



# St John's Wood/The Gap Parish Bulletin

Vol 5, Issue 20

25 May 2025



## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**First Reading:** [Acts 15:1-2,22-29](#)

It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and ourselves not to burden you beyond what is essential.

**Second Reading:** [Rev 21:10-14,22-23](#)

He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.

**Gospel:** [John 14:23-29](#)

The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

## This week's Gospel Reflection:

### LEARNING TO BE AT PEACE WITH GOD

We are still in the Easter season celebrating a new creation. But John's gospel takes us back before the Easter event as we hear another part of the farewell spoken by Jesus before his death.

Jesus seeks to give his disciples hope in the face of what is to come. Of course, they don't know what's coming, but at this moment he says to them that, if they love him, they will keep his word and Jesus and 'my Father' will make their home with them.

It's quite breathtaking, revealing to us an intimacy we're unexpectedly invited to share in. And that home is being made whenever we are present to one another, not using one another, or fantasising about one another, but are able to be with each other.

Jesus then speaks out of this love when he says that the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in his name, will reveal everything, deepening our understanding of what has been said to us. And more, Jesus continues to reveal the great generosity of God and gives his peace to us, a peace quite unlike what the world offers.

The emphasis isn't on stopping hostilities, which is what we understand peace to mean in international affairs, or closer to home, or a peace of mind which brings with it the 'power of inner peace', crucial and helpful as they might be at moments. But rather it is a peace centred on relationship, on a person, on Jesus Christ, on one another.

As we learn to love one another, to be with each other, through the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus and the Father come to be with us, to live in us. And the peace this love brings is not a DIY peace, but a gift to be received. We can't simply will it into being, or program it; we have to learn to receive it. That's the part we find difficult. Letting go of our old, comforting habits.

Often, we prefer to hold tight to what we know because letting go seems risky. But that's what Jesus is speaking of: trusting in God's love, this peace, as revealed in him and made real in our lives by the Holy Spirit. This is the intimacy we're invited to share in, where 'on the far side of my letting go is myself in God'.

It's the vision revealed to us in the second reading from the Apocalypse where 'the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the Temple' and we live in them, opening our hearts in praise, as in the psalm. It reminds us that, empowered by the Holy Spirit, there will be decisions to be made, and work to do, to enable the Good News of God's love to be heard.

But now, in the light of Easter, we know, as do the disciples in the first reading, nothing can prevent God making a home with us. *Damian Coleridge © Majellan Media 2025*



## Readings and Commentaries

## PRAYING WITH CHILDREN SUNDAY LITURGY

TWO-MINUTE HOMILY

Sixth  
Sunday  
of Easter

Fr Adrian Farrelly



WATCH NOW

Fr Adrian reminds us that the Trinity desires to make a home within each of us, but we must personally welcome God in our hearts. [Watch now.](#)

## Deceased

Tony Clinton, Alan Whidburn, Denise O'Rourke

## 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 Sixth Sunday of Easter – C/1

If we love, we know the presence of God. Take time to be aware of God's loving presence. We are to imitate this love through our vocation. (John 14:23-29)

**Please pray for vocations.**



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Day/Date	Liturgy	Mass Times	Venue
Monday 26/05/2025	St Philip Neri, priest	9am	Mater Dei
Wednesday 28/05/2025	6th Week of Easter	9am	SPC
Thursday 29/05/2025	6th Week of Easter	9am	SPC
Friday 30/05/2025	5th Week of Easter	9am	Mater Dei
Saturday 31/05/2025	The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	5.30pm	Mater Dei
Sunday 01/06/2025	<b>The ASCENSION of the LORD</b>	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

### Contact

**A:** 41 Chaprowe Road, The Gap  
**P:** PO Box 408, The Gap Qld 4061  
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**Web:** [www.stjohnswoodthegap.net.au](http://www.stjohnswoodthegap.net.au)

**Facebook:** [StJohnsWood/TheGapParish](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsWood/TheGapParish)

**Bulletin:** Email this address if you require a copy  
[bulletin.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:bulletin.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au)

### PARISH TEAM

#### Fr Anthony Odionyenfe

Parish Priest

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#### Silvana Geldenhuys

Parish Secretary

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#### Ann Lister

Local Safeguarding Representative & Parish Office Assistant

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#### Majella Deegan

Sacramental Program Coordinator

**E:** [spco.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:spco.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au)

### 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](mailto:donna.lynn@live.com.au)

### ANNUAL MASS COUNT

The Archdiocese of Brisbane will be coordinating an annual Mass attendance count in May 2025. The Mass count includes all Masses in the Archdiocese of Brisbane. These figures help us to understand how many people are being reached in local communities, and across the whole Archdiocese. Thank you for your cooperation.



**NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK 2025**  
CELEBRATES THE POWER OF VOLUNTEERING TO BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER WITH THE THEME 'CONNECTING COMMUNITIES'.



This weekend is Volunteers weekend. I would like to on behalf of the parishioners of Saint John's Wood/The Gap Parish express our deep appreciation to you for the tireless work you're doing in the parish. Thank you dear Rosemarie and Tricia, for always coordinating the heart of the service we give to God as a parish community every weekend.

I would also like to extend the same sentiments to other volunteers in different ministries in the parish. Thank you all for everything.

As a little token of thanks we shall leave at the back of the church some kit-kat's. Please feel free to pick one after mass. It is just our little way of saying THANK YOU!

May God continue to bless you dear  
**VOLUNTEERS!**

Kind regards, Anthony

### MATER DEI NOTICE—Rubbish Bins

Previously we have used the school bins however we have now received 3 new bins from the Brisbane City Council, a red, a green and a yellow. The bins are situated in the courtyard at the front of Mater Dei Church.

Thank You



### HOME ROSARY

This week's rosary will be said at the home of Ann & Anton on Monday 26th 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](mailto:donna.lynn@live.com.au)

We look forward to seeing you there.

## NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2025

Australians are encouraged to participate in National Reconciliation Week (NRW) which runs from May 27 to June 3. This year's theme is *Bridging Now to Next*.

It is a time to learn about the nation's shared history and take active steps toward reconciliation. Past themes have focused on truth-telling, unity, and strengthening relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, and encouraging reflection, learning, and action.

The week marks two significant milestones: the 1967 Referendum which allowed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to be counted in the census, and the 1992 Mabo Decision that recognised native title rights. These dates are a reminder of the need to address historical injustices and work toward genuine equality and unity.

Reconciliation is not just about acknowledging the past; it also involves creating a fairer future. This includes recognising the enduring cultures, languages, and contributions of First Nations people, while addressing the disadvantages and discrimination that still exist.

It also means listening to Indigenous voices, respecting cultural knowledge, and supporting policies that promote justice and self-determination.

Sourced from Majellan Media



## ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Single Working Middle Aged Male seeking Granny Flat to Rent or Room to House Share even if it's only Available Short term, Non Smoker, Cooks Meals But Always Cleans up etc .

Contact Kevin please on +61 435275728 Or Email [k\\_richardson@live.com.au](mailto:k_richardson@live.com.au)

## SOMETHING FOR A LAUGH

Jesus and Satan have an argument as to who is the better computer programmer. This goes on for a few hours until they agree to hold a contest with God as the judge.



They set themselves before their computers and begin. They type furiously for several hours, lines of code streaming up and down the screen.

Seconds before the end of the competition, a bolt of lightning strikes, taking out the electricity. Moments later, the power is restored, and God announces that the contest is over. He asks Satan to show what he has come up with.

Satan is visible upset, and cries, "I have nothing! I lost it all when the power went out."

"Very well, then," says God, "let us see if Jesus fared any better."

Jesus enters a command, and the screen comes to life in vivid display, the voices of an angelic choir pour forth from the speakers.

Satan is astonished. He stutters, "But how? I lost everything, yet Jesus' program is intact! How did he do it?"

God looks up, over his glasses and chuckles, "Ah you see, Jesus saves."



Have a great week ahead.....

## Our Lady and St. Dymphna Parish

WARMLY WELCOMES



HIS EMINENCE  
SIR JOHN CARDINAL RIBAT

Holy Mass Details  
26 May 2025  
5PM

Celebrant: His Eminence Sir John Cardinal Ribat  
Concelebrant: Fr. Biju Thomas

ALL ARE WELCOME!





## NO ONE SHOULD HAVE TO WALK ALONE

Walk with us in the spirit of compassion and faith at the 2025 Romero Centre Welcome Walk.

As part of the Archdiocese of Brisbane's ongoing commitment to justice and compassion, we invite your parish community to participate in and support the Welcome Walk—a major fundraising initiative of the Romero Centre. Every step taken, and each dollar raised, helps to keep the doors open as we provide essential services such as food, housing, employment

support and community connection to people seeking asylum and refugees. Together, as a Church, we can be a living sign of welcome, compassion, and justice.

Gather your family, or friends—or join as an individual—and take a step towards justice and belonging. Register today and help us walk alongside those who need it most.

**Date:** Sunday, 15 June 2025

**Location:** Orleigh Park (Area 2), West End

Starts at 1:00pm, *Registration opens at 12:45pm, walk begins at 1:15pm*

**Don't miss the moving story shared by our clients after the walk, along with live performances that celebrate strength, resilience, and diversity.**

**Distance:** 3km or 6km walk along the Brisbane River and surroundings

**Cost (tax-deductible donation):**

\$20 per person, *early bird: \$15 if you register before the end of May.* Free for children, concession card holders, and people from asylum-seeking or refugee backgrounds. *Pre-order your exclusive Welcome Walk T-shirt today — available for pickup at the event. Orders close 8 June!*

[Register Now](#)

## Journey Through the Gospels with Bishop David Walker

Bishop David Walker has spent a lifetime reflecting on the Gospels, studying Scripture, and exploring how they guide Christian discipleship. Now, he invites you to join him in a series of enriching discussion on the Gospels. Starts April 2025.



Scan the QR code for more info and Register.

lectiodivina.com.au  
1800 469 833

Everyone has a role to play to end domestic, family and sexual violence in our communities.

**Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month** | 1–31 May 2025



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**



**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