

We acknowledge the people of Gweagal of the Dharawa Nation as the custodians of this land.

Pope Francis will visit the Italian town of Assisi on 3 October to sign a new encyclical. In a statement released on Saturday, the Director of the Holy See Press Office, Matteo Bruni, said the encyclical is entitled *Fratelli tutti* or "All Brothers" on fraternity and social friendship. The title, whose official English-language version has not yet been released, is a reference to the writings of St. Francis: "Let us all, brothers, consider the Good Shepherd who to save His sheep bore the suffering of the Cross" (*Admonitions*, 6, 1: *FF155*). The Holy Father will arrive in Assisi in the afternoon where he will celebrate Holy Mass at the Tomb of St. Francis, which will be followed by the signing of the encyclical.



Sat: 7.30am:†Deceased Priests; 5pm: †Relief & Deliverance of Deceased Priests Sun: 8am: †For Reparation 9.30am: For God's Holy Will; 3pm: †Souls of deceased priests in Purgatory; Mon: Int.of The Kollar family; Tues: For Arch. Anthony Fisher; Wed: †For the deceased priests; Thurs: †Relief & Deliverance of Souls from Purgatory; Fri: 7:30am: For the Priests; Join our Masses via You Tube stjosephcomo

Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be celebrated at all Masses this weekend of 13th & next weekend of 20th September.



A new law requires priests in the state of Queensland to break the seal of confession to report child sex abuse to police or face three years in jail. The law was passed by Queensland Parliament Sept. 8. It had support from both major parties and was opposed by the Catholic Church. Bp. Tim Harris of Townsville stated, on the passage of the new law, "Catholic priests cannot break the seal of confession". In a note approved by Pope Francis and published by the Vatican in mid-2019, the Apostolic Penitentiary affirmed the absolute secrecy of everything said in confession and called on priests to defend it at all costs, even at the cost of their lives.

Catholic Online – World's Catholic Library <https://www.catholic.org>

Never in living memory has our world been so enveloped in fear, anxiety, and sadness as it has since the serious unleashing of the deadly virus from February 2020. The clichéd phrase "gone viral" takes on a whole scary and sinister meaning in the wake of Covid-19.

We have hidden sickness and death out of sight and out of mind, and this has allowed us to live a fantasy. Now the threat of death shocks us whenever it appears; it isn't part of our daily lives as it was for our ancestors. Yet little has really changed. The death rate is still 100%. All of us are still destined to die once and after that to face judgement ([Heb. 9:27](#)). We still live in the era between Christ's victory over sin and death, and his final application of that victory to his people and to creation. Death remains the final enemy to be defeated, and we still await that upon Christ's return ([1 Cor. 15:26](#)). Sickness (including coronavirus) is Death's ugly little henchman. Coronavirus reminds us that we still live under the shadow of death. We remain extremely vulnerable to the spread of contagious illness, and so also to the spread of contagious fear, panic, and self-centered desperation.

Quo Vadis? Where are you going?



Our parish will take part in the October Family Rosary Pilgrimage on Sunday the 4th of October from 7:30pm – 8:30pm. This event promotes the Rosary in the family setting in accordance with Archbishop Anthony's following statement: "Would that every family... pray the rosary every day. The rosary is indeed the spiritual sword so needed in our time." More information in coming weeks.

Our COVID-19 Safety Plan (SP):

- 1) all must be aware of content of SP; 2) those with flu symptoms must not enter the church;
- 3) Sanitising hands and registration are strict requirements in order to come inside the church;
- 4) congregational singing prohibited; 5) Required sanitisation of the seats before and after each service;
- 6) Holy Communion on hand; 7) social distancing 1.5m apart (only 80 seats); 8) Strict prohibition of gatherings after the Mass in the foyer or outside the door of the church.

Daily Masses: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday (Holy Hour, Confession and Mass) 7.30am; Tuesday 5.00pm: Adoration, Novena, Confessions, Benediction and 6pm Mass

Weekend Mass times:

Saturday: Vigil 5pm

Sunday: 8am, 9.30am, 3pm: Divine Mercy Chaplet with Benediction and Mass.

Child sexual abuse is a crime. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police or contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org.

Our sick: Pam Andreallo, Irene Riley, Margherita Di Meglio, Ida Melis, Katrina Marinilli, M. Borg, Rita Shah, Julia Lock, Marie Lawsen, Ian Duffey, Glennise Hall, Elette Majdandzic; Barbara Eadie, Helen McGuirk, Dragica Furda, May Kenny, Carmen Camilleri, Jan Gurba, Mary Carmen Borg, Norma Cook, Josefa Dabu, Josie Lay, Christine Woodard, Maria Suszycka, Urszula Kaminska, Thea Van Gastel, Josephine Marinilli, Joan Hagley, Steven Marinilli and all homebound and dear friends from Mildred Symons House.

Saint Augustine recounts in his autobiography, *Confessions*, an experience he had during the singing of the Mass: "How I wept, deeply moved by your hymns, songs, and the voices that echoed through your Church! What emotion I experienced in them! Those sounds flowed into my ears, distilling the truth in my heart. A feeling of devotion surged within me, and tears streamed down my face — tears that did me good." How can we explain this overwhelming and transforming experience that led one of our greatest saints to the Church? Clearly, this was much more than a man simply being moved by a well-performed song. His entire being was penetrated and transformed through music. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (1157) makes a direct reference to Saint Augustine's experience when it teaches that the music and song of the liturgy "participate in the purpose of the liturgical words and actions: the glory of God and the sanctification of the faithful." The Mass itself is a song; it is meant to be sung. Recall that the Gospels only tell us of one time when Jesus sings: when He institutes the Holy Eucharist (Cf. Mt 26:30; Mk 14:26). We should not be surprised, then, that Christ sings when He institutes the *Sacramentum caritatis* (the Sacrament of love), and that for the vast majority of the past 2,000 years, the various parts of the Mass have been sung by priests and lay faithful. In the 1960s, the Second Vatican Council strongly encouraged a rediscovery of the ancient concept of singing the Mass: "[The musical tradition of the universal Church] forms a necessary or integral part of solemn liturgy" (*Sacrosanctum Concilium* 112). The Mass is most itself when it is sung. This recent rediscovery of "singing the Mass" did not begin with the Second Vatican Council. Following a movement that stretches back at least to Pope Saint Pius X in 1903, Pope Pius XII wrote in 1955, "The dignity and lofty purpose of sacred music consists in the fact that its lovely melodies and splendour beautify and embellish the voices of the priest who offers Mass and of the Christian people who praise the Sovereign God" (*Musicae Sacrae Disciplina* 31).

Thank you for your financial support of our Church. Your generosity in all appeals has been outstanding. Please note that 40% on PG tax deductibility is provided for this year. PG envelopes for the new FYR 2020/2021 are now ready for collection



3 ways to donate to the parish: 1) Please obtain scanner for (←) this bar code. Download the QR scanner from your Apps store on your mobile phone to scan this code. 2) visit our website: <https://www.stjosephscomo.org.au/> and click on the "DONATE NOW" button. 3) copy the following link to your web browser: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/COMOOYSTERBAYPARISH>

Weekend: 5th / 6th Sept:
1st Colln: \$391.55
2nd Colln: \$218.65:
EFT: \$320
Planned Giving: \$530

Memorial and Feast Days: 14th Sept: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross; 15th Sept: Our Lady of Sorrows; 16th Sept: Sts Cornelius (Pope, Martyr) and Cyprian (Bishop, Martyr) 17th Sept: St Robert Bellarmine, Bishop, 19th Sept: St Januarius, Bishop, Martyr

Holy Land Appeal: Collection will be taken up at all weekend Masses for this Appeal. Thank you for your financial support for the Priests' Retirement Foundation Appeal held last weekend.