



St Felix deValois Parish

550 Chapel Road, Bankstown, NSW 2200, Australia

Fr Van Nguyen, Parish Priest

Fr Ronnie Maree, Assistant Priest

Marie Caldareri, Secretary (Tues, Wed, Thurs)

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Fourth Sunday of Easter - Yr A - 3 May 2020

Dear parishioners,

God's love and blessings to you all in this very difficult time!

Whilst we are living through unprecedented events please be assured that the parish is continuing to work to serve you and help you foster your relationship with Our Lord and strengthen our community.

LIVE STREAMING OF HOLY MASS

Sunday - 3 May - 10.00am.

Please follow this link to watch the Mass <https://facebook.com/stfelixdevaloisparishbankstown/>

RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN

For those with young children, the Cath Family organisation have generously made all their resources for children free in this time our churches are closed. Feel free to have a look at some of their resources that can help children to pray and continue to learn about their faith by clicking this link:

<https://cathfamily.org/cathkids-faith-unlimited/>.

CONNECTING THROUGH PHONE

We are looking to set up a team of people who regularly call and keep in contact with the more isolated in our community. This is a vital service of love our parish community can provide in these usual times. If you are struggling during this time of isolation or know of somebody who is feel free to contact us through this email address or the parish office (9790 1933) and we will see that they are regularly called. If you wish to be part of this apostolate reply to this email and we will contact you during the week.

We will continue update information and publish resources through:

- the parish website <https://www.stfelixparish.org.au/>
- the parish bulletin: <https://www.stfelixparish.org.au/bulletins/>
- our outreach email: stfelix.outreach@gmail.com
- the parish Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/stfelixdevaloisparishbankstown/>
- the parish office: 9790 1933

Please be assured of our continued support, prayers and availability in this time.

***Our Lady, Help of Christians, of Lourdes, and of Good Health, pray for us.
Saint Felix, pray for us.***

Yours in Christ,

Fr Van Nguyen PP
Fr Ronnie Maree

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Penitential Act

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

Collect

Let us pray.
Almighty ever-living God,
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,

so that the humble flock may reach
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

First Reading - Acts 2:14,36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number. The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **R.**

Second Reading - 1 Peter 2:20-25

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

You had gone astray but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

Gospel - John 10:1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come
are thieves and brigands;

but the sheep took no notice of them.

I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:

he will go freely in and out

and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes

only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come

so that they may have life

and have it to the full.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Take time to reflect on the Gospel.

You may like to move forward and read the reflections.

The Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten not made, consubstantial with the Father
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
He came down from heaven
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin
Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate, he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the
right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and
the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of
life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic
Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins and look forward to the resurrection of the
dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: Gathered in the loving embrace of our Good Shepherd, we pray for the Church and the world.

For leaders of the Church, that they may serve as good shepherds of their flocks, we pray to the Lord:

For world and civic leaders, that they may be guided by the loving compassion of the Good Shepherd, we pray to the Lord:

For all who suffer from illness and for those who care for them, we pray to the Lord:

For our Mother, the Earth, source of all greenness, that we may care for her with gentleness and justice, we pray to the Lord:

For all of us here present, that we may recognise Jesus' voice in our lives and be ready and willing to serve where he leads us, we pray to the Lord:

For the end of the coronavirus pandemic, for all the health care professionals fighting the disease and for all those affected by the virus, we pray to the Lord.

For the gentle repose of the faithful departed, we pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Shepherd of our lives, hear our prayers. Help us to be responsive to your call to serve in whatever ways you choose to lead us. This we ask in your name. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.

Due to the restrictions regarding the celebration of Mass join in saying this prayer expressing your desire to be in union with Jesus Christ and to receive Him in the Eucharist. Recite the prayer below slowly, meditating carefully on each word. Believe that Jesus will give you the grace of a real encounter with Him.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

**My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace
You as if You were already there and unite
myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be
separated from You. Amen.**

Blessing

May God, who by the Resurrection of his Only Begotten Son was pleased to confer on you the gift of redemption and of adoption, give you gladness by his blessing.
Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.
Amen.

Reflection

The Good Shepherd

Even though we have less experience with sheep and shepherds today in our society, we can still identify strongly with the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd and as the gate for the sheep. Psalm 23 remains a popular and favourite psalm for prayer. In the image of the Good Shepherd, we know ourselves to be protected and cared for by a loving God.

As your family gathers, ask what each person knows about sheep and shepherds. Recall that shepherds and sheep have a close relationship. Sheep will only follow their own shepherd; they recognize his voice and will not follow a stranger. The shepherd's job is to protect his sheep. In some ways, the relationship between the shepherd and his sheep is like that of a parent and child. Read together this Sunday's Gospel, John 10:1-10. Talk about how Jesus tells us that he is the gate for the sheep. The sheep enter the protection of the sheepfold through the gate. In Jesus we find protection and abundant life. Conclude by thanking Jesus for being our Good Shepherd and by praying today's psalm, Psalm 23.

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Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased: Sophie Barbara (Dziewa) Robinson.

Anniversary: Bernard Danh; Eugenie Thien Tai Tran; Phaolo Minh Truc Le; Jean Marie An

Deceased: Halina & M Wilczynski

Sick: Marie Abi-Saab, Tom Quilty, Jason Timbs & Bart Hennely, Dau (Xuan); Gerard Go; Fatima Fernandes; Marian Periera; Catherine & Lourdes Raspanti; baby Alan Dien Quan Nguyen; Monina Rodriguez Pineda; Tenshi Asriel Magdaleno Arcenas; Rose Nuner; Maria Carta; Teresita Martinez; Maria Kovatsun; Frannie; Madelyn Nicole; Jun Ibarra; Abida Gill; Vo Van Kiet; Maria Bui Thi Don; Josette Ackad; Nivea Wani; Diana Emilie Perez; Billy; Ginette Sharok.

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org.

You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Catechist & Friendship Group: Bev Lamaro 0409 710 703; **Choir:** Alison De Sousa 0421 660 187;
Youth: Aurora Doueihy 0428 755 022; **Pastoral Council:** Patrick Abou-rizk 0416 035 993;
St Vincent de Paul: Diago Rodrigues 9791 5209 ; **Bankstown Josephite Associates:** Robyn Molloy 9707 1292;
Children's Liturgy: Marie El-Chaar 9709 3451; **Cemetery Committee:** Maureen Vincent 9790 4217;
Sacramental co-ordinator: Gloria Booby 0413 294 224; **Safeguarding Officer:** Anthony Chadrawy 9790 1933;
Polish Priests: 8783 0533; **De La Salle Brothers:** 9708 2692;
St. Felix Primary School: 9796 7875 Frances Bonanno - Principal;
LaSalle Catholic College: 9793 5600 Mr Michael Egan - Principal;
Archdiocesan Website: www.sydney.catholic.org.au

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM REQUEST FORM

Would you like to become a credit card contributor to the Parish?

Especially now with the Church forced to close, we have no weekly envelopes to keep us going.

We are asking Parishioners to make their donations via credit card in order for the Parish to function. please send an e-mail with the following details to Marie at admin@stfelixparish.org.au

Name..... Telephone No.:

Address:.....

Email :

Current Envelope Number:..... OR

I would like to commence Planned Giving payments via credit card.