

Fifth Sunday of Easter

24th April 2016

Entrance Antiphon: O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles 14: 21-27

Responsorial Psalm: I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

Second Reading from the book of the Apocalypse 21: 1-5

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: According to John 13: 31-35

Communion Antiphon: I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

Saints of the Week

Anzac Day (**Mon 25/4**) St Mark (**Tues 26/4**)

St Louis Grignon de Montfort (**Wed 27/4**) St Peter Chanel (**Thurs 28/4**)

St Catherine of Siena (**Fri 29/4**)

WEEKEND MASS TIMES: Sat Vigil 5.30pm, Sunday 8.00am, 9.30am & 5.30pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES: Monday— Friday 9.15am

ADDITIONAL MASSES: 1st Friday 7.00pm/ Parish.
Hammondville Nursing Home 1st Tuesday of the Month at 11.00am

RECONCILIATION: Saturdays 4.30pm—5.15pm

MASS INTENTIONS: There are Mass Intention envelopes in the church foyer for people to write their respective Intentions. These need to be returned to the parish office no later than one week prior to the said date. Please do not place them in the 'suggestion box'.

ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT: Thursday 7.00pm -8.00pm except Thursday before 1st Friday of the Month.

BAPTISMS: Please contact the Parish office 9825 1679

WEDDINGS: 6 months notice is required

CONTACTS:

CATECHISTS: Louise Hartin 9822 5040

EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION: Fr. Thanh 9825 1679

READERS & COMMENTATORS : Lorraine de Lapp 9825 1870

CHOIRS: Fr Thanh 9825 1679 & Dianne Pawsey 9771 1738

RCIA PROGRAM: Fr. Thanh 9825 1679 & Sr. Helen 9825 1679

ALTAR SERVERS: Rev. Mr. Al Salu 0416 842 669

ROSARY MAKERS GUILD: Cyril Ferriere 9825 2008

St Christopher's Parish Holsworthy

We are a community striving for growth, unity, equality, love and commitment

Parish Priest:

Rev. Thanh Quang Nguyen

Assistant Priest:

Rev. Thomas Alukka

Permanent Deacon:

Rev. Mr. Al Salu

Pastoral Support

Sr. Helen Madden *rsj*

Secretary:

Mrs. Anne Bennell

Parish Office Hours

Mon 10.00am—3.00pm

Tues & Thurs 9.00am—3.00pm

195 Heathcote Rd Holsworthy

PO Box 389, Moorebank 1875

Address:

All Mail to:

Website:

www.stchristophers.org.au

Email:

stchris@tpg.com.au

Tel:

(02) 9825 1679

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(02) 9825 1488

St Christopher's Catholic School—*Through faith and love we serve*

Principal:

Mr. Tony Boyd

School Tel:

(02) 9825 3251

School Mail:

PO Box 568 Moorebank 1875



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The passage from the Gospel of John actually comes from the Last Supper account, as is indicated by the opening line: 'When Judas had gone'. However, the passage is being used during the post-resurrection Easter season. The passage about being glorified can be read in this context as referring to the crucifixion that was, rather than the crucifixion that is still to come in the original setting. The reference that Jesus will not be with the disciples much longer can also be read as an indicator towards the Ascension. It is a clever liturgical use of a gospel passage out of its intended context.

The second half of the gospel passage is perhaps the more familiar section. It is a common text for marriage ceremonies. However, sometimes its selection is purely based on the use of the term 'love'. Earlier in his ministry, Jesus was asked which commandment was the most important. He replied that you must love the Lord your God with all your heart and that you must love your neighbour as yourself. (Mt 22) The 'new' commandment that he issues at the Last Supper is not so much a new commandment as a variation on a theme. The newness highlights the changes that are occurring in the small group of friends. His language conveys an imperative: you must love one another, 'just as I have loved you'. He tells the disciples – and us – that the way they behave towards one another must be with the same love that Jesus treated them. And the love that Jesus gave was the love of God for all the world. So the love that Jesus commands the disciples (us) to show one another is nothing less than the powerful love of God.

Fr. Greg Sunter



Parish Collections 17/4/2016

First: \$543.80 **Second:** \$621.65

Should any parishioner wish to contribute to the Planned Giving envelopes there are forms in the church foyer. Please complete & place on any of the collections plates and the Parish Office will contact you.

CATECHISTS Your next meeting is Monday 2nd May at 10am in the Parish Hall. Any parishioners wishing to know more about becoming a Catechist please come to this meeting.

PARISH NEWS:

Fr. Thomas Alukka is on leave until 5th May 2016

The Parish Secretary is on leave until 16th May. The parish office will be open on Wednesday & Friday's 9am—11.00am, however this week the office will only be open on Friday 29th April. Should you wish to contact the parish office other than these times, please telephone and leave a message 9825 1679. Fr Thanh will return your call.

Thank you to everyone involved with the 72 Hours of Grace that was held in our Parish from Saturday 16th and ended on Tuesday the 19th April. It truly was a spiritual and moving time to see people and families coming together in prayer and adoration.



Working Bee: The next working bee is scheduled for next **SATURDAY 30 April** from 1pm until 4pm. You will note that a Saturday has been chosen on this occasion in the hope of attracting a few more volunteers. If you can spare just an hour or two to help the small group of dedicated parishioners who help maintain the Church ground, it would be much appreciated. There is a clip board in the Church Foyer

where you can leave your details.

VOLUNTEERS are needed to help clean the church on a regular monthly basis, can you help? Please contact Luz Maravillas on 0422 119916.

PILGRIMAGE OF MERCY – St Mary's Cathedral Holy Door. "The practice of pilgrimage has a special place in the Holy Year, because it represents the journey each of us makes in this life". Pope Francis. Throughout this Year of Mercy, you are invited to come to St Mary's Cathedral and make a Pilgrimage of Mercy. Walk through the Holy Door and make a pilgrimage along the Way of Mercy - six different Mercy Stations throughout the Cathedral where you can stop, reflect and pray. For more information see www.sydneycatholic.org/yearofmercy

WOMEN'S DAY RETREAT. A day to find out more about consecrated life and vocation discernment with time for personal prayer and reflection as well as meeting and chatting with other young women and consecrated women. **Saturday, 30 April** at 9.30am. JPII Student Centre, 150 City Road, Darlington NSW 2008. For single women (18-35). Donation: \$10.00. **RSVP is essential by 25 April** via www.vocationcentre.org.au.

Saturday 23rd April 5.30pm.....Msgn Philip.Thuong (RIP)
Sunday 24th April 8.00amWalter A. Miranda Leon (RIP)
Sunday 24th April 9.30am.....Fr. Adrian Horgan (RIP)
Sunday 24th April 5.30pm.....Emmanuel Pace (RIP) & Parish Intentions
Monday 25th April 9.15am.....Narcisa Parcasio & Lawrence Parcasio (RIP)
Tuesday 26th April 9.15amCecil Rajakarari (RIP)
Wednesday 27th April 9.15am.....Sr Clemence Phu (RIP)
Thursday 28th April 9.15am.....Vocations
Friday 29th April 9.15am.....For the Sick
Saturday 30th April **No Morning Mass**.....

ANZAC VIGIL MASS OF REMEMBRANCE. The ANZAC Solemn Vigil Mass of Remembrance at St. Mary's Cathedral will be held on **Sunday, 24 April 2016** at **6.00pm**. The Mass will be offered for peace, and for the lives and service of the Australian Defence Force members. All are welcome to attend and pay their respects to the Fallen, and to pray for those who serve or have served the nation in a military or civilian capacity in the defence of Australia.

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND (CWF). The fund supports our community via its agencies' social, advocacy and training programs. Your parish is a crucial partner of the CWF through the donations provided by its parishioners, so we ask you to kindly support this appeal next weekend. Thank you.

LIFE, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY CENTRE is holding a talk by James Parker, a same-sex attracted Catholic. "From Gay Activist to Husband and Father - A Tour Through the Confusing World of Modern Sexuality." **Tuesday, 10 May at 7pm** - Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Centre, 50 Kiora Rd, Miranda. All welcome. Ph: 9307 8402 for enquiries.

On Friday 8th April 2016, **Pope Francis** published a new papal document called, *Amoris Laetitia*, 'The Joy of Love: On Love in the Family' at the Vatican in Rome. It is about marriage and family life. The papal document is also known as an 'Apostolic Exhortation'.

It is available to read and download on the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference website: <https://www.catholic.org.au/synod-2015/home>

The World Apostolate of Fatima (Sydney Archdiocese Committee) invite you to join us for the May Celebration in Honor of Our Lady of Fatima to intercede for World Peace & the welfare of Australia on the 14th of May at St. Mary's Cathedral, for further inquiries please call - (02) 9984-8988.

We Pray For The Sick

Jeff Crouche, Frank Ilankovan, Kevin Madden, Erica Garcia Leon, Nahui Miranda, Christian Miranda Flores, & Carmen Miranda Flores.—Emmanuel Pace (8th anniversary)



Recently Deceased

Ian Ferns

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them