



# Regents Park Catholic Parish

Comprising of St Bernardine's Church, St Catherine's Church  
and Our Lady of the Assumption Church

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

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**Currently the way to see a Mass  
is via our website**

[www.stbernardinesparish.com.au](http://www.stbernardinesparish.com.au)

From here you can see

[Masses at St Stephen's Cathedral](#)

[Masses with The Pope](#)

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We are live streaming via Facebook, and  
then uploading to YouTube.

**Wednesday 9am Mass and  
Sunday 9am Mass.**

*We the Catholic Communities of Regents Park Parish, guided by the Holy Spirit; commit to building a welcoming, inclusive, faith centred community grounded upon the Gospel values of leadership and service.*

#### Message from Fr John Conway

There is hope for us in the darkness. In these past few days some restrictions have been lifted to enable us (sensible people) to venture forth into our world once again, so long as we endeavour to respect the call for social distancing out in the world. Some people have endeavoured to do this and still enjoyed the wonder of God's sunshine on their faces, while others seem to disregard the need for such actions. I do hope that people respond to this call for distancing so that further restrictions may be lifted. Let us hope so.

On another matter, we invited St Bernardine's students to do up some colour posters that could decorate the windows of our Church to bring some colour and vibrancy into our drab COVID 19 world. This they had done so, and there are the posters for all the world to see. My thanks to the students who had taken this mission on for us. I was struck with the creativity of the students and the work they had produced, but there was one poster in particular that stood out for me in the midst of all of the wonderful posters that show the creativity and life of our God at work in our world as understood by our students.

But there was one, a simply poster that proclaimed to the world something that perhaps so many of us adults simply gloss over. The message on the poster was simple. It said, 'I AM GOD'

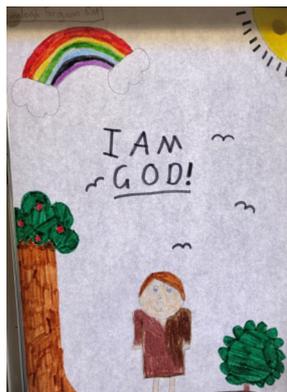
Every time I wander into the Church, I seek this poster out because it grounds me in my own relationship with God in my life.

'I AM GOD' says to me that God is truly present to me and to all of us especially in the midst of the challenges of life at this time. 'I AM GOD' Listen to me. Be attentive to my presence in your lives and I will indeed be with you today and always. It is amazing just what young people can teach us in their simple understanding of

faith, but it can be through their relationship with God that they can invite us to be open to that presence of God in our lives.

So there it is for all to see. A simple message, inspired by our God of love, proclaimed to us from one of the students in our school. 'I AM GOD'

What more do we need to know or believe. God is truly with us in our lives.



Dear Parishioners,

We can never deny the importance of mother in the family, especially in the difficult and challenging time like this time of the Covid-19 Pandemic. Mother plays an indispensable role in the life of the family. This Sunday is the Second Sunday of May when we celebrate the Mother's Day. It is the time to honour all mothers, grand mothers or anyone who has been carrying out the maternal role in the family. I have not known or heard anything about Mother's Day until I came to Australia 29 years ago. Since then, I have tried to do something special for my mum on Mother's Day such as a letter, or a phone, or a prayer, or anything I hope that mum may feel happy at least on this day. There are number of memories about my mother, the one in the family who influenced my life most. She took a great care of me and I know that she loves me so much.

Each of us has a mother who, in any means, takes care of us, loves us, protects us, helps us and journeys with us in life. From childhood to adolescence to mature age, mother always plays an important role in our life journey.

Therefore, on special occasions, we are urged to do something for our mother. There are a variety of ways we can think of to show mum our love and gratitude, or to pray for her. I have heard that in Japan on Mother's Day, those whose mother has passed away wear a white rose on the shirt and those whose mother is alive wear a red rose. What a beautiful tradition! I have needed a white rose for fifteen years...

The Gospel this Sunday points to us a reality of another home after our earthly life, namely, the home in heaven. Jesus said to the disciples at the Last Supper before entering the Passion and Death: "*There are many rooms in my Father's house... I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too...*" In a home, we are surely in need of a mother...

Mother's Day is on again. It is the time to do something for our mother. It is the time to pray for all mothers who have gone to their rest. This year, we add a prayer for all mothers and grandmothers dying of the Coronavirus (their children have to wear a 'white rose'). We pray for all living mothers in the world as well, particularly those in tough and miserable situations. It is also the time to say, with all our heart, to all mothers, grandmothers, and those who have had a maternal influence on our lives:

***Happy Mother's Day!!!***

***Recently Deceased: Theresa Thu***



## Happy Mother's Day

To all the wonderful mothers, we wish you a wonderful and joyous day. In whatever way you are able to celebrate or remember, together or apart, we say thank you.

## Parish App



Are you wanting to donate to the parish during this time? Click here to go to the link on our website.

Please note it is not compulsory but it is available if you and your family want to access it. There are some of you already that have accessed the app and made donations. Thank you.

Pope Francis has asked Catholics to make a special effort in May to pray the Rosary, knowing that by doing so they would be united with believers around the world, asking for Mary's intercession in stopping the coronavirus pandemic.

The month of May is traditionally devoted to Mary and many Catholics already are in the habit of praying the rosary at home during the month, he noted. "The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this 'family' aspect, also from a spiritual point of view." Pope Francis has written two prayers to Mary that can be recited at the end of the rosary, prayers he said would be reciting "in spiritual union with all of you." (*\*Taken from Catholic Leader*)

### **FIRST PRAYER**

O Mary,  
You shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.  
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,  
who, at the foot of the cross, were united with Jesus' suffering, and persevered in your faith.

"Protectress of the Roman people", you know our needs, and we know that you will provide,  
so that, as at Cana in Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us.  
For he took upon himself our suffering, and burdened himself with our sorrows  
to bring us, through the cross, to the joy of the Resurrection.

**Amen.**

*We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God;  
Do not despise our petitions in our necessities,  
but deliver us always from every danger,  
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.*

### **SECOND PRAYER**

"We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God".

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand

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**For enquiries contact Barbara**

**Ph: 3884 7600**

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*My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9)*