be available on Tuesday evenings during the regular Holy Hour and I'll also endeavour to be available for 20 minutes before every mass at either church.

The Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday, 6:30pm at Corio. It will be led by the Legion of Mary. Confessions will be also be available for an hour beforehand each week.

A Parish Penitential Service with opportunities for Reconciliation with visiting priests will also be held on Thursday 18th March at 7PM. More details to come but save the date.

While all the best made plans may have to be dropped with little notice during these unpredictable times, there is nothing more sure in the universe than God's love... for us, for you. Let's keep each other in prayer throughout this holy season, as we respond to his great love. God bless!

Fr Daryl

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING *A reading from book of Genesis*

(9:8-15)

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: nothing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 24* Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

SECOND READING *A reading from the First Letter of St Peter*

(3:18-22)

Christ himself, innocent though he was, 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, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

GOSPEL *A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark*

(1:12-15)

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'



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.*

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

As a community we pray for

The Sick: Jessica De Grandis, Vince Marshall, John Thomas, Judith Cummins, Bill Rinaldi, Peter Franchina, Nicholas Francis, Bonnie Gilson, Ibi Bolyos, Pat Yacques, Dee Tetzloft, Michael Watson, Gerry Hoogaerts, Rachael Ash

Anniversary: Bridget Moloney, Sr Mary Padua Gleeson, Elizabeth Gleeson.

Recently Deceased: Ellen Conway, Carlo Bisinella, Max Gaa, Victor Lombo

The Pope's Prayer Intention for this month: *Violence against Women.* We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

Vocations! This month's Vocation View: *Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert. Where is the Spirit leading you?*

Please contact the Parish Office to have the names of any loved ones who are seriously ill, recently deceased or have coming anniversaries included in the bulletin.

Working with Children Checks: All Parish volunteers in the Archdiocese must have a current WWCC. The Parish Office will be updating our files and contacting volunteers to make sure checks are up to date. If anyone would like any assistance with updating their WWCC, please contact the Parish Office.

Coming Audit: The State Government's Commission for Children and Young People has informed the Archdiocese that it will begin its audit of child safety standards in parishes in May or June. We'll be looking closely at our own practices and ensuring that we meet the standards over the next few weeks.

Infant Baptism: Baptism Formation Meetings for infant baptisms will be on the Tuesday, 16th Feb at 7:30pm, St Francis Xavier Church, Corio. Candles and Stoles for the Baptism ceremony can be purchased after the 9:00am Mass at Lara & 11:00 am Mass at Corio on Sundays. For Baptism Bookings please contact the Parish Office on 42120791.

St Vincent de Paul: The Corio/Lara Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society (Vinnies) would like to sincerely thank all those parishioners who generously donated food or other goods or made a financial contribution during 2020 and especially during the Christmas period. We were able to assist around 50 families with Christmas Hampers and a number of families with toys due to your kindness. We have returned to our daily visits to assist our clients in 2021. With the recent reduction in Job Seeker and the impending removal of Job Keeper we anticipate the demand for our assistance will increase. We would like to stock our pantry and are asking for donations of non-perishable food items especially pasta, rice, cereal, and tinned fruit and vegetables.

Vocations Support: A very big thank you to everyone for the pledges of prayer and generous contributions for this new initiative. We'll soon be following up directly with those who signed up. Greg Lewis' entry into Corpus Christi College –scheduled for last Sunday - was delayed because of the lockdown. He moved in on Thursday morning. Let's keep him and all the seminarians in prayer.

Thanksgiving Envelopes – Thank you to all who have been dropping their envelopes off at the Parish Office. While these are unprecedented times, please prayerfully consider if you are able to keep your pledges and contributions. Online donations are also available at the following: **Account Name: St Francis Xavier Church BSB: 083347 Account Number: 543292126.** Thank you.

Parish Thanksgiving: Please consider joining the Parish Thanksgiving Programme. To set up the thanksgiving by direct debit/ credit card please contact the parish office on 0342120791 or email fxcorio@inet.net.au

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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.

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.

Amen

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

OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

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