



St John's Wood/The Gap Parish Bulletin

Vol 5, Issue 19

18 May 2025



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: [Acts 14:21-27](#)

They assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them.

Second Reading: [Rev 21:1-5](#)

He will wipe away all the tears from their eyes.

Gospel: [John 13:31-35](#)

I give you a new commandment: love one another.

This week's Gospel Reflection:

A LIFE BEYOND DEATH

John's vision of a new heaven and a new earth speaks of a time when sorrow, death and suffering will be no more. Some two thousand years later we might think that John's utopian vision is little more than wishful thinking. Moreover, if we take the words of Jesus in this week's Gospel – **"You must love one another as I have loved you"** – we can also recognise that Christians honour this commandment more in the breach than in reality.

In the words of the English playwright, G K Chesterton: *"The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult; and left untried"*.



However, looking at the gospel, we see the new vision of creation and the new commandment of love emerge in a world of sinfulness and evil. This is demonstrated in Judas' act of betrayal culminating in Jesus' execution on the Cross. Knowing his life was coming to such a brutal and violent end, Jesus says he is entering into God's glory. In other words, even the most barbaric human activity is ever open to the mystery of the Father's forgiveness and love being poured out over the whole of God's creation.

Elsewhere, John tells us *"no one can see God"* (Jn 1:18). And yet the divine glory is manifest throughout the whole of creation – even or especially when humans are too blind to see. Czech theologian, Tomas Halik, says we fail to see God, not because God is too distant, but because God is too close. God is the light by which we see everything, but we do not see the light, only that which the light reveals.

In the Old Testament we are told God's glory is manifest to Moses in a pillar of cloud and in a burning bush. God appears to Elijah in the still, small, gentle breeze. Yet God's glory is also manifest throughout all creation as in every human experience not excluding the reality of the vilest forms of human evil – such as wars, death camps, genocides, and ecological destruction. If God's glory is present in the death of Jesus, how could it be absent from anything in our entire world?

This week's readings about the "new creation" are also signals of life beyond death where we are invited to share in the Resurrection of Jesus. Such "good news" is something we should want to let the whole world know.

This is the story of Paul and Barnabas in the first reading. However, if we are to be real missionary disciples, our first task is to be evangelised ourselves in order to witness to the divine Creator by *"loving one another as Jesus loves us"*. Yes, this is a profound challenge. Equally what a wonderful privilege, called to be instruments of the "new creation" through our attempts and failures to be faithful disciples of Jesus. As Pope Francis says: **"whoever is in Christ is a new creation"**. And in the words of St Paul: **"nothing can separate us from the love of God"** (Rom. 8:31).

Gerard Hall SM © Majellan Media 2025



Readings and Commentaries

PRAYING WITH CHILDREN SUNDAY LITURGY

TWO-MINUTE HOMILY

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Fr Joe McKay OFM



Fr Joe invites us to reflect on the Glory of Jesus revealed in the Resurrection, and asks how we can share in God's Glory today by loving others. [Watch now.](#)

Deceased

Barbara Rahman, Tony Clinton, Alan Whidburn

Anniversary

Fr Jim Smith, Margaret Shape, Tony Ley, Michael Dunne, Jill Beaton, Brian Collins, Ged Cosgrove

Sick

Fr Ray Chapman, Carmel Herbert, Yvonne Harrison, Suzanne Black, Beth Kloza, Heiko Ertel, Jim Johnson, Kathleen Cosgrove, Robert Minns, Tim chen chen zuo Zu, Mary Thomas, Antonio Ferrante, Lorraine Stevens, Carol Black, Moira De Silva, Juliana Ryman, Lorna McConnachie, Margaret Sullivan, Bernie Knapp, Val Bonney, Ryan Ferguson, Linda & Andrea Pisano, Estelle Freney, Toni Bennett, Deiana Martin, Les Grimson

WCCM (Christian Meditation)

Monday at 9.30am Parish Office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

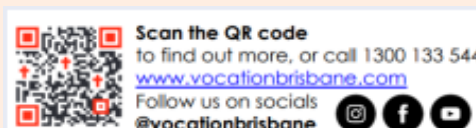
Mater Dei: Monday & Friday 6 - 7pm

A vocation View Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year C

God has chosen to dwell with us. Share your gifts with others to reveal his presence.

(Revelations 21:1-5)

Please pray for vocations.



Day/Date	Liturgy	Mass Times	Venue
Monday 19/05/2025	5th Week of Easter	9am	Mater Dei
Wednesday 21/05/2025	5th Week of Easter	9am—Anointing Mass	SPC
Thursday 22/05/2025	5th Week of Easter	9am	SPC
Friday 23/05/2025	5th Week of Easter	9am	Mater Dei
Saturday 24/05/2025	OUR LADY, Help of Christians	5.30pm	Mater Dei
Sunday 25/05/2025	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	8am 10am 5pm	SPC MD SPC

ST JOHN'S WOOD / THE GAP PARISH

Office Hours

Mon, Wed, Fri:- 8:30am - 3:30pm

Tue, Thurs: - 8:30am - 12:30pm

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CHURCHES

Mater Dei

16 Philomene Drive, Ashgrove, 4060

St. Peter Chanel

41 Chaprowe Road, The Gap, 4061

SCHOOLS

Mater Dei Primary School

T: 3514 4100

St Peter Chanel Primary School

T: 3300 1202

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy Leaders - Help Needed

Children's Liturgy is presently offered at the 10am Mass on the first Sunday of each month. To keep this program sustainable, we are urgently seeking more volunteers to be part of a roster, either as a session leader, or assistant. Your help could be on a monthly, once a term, or standby basis - all help is welcome. All volunteers need to complete the parish safeguarding requirements prior to commencing. Support is available to learn how it all works, including shadowing an existing session leader. Easy to follow materials are provided through the Archdiocese for each Sunday. If you are interested in finding out more please contact the parish office, or Donna Lynn.
donna.lynn@live.com.au



Volunteers Needed Sisters of Charity Centenary Exhibition 24 May – 6 July 2025

We're looking for volunteers with a connection to the Sisters of Charity and an interest in history to assist with the **Sisters of Charity Centenary Exhibition** at **St Vincent's Private Hospital, 411 Main Street, Kangaroo Point**. The exhibition will run from **25 May to 6 July**, between **10 AM and 3 PM** (3-4 hour shifts). If you can help please Email Lisa Eastment : lisa.eastment@svha.org.au



EVER YOUNG GROUP

Our group will be meeting Thursday 22nd May at 10:00am.

Come and join us in the SPC church hall for morning tea. There is no age limit! Please contact Lyn Dudgeon if you have any enquiries on 33001951.

HAPPY 96TH BIRTHDAY TERRY

On Wednesday we celebrated Terry Foley's 96th birthday after 9am Mass at the Parish morning tea. A delicious carrot cake baked by Barbara Smith was enjoyed by all. It was lovely to see so many parishioners join Terry for his milestone birthday. We are blessed to have you as part of our parish community and wish you many more happy birthdays ahead.



HOME ROSARY

This week's rosary will be said at the home of Pushpa on Monday 19th May. Contact the parish office for further details.

Please check out our [Parish Webpage](#) and [Facebook Page](#) for regular updates.



SOCIAL TRIVIA NIGHT

Come and join in the fun!! A small group of parishioners will be gathering for trivia at the Blind Tiger (at the Gap Village) on Wednesday 4 June. There are two tables booked from 6pm, with trivia starting at 7pm.

Purchase food and drinks as you go on the night. Gold coin entry fee when trivia commences. RSVP is essential - 20 people maximum. Get in early! Please contact Donna Lynn for more details or if you would like to RSVP donna.lynn@live.com.au

We look forward to seeing you there.



NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK 2025

CELEBRATES THE POWER OF VOLUNTEERING TO BRING
PEOPLE TOGETHER WITH THE THEME
'CONNECTING COMMUNITIES'.



We would like to acknowledge and thank all our wonderful volunteers for your unwavering commitment and service.

Your dedication to our Parish is a gift and we hope you will continue sharing your time and talents. You are the backbone of our parish and set a wonderful example for our younger people.

Volunteers make our parish a welcoming place for all the people who come to visit. Thank you for volunteering with us and making a positive impact in our parish community. We couldn't do it without your support.

HAPPY PATCHES QUILTING GROUP -Who are we and what do we do?

This amazing group meet in the Parish Hall on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Thursday morning of the month from 9.30am to 12.30pm. They enjoy various needle crafts—sewing, knitting, crochet, patchwork, embroidery etc. and offer guidance in these crafts in a friendly and supportive way. They also have an evening group that meet on 2nd & 4th Thursday evening of the month from 7pm to 9pm. So if you are looking to try something a little crafty with some great company, come along to one to the sessions or you can call Von Delaney on 33004338 or Pam Purtell 0432865850 for daytime or Catherine Carah 0103007566 for night time sessions.

SOMETHING FOR A LAUGH



A man is stopped by the police for speeding. The police officer says to the driver, "Do you know that you were speeding, sir?"

"No officer, I didn't know I was speeding."

His wife who is in the front seat then says, "Come on, Henry, you knew you were speeding, I've been telling you to slow down for the past ten minutes."

The man shoots a dark look at his wife, then the policeman says, "Do you realise that your license has also expired?"

"No sir, I had no idea," said the driver looking shocked.

His wife says, "Oh please, Henry! I've been telling you to re-new your license for two months."

The husband grinds his teeth but stays silent.

The policeman then adds, "And I noticed that your rear left light is out of action."

"Oh yes, I was on my way to get it fixed actually."

His wife pipes up, "Nonsense Henry, we were on our way home."

The husband, red-faced, turns to his wife. "Whose side are you on? For god's sake, button it up and don't say anything!"

The policeman walks to the woman's side of the car and asks her, "Does he always talk to you so rudely?"

"Oh no, officer, only when he's been drinking heavily."



Enjoy your week ahead.....



These ladies have just donated all the quilts and rugs pictured above to the MICHA project who support the homeless.

WELL DONE LADIES!!!!

CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

"He who follows me walks not in darkness" - John 8:12

2PM SUNDAY 22 JUNE 2025

Cathedral of St Stephen, BRISBANE CITY

SORRY DAY & NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK MASS 2025



NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2025
Bridging Now to Next



25TH MAY
ST STEPHENS CATHEDRAL

11:45am Sorry Day prayer and blessing at the Reconciliation Garden

followed by a cultural smoking procession leading into

12:00pm Mass in the Cathedral

Join us for light refreshments in the Haily Room after Mass.



ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE



Archdiocesan MINISTRIES



THE GAP UNITING CHURCH
PLANT & BOOK SALE

Saturday 17 May | 8am - 2pm

31 MAY 2025

SANTA TERESA SPIRITUALITY CENTRE

9AM - 3PM

Join Archbishop Mark for

POWERHOUSE OF PRAYER

Scan to register
before 24/5/25



LEARN AND PRACTICE THE ART OF PRAYER



Archdiocesan MINISTRIES

PRAYER VIGIL

for **DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE**

PRESIDED BY ARCHBISHOP MARK COLERIDGE

Wednesday 21 May

6:00pm - 7:30pm

Cathedral of St Stephen



Challenge DV
WE'RE HERE TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



Archdiocesan MINISTRIES
INSPIRE EMPOWER PROTECT

LAUDATO SI' WEEK WORKSHOP 24TH MAY

A DAY OF LOOKING THROUGH THE LENS OF ACTIVE HOPE

As pilgrims of hope in our Jubilee Year, explore how Laudato Si' calls us to connect and act.

SESSIONS LED BY
SR MARGARET ENDICOTT RSM

SATURDAY 24TH MAY

9AM - 3PM

CATERING PROVIDED
BRING KEEP CUP OR MUG

ST WILLIAM'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HALL
67 DAWSON PARADE
KEPERRA

REGISTER TO: BEACHE@BNE.CATHOLIC.NET.AU



Archbishop's VOCATIONS DINNER 2025

for **MEN 22 MAY**

A night of discussion and discernment
with the Archbishop.



vocation
BRISBANE.com