



# St John's Wood The Gap Parish Bulletin

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

Vol 6, Issue 19 24 May 2026



## PENTECOST SUNDAY

**First Reading:** [Acts 2:1-11](#)

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.

**Second Reading:** [1 Cor 12:3-7,12-13](#)

In the one Spirit we were all baptised making one body.

**Gospel:** [John 20:19-23](#)

As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.

## This week's Gospel reflection:

### EVERY DAY IS A PENTECOST

At Pentecost, Jesus' confused disciples were gathered and locked in a room. Fear and suspicion filled the air. There was more perspiration than inspiration! The disciples were afraid that they would suffer the same fate as their Master. They listened and waited for the mob to arrive. They hoped that no one would discover their hiding place.



In contrast, there's the powerful image of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is not halted by locked doors or locked hearts. The Spirit is not excluded from the vulnerable parts of people's lives. When the Spirit came upon the disciples, it wasn't like a gentle breeze, but more like a cyclonic wind that flattens everything in its path.

The Spirit fires the disheartened disciples with new energy, enthusiasm and authority. The divine wind swept them off their feet, and drove them out of hiding. The divine fire set them ablaze with zeal for God's Kingdom and empowered them for their mission. They go out into the world, and fearlessly proclaim the gospel with its message of peace and forgiveness.

At first the crowd is confused, "because each one heard the disciples speaking in his own language". Something had happened to change the disciples' outlook and behaviour. The crowd's second reaction is amazement: "are not all these people who are speaking Galileans." Yet everyone understood what the disciples were saying.

When that happened, there was communion, whereas before there had been misunderstanding and division. The disciples' "broke through" to people, and spoke a deeper and more personal language that's actually in all of us, and which so rarely gets spoken. It's a language in search of meaning and understanding. It's music in search of a melody. It's words in search of a story. It's a blank canvas in search of beauty and creativity. It's the language of the Holy Spirit.

The blaze that began at Pentecost has continued across the centuries, growing, spreading, scorching. At times, humanity has tried to avoid or escape it; and tried to ignore the beauty and disturbance of the Spirit's power and energy. We've tried to tame or dilute it into a cosy, domesticated faith, rather than subject ourselves to the Spirit's transforming and purifying fire.

But, try as we might, the Spirit blows where it will. The Spirit cannot be captured or contained; it's not conservative or liberal, it's not 'us or them.' The Spirit is free. The Spirit is everywhere, and is especially alive in us; sending us out into the world like the disciples and empowering us to bring peace and forgiveness wherever life takes us.

Every day is a Pentecost.

David J Hore CSsR © Majellan Media 2026



## Readings and Reflections



TWO-MINUTE HOMILY

## Pentecost Sunday



Fr Peter Brannelly

Fr Peter reflects on three themes this Pentecost and invites us to consider the powerful work of the Holy Spirit in our lives today. [Watch now.](#)

## Deceased

Denise McKenna, Ronald Dards

## Anniversary

Philomena Drady, Maree King, Robert Murphy, Jill Beaton

## Sick

Bev Dick, Richard King, Noah Cook, 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 25/05/2026	OUR LADY, HELP of CHRISTIANS	9am	Mater Dei
Wednesday 27/05/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 8	9am	SPC
Thursday 28/05/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 8	9am	SPC
Friday 29/05/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 8	9am	Mater Dei
Saturday 30/05/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 8	5.30pm	Mater Dei
Sunday 31/05/2026	<b>The Most Holy TRINITY</b>	8am 10am 5pm	SPC Mater Dei 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

**T:** 07 3300 6099

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

**Web:** [www.stjohnswoodthegap.net.au](http://www.stjohnswoodthegap.net.au)

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

**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 Odionyene

Parish Priest

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

**P:** 0437406047

#### Silvana Geldenhuys

Parish Secretary

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

#### Ann Lister

Parish Office Assistant

**E:** [poa2.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:poa2.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au)

#### Local Safeguarding Representative

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

#### 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



### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

This weekend through the Sacrament of Holy Communion we welcome at SPC: Olivia, Emma, Harry, Ignatius and Max and at MD: Viva, Florence, Emily and Elise. 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.

God bless!

### ~THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH~

\* *Monday at SPC*

9.30am Meditation

Group

Adoration 6-7pm MD

\* *Wednesday*

9am Mass SPC

followed by morning tea in the parish office

6.30pm Young Adults

Group

\* *Thursday*

Mahjong 12.30pm

\* *Friday at MD*

6-7pm Adoration

#### *Dates to save:*

\* Happy Patches craft group meet Thursday 4th June 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

**FUNERAL SERVICE** for *Ian Appleton* will be held at **Centenary Memorial Gardens at 9am on 29th May**. Parishioners are invited to attend and please keep the family in your prayers.

### PLEASE NOTE: CHANGE OF DATE



### 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 24 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](mailto:donna.lynn@live.com.au) - 20 people maximum.



### FUNERAL MASS –DENISE McKENNA

A funeral mass will be held on **Friday 29th May at SPC commencing at 11am** for Denise. Parishioners are welcome to attend and we ask you keep Joe and the family in your prayers.



### HOME ROSARY

This week's rosary will be said at the home of Carmel on Monday 25th May. Contact the parish office for further details.

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





## YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

- State of Origin

If you're a young adult (18-30) interested in footy or in getting to know other young Catholics, this is for you! This week for YA Group, we'll gather on Wednesday night (not Monday night) to watch the first match in this year's **State of Origin** together in the Parish Hall on the big screen. We've invited the young adults from neighbouring Grovely Parish and we'll start with dinner together - it'll be a great opportunity to invite your friends or any young adults you know!

**When:** Wednesday 27 May, 7pm-10pm (join for as long/short as you want)

**Where:** Parish Hall, 41 Chaprowe Rd, The Gap

You're welcome to bring snacks (dinner is provided) and a beanbag/blankets

For more info, text Lauren on 0487 635 721 or call the Parish Office on 3300 6099

## Happy 97th Birthday Terry! Still looking good...

Terry was joined by parishioners after Mass on Wednesday to celebrate his 97th birthday. We give thanks for Terry's wonderful life, faithful presence in our parish community and the joy he brings to so many, especially Maureen his amazing wife of 70 years. God Bless you both!



### THANK YOU to our PARISH VOLUNTEERS

*Our sincere thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who give so generously of their time, talents and faith to our parish community. Your dedication, kindness and willingness to serve help and bring our parish to life in so many ways.*

*Whether through ministry, hospitality, liturgy, maintenance, music, administration, fundraising, or quiet acts of service behind the scenes, your contribution is deeply appreciated and a true blessing to our parish. May God bless each of you for your faithful and generous service.*

*Dear Lord, we give thanks for volunteers who show up when help is needed. Bless their work, their hands and their hearts. May they feel appreciated and supported as they care for those around them. Amen.*



## YOUTH LED MASS & YOUTH NIGHT

**Next Sunday 31 May** at SPC 5pm Mass is a Youth-Led Mass, with a special invite to all high schoolers and young adults!

**We still need people to help serve** in music, altar serving, reading, computer, Communion Minister and offertory – please email Sam at [samuel.mead@outlook.com](mailto:samuel.mead@outlook.com) to get involved.

Straight after the YLM, we will have a **Youth Night** from 6-7:15pm in the parish hall – a night just for **high schoolers** in Grades 7-12 (and run by Izzy, Lauren, Sam and Ben). It will include dinner, games, a chance to get to know each other more and a time of prayer. Are you in high school? You are? Then we'll see you there!

## Pentecost Sunday in Laudato Si' Week – 24 May 2026



There is no bad time to call on the help of the Holy Spirit. Every day, we should fall back on the ancient yet familiar prayer which begins 'Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.' The prayer ends with the hope: 'you will renew the face of the earth'. We say those very words in today's Psalm: 'Lord, send out your spirit and renew the face of the earth'.

### How can we turn that hope into action?

One way is to remember today's Gospel which reminds us that the Holy Spirit brings peace, not conflict. As St Paul says, there is only one body to which we all belong. Pope Leo XIV has been an outspoken advocate for peace. He knows the damage that war does to the whole of creation.

God's family has only one place to live, Earth. We need to look after the whole of it, rather than fighting over parts of it.

**'Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the Earth'**

by Michael McGirr, Mission Facilitator at Caritas Australia



## Caritas Australia End of Financial Year Appeal

As we approach the end of the financial year, Caritas Australia invites you to help families facing conflict, hunger and displacement. Your support is needed to get critical aid into countries like Sudan, which is facing the largest humanitarian crisis in the world today. Over 30 million people are in urgent need of assistance, the healthcare system has collapsed, and families are facing chronic food insecurity. Your tax deductible gift this End of Financial Year can provide lifesaving essentials such as nutritious food, clean water and vital medicines to families in need.



<https://www.caritas.org.au/make-hunger-history>

# St John's Wood The Gap Parish

## 2025 Parish Finance Council Update

	2025 Calendar Year	2024 Calendar Year	
<b>Profit &amp; Loss</b>			
Ordinary Income	\$333,167	\$287,533	2025 Collections & Giving up \$14k, Columbarium Niche Income up \$10k, OSHC 2025 Office costs up \$9k, Staff costs up \$6k, General Maintenance down \$10k
Expenses before depreciation	\$317,777	\$305,758	
<b>Operating Profit / (Loss)</b>	<b>\$15,390</b>	<b>(\$18,225)</b>	
Other Income	\$ 3,527	\$ 65,957	2024 Included an additional one off distribution from OSHC over and above normal distributions
Other Expenses	\$ 6,125	\$ 732	
Depreciation (non-cash)	\$0	\$58,609	This is an accounting entry (non-cash) that records the reduction in book value
<b>Net Profit / (Loss)</b>	<b>\$12,792</b>	<b>(\$11,609)</b>	
<b>Balance Sheet</b>			
<b>Total Bank Reserves</b>	<b>\$428,822</b>	<b>\$420,705</b>	Less spend in 2025 on repairs to assets plus the profit above contributed to an overall modest increase in cash reserves

The Parish Finance Council is made up of 5 representatives for the Parish, namely: Fr Anthony, Philip Anderton (Chair), Chris Hazzard (Secretary), Petrea Mansul and Geoff Newman. If you have any questions on the above information please reach out to anyone on the Finance Council who are happy to assist.



### Thank you Year 4 families

We extend our thanks to our Year 4 families for their

generous support of a recent parish Mass. Providing and serving the morning tea was a beautiful expression of our school's spirit of community and hospitality. Your willingness to give your time and care helped create a warm and welcoming gathering for all who attended. In living out Caritas – Care and Concern, you continue to model for our students the importance of service and connection within our parish family. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

### Parish Family Mass

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the families who joined us for Parish Mass last week. Your presence was a beautiful witness to our shared faith and a powerful expression of community. Together, we continue Igniting Hearts of Caritas, living out care and compassion in the way we gather, pray and support one another. Your commitment strengthens the connection between our school and parish, and we are truly grateful for your ongoing support of our Mater Dei community.

### First Holy Communion

We joyfully celebrate our Year 4 students and past Mater Dei students who have received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion over the past few weekends. This special milestone in their faith journey is a beautiful moment of encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist, made all the more meaningful through the support of their families and our parish community. As a school grounded in Caritas – Care and Concern, we are proud of these students as they continue to grow in faith, love and service, strengthened by this sacred sacrament.

**Leah APRE**



### ✦ Sacrament of Holy Communion ✦

It has been a truly special few weeks for our St Peter Chanel community as our Year 4/5 students have celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Communion. It has been wonderful to witness these students take this important step in their faith journey, receiving the Eucharist for the first time surrounded by their families and our parish community.

Moments like these remind us of the deep connection between home, school and parish, and the vital role we each play in nurturing the spiritual growth of our young people. The reverence, joy and pride shown by our students have been a beautiful reflection of their preparation and commitment.

**Hayley APRE**

### A vocation view: Pentecost Sunday - A

"There are different gifts, but the same Spirit." Each of us has been graced with certain gifts of the Spirit. And they are active if we utilise them for the building up of the Church. Name the way the Lord has gifted you.

**Please pray for vocations.**

To find out more [www.vocationbrisbane.com](http://www.vocationbrisbane.com)

•••• 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".