

In the spiritual life there is a law of continual growth: If we are not advancing we can be assured that we are falling behind. God demands such growth of us, with our whole heart, mind, and strength. On the one hand, outside of God's grace there can be no merit. On the other, the more profound our love in our actions, the more meritorious they will be. Divine Love in our souls is a measure of holiness: God's grace in our souls increases to the degree in which we let God live and love in us and through us. Since our love for God determines how much we love our neighbour, nowhere else in Christian spirituality is God's grace more necessary. God makes sure to place unlovable people in our path so that we can exercise the supernatural and theological virtue of charity. The love of God in our souls makes loving those unlovable, humanly speaking, possible. In this case it is God's love that propels us to love in a virtuous, selfless way. It is God himself, together with our cooperative will, who loves those souls through us.



Strong biblical Mother figure. After the death of her husband, Ruth chose to continue living with her mother-in-law, Naomi. This decision meant she would not be returning live with her biological family in Moab, an area that revered traditions that did not align with the truths of the God of Israel. Naomi encouraged Ruth to return to her own mother, but Ruth demonstrated great faith, hope, and love for Naomi when she said: ". . . whither thou go, I will go; and where you stay, I will stay: your people shall be my people, and your God my God" ([Ruth 1:16](#)). Ruth chose to forsake family, friends and other familiarities to stay with Naomi so she could continue to live in righteousness. Ruth was willing to sacrifice much to do what was right and exercised great faith to embrace truth. Ruth was blessed; she eventually married again, and through her lineage, the Saviour was born.



If I have never said thank you for bringing me into the world I would like to do that now.

Strong biblical Mother figure. Hannah is another woman in the Bible who demonstrates sacrifice and faith. Hannah was unable to have children, leaving her [in bitterness of soul](#). In faith, Hannah turned to the Lord in prayer and "poured out [her] soul before" Him ([1 Sam. 1:15](#)). Hannah vowed that if the Lord would grant to her a child, she would [give him to the Lord](#), or raise him to follow the teachings of the Lord all the days of his life. Hannah's prayers were answered and her son, Samuel, was born. Hannah kept her promise and sent Samuel to be raised in the Temple of the Lord. Samuel later became a great prophet. Hannah's love for the Lord, her faith and her sacrifice are great examples to us of how to pattern our own lives.

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WEEKEND MASS TIMES:

Sat. Vigil: 5pm
Sunday: 8am, 9:30am & 5pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Mon, Tues & Thurs: 7:30am
Wed: 6pm
Fri: 9:15am

Sat: 9:15am (Sthn Cross Hostel)

HOLY HOUR: Wed: 5pm

RECONCILIATION:

Wed: 5:15 – 5:45pm

Sat: 4:15 – 4:45pm

BAPTISMS:

Sundays 9:30am Mass

BAPTISMAL PROGRAMME &

WEDDINGS: By appointment

ANOINTING MASS:

Quarterly: 1st weekend

1ST SAT OF EACH MONTH:

11am Mass in honour of Our Lady.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME:

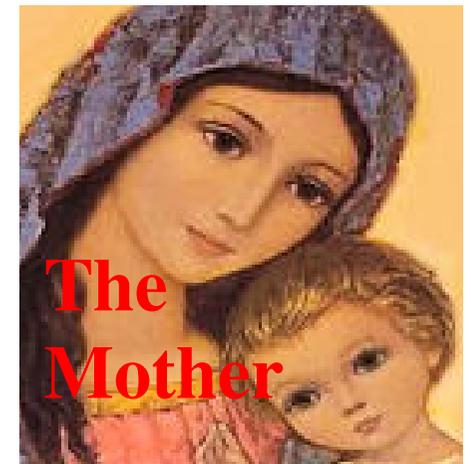
100% tax deductible. Please join by contacting parish office.

FAITH FORMATION:

Sundays 3:30pm (in presbytery)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon, Wed & Fri 9am to 2:30pm



The Mother

10th May 2015 (B)

MOTHER'S DAY

1ST READING: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

2ND READING: 1 John 4:7-10

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: St John 15:9-17

Internet resources:

"Zenit News"; "Catholic on Line";
"Liturgical Year Calendar", "Spirit Daily",
Children's web: Google, EWTNKIDS.
Deepen your faith-find answers on "Tim
Staples; Catholic Sacraments" videos;
www.vocationcentre.org.au

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat 9:15am: All Souls

Sat Vigil: Pro Populo

Sun 8am: †Yolanda & Giuseppe Pappalettera

Sun 9:30am: In Honour of Our Lady of Loretto

Mon: †Allan Ellsmore

Tue: †Thomas Marshall

Wed: †Lyll Francis Hatch

Thur: Special Intention

Fri: Special Intention

OUR SICK: Marie and Edgar Busuttill, Pat Raby, Mollie Burgess, Patricia Flannery, Josephine Helback, Moira Butler, Alan Sargeant ...

Happy Birthdays to: May Wells (11th), Masha Jayasiri (15th), Patrick Youssef & Ray Licalerde (18th).

CARITAS NEPAL EARTHQUAKE APPEAL: Any donations (and to obtain tax receipts), please follow either option 1 or 2: (1) Give online at <http://www.caritas.org.au>; (2) Telephone toll free on 1800 024 413.

Parish School News: 1) Family Masses: Sun 10th May: KB class; **Sun 16th May:** KH class; **Sun 24th May:** Yr 5; **Sun 31st May:** Yr 1. Mass time: 9>30am.

2) Class Masses: Fri 15th May: Yr 2; **Fri 22nd May:** Yr 3. **3) School Mass: Mon 25th May @ 9:15am: Feast of Mary, Help of Christians.**

✿ **NEW IN PIETY STALL:** ♥ Pray the Rosary: \$2 each; ♥ Devotion to the Infant Jesus of Prague book: \$1; ♥ Devotions to St Joseph book: \$1; ♥ St Anthony the Wonder Worker book: \$1; ♥ Thirty Favourite Novenas book: \$1; ♥ St Jude Apostle book: \$1. Limited stock.

✿ **Youth Music Ministry Day: Sat 23rd May** at CYS, Homebush West from 9:30am to 5pm. \$10pp. For more info/to register: events@catholicyouthservices.org or ring 9764 4357.

✿ **Downpour-Pentecost Youth Rally : Sat 23rd May.** Tickets and information available online at downpursydney.com.

✿ **Walk with Christ (Feast of Corpus Christi) Procession: Sun 7th June from 2:30pm to 4:30pm** from St Pat's Church Hill to Cathedral. The **Book of Life** is now available in church for your prayer intentions.

Foley Gardens Self-care Retirement Village – Upstairs 1-bedroom unit may be available soon. For further details please call Joe de Andrade (Manager-Property) on 0438 696 396 or Patricia Low (Manager-Admin) on 9349 1292

This weekend: Vigil: J Haggar (A) B Purdon, T Bell (R) M Butler, L Paquin (C) Thomas W (M)

8:00am: G Diab (A) A Burke, J Perera (R) Volunteer, M Wells (C) P Low (M)

9:30am: A Varghese (A) H Evening, K Wong T(R) C Findlay, C Goncalves (C) T Chin (M)

5:00pm: R Yang (A) Volunteers (R), Volunteers (C) **Counters:** B Dunn, H Morris

Next weekend: Vigil: J Haggar (A) M Butler, V Hagel (R) J Spora, P Tjugito (C) Thomas W (M)

8:00am: G Diab (A) M Marshiella, T Long (R) O Sarmiento, V Meyer (C) P Low (M)

9:30am: A Varghese (A) I Lie, J Lie (R) N Jenner, L Jenner (C) T Chin (M)

5:00pm: R Yang (A) J Chandra, D Sarmiento (R), Volunteers (C) **Counter:** J De Andrade

The earliest tributes to mothers date back to the annual spring festival the Greeks dedicated to Rhea, the mother of many deities, and to the offerings ancient Romans made to their Great Mother of Gods, Cybele. Christians celebrated this festival on the fourth Sunday in Lent in honour of Mary, mother of Christ. In England this holiday was expanded to include all mothers and was called Mothering Sunday. In America, Anna Jarvis campaigned prominent politicians

"We only have one Mother in this World, one life. Don't wait until tomorrow to tell " Mum I love you"

including Presidents Taft and Roosevelt to support her campaign to create a special day to honour mothers. At one of the first services organized in 1908, at her church in West Virginia, Anna handed out her deceased mother's favourite flower, the white carnation. Five years later, the House of Representatives adopted a resolution calling for officials of the federal government to wear white carnations on Mother's Day. In 1914 Anna's hard work paid off when Woodrow Wilson signed a bill recognizing Mother's Day as a national holiday. Today, Mother's Day is celebrated in many countries on the second Sunday of May.



Only one Mother

**"Hundreds of stars in the pretty sky,
Hundreds of shells on the shore together,
Hundreds of birds that go singing by,
Hundreds of lambs in the sunny weather,
Hundreds of dewdrops to greet the dawn,
Hundreds of bees in the purple clover,
Hundreds of butterflies on the lawn,
But only One Mother the world wide over."**

Mothers are the precious treasure troves which remain an important part of one's life even after they lose contact with her. There are times you just sit back and think about the times you learnt from your mother, or suddenly after tasting a dish you prepared, you think of how your mother used to prepare it. These are some precious moments which you are reminded about persistently even after many years. Such reflections never fail to bring a smile on your face. Mothers are such; they become a part of your psyche, as cherished memories. These reflections are usually nothing but the reasons for you to thank them. .

