**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish**

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**6th Sunday of Easter. Year C. 22nd May 2022**

**Gospel: *John 14:23–29***

***Jesus said to his disciples:***

*‘If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall* *come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me.* ***I have said these things to you while still with you; but******the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.*** *Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return. If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.’*

**In Summary**

**Today’s gospel reading continues from last week, with Jesus speaking to the disciples at the Last Supper (after Judas has left to betray Him). Jesus promises His disciples that the Father will send an Advocate (the Holy Spirit) to help them on their journey.**

Jesus is preparing His disciples for His absence, so that they will continue to believe in Him and not feel alone after His return to the Father. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus will remain with His disciples throughout the centuries. **As we face difficulties, we also can be at peace and confident that the Holy Spirit: “*will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.”***

**We are disciples of Jesus!!**

**Further to Today’s Gospel**

In John 16:7-15, Jesus makes it clear (again) by His description of the Holy Spirit *(the Counsellor*) - that the Holy Spirit is sent to help and guide: ***“Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Counsellor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.”***

Jesus told His Apostles on several occasions that He was leaving them and that He would send to them another, to help and teach them. **Jesus called this person: the “Spirit of Truth,” the “Counsellor,” as well as, the “Advocate.”**

**The Following Two Sundays**

Next **Sunday** **(29th May), is the Ascension of the Lord**. **The Ascension is forty days after Easter**, however, this day falls on a Thursday, and in the past this feast was known as ***‘Ascension Thursday,’*** and was a holy day of obligation. However, in more recent times, the celebration has been moved to the Sunday before Pentecost.

***Note****: The nine days between the Ascension and Pentecost (that the disciples spent praying together and awaiting the Holy Spirit) gave rise to the* ***Novena****, a devotional practice of praying in a particularly focused way, for a special intention, over nine days. (Ref: Melbourne Archdiocese Summit).* ***Novena is derived from the Latin word novem, which means nine.***

On **Sunday** **05th June, is** **Pentecost Sunday**. **Pentecost is fifty days after Easter,** and is the conclusion, of the Lent–Easter–Pentecost cycle.

**Tuesday 24th May is the feast of Our Lady Help of Christians**

**Our Lady Help of Christians, is an important Feast in Australia because Our Lady, under the title “Help of Christians,” is *a spiritual Patron of Australia, along with St Mary of the Cross (MacKillop).***

 **A Short History**

**In 1844, Mary, under the title of Our Lady Help of Christians was chosen as the patroness of Australia at the First Provincial Synod of Sydney.** However, Our Lady has been invoked under the title “Help of Christians,” since at least the sixteenth century. After the battle of Lepanto on 07th October 1671 (when a Turkish fleet was defeated by a Christian fleet) Pope Pius V, who had previously called upon Catholics to invoke Mary’s assistance so that the Turkish threat may be averted, inserted the title “Help of Christians” into the Litany of Our Lady, as he believed that the threat of invasion had been averted through Mary’s intercession. Our Lady was again to be invoked under the title Help of Christians, early in the nineteenth century, when Napoleon kept Pope Pius VII under close arrest, forbidding cardinals and other Church officials to meet him. A prayer campaign was organised amongst Catholics throughout the world to obtain the Pope’s freedom. In 1814, the Pope was released. Pius VII attributed his eventual freedom to Our Lady Help of Christians and decreed **that the feast be celebrated on the anniversary of the day upon which he re-entered Rome (24th May).**

Most images of Our Lady Help of Christians depict the Virgin standing on a globe of the world, holding the child Jesus in one arm and a sceptre in another. Her head is always crowned and the child Jesus in her arms is often crowned as well. ***In some images, the map of Australia is featured on the globe to signify the Virgin’s special relationship to Australia.***

**Meanwhile in Perth**

The church Our Lady Help of Christians, is at East Victoria Park (cnr Berwick Street and Camberwell Street). **Our Lady Help of Christians Parish opened in 1936**, inan area steeped in Catholic history. The Sisters of Mercy have been present in the parish since 1899, opening St Joachim’s school and Our Lady of Mercy secondary college, together with the Christian Brothers’ school of St Francis Xavier College for boys. In 1990, the schools amalgamated to form Ursula Frayne Catholic College, which provides both primary and secondary education.

***Every Saturday at 9.30am, there is a Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, at***

***the church of Our Lady Help of Christians, at East Victoria Park.***

   **Our Parish Worship Schedule** A parish is a community of disciples of Jesus, who gather to celebrate the Mass and to “live the Gospel.” **We are a community of Jesus’ disciples** **and our church is here for our collective and individual worship and prayers.** We welcome the faithful to our Mass, or, to light a candle at our Marian chapel, or, to just pray in silence; and to grow spiritually.

**Mass Times** Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu & Fri 8.00 am (the Rosary after)

 Saturday 6.00 pm

**Mass Times**  Sunday 9.30 am

**Reconciliation** Saturday night 5.15 – 5.45 pm

**Anointing of the Sick** Liaise with Fr Greg

**Baptisms, marriages and funerals** Liaise with Fr Greg

***In the celebration of the Mass, the faithful form a holy people, a people whom God has made His own!!***

**Our Prayers of the Faithful**

In our parish prayers of the faithful, we pray to the Lord, to help and comfort our sick and suffering. We also pray for the souls of our recently departed, as well as, for those whose anniversaries, we remember at Mass today.

**Prayers for Our Sick and Suffering**

Celia, Crowley family**,** Joe Sundaram, Thilak, Diana Scully, Bluey Thompson**,** Celeste Vicensoni, Michael D’Souza, Carla, Annette, Joe Gibson**,** Georgina and Ronnie Ghosh, Gemma Altieri, Fred Kara, Reg Brown, Mary & Derrick Jansen, Marie Webster Viola, Gerry and Maisie Prendergast, James Rydqvist, Annie Magdalena Rydqvist, Anne Rydqvist, Dr Andrew Chilufya Snr, Robbie Iliffe, Claire Webster, Donna Green, Horatio Hill, Ilean Wright, Elham Nejaty, Cathy and Peter Ghouse, Jimmy Olivero, Kaye McIntyre, Alvin Desker, Jess Cable, Jeff and Tony Francis, Fr Andre, Sheila Vanwieringan, CD Joseph, Marina Lim, Joseph Fernandes, Wendy Price, Julie Pinto, Christopher Jaffer, Yianni Donato, Bonnie Sullivan, Joslyn De Sylva and Philomena Rodrigues.

**Prayers for our Recently Departed**

**Vernon Thompson**, Kerry Wimbridge, Glen Langan, Eugene Marie, Felice Palumbo and

Kunjachan Kalloor.

*Vernon was a dear friend of our parish. He passed on 12th May, whilst in palliative care. Parishioners may remember Vernon and Gemma, who assisted our parish, by selling raffle tickets for the parish social club, over many years…Vernon was a quiet gentleman. Lest we forget.*

***“God blesses those people who grieve. They will find comfort.”*** (Matthew 5:4).

**Anniversaries of our Beloved Deceased**

Carmel Rydqvist (20 May), Sr Irene McCormack (21 May), Esme Aviet (21 May), Des Sheridan (21 May), Gladys Brady (22 May), Fr Reginald Ahearn (22 May), Andrea Viola (24 May), Julian de Souza (24 May), Vittorio Muchino (25 May) and all our departed relatives and friends.

***Jesus assured Martha at the tomb of Lazarus: “I am the Resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Me will live even though he dies”*** *(John 11: 25-26).*

***Note:*** *Parishioners may email Cliff at:* *cliffordgerard@bigpond.com**, for any additions (or deletions) to our lists of sick, recently deceased and anniversaries, whom you wish to be included in our “Prayers of the Faithful.” Thank-you.*

***Everyone has a name, and if we are to pray for them, we should say their name.***

**04th/5th June is Our Next Parish St Vincent de Paul Donations**

Our parish monthly St Vincent de Paul (SVDP) Food Donations, has stagnated, yet, there are people (including families) in our local area, who are in need of a “hand-up.” Though our local SVDP group is administered from the Queen of Apostle Parish, Riverton; the help they provide includes those in our Wilson parish area. Each month, Bruno George would collect our parish donations (food parcels and cash donations) and deliver our donations to the SVDP group at Riverton, where it is shared and delivered to the needy. I am appealing to parishioners, to help the needy in our community and donate to our monthly SVDP collection. *Thank-you, Cliff.*