

Catholic Parish of St Patrick Guildford

Est. 1933

Fr. Peter Blayney - Parish Priest

Sr. Helen Cunningham OP

Pastoral Associate

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Guildford NSW 2161

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**To Live, Love and Act
Like Jesus**

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8:30am to 3:00pm

Friday: 8:30am to 2:00pm

Closed daily: 12:30pm to 1:00pm

St. Patrick's Primary School

Principal: Mr. Steven Jones

Phone: 8728.7300

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Website:

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**28 & 29 March 2020
5th Sunday of Lent - Year A**

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT 2020 YEAR A

The Raising of Lazarus from the Dead - [John 11:1-44](#)

Martha speaks profound sorrow at the death of Lazarus, but it is tinged with a touch of blaming Jesus: "Lord, if you had been here my brother would not have died."

Where do I resent the losses in my life and somehow blame God for them, rather than seeing them as places where God's glory will be revealed? Times of grace for me?

Even when Jesus tells Martha, "I am the one who raises the dead to life!" she finds it hard to believe he means now, in the case of her dead brother.

Where do I doubt that Jesus can bring life?

Jesus stands before the tomb weeping. He places no barriers to his feelings about death. Could he be staring at and facing the tomb of his own death?

Can I be with him there?

How do I recognise the 'tombs' in my life?

How do I deal with them?

Jesus shouts the liberating words of life, "Lazarus, come forth!"

How is he 'shouting' that to me today?

The grace will come when I experience how my 'deaths' will not end in death, but in giving glory to God. When I experience how entombed I have been, tied and bound, no longer alive, dead for a long time, I will sense the power of the command of Jesus that I "come forth."

May we, in this time of crisis, know that our loving God is with us, is in us. So, we are able to *'Look towards God and be radiant; let our faces not be put to shame. These poor ones called; the Lord hears them and helps them in all their troubles.'* [Psalm 34:3]



LITURGY OF THE WORD

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A



1ST READING: EZEKIEL 37:12-14

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The Lord says this: I am going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this - it is the Lord who speaks.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 129

Response: With the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ear be attentive
to the voice of my pleading. **R.**

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you. **R.**

My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.
(Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.) **R.**

Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity. **R.**

2ND READING: ROMANS 8:8-11

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: JOHN 11:25, 26

Glory to you, O Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.

Glory to you, O Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life,

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?'

'Yes Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him 'Lord by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone.

Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.

I knew indeed that you always hear me.

But I speak

for the sake of all these who stand round me,

so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

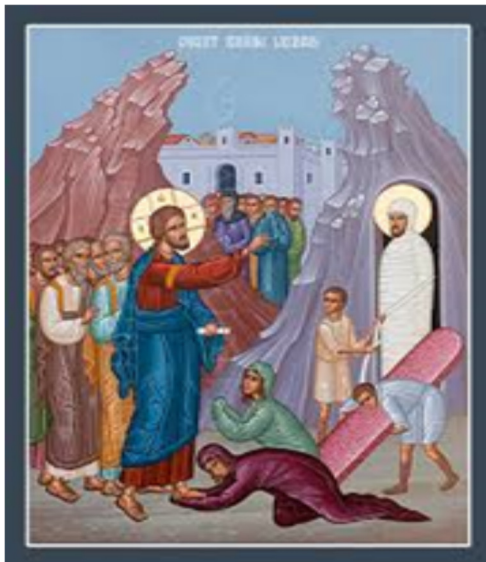
STAY IN TOUCH!

Parishioners are reminded to stay connected within families, with friends and fellow parishioners as much while we live through the current health crisis as possible. If you know of someone without internet access, please give that person a phone call. As you would be reading this on the parish website, you are already connecting with us through this medium. There is a "Guildford Catholics" WhatsApp group whereby parishioners are connecting with each other.

Download the "WhatsApp" Application on your mobile phone, then use the following link to get onto "Guildford Catholics": <https://chat.whatsapp.com/LxCYnBNeF8X6S5L9WK865K>.

Explore our website as there is a FaceBook, Instagram and You Tube link. The pre-recorded Mass from St Patrick's for the 5th Sunday of Lent can be found on the You Tube link from about 4:00pm on Saturday afternoon, 28th March. Remember, you are welcome to phone the parish office for any reason on 9632.2672 or the parish mobile 0457 717 220.

~ Fr. Peter Blayney



**'I am the resurrection
and the life,
says the Lord;
whoever lives and believes
in me will never die.'
*Do you believe this?***



Mass Intentions



Recently Deceased:

Giuseppina Meli, Diane Cordeiro, George Youssif Kaadi

Anniversaries:

Debbie Abrahams, Joseph Lister, Dominic Gonsalves, John D'Silva, Dolores Borg, Medardo G. Tungul Snr, Dixon & Theresa Santiago

Deceased:

Mary Jane Axiak, Franciska & Zelko Jakubin, Albert Gray, Michael Grima, Emilia Apap, Members of the Haber Family, Alex Salem, Guiseppe Vespa, Edgar Montclar, Maria Nguyen Thi Lien, Mary Jane Axiak, Hanna & Majed Families, Alfred Xuereb, Delina Sciberas, Holy Souls in Purgatory

A PRAYER DURING THIS TIME OF TRIAL

Let us pray: Loving God watch over all the peoples of our world during this special time of trial. Give wisdom to those in leadership and special strength to those who care for the sick. Deepen our faith that our trust in You may not falter. Open our hearts that we may be generous in our to those in special need. Enliven us with the Spirit of Jesus that we may bring His Presence wherever we go.

PARISH PRAYER

Loving God we thank you for being with us always. Open our hearts to hear your voice.

Help us, Lord, to make this Parish a place of mercy and hope, where all feel welcomed, loved, respected, forgiven and encouraged.

In your love and wisdom, help and guide all of us to be good ambassadors for Christ, both in service to others and in proclaiming the Gospel.

Send your Holy Spirit among us Lord so that we may be filled with your grace and peace as we go about our lives in this world.

We pray in the name of Jesus.

Amen



POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER TO MARY DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

O Mary,
you always shine on our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of all People,
know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
we may return to joy and to feasting
after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who has taken upon himself our sufferings
and carried our sorrows
to lead us, through the cross,
to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not
disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every
danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

**Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv
Bishop of Parramatta**

*Given at Parramatta on 25 March 2020
The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord*