

SECOND READING: **Romans 9:1-5**
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ - it is the truth - my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: **Ps 129:5**
Alleluia, alleluia! I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word. Alleluia



COMMUNION ANTIPHON:
O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

GOSPEL: **Matthew 14:22-33**
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Command me to come to you over the water.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord', he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Is 56: 1, 6-7; Rom 11: 13-15, 29-32; Mt 15: 21-28.

Prayer to Our Lady during the pandemic:

Mary, Help of Christians,
we fly to you today as your beloved children.
We ask you to intercede for us with your Son,
as you did at the wedding in Cana.
Pray for us, loving Mother,
and gain for our nation and world,
and for all our families and loved ones,
the protection of God's holy angels,
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted,
we ask you to obtain the grace of
healing and deliverance.
Hear the cries of those who are
vulnerable and fearful,
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing,
teach all of us in the Church
to love one another and to be patient and kind.
Help us to bring the peace of Jesus
to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence,
Knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother,
health of the sick and cause of our joy.
Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,
keep us in the embrace of your arms,
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus, Amen.



PARISH OF ST. THERESE, DENISTONE

Presbytery and Office

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[St Therese's School](#)

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MASS TIMES:

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6:00 pm.
SUNDAY: 8:00 am and 9.30am (changed to 10 am till further notice)
MONDAY: No Mass.
TUESDAY through to SATURDAY: 9.00 am Mass.
FRIDAY: 9.00 am Mass.
Exposition & Benediction every Friday after Mass.
RECONCILIATION: Saturday 5pm – 5.45pm or by appointment.
Baptism: Every Sunday at 11am or 11.30am. Please contact Parish Office.
Marriage: By appointment.
Anointing of the sick: Please give names to Father Roberto Castillo.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)
8th / 9th August 2020

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:
Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.



FIRST READING: **1 Kings 19:9. 11-13**

A reading from the first book of the Kings
Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and

shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: **Ps 84:9-14**

RESPONSE: Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. **Response.**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. **Response.**

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. **Response.**

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Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on the 15th August 2020

Don't forget that next Saturday we will have ONE Mass to celebrate The Assumption of Our Lady.

On this wonderful day dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary we rejoice with the whole Church as we remember the day when the Mother of the Lord entered into the Glory of Heaven after completing the course of her earthly life. This glorious mystery speaks to us about the day when our Mother, through special privilege from God, was assumed in body and soul into the presence of God; she entered into the Kingdom of her Son, not only in her soul like all other prophets and saints and all blessed people who lived a virtuous lives, but she also was the first one who also entered with her body as well. And this brings hope to all of us, who can have now the opportunity to also follow her through a life of faith and charity.



So come this Saturday morning the 15th of August, and celebrate together this solemnity at 9am Mass, and honour the mother of humanity, the help of Christians and the mother of Christ. Let us thank her for accepting to be the mother of God and ask her intercession, especially at this time. This year we have been seeing an ever increasing number of terrible problems, conflicts around the world, disasters, covid19 pandemic, and this week we also remember the people of Beirut.

Queen assumed into heaven pray for us, for our parish, for our families and friends, for Australia and for our world.
Blessings, Fr Roberto Castillo

“It was fitting that she, who had kept her virginity in childbirth, should keep her own body free from all corruption even after death. It was fitting that she, who had carried the Creator as a child at her breast, should dwell in the divine tabernacles...it was fitting that God’s Mother should possess what belongs to her Son, and that she should be honoured by every creature as the Mother and the Handmaid of God.”
St. John Damascene

PARISH NEWS & NOTICES:

Request for Mass and Prayers.

We pray for those who have recently died especially Elizabetta Gambino, Gay O’Sullivan (cousin to Jamelie Morabito) and Chris Christiansen (cousin to Jamelie Morabito).

Also pray for those who celebrate anniversaries at this time especially Deacon Langford Vincent (father of Helen Vaz).



Planned Giving Envelopes.

RECEIPTS and ENVELOPES are available from the front foyer.

Please take care not to touch all the envelopes as you are taking yours.

Also please take a copy of a letter near the envelopes as it also shows that you can make your donations via credit cards.

For all those parishioners, who **opted not to claim a tax refund**, you have a letter and that advises you how much you have donated over the past financial year.

Thanks so much for your generous contributions.



Sacraments at St Therese Denistone.

We are scheduling Reconciliation and FIRST HOLY COMMUNION for Term 3 and Term 4 respectively. Please spread the word.



SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION:

Formation Sessions:

- Session no 1 - Wed 12th August 7pm
- Session no 2 - Wed 19th August 7pm
- Session no 3 - Wed 26th August 7pm

Sacrament of First Reconciliation:

Friday 4th September at 5pm in the Church.



SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:

Formation Sessions:

- Session no 1 - Wed 14th October 7pm
- Session no 2 - Wed 21st October 7pm
- Session no 3 - Wed 28th October 7pm

Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Mass:

Sunday 15th November at 11:30am in the Church.



Helpful Information In Regard To Covid19

PROTECT yourself and OTHERS by practising good hygiene. Practise physical distancing and stay at home if you can, especially if you are a high risk person.

CALL TRIPLE ZERO

Call (000) for emergencies such as difficulty breathing or shortness of breath at rest.

INTERPRETER SERVICE for free help in your language call 13 14 50

CALL 1800 020 080 for health questions or to check symptoms

CALL 1800 512 348 for mental wellbeing support.

IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS: Fever, cough, sore throat and/or shortness of breath

- a. Self-isolate first. Call your GP or visit a public Covid19 clinic:

www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19

- b. Travel in your own car or a private car driven by a family member or an existing close contact. **Do not travel by public transport, taxi or ride-share service.**
- c. Wear a surgical mask. If unavailable, ask for one immediately when you arrive.

Parish Safeguarding Support Officer needed for our parish.

As part of the Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office’s safeguarding strategy, we are currently seeking people who will support the Parish Priest in providing our volunteers and parishioners a greater understanding of what safeguarding means and how it can be implemented with our parish. Please speak with Fr Roberto after Mass to discuss this further if you think you could help us with this.

Restrictions update.

We have a COVID-19 Safety Plan and are committed to keeping you safe.

At the moment the following rules apply in the church:

- People should sit at least 1½m apart and stand 1½m from each other. This rule applies not only to Mass but to private prayer, Confessions, Baptisms, Weddings, Eucharistic Adoration, The Divine Office, Rosary in common, Bible study etc.
- Our church can safely sit 65 parishioners.
- Wear a mask if you wish.
- Hand sanitiser is available and should be used when you enter the church.
- Parishioners who are unwell or in high risk categories must stay home.
- Dispensation to attend Sunday Mass still applies.
- The faithful who cannot attend Mass should keep Sunday holy by setting aside some time for prayer at home and they might attend Mass on a weekday where possible.
- Our church is being disinfected after each use.
- Congregational singing is suspended.
- Receiving Holy Communion by “making a throne for the king with our hands” (St Cyril of Jerusalem) remains normative in Australia.
- Contact details of all those entering the church (name & phone number or email address) must be recorded.

The Catholic Weekly is now available.

Please support this catholic newspaper as like all newspapers it is struggling to survive.

