



## Special Ephpheta Newsletter

Hi everyone - hope you are all going ok.

The Ephpheta Centre is still closed, We don't know when we are opening to the community again. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for more information. We will keep preparing our special newsletters and sending them out to you.

Even though the Centre is closed, we are still working hard every day to support the community. Please contact our Ephpheta team if you would like to chat.

Big hugs from all the Ephpheta team xo



## Mass changes

We can now have a small interpreted Sunday Mass. It will not be at the Ephpheta Centre or our regular churches. It will be at Fr Michael's church at Homebush.

**What:** Sunday Interpreted Mass

**Where:** Our Lady of the Assumption, 74 Underwood Road, Homebush.

**When:** 11am Sundays. Starting Sunday 14 June

**Who can come:** If you are over 70 years old, please do not come. We need you to stay safe.

If you are sick or have underlying health issues, please do not come.

### If I am under 70 years old and not sick, what do I do?

Please contact David and let him know you are coming to Mass. There is no morning tea or lunch after Mass. We will need to have good hand washing before and after Mass. We need to sit at least 1.5 metres apart from each other during Mass. No standing together and chatting before or after Mass. You need to go home straight after Mass. Ephpheta staff will be there to make sure that these rules are followed and we all stay safe.



**If I am over 70 years old or sick, what do I do? What if I am scared about coming to Mass?**

**Please stay home.** No one has to come to Mass.

You can watch the 11am Mass online on our Facebook page. You can watch the Mass on the Ephpheta website. You can read the Mass readings in this newsletter.

You can contact David and Fr Michael will visit your home and bring you communion.

**Any questions, please contact David.**



## Zoom with the Ephpheta Centre

The Ephpheta Team has been using **Zoom** for our regular meetings and catch ups.

This is a fantastic program you can use to make group video calls and catch up with friends while we can't see each other at the moment. We have prepared instruction sheets on how to download and access **Zoom**.

If you would like to learn how to make group calls over the computer/iPad, please contact one of the Ephpheta team. We will be happy to help.

The Ephpheta team has set up some Zoom chat groups so that we can chat together online. We have a men's group, craft group and a prayer group. We need to keep the size of the groups small but all are welcome.

If you already have Zoom, please contact David and we will arrange to include you in a group.

If you don't have Zoom, we can try to help you set up Zoom on your iPad, mobile phone or computer.

Zoom is **fun** to use and we can all chat together while we are at home.

Make a cup of tea and join us for a chat!



*Ephpheta staff meetings on Zoom!*



*Prayer group on Zoom!*



*Craft catch up on Zoom!*

## Prayer of Spiritual Communion when we cannot receive Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things and I desire You in my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.

As though You were already there,

I embrace You and unite myself to You;

permit not that I should ever be separated from You.

Amen.



# Readings for Mass - The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) Sunday 14 June

## **A READING FROM THE SCROLL OF DEUTERONOMY**

Moses said to the people:

Remember, the Lord God led you through the desert for forty (40) years. God made you humble.

God wanted to know if you would keep the Commandments and so He tested you.

He let you become hungry and fed you with manna, something that your fathers and yourself had never seen or eaten before.

God wanted you to understand that people can not live on bread alone but live on everything the Lord says.

Do not forget, you were slaves in Egypt but the Lord God freed you and brought you out of Egypt.

The Lord guided you through this huge and dangerous desert, full of snakes and scorpions. The Lord guided you through the dry land without water and you were thirsty.

The Lord gave you water from the rock. The Lord fed you with manna - something that your fathers had not known.

## **Psalm - ALLELUIA, PRAISE THE LORD!**

God made the gates of Jerusalem strong.

He blessed the children in your city.

God established peace in your country.

He feeds you with good wheat.

God gives his word to the earth.

The world quickly obeys.

God gave his laws and Commandments to Israel.

He has not given his teachings to other nations (peoples).



## A READING FROM ST PAUL'S FIRST LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS

The cup that we bless: when we drink it, we share in the blood of Christ.

And the bread that we break: when we eat it, we share in the body of Christ.

There is only one bread and we are many people.

But because we share this one bread, we really become one body (community).

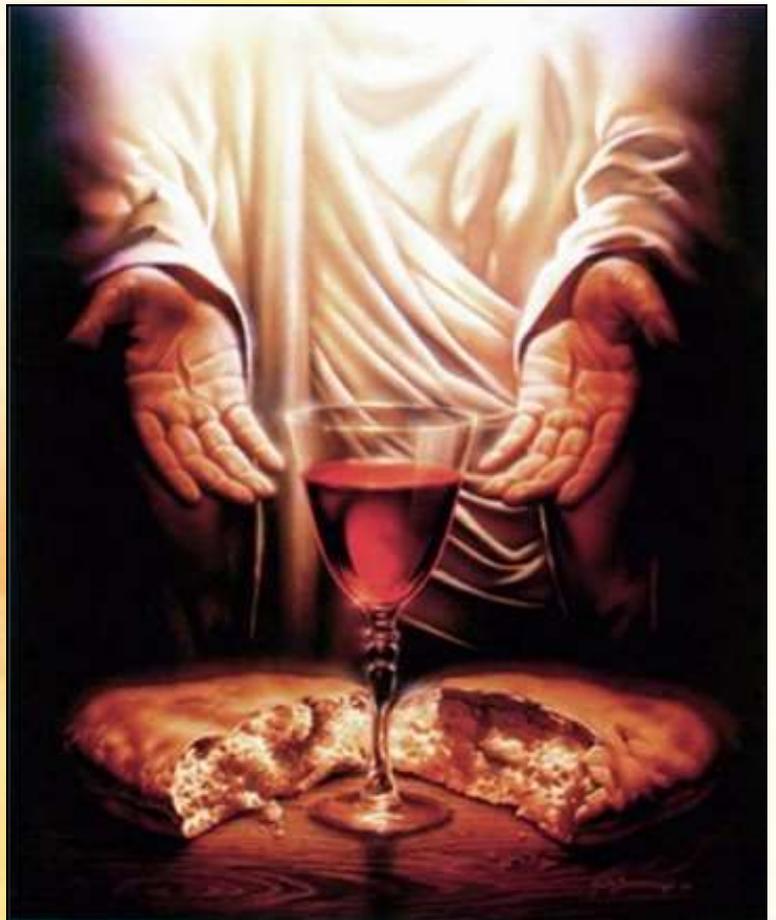
## A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Jesus said to the Jews, "I am the living bread come down from heaven.

Any person that eats this bread will live for ever. This bread is my flesh. I give my body so that people in the world can live forever."

The Jews started to argue with each other. They said, "How can this man give us his body to eat?"

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth. If you do not eat the body of the Son of Man, and if you do not drink his blood, you will not have life in you.



Any person that eats my body and drinks my blood has eternal life. And I will raise up that person on the last day. My body is real food and my blood is real drink. If a person eats my body and drinks my blood, that person lives in me and I live in that person.

The Father sent me and I receive life from him. So any person that eats me will receive life from me. I am the bread come down from heaven, not like the bread our ancestors (people of the past) ate; they are dead. Any person that eats this bread will live for ever."

# 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 21 June

## **A READING FROM THE SCROLL OF JEREMIAH**

Jeremiah said:

“I hear many people whispering against me. I hear them say, ‘Terror is everywhere. Let us reject him and report him to the authorities!’

Those I thought were my friends wanted me to make mistakes and fall. They said, ‘Let us fool him, then we can catch him and take revenge on him.’

But the Lord is with me, he is like a strong soldier, and my enemies that persecute me will fail. Because they fail, they will be ashamed.

Lord Almighty, you test people with justice, you know what is in their hearts and minds. So let me see you take revenge on my enemies because I trust you.

Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, because he saved the lives of needy people from those evil people.”

## **Psalm - O GOD, BECAUSE YOU LOVE ME, ANSWER MY PRAYER.**

I am full of shame.

I suffer for you, Lord.

My people do not know me.

I am a stranger to them.

Lord, I want to be at home with you  
and pray to you God.

Through your love, listen to my prayers.

In your compassion, help me.

When poor people see the love of God, they will be glad.

The Lord listens to those in need.

He never forgets the people in chains.

Let the heavens and the earth praise God.



## **A READING FROM ST PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS**

Sin is in the world because of one man, Adam. His sin brought death. Death spread to all people in the world because everybody sinned.

Sin was in the world long before the Law was given. A long time ago, there was no law, no one could be blamed for the sin. But from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, there was death.

All died because of sins, but their sins were not the same as the sin of Adam.

Because of Adam, another person must come, Jesus Christ. But the gift of Jesus Christ is more powerful than the sin of Adam.

Many people died because of the sin of one man, Adam; but God's grace is through Jesus Christ.

We can be sure that God's grace is the free gift given to everybody through one man, Jesus Christ.

## **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW**

Jesus taught the twelve apostles:

"Do not be afraid. Everything that is hidden will be shown. Everything that is secret will be open to all.

The things I tell you in the dark, you will tell to all people in the daylight. The things that I tell you in private, you will announce, standing on top of the house, for all people to see.

Do not be afraid of those that can kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Better fear God because he can destroy both body and soul in hell.

You can buy two birds for a penny. But not one bird can die without your Father knowing. God knows how many hairs you have on your head.

So, do not be afraid, because you are worth much more than hundreds of birds.

If any person stands in front of other people and proclaims belief in me, then I will do the same and stand in front of my Father in heaven, and tell my Father that this person belongs to me.

But if any person stands in front of other people and rejects me (Jesus), then I will do the same, and stand in front of my Father in heaven, and tell my Father that this person does not belong to me."



# 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 28 June

## **A READING FROM THE SECOND SCROLL OF KINGS**

One day Elisha went to Shunem. An important woman lived in Shunem. She asked Elisha to stop and eat at her house.

After this, every time Elisha travelled through this same place, he always stopped there to eat.

The woman said to her husband, "Look, Elisha comes here a lot. I am sure that he is a holy man of God.

Let us build a small room for him on the roof. We can put a bed, a table, a chair and a lamp there, so that when he comes he can rest in the room."

One day Elisha came to the woman's house. He went to the upper room and rested. He asked the servant, Gehazi, "What can I do to help the woman?"

Gehazi said, "Well, she has no son and her husband is old." Elisha said, "Tell her to come here."

Gehazi went and fetched her. The woman stood at the door. Elisha said to her, "This time next year, you will have a son in your arms."

## **Psalm - LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT YOUR LOVE FOREVER.**

Lord, I will sing forever about your love.

I will always proclaim your truth.

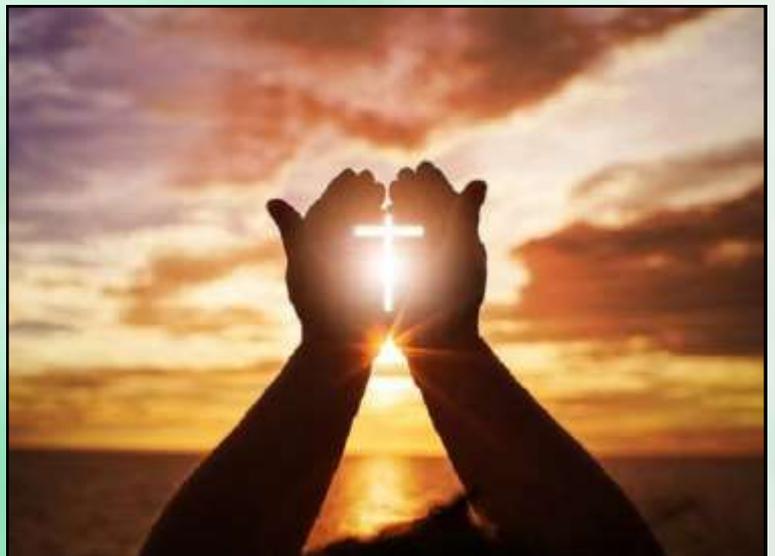
Lord, I know your love will never fail,  
your truth is eternal.

The people are happy with their king.

Every day your name makes them  
happy.

Your justice gives them joy.

You give us strength and glory.



## **A READING FROM ST PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS**

When we were baptised in Jesus Christ, we were baptised in his death. This means that when we were baptised, we were buried with Christ and shared his death.

And because Christ was raised from death by the glorious power of the Father, we too will have new life.

But we believe that when we die with Christ, we will come back to life with him. We know Christ rose from death and he will never die again.

Death has no more power over Jesus. When Jesus died - he died once, he died for everybody - he has conquered the power of sin.

Jesus now has new life with God. In the same way, you must think that you are finished with sin, and alive for God through Jesus Christ.

## **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW**

Jesus taught the twelve apostles:

“Any person that loves father or mother more than me is not good enough to follow me.

Any person that loves son or daughter more than me is not good enough to follow me.

Any person that will not carry the cross and follow me is not good enough for me. Any person that wants to keep their own life will lose it (life).

Any person that gives up life for me will find true life.

Any person that welcomes you also welcomes me. Those that welcome me also welcome the Father that sent me.

Any person that welcomes a prophet and accepts the prophet will receive the same reward that a prophet receives.

Any person that welcomes a holy person and accepts the holy person will receive the same reward that a holy person receives.

I tell you the truth, if anyone gives a cup of cold water to these little children, because they want to become my disciples, that person will truly receive a reward.”



# 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Sunday 5 July

### **A READING FROM THE SCROLL OF ZECHARIAH**

The Lord says this, "People of Jerusalem, people of Zion, rejoice!

Shout with joy! Look, your king is coming to you.

He is powerful and victorious.

And he is humble, riding on a donkey, a young donkey.

He will destroy chariots (horse men) from Ephraim and Jerusalem.

He will throw out bows used in war.

He will proclaim peace for the nations (peoples).

His kingdom will be all over the land, from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth."

### **Psalm - I WILL PRAISE YOUR NAME FOREVER, O GOD, MY KING.**

I will give you glory, O God my king.

Every day I will praise you forever.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion.

Slow to anger, quick to love.

All your people will thank you,

Lord.

They will remember your glory.

The Lord is faithful and loving.

The Lord supports (help) all that are weak.



## **A READING FROM ST PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS**

You do not live obeying your body but you should live what the Spirit tells you because God has made his home in you.

If any person does not have the Spirit of Christ, that person does not belong to Christ.

We know God raised Jesus from death, and if God's Spirit lives in you, then through the presence of his Spirit in you, God will also give life to your mortal (weak) bodies.

So, my brothers and sisters, there is no need for us to obey our sinful bodies.

We will live if we allow the spirit to help us stop using our bodies in the wrong way.

## **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW**

Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you hide these things from clever people, and you show these things to children.

Yes, Father, you are happy to do this.

My Father gave me everything. No one knows the Son, only the Father.



The Father knows the Son. And no one knows the Father, only the Son.

He (Jesus) knows the Father, and some people know the Father because the Son reveals (shows) the Father to them.

Come to me all you people that are tired and have heavy burdens and I will give you rest.

Accept my yoke and learn from me because I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Yes, my yoke is not heavy, and the burden I give is light."

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Join us on Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/thecentrefordeaf>

The Ephpheta Centre is supported  
by the Charitable Works Fund.



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### EPHPHETA WEBSITE NEWS

Have you seen our website recently?

Our website is now being updated regularly  
so it is always full of current information.

Please keep checking it!

If you have any ideas or feedback for our  
website please contact David at

[david@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:david@ephpheta.org.au)

[www.ephpheta.org.au](http://www.ephpheta.org.au)

Please send your news, stories,  
information and requests to Liz or David to  
be considered for the next newsletter!



### What does "Ephpheta" mean?

The name Ephpheta of our Centre came from the  
bible - a story about Jesus meeting a deaf man,  
he says "Ephpheta" which means "Be open".

We are always open to you all!