



SAINT JOHN
the Evangelist
CATHOLIC PARISH DAPTO

St John the Evangelist Parish Dapto

A Living Community

The 4th Sunday of Easter

8 May 2022

Welcome to St John's

Come in and sit down, relax, don't stress. I welcome you to our beautiful parish & church. Please feel welcome and tell me if you need anything. Keep Smiling, Francis Tran PP



Parish Office Hours

Mon - Closed | Tues - Fri 9am - 4pm

Parish Secretary: Jenny Gibson

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St John's Primary School

School Principal - Mr Andrew Heffernan

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

FIRST READING

Acts 13:14,43-52

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the Sabbath and took their seats.

When the meeting broke up many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them.

The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly. 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said:

I have made you a light for the nations,
so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.'

It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.

But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

SECOND READING

Apocalypse 7:9,14-17

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they

were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

GOSPEL

John 10:27-30

I know my sheep and they follow me

Jesus said:

'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice;

I know them and they follow me.

I give them eternal life;

they will never be lost

and no one will ever steal them from me.

The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone,
and no one can steal from the Father.

The Father and I are one.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Good Shepherd has risen,
who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

Please Pray For the Repose of the Souls of the Faithful Departed -

Recently Deceased: Mona Errington,
Philomena Fox

Anniversaries: Michael Lynam

Sick: Rebecca Clarey, Daniel Sharkey, Mark Errington



BAPTISMS

This week we welcome in to the Catholic faith community Thomas Kelly, Sadie Alexander

A PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

Gracious God, we pray for the people of Ukraine suffering from war.

May they be held in your loving care and protection and given the strength to endure their suffering and hardship.

Transform the hearts and minds of those who perpetuate the violence and oppression.

Grant wisdom to world leaders in advancing efforts toward peace;
may they not be compromised by self-interest and blind indifference.

We ask all this through the intercession of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
and in the name of your Son Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

SAVE THE DATES- STATE OF ORIGIN 2022
Fun social night to enjoy BBQ, company and watch the game.

Game 1: 8pm Wednesday 8th June, (Sydney)
2022 Game 2: 6pm Sunday 26th June, (Perth)
2022 Game 3: 8pm Wednesday 13th July, (Brisbane)



VINNIES HELP

The Dapto Conference is still operating for crisis help (food, furniture, clothing).

A phone service is available:

Mon – Fri, 9.30am - 11.30am. Ph: 0412 912 641



Dear Parishioners

The Season of Easter is with us until Pentecost Sunday. This is a season of joy and thanksgiving. On Good Friday we heard your stories of grief and suffering so now you have your opportunity to tell the parish your Resurrection stories.

You are invited to submit a story based on your life experience with Resurrection in mind. Each Sunday 1 story will be placed in the parish bulletin. As with the Good Friday stories a story can be submitted anonymously.

Send me your story of new life, redemption, overcoming addiction or repairing a valuable relationship.

If you have any questions or need assistance with this task see any member of the parish council after mass.

My email address

is: stephen.leonard@dow.catholic.edu.au

The Parish Council

ROSARY FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

Everyone is invited to come and say the rosary together during the month of May every Saturday evening at 4.30pm in honour of our lady. If you would like the statue of our lady in your home during May please call Paul on 0418113947.

MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS WALK FOR AUSTRALIA/WALK FOR LIFE—Friday 20 May 2022

We walk to raise PRAYERS for Australia for all life issues. You are warmly welcome to join us in our tenth year, praying along the Kiama Coastal Walk to Gerringong (13km). B.Y.O

Lunch, snacks, water, and hat. Support vehicle provided all the way, shuttle cars return pilgrims to Kiama.

BENEFITS: Mass. Prayer. Hymns. Exercise. Spectacular scenery. Joyful fellowship. Blessings in abundance.

START: 9:30am Kiama Catholic Church (Holy Mass)

FINISH: 3:30pm Gerringong Catholic Church (Benediction, confession also available).

For information contact Sue Hill: 0435 336 195 or Gabriella De Battista, (02) 4261 2500

CHURCH ROSTER

Our church roster for volunteers for reading and eucharistic ministers and money counters has been on hold for some time now due to the pandemic. We plan on re-starting the roster and over the next few weeks we will be taking names of those who wish to be included on the new roster. We understand that there may be some people who were on the old roster who may not wish to return to their role and also those who would like to volunteer and be apart of the masses.

There is list in the foyer of the church, if you would like to be included in a role, please write your name and contact phone number/email down and which mass you can assist.

DISCOVERING GOD'S PLAN FOR OUR LIVES: Vocations Event

This Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, is known as "Good Shepherd Sunday", with a focus on Vocations. In our Diocese we are keenly aware of the need for more priests to serve our people now and into the future.

However, the Bishop and Vocations Team want us all to go deeper than just "getting more priests" and rather to work together throughout our Diocese to create a "culture of vocation" (to borrow a phrase from St John Paul II). This will be a collaborative effort in our parishes, schools, and families, to ensure that every young Catholic will be actively seeking to discern how they are called to serve Christ and his people - whether in Marriage, Ordained Ministry, Religious Life or Single Life. The stronger this culture of vocation, the more we will find ourselves blessed with faithful priests and religious, inspiring marriages and generous single Catholics.

With this in mind, this Good Shepherd Sunday we are pleased to announce a Vocations Event with a panel addressing all 4 Vocations and an opportunity for Q and A. This will be a wonderful opportunity especially for young people to come together and learn how to hear and respond to God's call. There will be more details to follow but for now please invite anyone you think may be interested, and if you're interested RSVP as soon as possible!

DATE: Sunday 19th June

TIME: Light refreshments 1:30pm for 2pm start

PLACE: Xavier Centre, next to St Francis Xavier's Cathedral, Wollongong,

RSVP: www.dow.org.au/events

We also give thanks for the Ordination to the Diaconate of James Arblaster last weekend, a truly joyful occasion for him and for our Diocese. Please continue to pray for him and for the 4 seminarians continuing their vocational journey with our Diocese – posters and prayer cards from the Diocese will help you to get to know their names and faces – and let's pray for all young people discerning their vocation, and for our Diocese as we continue to work together to build a culture of vocation.

Fr Duane Fernandez

CWL MEETING

The next Catholic Women's League meeting will be on Monday 9 May commencing at 10am at the rear of the Parish Presbytery, entrance via the gate on Moomba Street. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

"TOWARDS A BETTER KIND OF POLITICS" AUSTRALIAN BISHOPS ISSUE ELECTION STATEMENT

The Australian Catholic bishops have called for a shakeup that focuses the country's politics on the common good of all, including—and especially—those who struggle to participate in the community.

Although no one political party fully embodies Catholic social teaching, the bishops are offering an election statement to encourage Catholics and people of good will to reflect on the good they can do for their community by using their vote for the good of all. The statement advocates for vulnerable people in the community, including those in need of aged care, First Nations peoples, asylum-seekers and refugees. It calls for a government committed to the common good that will deliver a medium to long-term plan for eradicating poverty in Australia. The bishops also say people who have a religious faith should be protected from discrimination, "including the ability to undertake activities and form religious bodies that can pursue their religious mission".

You can download the statement at: dow.sh/ElectionStatement

A PRAYER FOR THE ELECTION

God of this land and of every people,
who shape all things according to your own design
and write your law in every human heart:
we thank you for this country we call home,
from the First Nations people to others born here
and those you have gathered from across the earth.
We pray for the citizens of our land in this troubled time,
that we may be committed to justice,
to the dignity of each human life,
and to solidarity with all Australians and with the world.
Guide all who seek election to serve the nation;
may the Holy Spirit inspire them to pursue a better
politics that is wise and courageous and governs for the
good of all.

May all of us see and hear you in the most vulnerable,
that we may respond to the cry of the earth
and the cry of the poor,
that we may respond to you.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

URGENT EUTHANASIA PETITION (Paper Version for Signing)

Please urgently consider signing the petition opposing Euthanasia in NSW that is available for signing near the entrances to the Church.

For more information contact Dominica Connor, Right to Life NSW on

P: 02 9299 8350 or via www.righttolifensw.org.au

RESURRECTION STORY

In December 1973 I used a pedestrian crossing outside my house. All the cars in the 4 lanes stopped except for 1. Thinking that it was safe to cross I didn't see the Ford Falcon that hit me and sent me spiralling through the air. The distracted driver didn't see me either.

I landed on the road about 20 metres from where I was hit. The next few minutes are a bit of a blur. My distraught family came as did an ambulance. I was quickly taken to the nearest hospital. That hospital was Warrawong Hospital.

The initial prognosis wasn't good. Fr Paul Ryan was called to give me the last rites. At first the doctors thought I wouldn't live. Then they told my parents that I probably had suffered brain damage. I could hear the conversation but was unable to reassure them that my brain was OK. Then the doctors told my family that because of my fractured pelvis I would be unable to have children.

My body temperature sky-rocketed. My broken leg swelled up unbelievably. Fans were brought into the rooms to help bring my temperature down. The surgeon was unable to do much with my leg until the swelling went down.

I remained in hospital for about 3 months.

It gave me time to think. Prior to the accident I was a fairly reserved and shy young woman. I was more inclined to step back than step forward. I used the time in hospital to thoroughly reassess my life.

I promised myself that when I did get out of hospital, I would live life to the full and make the most of every day. After surgery and months in hospital I was thrilled to be able to go home to my loving family. I was in many ways a different and better person than my former self. My body healed better than anyone expected.

Against all the odds and with a loving husband and 2 boys who have grown to become fine young men my resurrection is pretty much complete.

MASS TIMES

Tuesday	Mass	5pm
Wednesday	Mass	9.30am
Thursday	Mass	9.30am
Friday	Mass	9.30am
Saturday	Reconciliation Rosary Mass	11am - 12pm 4.40pm 5pm
Sunday	Mass	7.30am 9.30am 6pm

RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation every Saturday between 11am - 12pm.

menALIVE's—reFUEL Weekly Sharing and Journaling Sessions—

Every Tuesday 7.30pm reFUEL is a weekly hour-long gathering of men every Tuesday evening on Zoom providing the chance to:

- break open the Sunday reading using a Lectio Divina style exercise
- “catch up” with great men from across Australia and New Zealand.
- gain strength and inspiration by the witness of other men.
- pray as a group for individual needs and the needs of others.

Join via this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88436558468>

Welcome to St John's!

Are you new to our Parish? Have you registered at the office that you attend our church?

Please feel free to inform us of your arrival in our Parish as we would love to know that you are here and get to know you.

Please feel free to complete this form and return it to the office or place it in one of the collections at mass.

NAME/S:.....
 CHILDREN:.....
 ADDRESS:
 TELEPHONE:.....MOBILE:.....
 EMAIL:.....

Would you like to join in planned giving to support our Parish? **Yes / Not now**

Please see Fr Francis or contact the office on 4261 1315

Thank you for making a difference to our Parish