



# Holy Spirit Catholic Parish

93 Burdekin Ave, Amaroo ACT and 220 Victoria St, Hall ACT  
Supporting and supported by Holy Spirit, Good Shepherd,  
Mother Teresa Primary Schools and St John Paul II College

27-28 April 2024

5th Sunday of Easter | Year B



## Holy Spirit Amaroo

### Monday

No Mass  
Office closed

### Tuesday

9:15am Mass

### Wednesday

9:15am Mass  
6pm Holy Hour and  
Reconciliation

### Thursday

9:15am Mass

### Friday

7:00am Mass  
12:00pm Mass

### Saturday

4:30pm Reconciliation  
5:00pm Mass

### Sunday

8:00am Mass  
9:30am Mass  
5:00pm Mass

## God Is Greater than Our Hearts

"He must increase; I must decrease." John the Baptist once used these words to describe his relationship to Jesus. John, we understand, was a pretty impressive character. He was such a charismatic speaker that multitudes sought his baptism, listened to his levelling criticisms of popular culture and values, and vowed radical changes as a result of encountering him. John was a prophet and guru with his own circle of disciples. When Jesus appeared on the scene, John might have viewed him as a rival.

Instead, John responds with extraordinary humility. He acknowledges that Jesus is greater. And not only greater: John admits that Jesus replaces him altogether. John's mission is complete the hour Jesus arrives. As Jesus ascends, John will fade away. John doesn't lament this. He states this fact is obvious and right.

This is the relationship of the vine to the branches. The vine survives the trimming of its branches, but the branches do not survive without the vine. The vine is more enduring, the very source of life. The branches play their part in relationship to the vine. It's folly for a branch to forget what it is. But in service to the vine, it bears much fruit.

**Define yourself as a branch attached to Jesus the vine. Name the fruit you bear in this relationship.**

### Pray

We praise you – you who planted us in this life, and eternally tend us as your own. Graft us into your spirit that we may be bound together and held and affirmed as one community in your love. Nourish us with your compassion and prune us with your truth until we are one people, abiding always in you and growing in love. Easter God, you are the vine-keeper, and we praise you – you who grafts us into yourself and calls us your own. May we be your Easter people, bearing the fruit of resurrection faith. Amen.

### Ponder

Consider your attachment to Jesus the vine: is it weak, strong, in need of support? Resolve to strengthen the bond in prayer and imitation.

### Kids' Corner

*Then Barnabas took charge of him and brought him to the apostles, and he reported to them how he had seen the Lord. (Acts 9: 27)*

Everyone knew Saul was trouble. He'd been arresting Jesus' followers and getting them thrown in jail. So when people heard that Saul changed his mind about Jesus and was going by a different name, Paul, they were unsure and afraid. How could they trust him? But Barnabas took the risk of trusting Paul. He'd heard Paul telling the story of how he'd been blinded and how Jesus spoke to him and cured him. Barnabas could see that Paul spoke truthfully and he defended Paul. Do you know someone like Paul, who needs a friend to stand up for them? Will you be a good friend, like Barnabas?

Lord, help me be a good friend to all. Amen.  
[www.gpbs.com.au](http://www.gpbs.com.au)



## St Francis Xavier Hall

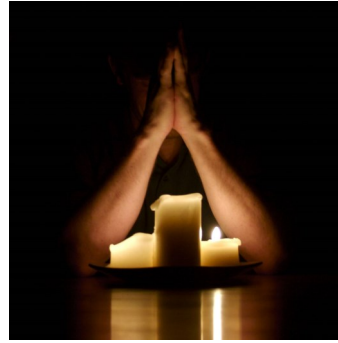
Saturdays 5:00pm

# Parish News and Events

## Christian Meditation

The Parish is establishing a Christian Meditation prayer opportunity every week. The goal is to provide an additional opportunity for a deeper spirituality and deeper trust in God. The meditation prayer time will be facilitated by Jim Corrigan and it will be held in the Church. All are welcome to attend at **7:00pm on Tuesday 30 April**.

The ongoing sessions can be in the evening or morning depending on people's preferences. Please contact the parish office for more information.



Please keep the following individuals in prayer.....



### For those who are sick

Kathy Morris  
Elisabeth Faith O'Connell  
Caitlin Wigglesworth  
Kwang Hui Lim  
Grant  
Gail  
Elizabeth  
Adriano Cesar Junior  
Maria Teresa Meireles  
Theresa and Joseph Tan  
Cyril Jolicoeur  
Tony Johnston  
Jaya Raghwan  
Julie Mirfan  
Paul Johnston  
Edwin Joseph Dsouza  
Alan Kay  
Sharron Davis  
Michelle  
Mark Bush  
Tim Watson  
Jim Banks  
Barbara Kirk  
Vesna Ljubičić  
Gaudencio Montaos  
Alonso  
Rozalind Murphy  
Sharni Laffan  
Marc Darlington  
Liam O'Brien  
Nancy Phillips  
Daranee Thepthong  
Ashley  
Desmond Anand  
Richa Williams  
Ana Al-Adhami  
Linda Dwyer  
Tatiana Tarazona

## Women's Parish Breakfast

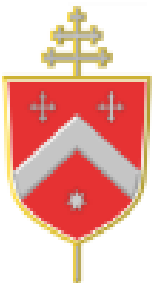


Women and friends are invited to a Parish breakfast on Saturday, 4 May in the Parish Rooms from 8.45am to 10am.

\$10 donation to cover costs and money left over will go to MacKillop House. [From sleeping rough to sleeping safe | Marymead CatholicCare - Marymead CatholicCare \(mccg.org.au\)](#)

To help with catering, envelopes are available in the Church foyer. Please place completed information and money into the box marked *Parish Office* or with the Parish Office – 6242 9622 or Maureen at [maureenhilton@gmail.com](mailto:maureenhilton@gmail.com) by **Monday, 29 April**. We look forward to seeing you and sharing a morning of friendship and companionship.

## Good Shepherd Sunday Appeal



Collection for Formation of our Seminarians:

This weekend we especially give thanks for the vocations that have sprung from our own communities – those young men whose families and lives are planted in our local parishes and who, God willing, will return as ordained priests to serve here. Please give a generous **donation** today or begin a **monthly donation** to support the education of our seminarians. Donations can be made through your parish or on-line at [bit.ly/goodshepherd2024](http://bit.ly/goodshepherd2024)

## Community News

- \* **Healing Rally with Damian Stayne - Wednesday 1st May** @ St Peter Chanel's Church, Weston Street, Yarralumla from 7pm - 9:30pm. Everyone is welcome! Praise, worship, healing prayer and joy in the Holy Spirit! Damian is a Catholic lay evangelist from the UK. He ministers powerfully in the charisms of preaching and healing. To register call/text Susanna 0419 902 293 or Neda 0415 266 019.
- \* **Men Alive Weekend—25-26 May 2024—Mary Help of Christian, Pearce.** Cost \$50 per person: includes workshops, morning and afternoon tea, lunch and bbq dinner on Saturday. RSVP Friday 17 May 2024 to Mat Wolnicki 0438 446 036 or [mat.wolnicki@menalive.org.au](mailto:mat.wolnicki@menalive.org.au)



### Anniversaries

Laurie Corliss  
Estrelita Aquino  
Joseph Tuema

### Recently Deceased

Keith Crowley

We include those who are members of our Parish or relatives. Please email the parish office or click here to request prayers.

[Prayer Requests](#)

## Readings for 5th Sunday of Easter

### Entrance Antiphon | Cf Psalm 97:1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
for he has worked wonders;  
in the sight of the nations  
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

### First Reading | Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

### Responsorial Psalm | Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him.  
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.  
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.  
May their hearts live for ever and ever! (R.)
2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,  
  
all families of the nations worship before him.  
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.  
(R.)
3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.

They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,  
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:  
'These things the Lord has done.' (R.)

### Second Reading | 1 John 3:18-24

My children,  
our love is not to be just words or mere talk,  
but something real and active;  
only by this can we be certain  
that we are the children of the truth  
and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence,  
whatever accusations it may raise against us,  
because God is greater than our conscience and he  
knows everything.  
My dear people,  
if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience,  
we need not be afraid in God's presence,

and whatever we ask him,  
we shall receive,  
because we keep his commandments  
and live the kind of life that he wants.  
His commandments are these:  
that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ  
and that we love one another  
as he told us to.  
Whoever keeps his commandments  
lives in God and God lives in him.  
We know that he lives in us  
by the Spirit that he has given us.

### Gospel Acclamation | John 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;  
my branches bear much fruit.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel | John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine,  
and my Father is the vinedresser.  
Every branch in me that bears no fruit  
he cuts away,  
and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes  
to make it bear even more.  
You are pruned already,  
by means of the word that I have spoken to you.  
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.  
As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself,  
but must remain part of the vine,  
neither can you unless you remain in me.  
I am the vine,  
you are the branches.  
Whoever remains in me, with me in him,  
bears fruit in plenty;  
for cut off from me you can do nothing.  
Anyone who does not remain in me  
is like a branch that has been thrown away  
– he withers;  
these branches are collected and thrown on the  
fire,  
and they are burnt.  
If you remain in me  
and my words remain in you,  
you may ask what you will  
and you shall get it.  
It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear  
much fruit,  
and then you will be my disciples.'

### Communion Antiphon | Cf John 15:1,5

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.  
Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

Source: Liturgy Help © 2024



**HOLY SPIRIT  
YOUTH GROUP**



# **YOUTH GROUP**



**SUNDAY 5TH MAY 6-7.30 PM**



**COME ALONG FOR A BONFIRE TO  
KICK OFF THE HOLY SPIRIT YOUTH  
GROUP!**



**PLEASE BRING \$5 ALONG FOR FOOD  
@93 BURDEKIN AVE AMAROO**



**Any dietary requirements, please  
email  
[theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au](mailto:theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au)**

## **Parent Helpers Needed!**

We are looking for parent helpers (or aunty, uncles, carers, grandparents, friends, cousins, all parishioners) to support our Youth Group gatherings. You can help in the following ways:

- ◆ Prepare food / snacks
- ◆ Help set up and/or pack up
- ◆ Help supervise
- ◆ Help run activities

No qualifications required, just your willingness to help and support the young people in your parish. Training and guidance provided.

If you are remotely interested, or curious and would like more information about what you may be able to offer, please contact [theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au](mailto:theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au) or on 0472 921 518.

We look forward to hearing from you!



## Jesus, the Centre

Without some centre of unity, groups lose their way. A team which puts its eyes on money rather than on teamwork will lose games. A family which relies on anything other than love to keep it together will fall apart. The church, the community of Jesus is something similar.

What keeps the church together at its best is Jesus. Human leadership, moral authority, ritual dogmatism, are not the centre of the church. Leadership can fail, moral authority can take wrong turnings and ritual dogmatism can override the concerns of people. The centre of the church is Jesus Christ. Our unity with Jesus is the central bond of the church. He is the Vine, we the branches.

When we have been let down by the church, like in the situations of abuse, or cover-ups by church authority, we are kept going as Christians by our unity with Jesus.

The image of roots and branches, of fruit and tree, all very much part of each other, is what Jesus uses. Other images like this might be the unity or light and colour in a rainbow, or of

Only if we can look on Jesus Christ as the centre of our faith can church life be sincere and have the energy which will save and change our world.

Imagine yourself being with Jesus; just the two of you. Share what is in your heart and listen to how his word echoes within you. May we dwell in you, Lord, as you dwell in us. Give us your peace, your energy, your joy.  
Donal Neary SJ—CatholicIreland.Net

## WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

### First Collection (Supporting all priests of the Archdiocese)

1. BSB: 062 786 Acc Number: 00029248 Acc Name: Central Presbytery Fund Ref: Gungahlin and Surname
2. Tap and Go machines or Qkr!

### Second Collection (For the upkeep of our parish, staff salaries, parish loans, liturgical needs etc)

1. Click on <https://www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au/donations-payments/secure-online-payments/>
2. Direct Credit: BSB: 062 786 Acc Number: 00010701 Acc Name: Holy Spirit Parish
3. Tap and Go machines or Qkr!



## CONNECT WITH US

**Parish Priest:** Fr Troy Bobbin

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Eden Langlands

### Parish Office and Presbytery

93 Burdekin Ave, Amaroo Ph: 6242 9622

Website: [www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au](http://www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au)

**Parish Manager:** Theivani Evers

E: [theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au](mailto:theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au)

P: 0472 921 518

**Parish Secretary:** Olivia Kajkic

E: [office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au](mailto:office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au)

**Office Support:** Anne Smart

E: [officesupport@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au](mailto:officesupport@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au)

**Finance Officer/ Planned Giving:** Tony Rose

E: [gungahlin.finance@cg.org.au](mailto:gungahlin.finance@cg.org.au)

**Parish Pastoral Council (PPC):** Sean Ryan

E: [sean.ryan.cdss@gmail.com](mailto:sean.ryan.cdss@gmail.com)

Download our parish app: **Pocket Parish** from **App Store** or **Google Play**.

## Parish Groups

**Craft Group** | Beth Forshaw  
Mondays 1:00pm Parish Office

**St Vincent de Paul** | Drazen Roginic President  
P: 0401 669 301  
E: [Drazen.Roginic@vinnies.org.au](mailto:Drazen.Roginic@vinnies.org.au)

**Call to Connect** | Maureen Hilton  
M: 0431 123 465

**Holy Spirit Prayer Group** | Kathy Torcasio 0401 920 028  
Wednesdays at 7:30pm in the church

**Social Justice Group** | Peter Petersen  
E: [socialjustice.hsp@gmail.com](mailto:socialjustice.hsp@gmail.com)

**Legion of Mary** | Grace Magbutay  
E: [office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au](mailto:office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au)

**Youth Ministry**  
E: [office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au](mailto:office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au)

**Care Group** | Sonja Vocisano  
P: 0438 699 591

**Community Garden Group** | Parish Office  
E: [theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au](mailto:theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au)

**St Francis Xavier Social Group**

Greg Farrugia 0412 299 549 [gjvita@gmail.com](mailto:gjvita@gmail.com)

Gabrielle O'Kane 0417 464 216 [okane.hall@gmail.com](mailto:okane.hall@gmail.com)