



# PARISH NEWSLETTER

## **PARISH PRIEST: *Father Joseph Kanatt MCBS***

Fr Joseph: [pp.sandgatebrighton@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:pp.sandgatebrighton@bne.catholic.net.au)

Parish Office: 23 Greenwood Street, Brighton 4017

Phone: 3869 1377

Email: [sandgatebrighton@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sandgatebrighton@bne.catholic.net.au)

Website: [sandgatebrightoncatholic.org.au](http://sandgatebrightoncatholic.org.au)



Sandgate Brighton Catholic Parish

Archdiocesan Safeguarding Office: 3324 3752

Local Safeguarding representative: Caren Rosenberg-O'Brien 0491 634 855

Office hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday (8:30am – 3:30pm)

**CLOSED MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS**

Parish Secretary: Liz Kelly

Finance Officer: Angela Smith

## **Fifth Sunday of Easter Year A – 10 May 2020**

### **I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE**

The Scripture readings of this weekend draws our attention how the early Church accepted the challenge of keeping Jesus' memory alive in the Christian community by fashioning it into a serving and worshipping community (Acts 6:1-7), making of it a spiritual edifice built from the "living stones" of believers upon the "Living Cornerstone of Christ" (1 Pt 2:4-5), and, thus, the Father's House (John 14:1-12).

The Gospel of this weekend gives us the image of the Church as a Church in glory in the Father's House. It also reminds us of the great truth that Jesus is the Way to God that he is the Truth of God and that in him and through him we receive God's own Life.

Before Jesus explaining the disciple, him as the way, truth and life, he strengthens them. Let not your heart be troubled. You believe in God: believe also in me. Jesus begins to console his Apostles during the Last supper. Jesus the redeemer was always instilling hope among his followers. So it is consoling word from Jesus to us in this time of fear and anxiety, "Do not let your hearts be troubled". We need to know Jesus as the Way to God, the Truth to be accepted and the Life to be shared and lived.

Jesus is the Way. We go to God the Father who is Truth and Life through Jesus and we call Jesus the "Way" because he is the visible manifestation in human form of all that his Father is. To those who teach that all religions lead us to God or that religion is immaterial provided man lead a good life, Jesus has the answer that he is the safest and surest way to God because he came from God and he can lead us to his Heavenly Father.

Jesus is the Truth. Gandhi said, "God is truth." Jesus is the Truth because he is the only one who reveals to us the whole truth about God. The truth is the word made flesh. He teaches us that God is a loving, merciful, providing and forgiving Father.

Jesus is the Life. As God, Jesus has eternal life in himself. In addition, he is the one who gives

us his life-giving Holy Spirit. Jesus is the Life also in the sense that he allows us to share in God's Life through the Sacraments.

On this weekend we celebrate Mother's day. On this day we thank our mothers, pray for them, and honour them by offering our mothers on the altar of God.

This is a day to admit gratefully the fact that none of us is able to return, in the same measure, all the love that our mothers have given us. Their influence on their children is so great that it affects the children throughout their lives. Our mothers not only gave us birth but nursed us, nurtured us, trained us in their religious beliefs and practices, taught us good manners and ideal behaviour, disciplined us as best as they could, and made us good citizens of our country, our Church, and our society. There is a beautiful Spanish proverb: "An ounce of mother is better than a pound of clergy." Hence, it is highly proper for us to express our love and gratitude to our mothers by our presence (not possible this strange year), gifts, and prayers on Mother's Day. I will be offering the Eucharistic celebration on Mother's Day for all the mothers, whether they are alive here or have gone for their eternal reward. The word "mom" is synonymous with sacrificial, love in its purest form, as commanded by Jesus in his farewell speech: "Love one another as I have loved you."

Hence, let us lavish our love on our mothers and express our gratitude for them in the form of fervent prayers offered for them before God.

### **HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**

Fr. Joseph Kanatt MCBS  
Parish Priest





# PARISH NEWSLETTER



**FIRST READING: (Acts 6:1-7)** About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

**SECOND READING: (1 Peter 2:4-9)** The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

**GOSPEL: (John 14:1-12)** Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house. If there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you and after I have gone and prepared you a place. I shall return to take you with me so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me? To have seen me is to see the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself. It is the Father, living in e,

who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself. He will perform even greater works because I am going to the Father.'

**HAPPY MOTHERS DAY:** Loving God, we thank you for the love of the mothers you have given us, whose love is so precious that it can never be measured, whose patience seems to have no end. We pray for those mothers who fear they will run out of love or time, or patience. We ask you to bless them with your own special love. Amen

**PARISH OFFICE:** The Parish Office will be temporarily changing opening days. The Secretary will be working on Tuesdays and Fridays and the Finance Officer will be working on Thursdays. We appreciate your understanding during this time.

**VOCATION VIEW:** The new ministry of "Deacon" is mentioned in today's Scripture. Perhaps the Lord is calling you to assist with the charitable, educational or liturgical needs of the Lord's People today.

**SUNDAY MASS:** Mass will continue to be live-streamed every Sunday morning at 9am. Following this Mass, a link will be uploaded to the parish website and emailed to parishioners who are on the newsletter distribution list. This way we can provide the Mass link for those who do not have a Facebook account and wish to watch the Mass at a later time.

## **ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

*My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen*

**PLANNED GIVING:** Thank you to all parishioners who are continuing to support the parish through the planned giving program either via direct debit, credit card, envelopes or donations via the parish locked letterbox. All contributions, especially during this time, are greatly appreciated.

**HOLY ROSARY:** May is the month of the Rosary. All parishioners are encouraged to continue to pray for peace in our world, particularly during this difficult time. What a wonderful prayer to share with your family!

**PENTECOST PILGRIMAGE:** Catholics are invited to join others worldwide on a spiritual pilgrimage to Pentecost. Register for free to receive a series of talks which are uploaded twice a week from speakers around the world, including Australia (including Archbishop Porteous – Hobart, Fr Ken Barker MGL – founder and moderator of the Missionaries of God's Love, Robert Falzon – co-founder of menALIVE and Daniel Ang – Director of Parish 2020, Sydney Archdiocese). To register <https://www.pentecostpilgrimage.com>

