



St Anthony's Parish Picton

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Fr Peter Tien
Parish Priest



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD —YEAR A

Parish Bulletin

Sunday 24 May 2020

Greetings with Easter Season blessings!

This weekend invites us to reflect on things of heaven versus things on earth as we celebrate the feast of the Ascension of the Lord. The feast of the Ascension marks the end of Jesus's physical presence on earth, Jesus going back to God the Father from whom he has come.

Life for Christians is changed not ended! St. Paul reminds us, that 'in spite of all the buildings we put up and roots we put down here on earth, we do not have a lasting dwelling. All we have is a kind of tent. It is folded up at death.' Our true home is in heaven where Jesus is.

This Sunday also celebrates the feast of Mary Help of Christians.

In 1844, the Australian Bishops have solemnly entrusted the entire nation and the Church in this land to the motherly care of Mary under the title 'OUR LADY - HELP OF CHRISTIANS.' On this day we pray to Mary for our Church and our nation.

Until when we can come together for Sunday Mass, please take care, and stay safe. With God's blessings!

Fr. Peter



O Immaculate Mary, Help of Christians, Queen of heaven and earth, and tender Mother of humanity, at this time when a pandemic threatens all your children, we entrust to you our nation, Australia, and all who live in this country.

We commit to your intercession all the members of our community, beginning with the weakest ones, from the unborn to the sick, the disabled and the elderly.

We commit to you our families, our young and old, and all who are vulnerable, those who are quarantined or anxious.

We entrust to your Immaculate Heart those who have lost their livelihood or employment, our pastors and other essential service workers, and our leaders at this time.

We implore your intercession especially for the protection of doctors and nurses and those who minister to the contagious sick in this crisis.

Reign over us, Mother of God, and teach us how to make the Heart of Jesus reign and triumph in us and around us, as it has reigned and triumphed in you!

PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED:

Lord grant them eternal peace & joy and to their families and friends strength and comfort

RECENTLY DECESASED:

ANNIVERSARIES:

PRAY FOR THE SICK Christine Jupe, Janelle Clifton, Peter Wood, Graeme Menser, Ross Spirou, Lesley Thompson, Mauro Mariano, Mary McMahan, John Debono, Melony Cox, Joanne McMahan, Daniel Clarke, Margaret Brown, Lesley Gardiner, James McNeil, Ian Macnamara, Stephanie Macnamara, Jim Matthews, Elizabeth Linsell

WANTED: Is there any parishioner who does small engraving jobs? If you are able to assist the parish, please phone or email the parish office.

PRAY WITH POPE FRANCIS throughout May for an end to the Pandemic.

Pope Francis has asked Catholics to make a special effort in May to pray the Rosary, knowing that by doing so they would be united with believers around the world asking for Mary's intercession in stopping the coronavirus pandemic. Pope Francis has written two prayers that can be recited at the end of the rosary, prayers he said he would be reciting "in spiritual union with all of you."

Prayer to recite at the end of the rosary

O Mary,

You shine continuously on our journey
as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the foot of the cross,
were united with Jesus' suffering,
and persevered in your faith.
"Protectress of the Roman people",
you know our needs,
and we know that you will provide,
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,
joy and celebration may return
after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
and to do what Jesus tells us.

For he took upon himself our suffering,
and burdened himself with our sorrows
to bring us, through the cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.

We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God; Do not despise our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us always from every danger, O Glorious and Blessed Virgin

MASS WITH THE DIOCESE:

During this period of time where Masses in the diocese are suspended, it is important to know that you have not been abandoned by the Church. Members of the faithful are urged to keep holy the Lord's Day by making an act of Spiritual Communion, a well-established devotional practice of uniting one's self in prayer with Christ's sacrifice when circumstances prevent one from receiving holy Communion.

Sunday Mass online available at www.dow.org.au and on the diocese's Facebook page www.facebook.com/WollongongCatholic with Bishop Brian Mascord and other priests from the diocese.

There is a link on the front page of the parish website that goes to Diocese of Wollongong showing what Masses are on live.

www.stanthonyspicton.org.au

BOOKS

Need some new reading material? There are books available in the shack. Some books also for those schooling from home. Please take what you require and leave tidy and covered up.

YOUTH MINISTRY ONLINE.

Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong launched LIVE Online last week. Check it out at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qdC-Q7_OVY Joel and Robyn get real in this creative show about faith in the life of young people, inviting them into lives that are full and joyful. This is a great way to build not only your faith but to build lasting friendships. To get in touch with the NET team and be part of this, simply follow the "CYMW" Facebook page or by Instagram at "wollongongnetteam"

THE EUCHARIST -

EXPLORING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH:

Mondays 1st - 22nd June or Fridays 5th - 26th June all at 4pm via Zoom Video Conferencing We're all missing the Eucharist - but what does this mean? What are we missing? In this four-part online series we'll refresh and deepen our understanding of the Eucharist and its relevance for our lives using online video material from Bishop Robert Barron. We will explore Eucharist as Real Presence, as Sacrifice and as Meal and look at how we can prepare and get more out of our participation in this celebration. To register go to <https://www.dow.org.au/news-andevents/> For further information email darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au

The Diocese of Wollongong Weekly Podcast – **'THE JOURNEY'** – 24 May 2020 Listen in this week for as we hear again in the Easter Series of Gospel reflections from Fr Mike Delaney, Mother Hilda Scott from the Abbey and other short talks from some of Australia's best Catholic presenters as we celebrate the Easter season in isolation. Uploaded every Friday for free download – go to www.jcr.org.au

A VOCATION VIEW

“The Ascension of the Lord (24/05/20) “Go and make disciples of all nations!” Our lives must proclaim the Truth that comes to us from Christ; embrace the call to be a witness of Christ to the ends of the world! (Matthew 28:19) If you want to talk about your discernment, please contact the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au or our new Vocations video at <https://www.dow.org.au/covid-19/sunday-mass-online-withbishop-brian/>

ADORATION LIVESTREAMED

Wednesday nights

The NET Team will be hosting a Holy Hour every Wednesday at 6:30pm. This will be a time set aside for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

This will be broadcast via This will be broadcast via:
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cymdow/>
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/wollongongnetteam/>

PRAYER RESOURCES FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

During this time of social isolation, it is important that we pray and stay connected to our community. A range of online resources are available to assist with this. These include daily prayers and readings, prayer services, the Sunday Office, commentaries, homilies and reflections as well as Gospel based activities and resources to support personal and family prayer. Go to: liturgyhelp.com/aus/woll/pray and follow the prompts to access. Hopefully these resources will help create prayerful solidarity with our community and the whole Body of Christ.

CATHOLIC CARE:

We're always here, if you ever need...

These are challenging times for everyone and CatholicCare are here to support you and your family to navigate the uncertainty. We offer confidential online and phone counselling to support you with the frustration of managing family emotions, relationship pressures and employment changes. To find out more about CatholicCare's counselling service call us on 4254 9395 or email intakeservice@catholiccare.dow.org.au

ELECTRONIC PARISH PLANNED GIVING

Given that all non-essential travel has been cancelled, some parishioners who support our parish planned giving envelope program have asked how they can continue to financially support the parish. So, we respectfully encourage all parishioners to join our electronic parish planned giving program to help us ensure that we limit the financial pressure this current situation will impose on our parish.

Importantly, we are mindful that some of our parishioners will sadly be experiencing a change in their financial circumstances. Please contact the Parish Office (4683 2230 or picton@dow.org.au) if you need to decrease/discontinue your planned giving contribution, but mainly to let us know how we can support you.

If you would like to commence giving by direct debit or via credit card, new forms are available for you to complete, they are available in the racks in the foyer of the church, or they can be emailed to you.

ALTERNATIVE:

2nd collection—(all parish expenses)

Picton Parish

BSB 066-711

Account number: 001783

1st collection— (Priests & their living expenses)

Picton Presbytery

BSB: 066711

Account number: 002196

If you are giving electronically, please use your name or envelope number as a reference, so the contributions can be allocated to you.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2020:

The sacramental has been suspended. But we would like to be ready to run the programs later this year if it becomes possible. So, we are asking anyone, who has children that they wish to attend a Parish Sacramental Program this year, to contact the parish office, wither by phone or email (preferably email) to register your interest in having your child or children attend a Parish Sacramental Preparation program (Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation) this year. It is important that you register, as there may not be a great deal of time for preparation programs later in the year and if we do not already have your child's name they may miss out.

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday & Thursday

9.00a.m. - 3.00p.m.

Parish Phone 4683 2230

Email: picton@dow.org.au

Website: www.stanthonypicton.org.au

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BEQUEATHING

Would you like to remember the parish in your will? Property, money, artwork, plants... There are many ways you can be remembered. Please contact the parish office (46832230) for further info.