

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:18-24

A reading from the first letter of St John
His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.

My children,
our love is not to be just words or mere talk,
but something real and active;
only by this can we be certain
that we are the children of the truth
and be able to quieten our conscience in his
presence,
whatever accusations it may raise against us,
because God is greater than our conscience and he
knows everything.

My dear people,
if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience,
we need not be afraid in God's presence,
and whatever we ask him,
we shall receive,
because we keep his commandments
and live the kind of life that he wants.
His commandments are these:
that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ
and that we love one another
as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments
lives in God and God lives in him.
We know that he lives in us
by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: John 15:4-5

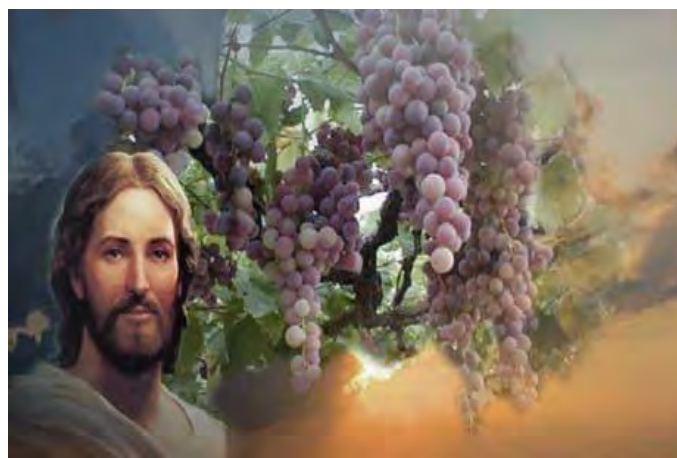
Alleluia, alleluia!
Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 15:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine,
and my Father is the vinedresser.
Every branch in me that bears no fruit
he cuts away,
and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes
to make it bear even more.
You are pruned already,
by means of the word that I have spoken to you.
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.
As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself,
but must remain part of the vine,



neither can you unless you remain in me.
I am the vine,
you are the branches.
Whoever remains in me, with me in him,
bears fruit in plenty;
for cut off from me you can do nothing.
Anyone who does not remain in me
is like a branch that has been thrown away
- he withers;
these branches are collected and thrown on the
fire,
and they are burnt.
If you remain in me
and my words remain in you,
you may ask what you will
and you shall get it.
It is to the glory of my Father
that you should bear much fruit,
and then you will be my disciples.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:
I am the true vine and you are the branches, says
the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him,
bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48;
1 Jn 4: 7-10; Jn 15:9-17.



A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney.
Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal
with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you
know – have been abused, please contact the
police. Alternatively, you can contact the
Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office at
safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org or by
calling (02) 9390 5810.

PARISH OF ST. THERESE, DENISTONE



Presbytery and Office

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MASS TIMES:

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6:00 pm.
SUNDAY: 8:00 am and 10am
MONDAY: No Mass.
TUESDAY through to SATURDAY: 9.00 am Mass.
FRIDAY: 9.00 am Mass.
Exposition & Benediction every Friday after Mass.
RECONCILIATION: Saturday 5pm – 5.45pm or by appointment.
Baptism: Every Sunday at 11am or 11.30am. Please contact Parish Office.
Marriage: By appointment.
Anointing of the sick: Please give names to Father Roberto Castillo.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Year B)
1st / 2nd May 2021

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

FIRST READING: Acts 9:26-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 21:26-28. 30-32

RESPONSE: I will praise you, Lord,
in the assembly of your people.

My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever!

Response.

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.

Response.

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:
'These things the Lord has done.'

Response.

(continued on back page)

ACOLYTES & READERS	6pm Vigil	8am	10am	
MAY 1 / 2	Acolytes T DABBAH	D ELLIS	J KWONG	Flowers K PERERA / T CHAMISA
	Readers V PERERA	E WHEELER	R DEARING	
MAY 8 / 9	Acolytes M MORELLI	J KWONG	G MOODLEY	Flowers N HAHN
	Readers B CLARK	P TREACY	C LAYOUN	
MAY 15 / 16	Acolytes R MORFUNI	D ELLIS	A STANTON	Flowers A NAGANATHAN
	Readers N MORFUNI	S JAYAMANNE	H VAZ	
MAY 22 / 23	Acolytes R MORFUNI	D D'MELLO	M MORELLI	Flowers J KEYSER
	Readers J PERERA	Y LEUNG	VOLUNTEER	
MAY 29 / 30	Acolytes T DABBAH	D ELLIS	G MOODLEY	Flowers N HAHN
	Readers N MORFUNI	S JAYAMANNE	H VAZ	

PARISH NEWS & NOTICES:

Request for Mass and Prayers.

We pray for those who have recently died especially Angela Trovato (*Jamelie Morabito's niece*). Also pray for those who celebrate anniversaries at this time.



First Holy Communion at St Therese.

Pray for the children preparing for their FIRST HOLY COMMUNION.

- Candidate & Parent Sessions of Instruction:** Sessions continue THIS WEDNESDAY on 5th May, in St Therese Church commencing at 7pm sharp.



- Rehearsal for First Holy Communion** will be held in the church on 5th of June at 4pm.
- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** will be on Sunday the 6th June at 11.30am.

URGENT - Helpers needed to support our Catechists.

Our catechists at Denistone East Public School need your support. Can you help in the classroom by giving them 30 mins of your time each Tuesday? Please consider this! Please speak with Fr Roberto after any Mass this weekend.



Mass Attendance Count for 2021.

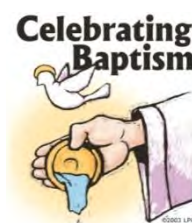
The FIRST count will be this weekend and will continue for the next 3 weeks. This Mass attendance count is a very useful tool in helping us to more accurately gauge the impact of COVID on parish attendance.



If you would like to assist us with this count please see Fr Roberto before Mass.

Baptisms this weekend.

This Sunday we will welcome into our faith community Hugo Nascone. We congratulate his parents Chris & Lei and their families.



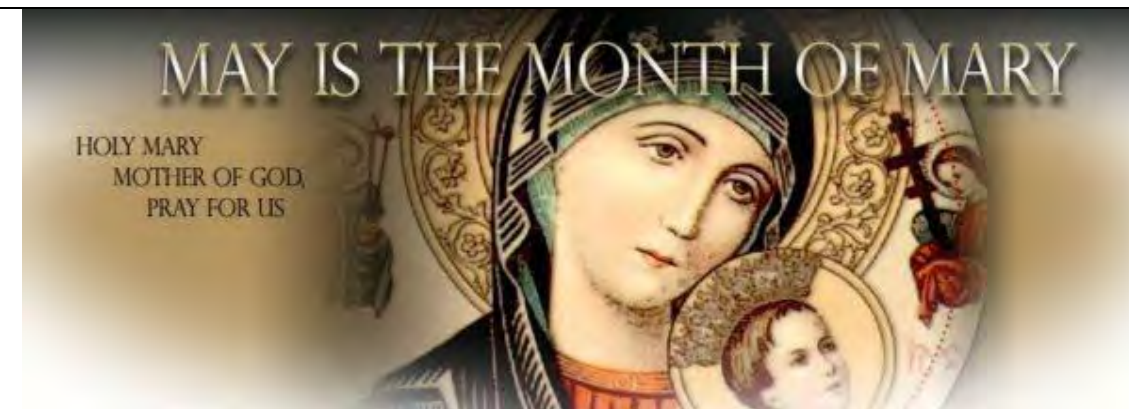
Parish Council Meeting.

Our next meeting will be held NEXT Thursday the 6th May at 7.30pm in the presbytery.



Charitable Works Fund Appeal.

This appeal will be held NEXT weekend, on the 8th / 9th May. Your financial support of this appeal is most important in raising the vital funds necessary to ensure the continuation of SIX agencies programmes, which benefit from this collection. The CWF has been helping our Sydney community for over 60 years, helping thousands of lives every year. Due to Covid19 we could not have this appeal last year, so your generosity would be appreciated now.



Month of May - Month of Mary.

Brothers and sisters,

In this month of May we invite you all to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary. You can do that in a variety of ways: by attending mass on her special days, by praying the rosary with family or friends, praying the Angelus, etc. Also a 'May altar' could be placed at home, with a statue or picture of Mary, flowers, etc. By doing this we are reminded of the crucial role and wonderful presence of Mary in the life of the Church and in our lives as well.

There are a few feasts celebrated to honour our Lady throughout the year. But the month of May has been increasingly seen as a time for honouring the Mother of our Lord. A time where we can meditate on her life and her powerful maternal intercession. In May we celebrate two special feasts: the apparitions of our Lady of Fatima (13th of May) and the feast of Our Lady Help of Christians (24th of May).

We are invited in May, to honour her because she is the Mother of God. She is the reason our Lord Jesus Christ became incarnate and in a way, she made possible our redemption obtained by our Lord on the Cross. She is also our loving mother and we are her children because we are members of the Body of Christ. We also honour her because she has an incredible love for every believer and she is our advocate and helper who intercedes for us, bringing an abundance of blessings to us and the whole world.

In Fatima, our Lady told the visionaries about the terrible things that would soon happen in the world because of sin. "The war (WWI) is going to end: but if they do not stop offending God, an even worse war will begin during the reign of Pius XI...(WWII) a great light will appear in the sky, a great sign God gives you that He is about to punish the world for its crimes, by means of war, famine and persecutions of the Church and of the Holy Father." This was in 1917. The Spanish flu pandemic happened from 1918 to 1920. Fulfilling her promise, two of the visionaries died during that pandemic. She had told them that she was going to take them soon to heaven. It is estimated that about 500 million people or 1/3 of the world population became infected. Deaths have been estimated to be at least 50 million worldwide. Mortality was high in people younger than 5 years old, 20-40 years old and 65 years and older.

On the 24th of May we will also celebrate Our Lady Help of Christians. We were the first nation in the world to choose her under the title Help of Christians, as Principal Patroness. St Mary's Cathedral was dedicated in her honour. The church focus on a special aspect on that day: Blessed Mary is one who assists Christians as a community; through her intercession, in fighting against anti-Christian forces.

Give Mary, a special spot in your life during this month of May. Mary Help of Christians, pray for the Church, and the Parish of Denistone.

2021 National Count of Attendance at Mass and Sunday Assemblies.

The National Count of Attendance will again be conducted throughout Australia during 2021. Church attendance is perhaps the most basic measure of religious practice. According to the most recent national count, conducted in 2016, about 11.8% of Australia's Catholic population, or 623,400 people, went to church on a typical weekend. The figure also included people attending Mass in non-parish centres, such as migrant centres, hospitals, gaols and boarding schools. The count will be as comprehensive as possible and include people of all ages at Mass (including babies). The count is conducted over the first four consecutive Sundays (and Saturday evenings) in May. This year, parishes will also be asked to provide information on the age and sex of those who attend Mass and Sunday assemblies.

