



Jesus said to his disciples:

'As the Father has loved me,
so have I loved you.
Remain in my love.
If you keep my commandments
you will remain in my love,
just as I have kept my Father's commandments
and remain in his love.
I have told you this
so that my own joy may be in you
and your joy be complete.
This is my commandment:
love one another,
as I have loved you.
A man can have no greater love
than to lay down his life for his friends.
You are my friends,
if you do what I command you.
I shall not call you servants any more,
because a servant does not know
his master's business;
I call you friends,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
You did not choose me,
no, I chose you;
and I commissioned you
to go out and to bear fruit,
fruit that will last;
and then the Father will give you
anything you ask him in my name.
What I command you
is to love one another.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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LOVING ONE ANOTHER AS JESUS LOVED

We can only start to imagine the surprise and unsettling effect on Peter when Cornelius, a Roman centurion, prostrated himself before him. Cornelius was a representative of a hated and oppressive foreign government and here he publicly humiliates himself in front of a Galilean fisherman! Peter's own response is as generous and spontaneous as that of Cornelius: 'God has no favourites!' In saying this the barrier separating Jews and Gentiles is in the process of being shattered. When the gift of the Spirit is poured out so obviously on this Gentile household Peter can no longer see any reason to maintain long-held prejudices and instructs his companions to baptise them.

Breaking down barriers is at the heart of the readings for today as the Gospel invites us to no longer see God as a distant master to be feared. God loves us with that same love which leads Jesus to give his life for us. Changing our perception of God is one barrier to be overcome, but there is another, our perception of ourselves. Fear can keep us from God, from ourselves, and others. Invited to see ourselves as God's friends we are also invited to respond by sharing in Jesus' mission. To use the Gospel's words, we are commissioned to bear fruit, to overcome our reserve, and join in the task of loving one another as Jesus has already loved us. In Jesus' resurrection, we are not just saved from death, perhaps even more importantly, we are shown how to live.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the gentiles also.

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 97: 1-4. R. cf. v. 2

R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power. (*or Alleluia!*)

1. Sing a new song to the Lord / for he has worked wonders. / His right hand and his holy arm / have brought salvation. **R.**

2. The Lord has made known his salvation; / has shown his justice to the nations. / He has remembered his truth and love / for the house of Israel. **R.**

3. All the ends of the earth have seen / the salvation of our God. / Shout to the Lord all the earth, / ring out your joy. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Jn 4: 7-10

A reading from the first letter of St John

God is love.

My dear people,
let us love one another
since love comes from God
and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.

Anyone who fails to love can never have known God,
because God is love.

God's love for us was revealed
when God sent into the world his only Son
so that we could have life through him;

this is the love I mean:
not our love for God,
but God's love for us when he sent his Son
to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14: 23

Alleluia, alleluia! / All who love me will keep my words, / and my Father will love them and we will come to them. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 15: 9-17

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

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Parish Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 10:00am-3:00pm

Catholic Parish of St Kevin Eastwood



Vigil Mass: Saturday at 5:30pm
Sunday Mass Times: 8am, 9:30am, 11:30am (Chinese) & 6pm
Weekday Masses: Mon – Thurs. 7:30am, Fri 5:00pm
Holy Rosary: Mon – Thu after 7:30am Mass
Eucharistic Adoration: Fri 4:00pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 5:00-5:20pm
Cenacle Marian Movement of Laity: Thu 7pm
Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Rosary & Novena: Tue 7-7:30pm

Sixth Sunday of Easter – 9th May 2021



Recently Deceased: Therese Hassarati, Pat Hart (June)

Our Deceased: Alan & Molly McNamara, Bill, Eileen & John Taylor, Amy Murry, Katherine Corbett, Win Tranor, Fr John Haseler, Sandra Walsh, Jim Grainger, Fr John Lyne, James Bertoldo, Mike Crestani; Helena Thomas, Fatima Suminah Thomas, Jose Martins Serafin, Geoff & Patricia Clarke, Jan Brayan, Arch Stewart, John Casey, Roy & Bessie Landon and O' Connor, Landon, Stewart, Pigott and Casey families; Vinro Simovic; and lastly, please pray for all the souls in purgatory.

Our Sick: Donald Mees, Agnes, Heru Ie, Robert Lauw, Tenille Moujalli, June Phelan, Anne McIntyre, Adhy Guna S., Daisy Gouw, Nur Gouw

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS:

Saint John De Avila 10th May, Our Lady of Fatima 13th May, Saint Matthias 14th May

PARISH NEWS:

- **Next weekend is the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord.**
- **Wishing all mums and 'mums at heart' a happy MOTHER'S DAY!**
- **Presentation of Confirmation Candidates will be on Sat, 15th May at 5:30pm Vigil Mass and on Sun 16th May at the 9:30am Mass.**
- **Congratulations to Sophie Rolfe who will receive the sacrament of baptism this weekend!**
- **Thank you for supporting Caritas' Project Compassion. We have raised \$13,256.20.**
- **Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Therese Hassarati**, the only sister of Sally Youssef, who passed away recently following a short time in hospital.
- **Readers In-service on Sun 16th May at 3:30pm in the Church.** Afternoon tea to follow.
- **Men's Prayer Breakfast & Gospel Reflection:** Sat 15th May at 7am. All men welcomed.
- **WE NEED YOUR HELP:** Our parish, through St Vincent De Paul, organises weekly **bread runs** to families in need around the area. If you wish to get involved and help our community, please give Ben a call at 0416 003 870 to find out more. Thank you!
- **Safeguarding Update:** To all parish volunteers, if your WWCC has expired or is expiring, please ensure that you renew your WWCC number and provide the parish office with your new expiry date. For info visit: <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/renew-working-children-check-wwcc>
- **The 2021 National Count of Attendance (Mass Count)** will take place over the first four weekends in May. Be counted! Thank you for your cooperation.
- **UPDATE ON COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS:** From 5pm Thu May 6, until 12:01am Mon May 10, the NSW government has reintroduced mandatory wearing of face masks in all public indoor venues, including places of worship. Congregational singing is suspended. Attendance at all Masses are on a first come, first served basis. We can have up to 260



people at any one time under the 2sqm rule. No passing of bulletins & collection plates. Sanitise your hands and use the disinfectant wipes to clean your seat as you leave.

OTHER NEWS:

- **Sydney City Procession for the Feast of Mary Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia**, commences with a pilgrim blessing at 3pm on Sun 23rd May from St Peter's Surry Hills and then on to St Mary's Cathedral for the 5pm Solemn Choral First Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. For more info contact Steven Buhagiar at (02) 9307 8480.
- **PALMS Australia 9th Annual Solidarity Awards**, Sun 11th July, 12pm-4pm at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, 247 St Andrews Rd, Varroville. Guest Speaker: Prof. Paul Kelly, Australia's Chief Medical Officer & former Palms participant who undertook a placement as a Medical Officer in Malawi in the 90s. Early bird tix: \$60 by May 14. ☎ 02 9560 5333.

FR MARTIN MAUNSELL'S REFLECTION:

HEALTHY SOUNDS OF SILENCE!

In the 1960's the great American singing duo of Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel wrote and sung a now classic song called The Sounds of Silence. The words of this song even though composed well over 50 years ago are still haunting and prophetic. Some of these words include; "Watching ten thousand maybe more people talking without speaking, hearing but not listening, writing songs for voices that will never be shared, no-one could disturb the sounds of silence." These words were written decades before the widespread use of silent electronic devices being the norm by which so many people now communicate. Even apart from healthy religious practice good emotional behavior reveals that if people do not have regular times of silence in their lives it can then so easily breed feelings of inner emptiness and social isolation. To embrace a healthy silence is so much more than anyone taking time to occasionally to smell the roses around them. It is a fair comment to make that a life that is filled with noise where there is no silence makes it awfully hard for people to find quality inner peace and then be effectively able to listen to others. In the Book of Kings, the Prophet Elijah writes, "that God is not to be found in the strong wind, nor in the earthquake, nor in a fire, he to be found in the gentle breezes." (1 Kings 19 v 11-13)

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER – 16th May 2021

(AV Projectionist 9:30am Mass – J Chung)

Ministry	Vigil	8:00am	9:30am	6:00pm
Senior Servers	K Woo	A Condoleon	V Chapman	J Bosco
Junior Servers	K David J Quizon		L Garcia L Persia	E Maina L McCudden
Readers	R: J Alam C: P David	R: P Parker C: L Scully	R: D Li C: M James	R: C Small C: A Jonas
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	S Zavesky F Reay	L Bergfield J Gwynne	M Tallaridi J Raad	K Jonas J Chang