

All Hallows' Five Dock



16th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year B | Sunday 18th July

Parish Mission

We, the people of this place,
live and celebrate a love of faith.

We share this faith in a
spirit of service,
that creates a sense of
God's presence among us.

**All Hallows' Parish
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Rev. Mr Constantine Rodrigues

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A Message from Fr Danny

Dear parishioners,

I hope you are all OK during lockdown. After the last lockdown I remember asking people what they missed most. Some said visiting family. Others said they missed meeting for coffee. Some missed coming to Mass. In short, somehow or other, people miss being with each other.

So, could I encourage you to contact others by phone or zoom? Get out and do some exercise – even just to walk to a local shop and buy something nice. Do some gardening. Read a good book, something spiritually uplifting. Try to be positive.

I take comfort from the fact that everything occurs somehow in God's loving providence. Is COVID a way for God to force us to slow down? In the Gospel this Sunday, Jesus wanted to get away with the disciples so they could be alone, rest and pray. We need time with Jesus for our souls to be refreshed and nourished. We need time to pause, reflect, deepen, get in contact with our real selves – and then move forward.

In the Gospel, Jesus couldn't get away. The people followed him and begged for his presence and in His overflowing love, Jesus could not refuse. He gave everything, even His life.

Nonetheless, he did originally want time to be alone and strengthen. And certainly during his life, he did spend many periods alone, praying, preparing – 30 years at Nazareth, 40 days in the desert, many nights in prayer. Only then did he go out and preach the Gospel.

With best wishes,
Fr Danny.

Sacramental Life

Due to the lockdown currently in effect, there will be no masses at All Hallows Church until further notice.

While churches are closed as part of the effort to contain Covid, live streaming of masses can occur and you can find more information on Livestreamed Masses on the Archdiocese of Sydney website [here](#).

Supporting our Parish



You can support our Parish financially by accessing the BPoint Secure Payment Service on the Parish website or you can use the QR Code printed here.

Please remember in your Prayers:

Sick:

Norman Merlino
Christine Bailey
Tom Graham
Tony Michael

Recently Deceased:

Vita Mule
Pellegrino Di Blasio
Nancy Puglisi
Giuseppe Napoli
Magda Ghali
Patrick Heffernan
Maria Iolanda Scenna



First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p>Jer 23:1-6 A reading from the prophet Jeremiah <i>The remnant of the flock I will gather to me, and bring them back to their pastures.</i> ‘Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered – it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them. Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds – it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost – it is the Lord who speaks! ‘See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence. And this is the name he will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.’</p>	<p>(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.</p> <p>1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)</p> <p>2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff, with these you give me comfort. (R.)</p> <p>3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. (R.)</p> <p>4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord’s own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. (R.)</p>	<p>Eph 2:13-18 A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians <i>Christ, our peace, has made us one.</i> In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God. In his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the good news of peace, peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father.</p>
	<p>Next Week’s Readings</p>	<p>Gospel Acclamation</p>
	<p>17th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st Reading: 2 Kings 4:42-44 2nd Reading: Ephesians 4:1-6 Gospel: John 6:1-15</p>	<p>Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!</p>

Gospel

Mk 6:30-34
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
They were as sheep without a shepherd.
The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, ‘You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while’; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

Reflection by Trevor Stockton

The apostles needed to rest, time to recuperate, regenerate and gain spiritual nourishment, but there was no rest for Jesus. The people followed him in their thousands to the place where they had chosen to rest. So, moved with compassion, Jesus responded to their needs spiritually and bodily with food.

In a sermon on 30 October 2017, Pope Francis used five verbs to refer to the “closeness” of Jesus to his people: see, call, talk, touch and heal. The Pontiff explained “Christ calls us to touch the flesh of the other by hand, particularly the suffering and the needy.” This, the Pope insisted, is “the path of the good shepherd”.

This is the kind of shepherd Jesus calls us to be if we are to feed those who are hungry, give drink to those who are thirsty, shelter those who are homeless, visit those who are sick and prisoners, bury the dead and give alms to those who are poor. Through the gospel, we are reminded not only to seek God, at the expense of a connection with other people. Instead, we are asked to prepare ourselves better to reach out to others in need, through strengthening our relationship with God.