

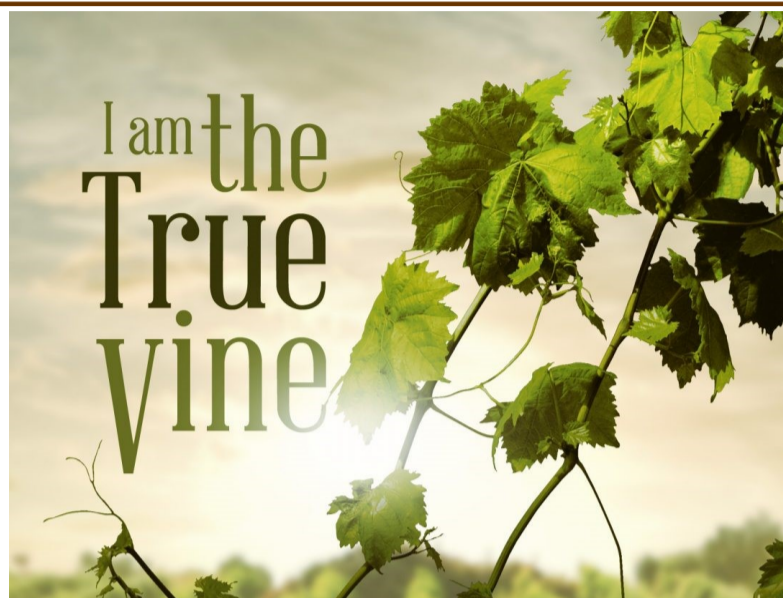
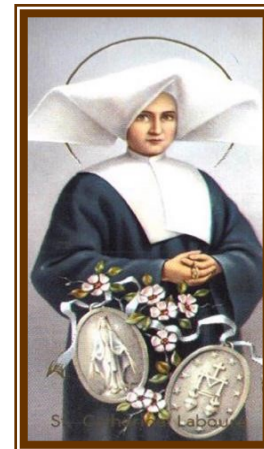
St Catherine Labouré Gymea Parish



The 5th Sunday of Easter

27 / 28 April 2024

Year B



Dear Parishioners, To those of you who have been enjoying time away during the school holidays, welcome back. I do hope you are feeling refreshed, spiritually rejuvenated, and excited about the new school term! It was wonderful to see another strong turn out for our ANZAC day Mass on Thursday. Catholicism, as I have said before, is the religion of memory. Remembering to give thanks to God and to pray for the repose of the soul of those courageous men and women who gave their lives for our freedom, is a most important tradition. Thank you to all those who assisted with the preparations for this Mass.

After a little bit of respite post-Easter triduum, the parish is gearing up for a plethora of different formation and outreach events. First and foremost, I would like to remind everyone of the fact that we have **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession available every day** in our parish (with the exception of no Adoration on Mondays). A growing community is a praying community. God must come first! In this Eastertide season, perhaps we can all think of one way in which we can do something extra (on an ongoing basis) for our spiritual lives. It could be attending another Mass during the week; saying the rosary as a family; or coming to some means of formation. In terms of formation, **Fr Noel will shortly commence a bible study series, which will run over five consecutive Thursdays. The first session is on Thursday 9th May between 7pm and 8pm.** Building upon a number of prior events/activities, **we will also launch a weekly gathering for young adults (aged 18-35), held every Wednesday night.** There will be a mixture of intellectual formation, spiritual formation, and, of course, plenty of social events. Our first gathering will take place on **Wednesday 22nd May at 7pm. I will give the first talk in a series that addresses the topic of "Identity".** Further details will be provided in the coming weeks. To the men of the parish, there is a talk **this Wednesday night by a guest speaker, Jim Jankiewicz, on "The Gift of Purity".** The night begins with Adoration at 6:30pm followed by Mass. However, do come along to the dinner, which begins at 7:30pm if you cannot come earlier. **To the women of the parish, please keep an eye out for a new formation series on the "feminine genius" being organised by our CWL branch.** This is pitched for women of all ages. Finally (for now), the whole parish community is strongly encouraged to come to our annual Eucharistic Procession down Gymea Bay Road on **Sunday 2nd June, following the 9:30am Mass.** In order to promote greater devotion to the Eucharist, we are also hosting a two-week exposition – kindly funded by a most generous parishioner --, which, drawing inspiration from Blessed Carlos Acutis (1991-2006), will list various Eucharistic miracles that have occurred through the centuries.

As you can see, there is much happening so let's not take these opportunities for granted. I continue to encourage you to think of ways you might get more involved, spiritually and pastorally, in the life of the parish and strengthen the bonds of faith and family we all love and share. God bless you, Fr Greg

The SICK List of names is only kept for 6 months and will start over again (1 July 2024) If you wish for a loved one to be mentioned, please contact the Parish Office.

In your charity, please pray for our recently deceased;

Eileen Dawson, Noel Ratcliffe, Anthony Mackison, Beryl Budd, Charie Maria Fordham, Thomas Yim Pong Kwok, Anthony James Witt, Cohen Hinchliffe, Coral Lacey.

We remember those whose Anniversaries we commemorate at this time:

Daniel Andreallo, William Roy Barnes, Cec and Mary Baz, Alexsei Chijoff, Roy Collins (1st Anniversary), Trevor Oscar Corrie, Brian Dooley, Tracy de Lyall, Roy & Mary Esplin, Ederina Fabian, Bill Godfrey, Rod Halter, Lionel & Bev Hurst, Lean Family, Alexander Martin, Joan Edna Martin, Sid & Sylvia Mullen, Frank Murray, Sarah Jane Murrells (50th Anniversary) Adolfo Noche, Joe & Anna Natoli, Angela Nugent (30th Anniversary), JoAnne Shackleton, Antonio Sorbara, Odin Vial (5th Anniversary),

The Deceased Members of the Friendship Club, The Holy Souls.

We pray for all the sick of our Parish Community and their carers. Especially:

Elaine Bain, Catherine Bassiuni, Gerry Banister, Cheryl May Barrett, Arthur Benson, Fr. Briffa, Pamela Buckley, Patricia Butler, Greg Byrne, Shirley Cashman, Peter Cobcroft, Noeline Conyngham, Elaine Coughlan, Patricia Cutcliffe, Ludovic D'Lima, Joanne Davies, Kath Dowd, Dorothy Fraser-Bell, Jeff Greenaway, Patricia Gordon, Melina Grieco, John & Rona Harris, Maree Hinton, James Hourigan, Martin Iffland, Phoebe Jablonski, Louisa James, Matthew Johnston, Deidre Jones, Linden Kelleher, Jim Klingberg, Peter Logue, Shaun McInerney, Evie Morgan, Anthony Morris, Maree Norton, Ritchie Perez, Vaska Petrova, Steve Porter, Julia Quach, Marie Rayner, Jill Rosel, Leovie Rosel, Tony Ryan, Adela Santos, Maria Sellaro, Evelyn Spiteri, Elaine Townsend, Karen Trang, Yin Kwan Tsang, June Walker, Jon Weaver, Maree Whitaker, Gary Wood; and those who care for them.

NOT (A PRACTICING) CATHOLIC? We are a proudly Catholic parish family who hold firm to the teachings of Jesus Christ because they are the one timeless source of truth and mercy. We believe that every human being has an intrinsic dignity, created in the image and likeness of God, and, as such, every human being is welcome in this parish. We are truly one family. If you are not Catholic – or if you have been away from the practice of your faith and want to know more –, why not reach out to one of the priests and come and have a chat? In a world of such confusion, we all need the spiritual clarity and intellectual genius of the Catholic faith more than ever.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUNG ADULTS (GATHERING): Inviting all young adults (18-35) to join us **THIS Sunday night after the 5 pm Mass** for an informal catch-up to discuss and plan our next series of events. Following the Shire Lenten Youth Nights, we are now looking to commence a regular gathering for our young adults on a Wednesday evening, interspersed with a few social events. Please come along!

BIBLE STUDY: A new Bible study series will recommence in May. We are thinking of doing a deep dive into the *Acts of the Apostles* whilst also exploring the mission of the early Church. Please keep Thursdays of May free! **Our first session will be on Thursday 9th May 7pm-8pm.**

MINISTERS NEEDED TO ASSIST WITH COMMUNION TO THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND: To those willing to be inducted and trained as Home Ministers. New roster begins Sunday, 5 May and it would be great if you can be inducted and trained to start on the new roster. Please contact Michele C/- the Parish Office if you can help with this very important Parish Ministry (office@stcaths.org.au)

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA PROCESSION AND MASS: Beginning with the Vigil Mass at 6 pm St Mary's Cathedral followed by candle-lit procession around the Cathedral Forecourt. **When: Saturday, 11 May 2024 at 6 pm.**

MEN'S NIGHT - WEDNESDAY, 1ST MAY – THE GIFT OF PURITY BY JIM JANKIEWICZ: For our next Men's Night, the pioneer of Men's Ministry in the Sydney Archdiocese, Jim Jankiewicz, will join us. Jim will share with us his journey of healing from various addictions. **Programme of the night:** 6.30 Adoration, 7.00 Holy Mass, 7.30 Dinner, 8.00 Talk: The Gift of Purity; followed by Q&A with Jim and 9.00 Closing prayer. All men are encouraged to attend!

Please RSVP to rsvp@stcaths.org.au by Tuesday, 30 April.

CAMINO OF ST JOSEPH – OVERNIGHT WALKING PILGRIMAGE: Please keep in your prayers all those men who participated in the St Joseph overnight pilgrimage on Friday 26th to Saturday 27th April recently. **I am delighted that Gymea was ranked "12th" in the Archdiocese for registrations!**

ATTENTION DIRECT DEBIT GIVERS: I (Maria, the Parish Bookkeeper) will be away from 6 May to 9 June, so I will process credit cards on Thursday, 2 May instead of 17 May. Please

advise the office if this is not convenient. When obtaining a new credit card, please contact the Parish Office to update your new details. *Many thanks for your continued support...*

EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION/EXHIBITION: A crucial part of our mission to evangelise and re-evangelise Catholics and non-Catholics is to promote a love for Our Lord's Real Presence in the Eucharist. The Catechism of the Catholic Church quotes the definitive teaching of the Council of Trent, which summarises the Catholic faith by declaring: **"Because Christ our Redeemer said that it was truly his body that he was offering under the species of bread, it has always been the conviction of the Church of God, and this holy Council now declares again, that by the consecration of the bread and wine there takes place a change of the whole substance of the bread into the substance of the body of Christ our Lord and of the whole substance of the wine into the substance of his blood. This change the holy Catholic Church has fittingly and properly called transubstantiation."** Thanks to the wonderful initiative and generosity of a parishioner, we will host a very special exhibition that draws inspiration from Blessed Carlos Acutis documentation of various Eucharistic miracles. The images will be found along the back of the Church, beginning Sunday, 26 May through to Sunday, 9 June. Our annual Eucharistic Procession down Gymea Bay Road will, of course, be held on the Feast of Corpus Christ, **Sunday, 2 June**, following the 9:30 am Mass. Please mark your calendars now!

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL: Please be advised that the parish will undertake Charitable Works Fund Appeals. CWF contributions are 100% tax deductible and support a plethora of the good works of the Archdiocese including: Catholic Care (our welfare agency); various hospital and university chaplaincies; the ministry to the deaf and hard of hearing; Aboriginal Catholic Ministry; and it also supports the cost of training our future priests (seminarians) as well as many other such works. The Archdiocese requires that every parish conduct this appeal three times a year and every parish is given a specific "quota" (a numerical-financial goal), which reflects the income/socio-economic capacities of that parish. Our quota this quarter is close to \$23,000. Whatever we do not raise has to be paid out of the parish account. Envelopes will be available throughout the month of May but we will officially take up the appeal on the Weekend of the 4th and 5th May. I thank you wholeheartedly for your generosity and for your love and support of our parish.

PARISH CALENDAR: We now have an online Parish Calendar where you can view all upcoming events and parish group meetings at our parish. Visit www.stcaths.org.au/calendar.

HEALING MASS – ST JOSEPH ENFIELD: Friday 3rd May Feast of St Philip and St James. Starting with rosary (7pm), confessions (7-8pm), Mass (8pm) Celebrant : Fr Mirko Integlia
See flyer at back of church for more details

UP-COMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE – PARISH DINNER 2024: Our Parish Dinner/Social Committee are planning a very exciting (new) venture for us all to gather and celebrate this wonderful community of faith. **Please mark Friday 6th December in your calendars for our third parish dinner and Laboure lecture.**

DEFEND THE FAITH: In Defence of the Catholic Faith in a Rapidly Secular Society and the threat of Radical Islam - Guest speaker and Catholic Apologist Dr Robert Haddad.

Where: **Holy Family Menai Catholic Church**

Time: **7 pm**

When: **Friday, 10 May 2024.**

For all ages and refreshments to follow.

ROSARY ONLINE: Did you know that our parish has an online Rosary every Saturday Morning at 10 am? The Zoom link is as follows: www.stcaths.org.au/onlinerosary (Password: 1234) Please call Patricio on 0423 041 590 with any trouble logging on.

ADORATION: Remember, our parish has Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament available every day Tuesday - Saturday from 8:30 am - 9:10 am.

CONFESSIONS: Confessions are **available from Tuesday to Saturday before & after every Mass.** Please approach Father Greg or Father Noel if you wish to receive this Sacrament.

DIVINE WILL PRAYER GROUP: To be held after the **Monday** morning masses only, at 10 am. Louisa Piccarella wrote 36 volumes about how to live in the Divine Will. We will read from the writings and learn how to live in GOD'S Will.

CENACLE GROUP: The Marian Movement of Priests (MMP) is an International Catholic Movement based on locutions received from the Virgin Mary by Fr. Don Gobbi. The group meets after Mass on **Tuesdays** after the rosary to discuss the readings from the book.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: Takes place on the third Saturday of each month **Saturday, 18 May**) This is a great opportunity for men to catch up over a hot breakfast before hearing an inspirational talk on a topic of our Catholic Faith!

CARMELITE WEEKEND RETREAT (10 - 12 May, 2024)

PRESENTER: Fr. Paul Maunder, OCD & Cristina Leontini, translator of *Life and thoughts of Mariam Baouardy, 'the little nothing'*

Illiterate, child-like, naive, poor, a 'the little nothing', this Teresian Carmelite nun founded the Carmel of the Holy Child Jesus in Bethlehem. She bore the wounds of the "Ecce Homo" in her body and offered her sufferings in loving union with her Lord for mercy upon sinners. Fr Paul and Cristina Leontini will present her life and comment on her way of the cross in the context of today's sufferings, especially in the Holy Land.

WHEN: May 10 - 12, 2024 • 6pm (Fri) - 12:30 pm (Sunday)

WHERE: Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, 247 St Andrews Road, Varroville, NSW **COST:** \$330

Please register at the following link:

www.mtcarmel.com.au/carmelite-retreat-program

PARISH GROUPS

ALTAR SOCIETY: The Altar Society assists with the cleaning of the sacred vessels and the beautification of our church. *Our Altar Society urgently needs volunteers, there are two groups who urgently need assistance – please contact the Office if you can help. Training is provided.*

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE REGISTRATION 2024: The CWL group meets monthly and will offer spiritual formation as well as assist with fundraising to help various charitable ventures. Membership forms can be found at the back of the Church and returned to the parish office.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB: The Friendship Club is a seniors social organisation within the Gymea Parish community. Our membership (currently around 75) comprises both married couples and singles as well as those who are by themselves later in life. Members are mainly from the Gymea parish but also come from other parts of the Shire as well as further afield. We also have a number of non-Catholic members. General Meetings are held every 3rd Friday of the month.

LEGION OF MARY: The Legion of Mary is a lay apostolic association of Catholics who, with the sanction of the Church and under the powerful leadership of Mary Immaculate, Mediatrix of All Graces, serve the Church and their neighbours on a voluntary basis in about 170 countries. Our Parish is blessed to have a longstanding Legion of Mary group, which meets every Thursday morning after the 9.15 am Mass. **We are always on the look out for new members.**

MEDJUGORJE PRAYER GROUP: The prayer group have been meeting in our church every Thursday since 1987 at 6 pm reflecting on the monthly messages the visionaries are currently receiving from Our Lady Queen of Peace to the world and they finish with the rosary. **You are most welcome to join them.**

ST VINCENT DE PAUL: The St Vincent de Paul Society is a Catholic organisation that aspires to live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society. We have one of the largest conferences in Australia. The members are an asset to our parish!

THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

Don't forget to get your copy today! Still only \$2!

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PARISH DIRECTORY:

Parish Priest: Reverend Doctor Gregory Morgan
Assistant Priest: Reverend Father Noel Custodio
Seminarian: Daniel O’Kelly
Presbytery: 123 Gynea Bay Road, Gynea
Secretary: Monday to Thursday: Natasha Amata
 Friday: Maria Awad (Bookkeeper)
Office Hours: Monday to Thursday being:
 9:00 am - 12 noon then 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm
Friday: 9:00 am - 2:30 pm
Office & Presbytery telephone: 9525.1138
Email: office@stcaths.org.au
Website: www.stcaths.org.au
Facebook: www.stcaths.org.au/facebook
YouTube: www.stcaths.org.au/youtube
Parish Safeguarding Officer: Natasha Amata
Email: safeguarding@stcaths.org.au
St Catherine Labouré Parish School
Principal: Patrick Morrison
School Office: 9524.9706
Email: info@sclgynea.catholic.edu.au

PARISH DIRECTORY:

Catechist Coordinator: Karen
Email: catechists@stcaths.org.au
Catholic Women’s League Gynea: Diane (President)
Email: cwlgymea@stcaths.org.au
Gynea Music/Choirs: Clare (Coordinator)
Email: office@stcaths.org.au
Legion of Mary: Mike (President)
Email: office@stcaths.org.au
Medjugorje Prayer Group: Barry
Email: office@stcaths.org.au
Sacramental Programme: Karen
Email: sacramentalprogramme@stcaths.org.au
St Catherine’s Friendship Club:
Email: friendshipclub@stcaths.org.au
Gynea Conference St. Vincent de Paul Society: Frank
(President) Email: stvincentdepaul@stcaths.org.au
Youth Minister/Coordinator: Lucas
Email: youthministry@stcaths.org.au

MASS TIMES - HOLY WEEK

Mondays - Saturdays 9.15 am
Saturday 5 pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 7:30 am, 9:30 am & 5 pm

CONFESSION TIMES

Monday - Saturday
Before and after every weekday Mass (including Saturdays)
Saturdays 4:30 pm – 4:55 pm

ADORATION TIMES

Tuesday - Saturday
 8:30 am - 9:10 am

*(Fridays and Saturdays:
 9:00 am Benediction)*



4 / 5 May 2024

The 6th Sunday of Easter

Year B

	Saturday Vigil 5.00 pm	Sunday 7.30 am	Sunday 9.30 am	Sunday Evening 5.00 pm
Acolytes & Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:	Phil Boland Cathy Bonello Lesley Newman	Sam Keir Matthew Nugent Gerry Flannery	Graham Ward Andrew Monsiff Michele Anthony Carole Venier	David Gormley Amelia Paras Maureen Ross
1st Reader & Psalm:	Adele Greenaway	James Clancy	Sue Day	Ronald Paras
2nd Reader & Intercessions:	Jim Gothard	James Clancy	Jowe Esguerra	Joan Pinto



The Altar Society: Group 1:
 Maureen Huckstep, Jacqueline Parker & Maria Black.

In The Counting House:
Ray Brennan, Denis O’Brien, Bob Taylor, Bob Greenwood, Barry Elliott & Peter Black

Children’s Liturgy
Sunday @ 9:30 am

School Holidays

Audio-Visual: Pauline /Mark Natalie Ajith Faye & James
Operators: NO SENIOR CHOIR Jenni
 SCHOOL CHOIR



May God and our Lady of Lourdes care for and protect us all.

The Clean Team: Group A: Mary Vee Tondi, June Digby, Hazel & Larry Lange.