

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**

Jn 14:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
John.

*I shall ask the Father and he will give you another  
Advocate.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘If you love me you will keep my  
commandments.

I shall ask the Father,  
and he will give you another Advocate  
to be with you for ever,  
that Spirit of truth

whom the world can never receive  
since it neither sees nor knows him;  
but you know him,

because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans;

I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer  
see me;

but you will see me,

because I live and you will live.

On that day

you will understand that I am in my Father  
and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments  
and keeps them

will be one who loves me

and anybody who loves me will be loved by  
my Father,

and I shall love him and show myself to him.’

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

14 MAY 2023

**I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU ORPHANS**

One of the most touching phrases in John's Gospel is Jesus' promise before his death that he would not leave his disciples orphans. The quality of his presence among them would change after the resurrection. In the future the Spirit would be the one instructing, strengthening, and protecting disciples. Jesus promises that whoever receives his commandments will be loved by the Father. This promise is fulfilled when the Samaritans become believers through Philip's ministry of preaching and healing. Samaritans were considered heretical Jews, but their positive reception of the word prompted the Jerusalem community to think again and to send Peter and John to welcome them into the larger community. The gift of the Spirit through the laying on of hands is the sign of God's blessing and of their full incorporation into the growing Christian family.

The first letter of Peter was written in a time of great trial and opposition. How were Christians going to respond to false charges against them? How were they able to give a credible account of their Christian faith? These early Christians were urged to remain steadfast and true to their values and belief. Like them, we are encouraged to find our source of strength in the example of Jesus who suffered and died for us even though he was innocent. It is not an easy path we are asked to tread but we are encouraged to see that our best defence is the quality of our lives and the depth of our hope.

**Christopher Monaghan CP**

**FIRST READING**

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They laid hands on them, and they received the  
Holy Spirit.*

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

**RESP PSALM**

Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20. R. cf. v. 2

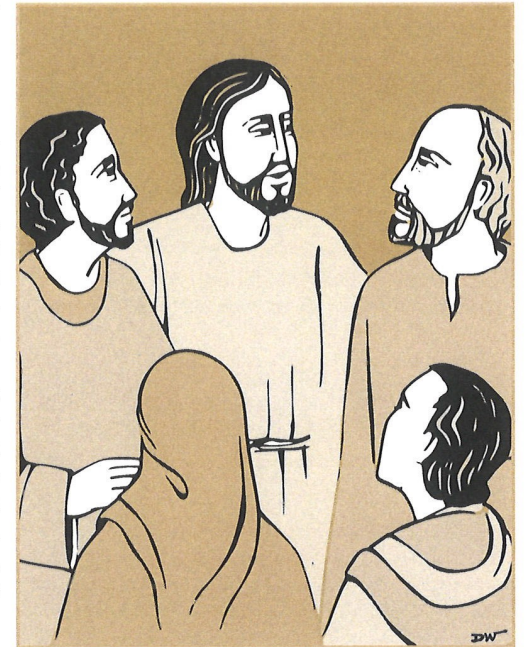
**R.** Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. (or Alleluia!)

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth, / O sing to the glory of his name. / O render him glorious praise. / Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! **R.**

2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow; / shall sing to you, sing to your name!' / Come and see the works of God, / tremendous his deeds among men. **R.**

3. He turned the sea into dry land, / they passed through the river dry-shod. / Let our joy then be in him; / he rules for ever by his might. **R.**

4. Come and hear, all who fear God. / I will tell what he did for my soul: / Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer / nor withhold his love for me. **R.**

**SECOND READING**

1 Pet 3:15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

*In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.*

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

■ **The word of the Lord.**



## Catholic Parish of St Kevin Eastwood

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[www.youtube.com/c/StKevinsParishEastwood](https://www.youtube.com/c/StKevinsParishEastwood)

[www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic](https://www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic)

**NB: New Parish PO Box address: PO Box 437 West Ryde NSW 1685. For your information**

### MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION AND DEVOTION

**Weekday Mass:** Monday - 7:30am (Communion Service, except on Feast Days);  
Tuesday to Thursday - 7:30am (followed by Holy Rosary); Friday - 5pm

**Weekend Mass:** Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm (livestreamed); Sunday - 8am, 9:30am, 6pm

**CCC Mass:** Sunday at 11:30am (English/Cantonese)

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Friday 4pm-5pm

**First Friday Devotion:** Monthly at 4pm

**First Saturday Mass and Devotion:** Monthly at 9am

**Exposition and Benediction:** First weekend of the month at all Masses

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Friday 4pm-4:45pm and Saturday 4:30pm-5:15pm

SCAN OUR  
PARISH  
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ONLINE



## Sixth Sunday of Easter

14th May 2023

### PRAYER REQUESTS:



**Recently Deceased:** Coral Whalan, Alex Then, Roy Schiavone, Stanislaw Rosinski

**Death Anniversary:** Eileen Smith

**Deceased:** Sandra Wehbe, Sapienza Tedesco, Julian Lamudji, Jusuf Lay, Jonathan Ellsmore, John & Bonnie Bowdern, Leslie & Isabel Johnson & members of their families; Giuseppe Tallaridi, Francesco Sorbilli, John Davidson, Lucy Ng, Cecilia Tan, Peter McNamara, Milly Farrell, Marie Cummins, Francis Murray; Casey, Landon, O'Connor, Pigott & Stewart families; Geoff and Patricia Clarke; Ron and Jan Brayon

**Sick:** Elizabeth Uy Tan, Lyn Crown, Burkhart Foertsch, Graham Rumble, Sam Wong, Robert Lauw, Tenille Moujalli, June Phelan, Anne McIntyre, Adhy Guna S., Daisy Gouw, Nur Gouw

### UPCOMING FEAST DAYS AND MEMORIALS:

*St John I May 18, St Bernadine of Siena May 20, THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD May 21*

### TO ALL MOTHERS, GRANDMOTHERS AND MOTHER FIGURES IN OUR LIVES, THOSE WHO ARE WITH US AND NO LONGER WITH US, HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!

#### A Mother's Love

There are times when only a mother's love  
Can understand our tears,  
Can soothe our disappoints  
And calm all of our fears.  
There are times when only a mother's love  
Can share the joy we feel  
When something we've dreamed about  
Quite suddenly is real.

There are times when only a mother's faith  
Can help us on life's way  
And inspire in us the confidence  
We need from day to day.  
For a mother's heart and a mother's faith  
And a mother's steadfast love  
Were fashioned by the angels  
And sent from God above.  
- **Author Unknown**



**WE DEDICATE THIS MONTH OF MAY TO HONOUR OUR BLESSED MOTHER MARY. WE INVITE YOU TO PRAY THE ROSARY AFTER THE 7:30AM MASS, TUESDAY – THURSDAY IN THE CHURCH.**

### PARISH NEWS:

- **Our condolences to the family of Coral Whalan**, long-time parishioner at St Kevin's. Please keep her and her family in your prayers. Thank you.
- **Family Mass next weekend, Sun 21st May 9:30am, followed by morning tea.** Families are invited to join our parish school and celebrate the Eucharist as a community.
- **Weekly Men's Prayer Hour : 7pm Every Tuesday in the Church.**
- **Join the St Kevin's Men's choir! For more info contact Lou: 0400 303 733**
- **Last week we had the Charitable Works Fund Appeal.** Help support the charitable and pastoral activities of the Archdiocese of Sydney. Donation envelopes still available.
- **Easy Listening Concert in the Haseler Centre/St Kevin's Parish Hall today (Sun, 14th May) from 2.30pm.** Orchestral classics include Nutcracker Suite and Merry Widow. Handbills at Front Table or check programme at [www.kevinwoodorchestra.org](http://www.kevinwoodorchestra.org). ALL WELCOME.

**UPCOMING TRAININGS** to be conducted by the Archdiocese of Sydney Liturgy Office, Venue: St Kevin's Parish Hall. Copy of Baptism Certificate required. COST: FREE. To register go to: <https://liturgy.sydneycatholic.org/ministry-training-formation/>

- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMOHC), Wednesdays, July 19, 26 and Aug 2, 6pm-9pm All current EMOHC and Senior Altar Servers who haven't done this course from the Liturgy Office are **strongly encourage to participate**. This course is a pre-requisite to all Senior Altar Servers who wish to take the Acolytes course.
- Acolytes/Senior Altar Servers: Saturdays August 5, 12 and 19, 9am-12pm
- Readers: Saturdays October 7 and 14, 9am-12pm

### AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE:

- **Saturday 20th May: Procession for the Feast of Mary Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia with Bishop Danny Meagher.** 10am Mass at St Peter's Surry Hills, followed by pilgrims blessing, then a street procession to St Mary's Cathedral. See poster for details.
- **Novena of Rosaries to Our Lady Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia:** The Heartfelt Community's Bridget Sakr has launched a Rosary Crusade, aiming for 100,000 participants to pray the Rosary, nine days before the Feast of Mary Help of Christians. Let us unite in praying through Mary's intercession. Sign up: <https://tally.so/r/woEXRM>
- **The Catholic Charity Aid to the Church in Need has launched their "Nigeria: Young. Faithful. Crucified" global campaign.** Did you know that in 2022 a total of 5,014 Christians were killed for their faith in Nigeria? These were not Nigerians who happened to be Christian, but rather, their allegiance to the Lord saw them face a brutal death. This is a Church being crucified with Christ. For more info on how to help: [www.aidtochurch.org/nigeriaglobal](http://www.aidtochurch.org/nigeriaglobal).

### PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL:



St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

### A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY:

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, contact Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office (02) 9390 5810 or E: [safeguarding-enquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguarding-enquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support & guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to police.