



St John's Wood The Gap Parish Bulletin

(encompasses Mater Dei and St Peter Chanel churches united as one community)

Vol 6, Issue 17 10 May 2026



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: [Acts 8:5-8,14-17](#)

They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Second Reading: [1 Peter 3:15-18](#)

In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Gospel: [John 14:15-21](#)

I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.

This week's Gospel reflection:

THE SPIRIT, AN ADVOCATE FOR OUR FAITH

This week's readings prepare us for Ascension Sunday next week, as they instruct Christians on how to live in the world while we wait for Christ's return. Although Jesus' defeat of death has forever transformed what it means to be human, we live in this waiting period where salvation has already been won for us but is not yet fulfilled.



Jesus comforts all Christians by promising us that, although we cannot see him face to face, we will know that "I am in my Father, and you are in me and I in you." And in this week's readings, we see that Jesus will fulfil this promise by sending the Holy Spirit. The coming of the Holy Spirit inaugurates a new way of living for Christians that Paul elsewhere describes as the 'new life in the Spirit'.

The first reading reveals the joy that this new way of living can bring. Reading from Acts, we see the power of the Holy Spirit setting the people of Samaria free from suffering and disease and coming to dwell with them permanently.

And as Peter tells us in the second reading, the new life in the Spirit continues even through trials when we need to persevere in our faith. When proclaiming Christ is received with rejection rather than joy, the Holy Spirit is still just as present as ever. Indeed, the Holy Spirit will help us respond to the world with "gentleness and reverence."

The coming of the Holy Spirit is Jesus' promise to all of us who have faith in him. The word that Jesus uses here for the Holy Spirit, *paraclete* (in Greek), means advocate, defender or consoler and is often used to describe a helper or witness in a court of law. Just as Peter tells his readers to be ready for whenever they are called to make a defence for themselves, Jesus promises a defender who will always be with them.

The Holy Spirit is an advocate and witness for our faith. The Holy Spirit also testifies to Christ's saving work in our lives, including times of doubts, trials and shortcomings. In a world that sometimes seems devoid of God's presence and action, the Holy Spirit dwells within us to help us "sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts."

The Holy Spirit also provides the grace to help us trust and persevere when it is difficult to keep his commandments. And, when we listen, we are reminded that our new life with God is better than anything the world can offer us.

When the world rejects Christ and his good news, we have the Holy Spirit to help us follow Christ, loving as he loved, suffering as he suffered, and living in unity with the Father as he has made possible. And when we do this, God himself, in the fully divine person of the Holy Spirit, advocates for us, defends us and comforts us.

Joseph Doyle © Majellan Media 2026



TWO-MINUTE HOMILY

Sixth Sunday of Easter



Fr El Louie Jimenez

WATCH NOW

Fr El Louie reminds us that love is more than a feeling, because feelings come and go. True love is a choice we make each day. [Watch now.](#)

Deceased

Janine Stevenson

Anniversary

Jill Beaton, Rita & Jim Kirwan, Brian Collins, Eileen Cahill

Sick

Bev Dick, Robert Minns, Beth Kloza, Lameka Eketi, Peter Maher, Peter Townson, Suzanne Black, Val Bonney, Julie Allen, Philomena (Nellie's mum), Trish Crawshaw, Fiona Russell, Luz Stella Lopez, Carmel Herbert, Christy Murphy, Jim Johnson, Tim chen chen zuo Zu, Mary Thomas, Antonio Ferrante, Carol Black, Moira De Silva, Margaret Sullivan, Ryan Ferguson, Toni Bennett, Deiana Martin, Lorraine Stevens

WCCM (Christian Meditation)
Monday at 9.30am Parish Office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Mater Dei: Monday & Friday 6 - 7pm

DOMESTIC & FAMILY VIOLENCE Prevention Month 2026 TOGETHER WE CAN— Help put an end to Domestic violence

We pray for those affected by violence, and we stand with all who are seeking safety, healing, and hope. If you or someone you know is experiencing abuse, please know that support is available and you are not alone.

Confidential help is available through:

- 1800 RESPECT (1800 737 732) * DV Connect 1800 811 811 or 1800 737 732 * In an emergency, call 000. May our parish be a place of compassion, support and refuge for all.



Day/Date	Liturgy	Mass Times	Venue
Monday 11/05/2026	6th Week of Easter	9am	Mater Dei
Wednesday 13/05/2026	6th Week of Easter	9am	SPC
Thursday 14/05/2026	6th Week of Easter	9am	SPC
Friday 15/05/2026	6th Week of Easter	9am	Mater Dei
Saturday 16/05/2026	6th Week of Easter	5.30pm	Mater Dei
Sunday 17/05/2026	The ASCENSION of the LORD	8am 10am 5pm	SPC Mater Dei SPC

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



This weekend through the Sacrament of Holy Communion we welcome:

Charlie, Zachary, Zac, Nicholas, Benedict, Zachary, Charles, Patrick, Francis, Toby, Frederick, Sophie,

Amari, Joseph, Sadie, Agnes, Sebastian, Alastair, Fraser, Reid and Remi. This is a special and sacred milestone in their faith journey, as they come to the table of the Lord for the first time.

We thank their families and our Sacramental Co-ordinator, Majella for their guidance and support throughout this preparation. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.

SOCIAL TRIVIA NIGHT



Everyone welcome!

Come and join us for a relaxed night with plenty of laughter and learning. Our booking is split across 2-3

tables located closely together. You can sit on any one of our booked tables on the night - no need to line up a crew beforehand.

Numbers need to be finalised with the venue 5 days in advance, so please make sure you RSVP.

Details:

- Blind Tiger (at the Gap Village) on Wednesday 17 June
- Tables are booked from 6pm, with trivia starting at 7pm
- Food and drinks can be purchased across the night, or you might prefer to eat before you leave home

It is free to participate. Optional participation in the Jackpot prize with gold coin entry.

RSVP by 12 June to donna.lynn@live.com.au - 20 people maximum.

CATHOLIC LEADER

We are asking if anyone is interested in buying the Catholic Leader from the Parish again. We require numbers to order them so if you are interested please contact the parish office. Thank you.

~THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH~

* *Monday at SPC*

9.30am Meditation Group

6.30pm Young Adults Group

Adoration 6-7pm MD

* *Wednesday*

9am Mass SPC followed by morning tea in the parish office

* *Thursday*

Mahjong 12.30pm

* *Friday at MD*

6-7pm Adoration

Dates to save:

* Happy Patches craft group meet Thursday 21st May at 9.30am in the Parish hall.

* Confirmation Program commences with Parent Information Evening Wednesday 4th June 7-8pm at SPC

* The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be held from 9th—24th May.

* Next SPC family Mass Sunday 14th June

* Next MD family Mass Sunday 17th May



ST JOHN'S WOOD THE GAP PARISH

Office Hours

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

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

Contact

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E: thegap@bne.catholic.net.au

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Facebook: [StJohnsWoodTheGapParish](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsWoodTheGapParish)

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bulletin.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH TEAM

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Majella Deegan

Sacramental Program Coordinator

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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



HOME ROSARY

This week's rosary will be said at the home of Pushpa on Monday 11th May. Contact the parish office for further details.

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



MOTHER'S DAY

*"A mother's love endures through all."
~ Washington Irving ~*

Mother's Day is a time to honour and celebrate the most special women in our lives – our mums.

It's a day to recognise the tireless efforts and unconditional love that mothers give to their children.

For some, it can be an especially hard day as we remember and miss the mums who are no longer with us.

We can take comfort knowing their love stays with us in the memories they left and the way they shaped our lives.

From the moment we are born, our mums become our first teachers, our role models and our biggest supporters.

They are the ones who wipe away our tears, encourage us to chase our dreams and are always there to listen.

This Mother's Day, let us take a moment to thank our mums for everything they have done for us.

It is a time to appreciate their sacrifices, their strength, their unwavering love and to recognise the challenges they face and the hard work they put in every day to make our lives better.

It is also a chance to make the day extra special by showing them just how much they mean to us.

Whether it's with a heartfelt message, a thoughtful gift or simply spending time together, we want them to feel appreciated and loved.

So, to all the amazing mums out there, Happy Mother's Day! Thank you for all that you do and for being the incredible women you are.

You are truly an inspiration to us all.



Happy Mother's Day!

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

A single middle aged working male, non-smoking, no pets, is seeking a granny flat or similar or willing to share with one or two people. References available— Please contact Kevin on 0435275728

- ◆ The Editor retains the right to edit any items that are submitted to the Bulletin.
- ◆ Some items in the bulletin are sourced from @Majellan Media.
- ◆ Cut off time for the bulletin is 3pm Wednesday.

HAPPY 43RD PRIESTHOOD ANNIVERSARY FATHER TERRY



Last Sunday Father Terry celebrated his 43rd year of service as a priest. Thank you for the years you shared with us and we wish you all the best for many years ahead. God Bless!

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

For Young Adults Group this week, all young adults (18-30) are invited to hear guest speaker Fr Joe McKay (Franciscan Friar and Stafford Parish Priest) talk about St Francis of Assisi, the current Jubilee Year of St Francis and what this year means for us. We'll begin with dinner together.



When: Monday 11 May, 6:30 pm-8 pm

Where: St Peter Chanel Church

For more info, text Lauren on 0487 635 721 or call the Parish Office.

Dare to imagine a life shaped by grace! 2026 Annual Marian Lecture

Parishioners are warmly invite to register for the Annual Marian Lecture, to be **livestreamed 6:00-7:30pm on Tuesday 12 May**. This year's address will be delivered by Rev. Dr Sarah Bachelard, theologian, author and leader in contemplative practice. Dr Bachelard will invite us to reflect on how grace shapes our seeing, relating and responding.

Facilitated by Dr John Kyle-Robinson, the evening will include a reflective conversation with Dr Bachelard.

To register to receive the link, visit: [2026 Marian Lecture](#)

A vocation view: Sixth Sunday of Easter – A

That Jesus rose from the dead is our Faith. That we can be reborn in the Spirit is our Hope. That we can do God's work is our Love. Follow God's Call.

Please pray for vocations.



Scan the QR code to find out more, or call 1300 133 544
www.vocationbrisbane.com
Follow us on socials
[@vocationbrisbane](#)





St Peter Chanel
Catholic Primary School, The Gap

It was a wonderful week last week as our school community joyfully celebrated our St Peter Chanel Feast Day. We began with a welcoming breakfast before gathering in the church for a beautiful liturgy, giving thanks for our patron saint. Students especially enjoyed spending time together in mixed Prep to Year 5 groups, sharing laughter, teamwork and connection through games and activities centred on our Chanel virtues.



A heartfelt thank you to our parish for supplying the delicious cake, which was enjoyed by all at our shared morning tea. It was a truly special celebration of faith, friendship and community, and I look forward to sharing some photos from the day.
Hayley APRE



Mother's Day at Mater Dei

As we celebrate Mother's Day, we give thanks for the love, care and faith of all mothers and mother figures in our community. This special day was beautifully marked at Mater Dei through our Mother's Day liturgy, drawing our hearts to Mary, the Mother of God, who lovingly watches over us as Mater Dei - *Mother of God*.

It was a joy to gather in prayer, giving thanks for mothers everywhere, followed by our wonderful Mother's Day breakfast, where families came together in a spirit of gratitude and celebration.

We wish all mothers, grandmothers and those who nurture life in so many ways a very happy Mother's Day. May you feel deeply loved, appreciated and blessed today and always.



Igniting Hearts of Caritas

At Mater Dei, our 2026 focus of *Igniting Hearts of Caritas* continues to guide the way we live, learn and serve as a faith community - a call to live with compassion, love and service in the spirit of Christ. This is lived through our commitment to being *Courageously Caring*: advocating for others, striving for excellence with courage, and engaging our hearts and minds to make a difference in the world.

Through prayer, learning and everyday actions, our students are encouraged to speak up for what is right and to grow as thoughtful, compassionate people who bring hope and care to others.

Leah APRE

SOMETHING FOR A LAUGH

I woke up early on Mother's Day to surprise mum with breakfast in bed. She woke up even earlier to clean the kitchen before I wrecked it. Some habits never take a day off.



Mum always says she doesn't need expensive gifts — just love and appreciation. Which is great, because love and appreciation are exactly what my budget allows.

My mum says she doesn't play favourites among her children — she loves us all equally. But somehow she always remembers who forgot Mother's Day last year.

I asked mum what her favourite part of being a mother is. She said, "When you finally go to bed."

At the end of Mother's Day, mum hugged us and said it was perfect. Then she looked at the messy kitchen, the wrapping paper everywhere, and sighed, "My real gift tomorrow will be when everyone goes back to work and school."



Enjoy your week ahead.....

The protection and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is at the core of Church mission and setting the right approach to safeguarding is important.
'Creating protective environments and activities for children and adults-at-risk.'

..... Safe People, Places & Practices.
Creating activities, ministries and services free from abuse, exploitation and harm.
If you think it's wrong report it.

"The Parish of St John's Wood/The Gap would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Turrbal and Jagera people, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge their continued connection to the land, water and community".

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