

Ministry Roster.

This Week, The Sixth Sunday of Easter(22/5).

Next Week, The Ascension of The Lord(29/5).

Ministry	Vigil	8:30AM.	Vigil	8:30 AM
Acolyte:	R Kemmis.	P Doherty	P Speter.	G Verhoeven.
Commentator:	T Burgheim.	P Gannon	J Leather.	K Pattenden.
Reader:	M Golez.	M David	T O'Donnell.	K Powell.
Flowers:	J West.		P Currie.	
Cleaning:	L Blahut & M David.		Volunteers.	

If you are unable to carry out your ministry please organise a replacement or call Richard on the Parish Phone number listed on the first page of this bulletin.

We are all invited by Pope Francis to be involved in the Synod on Synodality.

Synodality means everyone walking together. **Pope Francis is welcoming our experiences of being in the Catholic Church.** He wants to hear from the people of God. Last Saturday members of the Blue Mountains Pastoral Council met and we shared our experiences. The questions we answered were

What is positive and meaningful to you in the Church community?

What are your hurts and disappointments in belonging to the Church Community?

And What do you think needs to happen for the Church Community to thrive?

Our next step is to collate our experiences and send them to Sr Nathalie Becquart n.becquart@synod.va along with an explanation of who we are and who we represent as Deanery Pastoral Councillors. Sr Nathalie is the number 2 officer at the synod and will be the first woman with a right to vote during the summit of Bishops. Sr Nathalie is welcoming our submissions and will also welcome your submission either as part of a group or individually. Carol and Maureen.

Blue Mountains Deanery Pastoral Council.

Temporary Office.

Our temporary office and facilities should be in place and operating by Thursday next week with our usual office hours of 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM each Thursday and Friday.

Our phone numbers and email address remains as they are.

Fr Paul.

The Book Launch of NOEL DAVIS' last book of poetry:

THE JOY OF LIVING

OUR HEART'S KNOWING

AND IMAGINING

May 28th, 9:30am - 12:00pm

at

Santa Maria Hall

Copies will be available for purchase (cash or electronic payment)

Launch prices: \$30 hard copy; \$25 paperback.

*Our Lady of Nativity Parish Bulletin.*

254 Great Western Highway, Lawson, NSW 2783. **PO BOX 44, Lawson, 2783.**

Phone: **4759 1034 or 0418 214 548.**

Email: lawson@parracatholic.org

Parish Website: www.lawsoncatholicchurch.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr Paul Slyney - 4754 1052. **Emergency:** 0418 461 316.

Assistant Priest: Fr Shinto Francis - 4754 1052. **Emergency:** 0415 077 969.

Parish Office Hours: Thursdays & Fridays 9.30 am - 3.30 pm.

The Church is open 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Thursday and Friday. Please call to book.

Weekend Masses: **Saturday 5:00 PM. Sunday 8:30 AM.**

Weekday Masses: **Tuesday & Wednesday 5:00 PM and Thursday 9:00 AM.,**

Masks are now recommended and we do not have any limits on capacity anymore. Baptisms: First & Third Saturdays at 11:00 AM. **Weddings:** Call the office & six months notice. **Funerals:** Call the office.

A Better World

No celebration of Easter would be complete without a reference to the peace brought to us by the Paschal mystery. Today's liturgy provides us with that reference: 'Peace' is my farewell to you, my peace is my gift to you.

Peace is what Jesus gave us in his redemptive acts of dying and rising.

The early Christian communities experienced dissension and controversy. The reading from Acts documents the manner in which the leaders of the church resolved those conflicts and brought peace to the Church.

There is a lesson for us in the elements of their peaceful settlement: the exercise of responsible leadership, respect for all the members of the community, and the decision "not to lay on you any burden beyond that which is strictly necessary."

"O God, let all the nations praise you!" for you have rescued them from death and offered them the gift of peace through your resurrection.

The perfect world, we Christians believe, is beyond the horizon, in an endless eternity where God will be all in all. But a better world is here for human hands and hearts and minds to make.

For the community of faith the risen Christ is the beginning and end of all things. For all things were created through him and all things will return to the Father through him.

It is our belief in the risen Christ which sustains us in confronting the awesome challenge of the nuclear arms race.

U.S. Bishops, *The Challenge of Peace*, 1983: 337-39.

Gerald Darring *SJ*.





Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Patricia Carmichael.

Sick: Fr Theo Arrivoli, Rob Nickl, Maurice Rooney, Lan Franco Matteucci, Moira Sattler, Anthony Griffin, Daniel Smith, Anne & Aamon Spellman, Sienna Erdmanis, and all Private Intentions. *Due to the strict privacy laws, names of the deceased and sick can only be included in the Bulletin with the permission of the immediate family. Thank you.*

THIS WEEK'S READINGS.

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 15:1-2,22-29

The early Church community determines, with the help of the Holy Spirit, not to impose the requirement of circumcision on Gentile Christians.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 67:2-3,5,6,8. A prayer that all the nations sing praise to God.

Second Reading

Revelation 21:10-14,22-23. The vision of the splendour of the heavenly Jerusalem is described.

Gospel Reading

John 14:23-29. Jesus promises his disciples that the Father will send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit.

Background on the Gospel Reading.

This portion of John's Gospel comes near the end of the first of four chapters that make up Jesus' long farewell discourse at the Last Supper. This section of chapter 14 actually sums up the themes of the opening of the discourse: the Christian's life is not shaped by Jesus' absence but by God's abiding presence; God's presence overcomes anxiety about God's absence; and the present holds in it the seeds of a fresh future shaped by love, not fear.

These verses also contain a glimpse of some of the other themes of the farewell discourse: Jesus' relationship with the Father and the disciples' relationship to Jesus connect the disciples to the Father as well. Jesus promises to send an Advocate or intercessor who will remind the disciples of everything that Jesus taught them and bring them peace.

Jesus is preparing his disciples in advance for his absence so that they will continue to believe in him and not feel all alone after his return to the Father. After the initial excitement of his Easter appearances, Jesus will remain with his followers in a very different way throughout the centuries.

As our celebration of the Easter season is coming to an end, the liturgy reminds us that Jesus remains with us through the Holy Spirit, who teaches us everything we need to know, reminds us of all that Jesus taught, and brings us peace.

Vinnies - Volunteer week.

Lawson Vinnies is in need of more Volunteers for our Community.

A monthly commitment of a few hours a Month would be a great start.

For more info for a rewarding experience **please contact Paul Gannon on 4758 9253 (H) or 0409 592 055**

SANTA MARIA

CONFERENCE CENTRE

Available for meetings, functions and conferences. Phone Sr Veronica on 4759 1116.

More About Laudato Si

The **Diocese of Parramatta** is embarking on a seven-year journey towards achieving seven **Laudato Si' Goals**, which means to care more deeply for God's creation and our sisters and brothers in need. This commitment is made in response to the invitation from **Pope Francis** and the **Australian Catholic Bishops** to embark on such a journey.

So the Parishes in the Blue Mountains invite the whole community to find out more about about this week by connecting to the Laudato Si Action Video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s3YkNMuj7_0 There will be a reflection about the Laudato Si

Goals followed by a **BYO picnic lunch on Tuesday May 24th in Gloria Park** at the end of Bonnie View

Avenue in **Hazelbrook** from 10.30am. **All welcome.** There is still more that you can join in. Contact Julie

O'Keeffe julesongodson@bigpond.com

Carol and Maureen

Blue Mountains Deanery Pastoral Council.

Community Wellbeing was the name of one of the 5 workshops that met on Sunday, 3 April at St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Springwood, as part of Blue Mountains Catholics Take Action (Gathering of Talents) gathering across the 6 parishes of our Deanery. We heard what people saw as the community needs in our Deanery, we learnt about a range of areas of help from Celia, the CatholicCare coordinator (Springwood Office) who facilitated, and we each came up with areas that we saw a need for further action. There are many needs from the simple (transporting someone to an appointment or visiting an aged care facility) to those needing a community approach e.g., action to care for and protect our environment in all its facets or to advocate for and support refugees.

Jim Potts.

Blue Mountains Deanery Pastoral Council.

First Communion Preparation.

Our combined First Communion and Confirmation process has commenced with two parent evenings. The first meeting we explored the implications of the Baptism of children. On the second evening we reflected on various aspects of the Mass with the theme being the **Presence and the Purpose of the Mass.**

The **family group** has so far met twice and all the parents and the children took part in a play based on the visit of Jesus to the home of Martha and Mary (from Luke :10). This helped them to see the connection with gathering together at Mass to celebrate the Family of Jesus . Last week's Family group session focussed on listening to the Gospels by taking parts in a play focussed on the parable of the "Sower and the Seeds". It was fun but most importantly It gave the families the message of the importance of listening to the messages of Jesus. **First Communion** will be celebrated on Sunday 29th May .

Please pray for the families as they continue to pray and prepare for this important Sacrament of Initiation.

OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY

SCHOOL

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