

**Sunday
23 May, 2021**

**Pentecost Sunday
Year B**

Readings: Sunday 23 May 2021

First Reading: Acts 2:1-11

Second Reading: Galatians 5:16-25

Gospel Reading: John 15:26-27, 16:12-15

Readings: Sunday 30 May 2021

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40

Second Reading: Romans 8:14-17

Gospel Reading: Matthew 28:16-20



Parish website:

www.altonacatholic.org.au

TWO ANNIVERSARIES - Preparations Needed:

On Sunday, 8th of August I will celebrate 40 years as a Priest. Bishop Tomlinson (retired Bishop of Bendigo) will be the celebrant of our 10.30 a.m. Mass on that day.

On Saturday, 14th of August it will be 100 years since the first Mass was celebrated here in Altona by Very Rev John Barry (Administrator of St Patrick's Cathedral). Archbishop Peter Comensoli will be the celebrant of our 6p.m. Mass on that day.

If you are interested in helping with these two important events, a meeting will be held in the Church in the near future. The more helpers the easier the planning!

Father Michael.

2021 PARISH RENEWAL PROGRAM

Our Renewal Program commences in two weeks with our **Program Launch Weekend**. As we gradually return to more of a normal parish life after COVID-19 dominated 2020, the Program is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on what it means to be a member of our parish community.

We encourage you to be actively involved – read the materials, listen to the speakers and follow the Program with weekly updates through SMS and on our website <https://www.altonacatholic.org.au>

Reflect, pray and discuss the themes and topics with your family, friends and fellow parishioners.

Funeral Arrangements for Mariese Kalka (Fr. Michael's mother):

Requiem Mass will be held at St. Mary's Church, Cecil Street in Williamstown on Monday, 24th of May at 11 a.m. followed by burial at the Williamstown Cemetery. The family have requested no flowers but if anyone wishes to make a financial donation, it will be sent to "Joseph's Corner" in Yarraville.

St Mary's Ladies Auxiliary: A reminder to members of the luncheon at the Altona RSL on **Tuesday, 25th of May at 12 noon.**

**Feast Day of Mary, Help of Christians
24th May, 2021**

Background to the Feast: The Feast of Mary, Help of Christians, which is celebrated on 24 May, has been celebrated in Australia since 1844. However, the history of this day dates back to an earlier time in Europe (16th Century), when it was not at all peaceful. Catholics across that continent joined in praying the rosary in the hope of saving their homelands from war. Their prayers were answered and the feast day was declared. The prayers we now pray as we say the rosary are special reflections on Mary's life. The Catholic Church, when beginning in Australia, had a special reason for turning to Mary. In those early days of the NSW colony, there were no Catholic priests. So, it was largely the rosary that kept the Catholic faith alive. Catholic Australians remained faithful to Mary, and Australia was the first nation to choose her, under the title of Help of Christians, as Principal Patron Saint. We turn to Mary today and ask her for prayers, and we ask her to help all those in any kind of need. We ask her to bless, and guide, all who live and work within our Altona suburb:

Liturgy Roster - 30 May 2021

	Lectors	Special Ministers
6.00pm	Ray Dyt	Rita Barbara
8.30am	Cath Cuthbert	Trevor MacGibbon
10.30am	Clara Abate	Ray Pisani
	Counting this week Team 4: 23.05.21	Counting next week Team 5: 30.05.21
	Pat Moran Jean Moran Will Vanderlinden	Brian Dalton Joe Farrugia Joe Yacono

St Joseph's By The Sea - What's on in May 2021. 16 Esplanade, Williamstown 9397 6012. admin.sjbtsw@sosj.org.au RSVP two days prior to any session.

27 May, 2-3 p.m.: We contemplate the gospel passages, recognising the good news as our good news with hope and joy for today. John: 15:1-8 "I am the vine" and John: 19:25-27 "the Mother of Jesus was there". Everyone is welcome. Donation is appreciated.

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone."

- 1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-6

All of us are blessed, regardless of our own individual circumstances. God has given each of us many gifts. How we use those gifts is our gift back to God. For God's plan to work, each must do what we are called to do. Guess what? We are not all called to do the same thing! For God's plan to work you have to do what God is calling you to do and I have to do what God is calling me to do.



Recently Deceased:

Mariese Kalka (Fr. Michael's mother);
Christopher Weir; Veronica Spradbrow

Anniversaries:

Ivy Cuthbert

Mass Offered For:

Bertu & Marianne Pace; Peter, Emanuel & Rosina Farrugia

The winter edition of **Australian Catholics** is available in the Church this weekend. Items of interest are:

Work & Human Dignity; Challenges facing workers; Meditation on the Word; Trafficking in humans; Family fun; A job description for a Godparent. Please take home a free copy.

Mass Count: A Mass Count in the church will take place during the four weeks of May. The annual Mass Count helps to maintain an up to date picture of mass attendance in the Archdiocese and is important for pastoral planning activities and allows for comparisons to be made across the years.

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia: ACN Australia has just launched its new "Healing the Wounds of Religious Extremism in Africa" Global Campaign. Tragically, Africa is the continent with the highest number of murdered priests, religious and catechists and it is also home to 234 million Catholics. As such, ACN views its task in supporting the Catholic Church there as necessary. To help support our brothers and sisters in Africa visit www.aidtochurch.org/africa.

Christian Meditation takes place every Thursday at Mary Help of Christians. If you are interested in joining this group, please phone Lucy at the Parish Office on 9398 2964.

MARANATHA

Our Parish Prayer

Almighty God, deepen in our hearts our love of Mary Help of Christians.

Through her prayers and under her protection,
may the light of Christ shine over our land.

May Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace.

Grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens.

Bless especially those who care for the poor and who seek to promote
justice and peace for all who call Australia home.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

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