

## Whats happening at the Ephpheta Centre?

Hi—hope you are all safe and going ok.

We have had many questions from the community about what is happening with the staff and Centre at Punchbowl. We thought now would be a good time to answer some of your questions:

1. **Are the staff back at work?** Yes, we have been working all the way through. During lockdown, we were working from our homes but now we are back in the office.
2. **Is the Ephpheta Centre open?** Yes, we are open for one on one appointments. We are NOT back open for large community events such as craft, Mass or Deaf Café at Punchbowl. This is because at Punchbowl we do not have an indoor space large enough for groups of people to come together safely. This is why we have Mass and craft at Homebush and mini deaf cafes at different locations.
3. **Can I still see Ephpheta staff at Punchbowl?** Yes! Please contact us and make an appointment. We can also arrange to visit you at your home or at a coffee shop near your home.
4. **When will we start having events at Punchbowl again?** We don't know. COVID numbers in Sydney are still rising and we do not know when we can have large groups of people at Punchbowl again. Our priority is to keep connected with our community and to keep everyone safe.

Hope you enjoy this newsletter. We have also included a one page calendar which you can put on your fridge or noticeboard to remind you of all the exciting events we have planned for the community.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Liz or David.

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# A message from Liz & Dave!

## Liz's report

Hi everyone—hope that this finds you all safe and well.

Since Ash Wednesday, I am sure that some of us have been trying to keep going with our Lenten promises—to try and use the 40 days of Lent as a time of prayer, reflection and helping the poor. I was reading something interesting recently about what happens when we make mistakes and don't perfectly do what we had planned. The author said that some good things to do are to pray, to spend more time with God,, to talk to a priest or to go to Mass and really focus on the Mass.

It also reminded me that God is always there for us. Yes, God wants us to live holy and good lives—focussed on loving God and loving each other. But when we make mistakes—and we will always make mistakes, God is always waiting for us. With His arms open to receive us despite our mistakes. Like the father welcoming the son in the Parable of the Prodigal Son. Our God who always waits for us and loves us.

Until next time, Liz



## Dave's report

Hello readers, hope you all are okay after a month or so of very heavy rains especially for those people in Northern part of NSW. All the houses. All the cars. The roads. The parks. All the rubbish and broken and damaged things. It is a very big clean up job. A big thanks to those tireless volunteers and frontline workers. Some of the local deaf people also have been helping with the big clean up. Community spirit is strong!

The month, April is fast coming! We will have interpreted Auslan services on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Sunday at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Homebush. Hope to see many of you there! These events will also be live streamed to FaceBook – Ephpheta wall.

The purpose of Lent is the preparation of the believer for Easter through prayer, repentance of past sins, fasting, moderation, simple living, and abstaining from things like alcohol and social media. The First day of Lent is on Ash Wednesday and finishes on Holy Thursday April 14 for a total of 40 days.

We have many exciting events for the Ephpheta community. Mini Deaf Cafes. Auslan Play group. Prayer groups. Craft group. We will also organise day outs for our community soon. Watch out for news soon!

The Ephpheta Centre is open Tuesday to Friday but we are not open for big Deaf Café events. You are welcome to come and visit us by appointment first for help with letters and online applications. We are also here to listen to your stories. Once again, please let us know of any stories for our future newsletters. You can contact one of the Ephpheta team members. Please stay safe and healthy! David.



# A reflection from Fr Michael

In Holy Week and Easter, we remember and celebrate the death and Resurrection of Jesus.



Jesus showed us by His life and death what it is for love to enter into the world. This was no ordinary love, but God who is love. Without Him, there is no love. This is pure love, that perseveres, even though it is ridiculed, neglected, and tortured. This love was obedient and loyal, to the will of God the Father, and loyal to us, even praying, "Forgive them Father, they know not what they do". Jesus wouldn't leave us, though He more than anyone who ever lived, was free to do so. No, in love, Jesus bound Himself to us, and we to Him.

Jesus, whom the Romans crucified, was as innocent as a child; no sin had ever found a place in Him. Every opportunity to love received from Him met a response of wholehearted love. That kind of love was out of place in this world. It called to us, and accused us. We recognized the call, but struggled to follow. And, we ignored the call, made fun of Him, drove Him out and tried to silence Him. We expelled Him from this life, rolled a boulder over His grave, and set a guard.

Yet, even from the Cross upon which we killed Him, He reached out in love; "forgive them Father, they know not what they do". He reached out to the repentant thief beside Him; "today you will be with me in paradise". He reached out to His mother, Mary, and the beloved disciple; "Behold, your son.... Behold, the Mother". He reached out to God His Father; "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"

And His prayer was heard. God the Father who is Love and who sent Love to us, heard His prayer. It was a prayer, not only for Himself, but that we be where He is and where the Father is. And, so it is, in every Mass, we receive Jesus in a miraculous way, "Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity", for this was like our Lord's wedding gift to all the faithful at the Last Supper before He died. He gave it so that, with Jesus we could offer up to God the Father, in the unity of Holy Spirit, and with Jesus, the Son of God, our love in union with Love.

Heaven is bright, not from sun, moon, or stars. Rather, Scripture tells us, that in heaven, at the wedding feast of the Lamb (Our Lord Jesus), it will be the Lamb of God and God the Father who will be our light.

Mother Mary, help us to love as your Son loved, and as you loved with Him.



## Mini “Deaf Cafes”

Here is the list of our next round of mini Deaf Café’s at different locations throughout Sydney—so we can all get together and meet in a safe way. Please bring money to buy your own food and drinks from the club.

<b>Thursday 7 April</b> Time 10am	<b>Dee Why RSL</b> 932 Pittwater Road, Dee Why
<b>Thursday 21st April</b> Time 10am	<b>West Gosford RSL</b> 26 Central Coast Hwy, West Gosford
<b>Tuesday 26 April</b> Time 10am	<b>Campbelltown Catholic Club</b> 20-22 Camden Road, Campbelltown
<b>Tuesday 10 May</b> Time 10am	<b>Canterbury Leagues Club</b> 26 Bridge Road, Belmore
<b>Tuesday 24 May</b> Time 10am	<b>Wenty Leagues Club</b> 50 Smith Street, Wentworthville
<b>Thursday 14 July</b> Time 10am	<b>Penrith RSL</b> 8 Tindale Street, Penrith
<b>Tuesday 26 July</b> Time 10am	<b>Wenty Leagues Club</b> 50 Smith Street, Wentworthville
<b>Thursday 11 August</b> Time 10am	<b>Dee Why RSL</b> 932 Pittwater Road, Dee Why

Numbers are limited. Please **RSVP** to Donovan (sms to 0408 697 773 or email to [donovan@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:donovan@ephpheta.org.au)) or any Ephpheta staff to let us know **WHICH** mini café you are coming to. **Please do not come if you are sick.** We look forward to seeing you!





## Auslan Play Group (0-5)

Our new Auslan Play Group—a social group for mums, dads, carers and their children aged 0-5— is going very well. Lots of interesting chats about baby's developing, starting to crawl and walks. Supporting new parents and each other as the children grow.

**When: Saturday 9 April 10am—1pm**

**Tuesday 3 May 10am—12 noon**

**Tuesday 7 June 10am—12 noon**

**Saturday 9 July 10am— 1pm**



Fun at our March playgroup—happy parents and babies!

**Where:** Hall, Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, Underwood Rd, Homebush (the parish hall is behind the Church

**What?** A morning tea for mums, dads carers and their children aged 0-5 years. Ephpheta will supply morning tea for the mums and dads but PLEASE bring food and drink for your children. Parents are responsible for their children throughout this event and children CANNOT be left. If you or your child are sick, please stay home.

**Want more information?** Please contact Pat at Ephpheta on 0414 412 852 SMS

## *A Mother's Day Prayer — 8 May 2022*

**Dear God,**

Thank you for all the mothers in our lives.

To our own mothers and grandmothers, for their guidance, wisdom and love.

To the women who never had their own children but who loved other people with a mother's love.

To Mary our Mother in Heaven — for her love and faith and gentleness, who is always with us.

Thank you, God for these women.  
Bless them and look after them always. Amen.

**Amen**



# 2022 Easter Mass Timetable

Due to COVID, our Easter Masses and celebrations will be a little bit different this year.

All Masses will be held at **Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church 74 Underwood Road, Homebush. All Masses will be interpreted.**

Please see below for our Easter timetable. You are welcome to join if you feel safe.

Please note that this year there is **NO EASTER VIGIL MASS ON SATURDAY NIGHT.**

Event	Date	Time	Where	
<b>Palm Sunday</b>	Sunday 10 April	11am	Our Lady of the Assumption	Deaf Mass
<b>Holy Thursday</b>	Thursday 14 April	7pm	Our Lady of the Assumption	Integrated Mass
<b>Good Friday</b>	Friday 15 April	3pm	Our Lady of the Assumption	Integrated Mass
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	Sunday 17 April	11am	Our Lady of the Assumption	Deaf Mass

**We will have a cup of tea together in the hall after Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday Mass**

All Masses will be **live streamed** onto Ephpheta's Facebook page.

The Integrated Masses on Holy Thursday and Good Friday will be very busy. Spaces at those Masses might be limited.

Any questions, please contact Ephpheta staff. Everyone is welcome at these Masses, we look forward to seeing you there!



## Combined Day Out—Friday 24 June

We are so excited to announce a combined (men and women) day out!

On Friday 24 June we will have an interpreted tour of the NSW Parliament House in the city. We will explore the Parliament building (which is one of Sydney's oldest buildings) and learn about how laws in NSW are made. It will be a very interesting day!



**When: Friday 24 June**

**Where:** Meet at the Parliament of NSW, 6 Macquarie St Sydney (between the State Library and Sydney Hospital) at **10.30am sharp**.

**Cost?** The tour and entry are free. Please bring money to buy coffee/ lunch.

### RSVP:

To Pat Knight before Friday 10 June.

Email to [patricia@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:patricia@ephpheta.org.au) or SMS only to 0414 412 852.







**St Gabriel's School**  
EXCELLENCE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION K-12

*Save the date*



### **Centenary Mass**

*Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen, Bishop of Parramatta*

Sunday, 18 September 2022 at 2pm

St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

Afternoon tea will be served in the Cathedral Hall after Mass

All welcome!

**All enquiries to: [100@stgabriels.nsw.edu.au](mailto:100@stgabriels.nsw.edu.au)**

### **Save the date!**

There will also be a special deaf St Gabriel's celebration on the weekend of 17-18 September. We will let you know more information soon.



## Auslan Prayer Group via Zoom—Fridays at 2pm

The Auslan Prayer Group is a special place where each person is welcomed and valued. This group is about sharing our faith and our love for God and each other. We come together in friendship with open hearts and open minds.



The Auslan Prayer Group is open to all deaf people. In the weeks after Easter we will be reflecting on the joyous occasion of Jesus' Resurrection at Easter and preparing for Pentecost. We will also have a few Saints Stories in Auslan.

Session 1:	The Resurrection	Friday 22nd April
Session 2:	Jesus and Thomas	Friday 29th April
Session 3:	Jesus and Peter	Friday 6th May
Session 4:	The Emmaus Story	Friday 13th May
Session 5:	A New Commandment	Friday 20th May
Session 6:	The Ascension—Jesus Goes to Heaven	Friday 27th May
Session 7:	Pentecost—The Coming of the Holy Spirit	Friday 3rd June
Session 8:	Saint Story: St Patrick	Friday 10th June
Session 9:	Saint Story: St Maria Goretti	Friday 17th June

## The Rosary in Auslan via Zoom—Thursdays at 2pm

The Rosary is a very old series of prayers. We pray and reflect on the birth of Jesus, his life, his crucifixion and his resurrection. In these prayers we ask for the help of our Mother Mary in heaven and we ask God to help us live our faith.

Everyone is welcome to join. You don't need to bring anything with you or know anything before – just bring an open and loving heart and a will to know more about God and Mary our Mother in Heaven.

If you would like to join please contact

Brett Beath 0407 064 872 or email [brettb@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:brettb@ephpheta.org.au)



## Did you know... Easter Egg Facts!

- ⊕ The world's largest chocolate Easter egg was made in Italy in April 2011. It stood at 10.39 meters and weighed an astounding 7,200 kg.
- ⊕ Decorating eggs comes from a Ukrainian tradition.
- ⊕ These ornate eggs were called pysankas, which were made by using wax and dyes. It wasn't until Ukrainian immigrants came to the U.S. that the colourful custom caught on.
- ⊕ A surprising 59% of people eat the ears of the chocolate bunny first. Only a handful start with the feet or tail, and the rest apparently don't have a plan of action. If that's you, consider this your inspiration to give it a little thought before cracking into yours (or the kids').
- ⊕ In 2007, Florida Held the Largest Easter Egg Hunt Ever. A whopping 9,753 children participated, searching for 501,000 eggs.
- ⊕ Speaking of Easter egg hunts, it was President Rutherford B. Hayes who instituted the first White House Easter Egg Roll in 1878. It usually attracts some 30,000 people, although the 2020 and 2021 events were cancelled due to COVID-19. No announcement has been made regarding this year's event.
- ⊕ The first chocolate Easter eggs were produced in 1873 by Fry's in England. Cadbury cottoned onto the genius idea two years later – and now 80 million chocolate Easter eggs are sold in the UK alone each year.



## Craft Group

We are very pleased to let you know that our Craft Group is now meeting again face to face. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at the hall at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church (74 Underwood Rd, Homebush).



We start at 10am and finish around 2pm. Please **bring your own lunch**—we provide morning tea for a gold coin donation.

Bring your own craft project to work on. We will also have special events throughout the year.

Numbers and space is limited so please contact us to let us know you would like to come.



To keep everyone safe,  
please **do not** come if you  
are feeling unwell

If you are interested, please contact Pat Knight for more information - [patricia@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:patricia@ephpheta.org.au) or SMS only to 0414 412 852.



## EASTER WORD SEARCH



Alive  
 Easter  
 Holy  
 Life  
 Resurrection

Alleluia  
 God  
 Jesus  
 Peace  
 Save

Cross  
 Heaven  
 Joy  
 Reborn  
 Tomb

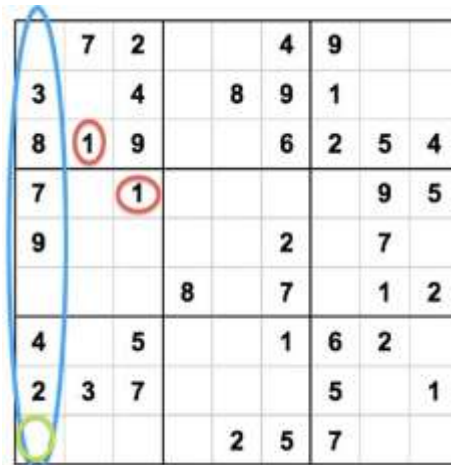


# SUDOKU

## The rules of Sudoku are simple!

1. Each of the nine blocks has to contain all the numbers 1-9 within its squares.
2. Each number can only appear once in a row, column or box.
3. The difficulty is that each vertical (across) nine-square column, or horizontal (up and down) nine-square line across, within the larger square, must also contain the numbers 1-9, without repetition.

*Every puzzle has just one right answer. **Good luck!***



	7	2			4	9		
3		4		8	9	1		
8	1	9			6	2	5	4
7		1					9	5
9					2		7	
			8		7		1	2
4		5			1	6	2	
2	3	7				5		1
				2	5	7		

5				8	6			1
		2	7		1	6		
	7	1				2	5	
9	1			2			7	
3			1	4	5			6
	6			9			2	4
	5	3				4	6	
		8	9		3	5		
2			5	1				7

# Lives of the Saints – St Bernadette

**Feast Day : 16th April**

**Birth:** 7th January 1844

**Death:** 16th April 1879

Became a saint in 1930

**Patron of:** illness, poor people, shepherds, Lourdes



Bernadette was the oldest of 9 children. Her parents were very poor. Throughout her life Bernadette experienced cholera and asthma, which she lived with for the rest of her life. Bernadette had no education.

Bernadette is known for her visions of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Lourdes, France. It all started when Bernadette was walking along to the rose bush near the cave where she saw a beautiful woman. The woman was wearing blue and white clothes. She smiled at Bernadette. The Lady held a Rosary and made the sign of the Cross.

Bernadette saw the woman, falls on her knees and prayed the Rosary with her. The lady asked her to visit her at the same place every day for 2 weeks. Throughout her visits the lady spoke to Bernadette with love and respect.

During another visit, Bernadette asked the woman who she was and the woman replied “I am the Immaculate Conception.”

At first Bernadette did not understand what the women said. It was later explained to her that the Immaculate Conception was Mary, the Mother of Jesus. She was free from sin from the first moment of her life in her mother’s womb.

Many people believed in Bernadette’s visions of Mary while others did not because she was the only one who saw and spoke to Mary. Her parents were embarrassed and asked her to stop going. The Church and Government leaders interviewed her to make sure that she was telling the truth.



Many people came to Lourdes, hoping to see Jesus' mother.

One day Mary asks Bernadette to dig in the mud with her hands. Bernadette obeyed the Lady's request; a spring of water began to flow from the mud. It grew larger and larger and it still flows today.

Bernadette asked the local priest to build a chapel there through the request of Mary

Millions of people have made pilgrimages to Lourdes. They bathe in the waters from the spring and pray for healing.

After the appearances stopped, Bernadette tried to live a quiet life. She became a nun when she was 22 and died when she was only 35.

St Bernadette lived with great faith.

Her example teaches us to pray that Mary will help us to have faith in all of Jesus' teachings.



## Prayer to St Bernadette

Saint Bernadette—you loved God with your full heart. Help us to love God and deepen our faith. Help us to pray to Mary each day,

Amen

**St Bernadette , pray for us.**



## Mass at Lalor Park with Fr John Paul Escarlan

We are very excited to announce that we will soon be starting Mass again in the Parramatta Diocese.

Starting 15 May 2022, we will be having Mass at St Bernadette's Catholic Church (integrated Mass) at 10am. The parish priest at St Bernadette's is Fr John Paul who many of you will know.



We will be live-streaming this Mass with an interpreter.

So the dates for the Masses for this year will be:

**15 May, 19 June, 17 July, 21 August,  
18 September, 16 October, 20 November, 18 December.**

**All at 10am.**

On these days there will be NO interpreted Mass from Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church at Homebush at 11am

**Where: St Bernadette's Catholic Church** 10 Gardenia Grove Lalor Park

Any questions, please contact David Parker.





## Accessible Mass

Mass is open to the community. All are welcome to Mass. Please do not come to Mass if you are feeling sick.

Our Mass time table is:

**1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th (not the 3rd) Sunday of the month—Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, 74 Underwood Rd Homebush (11am—Deaf Mass).** We will now have morning tea after Mass starting after Easter.

**3rd Sunday of the month—St Bernadette's Lalor Park at 10am**

We are still filming and live-streaming Mass each of these Masses. You can watch this on Facebook live on a Sunday or later on our Ephpheta website.

**PLEASE SEE THE SEPARATE CALENDAR IN THIS NEWSLETTER  
FOR MASS DATES AND TIMES.**



## Prayer of Spiritual Communion when we cannot receive Communion

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

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

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



I embrace You as if you were  
already there, and I unite  
myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be  
separated from You.

Amen.

# Easter Sunday - 17 April

## Gospel Reading

### A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Early on Sunday morning, when it was still dark, Mary Magdala went to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb. Mary ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple (John), the one Jesus loved.

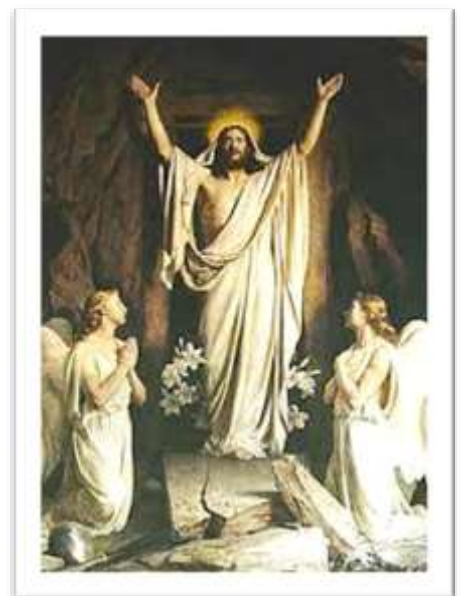
Mary said to them, "They have taken Jesus' body from the tomb. We don't know where they have put his body."

So Peter went to the tomb with the other disciple. They ran together but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, arrived at the tomb first. He bent down and saw the cloths lying on the ground, but he did not go in. Simon Peter, running behind the other disciple (John), arrived later.

Peter went into the tomb. He saw the cloths lying on the ground. He also saw the cloth that had covered Jesus' head. This cloth was rolled up separate from the other cloths lying on the ground.

Then the other disciple (John) that had reached the tomb first, also went in. He saw and he believed. Before that, they had not understood the teaching of the scriptures (Bible), that Jesus must rise from the dead.

### THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD



# 2nd Sunday of Easter - 24 April

## Gospel Reading

### A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the disciples were together in a room, the doors closed and locked, because they were afraid of the Jews.

Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, "Peace be with you." He showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord.

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. The Father sent me, so I too send you." Jesus breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive people's sins, their sins are forgiven. If you do not forgive them, their sins are not forgiven."

One of the twelve (12) Apostles, Thomas, was not there. Later the disciples told him, "We saw the Lord."

Thomas answered, "I will not believe until I see the holes in his hands and touch them. I refuse to believe until I see the hole in his side and touch it." Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them.



The doors were locked but Jesus came in and stood among them. He said, “Peace be with you.” Then Jesus spoke to Thomas, “Look! Touch my hands. Put your hand in my side and feel it. Doubt no more, but believe.” Thomas replied, “My Lord and my God!”

Jesus said to him, “You believe because you can see me. But the people that have not seen me, and still believe, they are truly blessed.”

Jesus did many other miracles and the disciples saw them. But all these other miracles are not written in the book.

The miracles that are written in this book are to help you to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that because you believe you can have life through his name.

## **THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD**





# 3rd Sunday of Easter - 1 May

## Gospel Reading

### A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Jesus appeared again to the disciples near the Sea of Tiberias. This is how it happened: Simon Peter, Thomas the Twin, Nathanael from Cana, James and John, and two other disciples were all together. Peter said, "I'm going fishing." The others said, "We will come with you." They went into the boat, but all night they caught nothing.

In the morning, it was getting light, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not know it was Jesus. Jesus shouted, "Friends, have you caught anything?" They replied, "No, nothing." Jesus said, "Throw the net over the right side of the boat and you will find something." They threw the net and caught so many fish, the disciples could not pull in the net. The disciple Jesus loved (John) said to Peter, "That is Jesus the Lord!"

Peter heard John and so he wrapped his cloak (because he had nothing on) and jumped into the water. The other disciples came to the shore in the boat, pulling the net, full of fish. They were not far, only about one hundred yards from the land.

When they reached land, they saw some bread and a fire cooking some fish. Jesus said, "Bring some of the fish you caught." Peter went and pulled the net to the shore, full of big fish, one hundred and fifty three (153) fish altogether. So many fish, but the net did not break. Jesus said to the disciples, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples was brave enough to ask 'Who are you?' They knew he was Jesus the Lord. Jesus came nearer, he took the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish. This was the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after rising from the dead.

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After the meal Jesus said to Peter, “Simon Peter, do you love me more than the other disciples love me?” Peter answered, “Yes Lord, you know I love you.”

Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” A second time Jesus said to him, “Simon Peter, do you love me?” Peter replied, “Yes, Lord, you know I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Look after my sheep.”

Then Jesus said to him a third time, “Simon Peter, do you love me?” Peter was upset that Jesus asked him three times ‘Do you love me?’. Peter said to Jesus “Lord, you know everything. You know I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.”

“I tell you the truth: when you were young, you tied your own belt and you went where you wanted to go. But when you grow old, you will lift up your hands, and another person will tie your belt and take you where you don’t want to go.”

When Jesus said this, he showed the way that Peter would die to give glory to God. Then Jesus said to Peter, “Follow me.”

## THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

# 4th Sunday of Easter - 8 May

## Gospel Reading

### A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Jesus said, "The sheep belonging to me listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me.

I give them eternal life. They will never be lost. No one will steal them from me. The Father gave them to me, and the Father is greater than anyone.

No one can steal from the Father. The Father and I are one."

### THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD



# 5th Sunday of Easter - 15 May

## Gospel Reading

### A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

After Judas had gone Jesus said: "Now the Son of Man receives his glory, and God the Father also receives glory through him (Jesus)."

If God the Father receives glory through him (Jesus), then God will soon give glory to his Son.

My little children, soon I will go. I give you a new commandment: love each other.

Because I loved you, you must also love each other. If you love each other, everybody will know you are my disciples."

### THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD





# 6th Sunday of Easter - 22 May

## Gospel Reading

### A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Jesus said to his disciples: "If any person loves me, that person will keep my word and my Father will love that person. My Father and I will come to that person and make our home with them. Those that do not love me, do not obey my words. My word is not really mine: the word comes from the Father sending me.

I have said these things to you while I am still with you, but the Advocate (the Helper), the Holy Spirit, will teach you everything. The Father will send the Holy Spirit in my name. The Holy Spirit will remind you of everything I said to you.

I leave you peace, I give you my peace, I give you peace the world cannot give you. My peace is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. You heard me say, 'I am going away, but I will return.' If you loved me, you would be happy to know that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than me.

I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe."

### THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD



# The Ascension of the Lord - 29 May

## Gospel Reading

### A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Jesus said to his disciples: “You know the Scriptures (Bible) say that Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead. The Scriptures (Bible) also say that all people should repent and have their sins forgiven in his name.

The preaching of forgiveness must be spread to all nations (countries), starting from here in Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

And now, I, Jesus, will give you what God the Father promised you. Stay here in Jerusalem until you have received this power from heaven.”

Then Jesus took his disciples out of Jerusalem to a place near Bethany. Jesus raised his hands and blessed his disciples.

As Jesus was blessing his disciples, he was lifted up into heaven. The disciples worshipped Jesus, then they went back to Jerusalem full of joy. They went to the Temple regularly every day and praised God.

### THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD



# Pentecost - 5 June

## Gospel Reading

### A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Jesus said to his disciples: "If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I will ask the Father, and he will give you another 'Helper' to be with you for ever. The people that love me will obey my word.

My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. The people that do not love me do not follow my words.

The word is not mine but from the one that sent me.

I tell you these things because I am with you now; but soon the 'Helper', the Holy Spirit, will be sent by the Father in my name.

The Holy Spirit will teach you and remind you of everything I taught you."

### THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD



# The Most Holy Trinity - 12 June

## Gospel Reading

### A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Jesus said to his disciples: "I still have many things to tell you, but they would be too much for you now.

When the Spirit of truth comes, He will lead you to the full truth; Because the Spirit will not be speaking for himself, but will only say the things God wants him to say.

And the Spirit will tell you about the things that will happen. The Spirit will glorify (praise) me, because everything the Spirit tells you is from me (Jesus).

Everything the Father has is mine.

That is why I said: 'Everything the Spirit tells you will come from me.'"

### THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD





# The Body & Blood of Jesus Christ - 19 June

## Gospel Reading

### A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Jesus welcomed the crowd and he talked to them about the kingdom of God. Jesus healed some people. It was late afternoon; the twelve (12) apostles came and said to Jesus, "Send the people away, so they can go to the villages and farms near here to find lodging and food, because this is a lonely place."

Jesus replied, "You yourselves give them something to eat." The apostles said, "We only have five loaves and two fish. Do you expect us to go and buy food for all these people?" There were about five thousand people.

Jesus said to his disciples, "Tell the people to sit down in groups of about fifty each." When the people sat down, Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up to heaven, thanked God for the bread and fish.

He broke them and gave to the disciples and they gave them to the people. Everybody ate and were full. There was plenty left over and when the scraps were collected, they filled twelve baskets.

### THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD



# 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 26 June

## Gospel Reading

### A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

It was almost the right time for Jesus to go back to heaven; Jesus walked on the road to Jerusalem. He asked his disciples to go themselves to a village in Samaria to prepare for him. But the people in the village did not want to welcome Jesus because they knew he was going to Jerusalem.

The disciples, James and John said, "Lord, do you want us to pray so that fire from heaven will come down, strike (hit) and burn them?" But Jesus told them off and they went to another village. They travelled along the road, and met a man. He said to Jesus, "Wherever you go, I will follow you."

Jesus answered, "Foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to sleep." Jesus said to another person, "Follow me." But this person said, "First, let me go and bury my father." Jesus answered, "Leave the dead, let the dead bury their dead. Your duty is to go and spread the news of the kingdom of God."

Another person said, "I will follow you, but first let me go and say good-bye to my people at home." Jesus said to him, "If any person starts to work in a field pushing a plough but looks back, that person is not good enough for the kingdom of God."

### THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD





May all your prayers be answered  
and may you feel the Lord's  
presence near you...  
not only for Easter,  
but always.

Happy Easter!



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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.

**[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!