



CORIO LARA

CATHOLIC PARISH

24/01/2026 | 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR | 24/01/2027

Fifth Sunday of Easter (A)

3 May 2026

Mother Angelica's Brief Guide to Heaven

To most of us, Heaven is rather abstract. What Heaven is like hasn't even entered into our wildest imaginations. On earth, you and I want happiness. But life is fraught with a little bit of bitterness, even when we're happy. That's because, as soon as we have something that makes us happy, we're afraid we're going to lose it. Why do we fear death? First, most of us are afraid of judgment. We just aren't sure if we're really sorry for our sins – or even if we remember them. That's because we haven't fully grasped the beautiful truth of God's fatherly love and comfort and forgiveness. And when God forgives, He forgives and forgets. And yet we are so often afraid of God and His Kingdom. Why are we afraid of a Father who is so generous and so loving?

Many of the first Christians led lives of debauchery, but they had a faith that assured them that once they had a clean sheet from God after Confession, they could seek, desire, and obtain Heaven. Why? Because God is our Father. Their faith was so real that when they were put in an arena to face lions, when Peter and Andrew were crucified, when Bartholomew was flayed alive, they all relied confidently on the power of God to keep them going. We have to find out what those Christians had that we lack today, and what it is that has smothered real Christianity in our hearts. To be faithful to the duties of our state in life; to cling to God; to be faithful to His rule, His law, and His Church: That's what it means to be holy. We need to remember that we are a people of God who should know where we are and where we're going. We, as Christians, must speak with great enthusiasm and great wonder about the Kingdom that is to come. The Kingdom of Heaven, after all, is within you; it is around you; it is above you. That's why it's so important to think of Heaven: we begin our Heaven, our Purgatory, or our Hell right here.

What will we do in the Kingdom? First, we'll just be loved by everybody! We won't have anybody hating us or thinking we're useless. There will be no more loneliness. We'll be able to look at the Father face-to-face. We can't even imagine that kind of joy. No one on earth knows what it's like not to have fears. But in Heaven, instead of fear and doubt—we shall see Him face-to-face. We'll never be discouraged again, and never tired. There will never be a mystery we can't understand. And we will never have to worry about our salvation again. We will know that we are in love with God and that God is in love with us and that everybody thinks we're the greatest. We'll know why everything happened in our lives. Boy, are we going to be embarrassed! If it were possible to be sorry in the Kingdom, we would be awfully sorry for having griped so much, for having questioned God's providence and mercy and will. We'll know why all the pains and tragedies happened. There is so much disappointment in life. But Heaven will never disappoint you. We will realize that, in spite of our weaknesses, there was glory in our everyday lives...that our weaknesses have somehow been bound up in our journey home. That's why it's so important that we make the right choices now. Don't listen to the world. Listen to the Word. Listen to the Church. Listen to your conscience. And make your choices in favour of the Lord. Let us look at Our Lord and at ourselves without fear. God knows us, and He loves us as we are. He gives us the grace to be transformed. So, everything that Jesus did, you and I do. We need to want to do it like Him. That is how we bring Heaven to earth – and how we prepare ourselves for the Kingdom to come.

By Mother Angelica <https://bit.ly/4naC8Jd> (edited)

CHURCHES

St Francis Xavier Church, Corio
St Anthony of Padua Church, Lara

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Marcus Goulding

PERMANENT DEACON

Rev. Logona Tui'i

WEBSITE

coriolaracatholicparish.com.au

PARISH OFFICE

Tues – Fri | 10am – 3pm
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T. 03 4212 0791
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SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Sat. 5pm (Vigil) | Corio
Sun. 9am | Lara
11am | Corio

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Tue. 5.30pm | Corio
Wed. 9.15am | Lara
Th. 9.15am | Corio
Fri. 9.15am | Lara
Sat. 9.15am | Corio

CONFESSIONS

Tue. 5.00pm-5.25pm | Corio
6.00pm-7.00pm | Corio
Sat. 8.45am-9.10am | Corio
4.30pm-4.55pm | Corio
Sun. 8.30am-8.55am | Lara

THE ROSARY

Weekdays 25 mins prior to Mass
Sunday 8.30am (Lara)
10.30am (Corio)

HOLY HOUR

Tue. 6.00pm – 7.00pm | Corio

LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

Wed. 5.00pm | Corio

PRESBYTERY GIVING (1st Collection)

St Francis Xavier Presbytery Account
BSB 083 347 | ACC 674 963 655

CHURCH GIVING (2nd Collection)

St Francis Xavier Church Account
BSB 083 347 | ACC 543 292 126

Fifth Sunday of Easter (A)

Entrance Antiphon | Cf. Ps 97: 1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective care, bear much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

First Reading | Acts 6:1-7

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

Responsorial Psalm | Psalm 32(33):1-2,4-5,18-19

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **R.**

For the word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. **R.**

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. **R.**

Second Reading | 1 Peter 2:4-9

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: *See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed.* That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

Gospel Acclamation | John 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia!



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Forming Catholics for Life.

The Boy From Milan: Stories of Carlo Acutis | Based on a True Saint

Discover the inspiring story of Carlo Acutis, the young boy from Milan. You may have heard of him, the sneaker-wearing, computer-loving "gamer saint" of our time. But beyond the headlines and hashtags, the real story of Carlo is something deeper, something the world desperately needs to hear. Known for his deep love of God, devotion to the Eucharist, and quiet acts of charity, Carlo's life was a testament to everyday holiness.

For free access to our parish subscription to FORMED, visit coriolaracatholicparish.com.au/formed.

Fifth Sunday of Easter (A)

Gospel | John 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am going now 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. You know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.' Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me? 'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

Prayer over the Offerings

O God, who by the wonderful exchange effected in this sacrifice have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead, grant, we pray, that, as we have come to know your truth, we may make it ours by a worthy way of life. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon | Cf. Jn 15: 1, 5


I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of life. Through Christ our Lord.

**WE PRAY FOR THE CHILDREN
RECEIVING THE LIFE OF GOD
IN THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM THIS MONTH**

Daisy and Patrick

THIS WEEK 2nd & 3rd May 2026		NEXT WEEK 9th & 10th May 2026	
5.00pm Corio	Welcome VOLUNTEER Reader Frank Moloney	5.00pm Corio	Welcome VOLUNTEER Reader Ben Bekema
9.00am Lara	Rosary Legion of Mary Welcome Koekemoer Family Reader Ana Cesar	9.00am Lara	Rosary Georgio Romagnoli Welcome Jen Reader Rossana Vasquez
11.00am Corio	Rosary Diane Vine Welcome Ivy & Tom Reader Lara Mesoga EMHC Mercy Leszyk Johnny Gundayao	11.00am Corio	Rosary Tony & Trudie Welcome Lara & Maricar Reader Ivy Parkinson EMHC Tony & Trudy
<i>Oremus pro invicem</i>		 HERE FOR YOU www.kingsfunerals.com.au 03 5248 3444	
The sick	The faithful departed Father Peter Foley		

Parish Noticeboard

CATHOLICCARE SUNDAY APPEAL. We will have an extra collection after Communion at all Masses this weekend to support CatholicCare.

PENTECOST CULTURAL FESTIVAL. As part of our parish's 50th anniversary year, we are holding a Cultural Festival on Pentecost Sunday 24th May. The festival will begin with the 11am Mass at St Francis Xavier, followed by lunch and performances in the Xavier Centre. We are calling on parishioners to wear your national dress, bring a cultural dish to share, and/or perform a cultural dance or musical item at lunch. To register your food or performance, call the Parish Office or visit www.coriolacatholicparish.com.au/pentecost.

BOOK NOW: BUS TO CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION. The Melbourne Corpus Christi Procession will be held on Sunday 7th June. The procession will begin at 2pm at St Patrick's Cathedral and move to Federation Square. We are arranging a bus to take parishioners to the procession. \$25 for adults, \$15 for under 18's. To book a seat, visit www.coriolacatholicparish.com.au/procession.

NEWS & EVENTS

ANNUAL MASS COUNT STARTING THIS WEEKEND. Over the first four weeks in May we will count attendance at all Sunday Masses.

CONSULTATION ON MOVING VIGIL MASS TO SUNDAY NIGHT. For people who attend the 5pm Saturday Mass, a forum will be held after Mass on 16th May. For people who attend the 11am Mass, Fr Marcus will ask some questions at the end of Mass on 17th May.

NEW PROJECTOR AT CORIO. In the next couple of weeks, the TV screens in St Francis Xavier will be replaced by a single projector. The projector will be used for text only and will display on the wall (not a screen) immediately to the left of the sanctuary, an area visible from every part of the church.

FORMED SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL. Our parish's annual subscription to FORMED is due for renewal. If you would like to make a donation towards the cost, please deposit electronically into our Church Account or contact the Parish Office. Use reference "Formed donation".

BEYOND THE VOWS: A ONE DAY MARRIAGE RETREAT. Saturday 30th May 9.45am to 5.00pm at Catholic Regional College, Caroline Springs. A practical, faith-grounded day with real insights, communication tools, and quality couple time. All married couples welcome! For more information and to register <https://www.trybooking.com/DLAGK>.

KIDS, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

LITTLE DISCIPLES PARISH PLAYGROUP. 2nd & 4th Sundays following 9am Sunday Mass at St Anthony's church. Contact Angelica 0422 585 223 or Dee 0430 302 969.

CHILDREN'S CATECHESIS. Supporting the faith formation of primary-school-aged children. Fridays at 4pm in the St Francis Xavier Church Foyer during school term.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP: 'HEARTS FOR CHRIST'. Ages 18-30. 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of each month from 7pm to 8.30pm in St Francis Xavier church foyer. Next meeting Tuesday 12 May.

FORMATION

FORMED SUBSCRIPTION. Discover amazing Catholic media content and learn about your faith with FORMED. Access our free parish subscription at coriolacatholicparish.com.au/formed.

FELLOWSHIP

CHURCH CAFÉ. First and third Sundays after 9am Mass at Lara. Every Sunday after 11am Mass at Corio.

PARISH BBQ. Second Sunday of each month following 11am Mass at Corio. **No BBQ Sunday 10 May due to Mother's Day.** Thank you to all our generous sponsors.

SATURDAY SUPPER. Third Saturday of each month following the 5pm Vigil Mass at Corio. Next supper Saturday 16th May. Bring a plate to share.
