



ST DECLAN'S

CATHOLIC CHURCH

In the care of the Missionaries of God's Love

Welcome!

29th March 2020

Fifth Sunday of Lent
Year A

St Declan's parish acknowledges that we gather, pray and live together on the land of the Bidjegal people of the Eora Nation

Dear brothers and sisters,

While our *church* is closed until further notice, **this does not mean our parish has closed**. We are just going to have to do things very differently. We are going to get through this together, and we are going to come out the other end as a stronger community.

WORSHIP

Sunday Mass

We are live streaming the 9am Sunday Mass each week. We strongly encourage you to join us live at 9am so that we can actually gather for Mass together (even if only virtually). You can, however, watch the recording at any time after that. To access the live stream click [here](#):

Send us your photo

Thanks to everyone who has already sent in a photo of yourself for us to put on the pews. It's not too late if you haven't done this. Please email us a photo of yourselves to comms@stdeclansparish.org. This will mean that when Adam, Tony or I celebrate Mass we will see your faces smiling back at us. It will help us as we offer the Mass, and we hope it will help you to know that you are in our prayers and hearts as we celebrate the Eucharist.

Daily Mass

Weekday Masses are being live-streamed from Monday to Saturday at 9:15am.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

We have not been able to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation since the closure of the church, and I do not think it is appropriate to be encouraging people to come to the church for the sacrament when the most important message is to stay at home during this time. I know that people often want to confess before Easter, which won't be possible this year. Archbishop Anthony has advised that people are dispensed from their annual duties concerning confession until it is possible to fulfil them. The archbishop is encouraging people to still make an examination of conscience and seek God's mercy in prayer. To help with this, we will offer a **Mass of Reconciliation on Tuesday 31 March at 7:30pm** - which will be live-streamed. While this is not a substitute for individual confession to a priest if you have a grave or serious sin to confess, it will help us prepare our hearts and minds for Easter.

MASS at St Declan's

All Masses in the church have been suspended until further notice.

[LIVE STREAM HERE](#)

Sunday 9am Mass

Monday to Saturday 9:15am

If you are sick

Fr Chris, Fr Adam and Fr Tony want to reassure you that they will anoint, give communion, and pray with those who are seriously ill. If you are ill, please call the parish number (9580 1310) and follow the prompt (option 2) to the parish emergency line.

COVID-19 Updates

The information in this bulletin is correct at time of publication. Updates via the parish app, website and email will occur as soon as possible.

Events

ALL PARISH EVENTS ONSITE ARE CANCELLED.

We are going **online** with other events though - see other notices in this bulletin

Funerals

The government has allowed funerals as an exception to the closure of places of worship. They do, however, need to be restricted to 10 people. We will still need to follow social distancing rules inside the church, appropriate hygiene and thorough cleaning of the church.

INTERCESSION MINISTRY

We have also launched a new ministry at this time: an intercession team. If you have a prayer request, you can send it [here](#). The intercession team will pray for your request. If you would like to join the intercession team, please email Cathy Kennedy at evangelisation@stdeclansparish.org

ALPHA

We have had a great start to Alpha this year, but since it revolves around meeting and eating together in a group setting, we have had to be creative in how we support our guests without being able to meet onsite. Hosts, helpers and guests have been contacted and alternative options made available to continue the exciting faith journey that is Alpha. We ask that you keep all our Alpha participants in your prayers.

GROWING IN FAITH

Discipleship Groups

Our primary way for people to be formed in their faith is through attending Discipleship Groups, which normally meet in people's homes. During Lent they have been meeting in larger groups in Fernlands Hall and in the Meeting Room. We will start Discipleship groups online after Easter. So stay tuned. If you were attending the Lenten Discipleship groups on the scriptural foundations of the Eucharist, you can keep watching them at home on FORMED (see details below). We suggest you watch one per week until Holy Week, as planned. Then after Easter, you can join an online Discipleship Group to watch episodes 6-10 of this series.

FORMED

St Declan's subscribes to an online Catholic audio-visual library called FORMED. Think of it as Netflix for Catholics. It has a range of great Catholic content for all ages and stages of faith development and is aimed at helping parishioners to understand, grow in and share the Catholic faith. To access FORMED, click [here](#) or go to the parish website and click on the link there.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Ministry to those with COVID-19

The Archdiocese has advised that a team of selected priests will administer the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick to people who have contracted COVID-19. This is designed to minimise the chance of transmission of the virus by restricting this ministry to this group of priests.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE PARISH

Thank you for the response to my request for online giving last weekend. In addition to cash given and the usual credit card contributions we received and additional \$2900 through our new online platform (via the website, text message or the parish app). We normally receive approximately \$4000 per week in cash.

The money you give will support the wages of our lay staff, as well as our ongoing expenses, many of which cannot be deferred.

I know that some people's own financial position will be affected by this situation and I do not want those people to feel under pressure from the parish.

Please prayerfully consider an ongoing regular donation by credit card.

The parish's online giving platform is used by 12,500 churches, and it possesses a PCI DSS Level 1 Secure rating + 256 bit SSL rating. It is the same level of encryption used by Amazon and many banks and is the highest rating possible. It is safe, secure and easy.

You can access the parish's online giving platform [here](#)

Or you can text the amount you want to give (e.g. \$50) to 0451 266 547

(it will take you to the platform to put your credit card details in). After you have done this once, the site will remember you and you can simply text the amount you wish to give.

You can select an option which makes your contribution an automatically recurring one.



St Declan's Parish is committed to being a safe community for all, especially children and vulnerable people. We inform and protect our children and the parish community in a variety of ways. For more information please contact the Parish Safeguarding Support Team on safeguarding.stdeclans@gmail.com.

*Abuse is experienced by many and can occur in a variety of ways. There are many places where you can receive help and support. Firstly, as abuse is a crime, you can contact the police on **000 (in an emergency) or on 9375 8599 (Hurstville Police)**. Alternatively, you can contact the Archdiocese of Sydney's Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. Father Chris Ryan MGL is also available to assist and support you in any way possible.*

Connect with Us

The Parish Office staff have largely been working remotely. If you need to contact the parish, please email or phone the office and leave a message, rather than visit. Emails and phone calls will be regularly checked and responded to.

Parish Office: Frances Watton

Office hours: 9am-3pm (Mon-Wed, Fri)

Phone: 9580 1310 | Email: declans@tpg.com.au

Address: 92 Penshurst St, Penshurst 2222

Website: www.stdeclanspenshurst.org

Priests:

Fr Chris Ryan MGL (Parish Priest)

Fr Adam Crouch MGL (Assistant Priest)

Fr Tony Alex MGL (Assistant Priest)

Rev Cameron Smith (Deacon)

Operations Manager:

Steve Thomas - operations@stdeclansparish.org

Accounts Assistant

Ira Widjaja - accounts@stdeclansparish.org

Evangelisation Coordinator:

Cathy Kennedy - evangelisation@stdeclansparish.org

Coordinator of Ministries to the Sick and Elderly:

Nellie Doueihi - visitation@stdeclansparish.org

Music Coordinator:

Isaac Reefman - music@stdeclansparish.org

Sacramental Coordinator:

TBA - childrens.sacraments@stdeclansparish.org

Youth Minister:

Madelyn McDermott - youth@stdeclansparish.org

Safeguarding Support Team:

Adrienne Teychenne, Stephen & Natalie Maiolo, Grace Hong
safeguarding@stdeclansparish.org

WHS Email: whs@stdeclansparish.org

PROJECT

agape



We have launched a new ministry called Project Agape to assist with people who are in need at this time. If you or someone you know needs to self-isolate and are unable to visit the shops easily to get food and/or medication:

1) Contact the parish office on 9580 1310, or email Nellie at

visitation@stdeclansparish.org and leave a message with your name and best contact number. Messages will be checked regularly.

2) Nellie will contact you, and a team member will bring groceries and/or medication to your home. Please remember that the team member will:

a. Call you on arrival

b. leave the groceries and/or medication at the front door

c. have no face-to-face contact

d. follow up the visit with a phone call to check if you need any more help.

3) Payment for the groceries and/or medication can be discussed with Nellie. Please know that our primary concern is your health and wellbeing and we will support you in whatever way we can, including covering the cost of the groceries/medication, if you have a real need.

Keep in touch

Website: We will keep our website up-to-date with the latest information about the parish's ministry and service:

<https://www.stdeclanspenshurst.org/>

Email: If you would like to be emailed the latest information from the parish, please fill in this form:

<http://bit.ly/stdeclansconnect>

Parish App: We also have a parish app for your mobile. It will have all the latest information, but you can also access podcasts and other resources to

provide spiritual nourishment for you and your family at home. Click on the following link and follow the prompts:

<http://bit.ly/stdeclansapp>



Find us on Instagram @stdeclansparish



and on Facebook at www.fb.com/stdeclansparish

WE REMEMBER IN OUR MASSES:

Recently Deceased: Max Luescher, Judith Wilson, Ludvic Tkalevic, Karen Leeming, Peter Collins, Robert Harold, Zonko Abramovich, Juann Jugovich, Rolando Llamas, Ann Abraham, Cis Ankica Culjak, Ivan Jugovich, Steven Tart, Kevin Cummings, Faye Sheridan, Anthony Chang, Elvira Carangelo.

Anniversaries: Irene Robinson, Fidel & Teofela Meneses, Kata & Niko Draskovich, Joan Jenkins, Mira Crncevic, Patrocenna Casio, Juan Casio Jr, Katherine, Raymond & David Beggs, Chong Eng Hong and all those who's anniversaries occur at this time.

Also: Godfrey family members, Connie Calvisi, Cusumano family members, Mascolo family members, Porcu family members, Tim March, James Anthony Lobina, Noel Sheather, Stjepan Kranjec, Maria Vukobrat, Stjepan Obrovac, Stanko Prorokovic, Ignac Krlin, Ivan Kucinic, Mijo Trupkovic, Nikola Dragisic, Kevin & Stephen & Jim McElroy, Denis Bacic, Betty & Danny Dusek, Michael O'Sullivan, Betty & Brian O'Sullivan, Frances Anne O'Sullivan, Teresa & Joseph Macinante, Spiro & Josephine Bajada, The Holy Souls in Purgatory and all the deceased members of our Parish.

Parish Sick List: Jude Phyllis, Carole Miller, Catherine Alacqua, Graham Shields, David Salamanca Mendez, Mario Salamanca Mendez, Patricia Salamanca, Glenn Dickson, Marc Kayrouz, Carmen Bajada, Christopher March, Alina Kizeweter, Sonny Venal, Mary Phillips, Mirna Mundigo, Una Canute, Brian Lloyd, Terence Lang, Ann Steele, Elias Francis, Geraldine Brenston.