



Bridgeside Bulletin



The weekly Bulletin of the Catholic Parish of Forster Tuncurry

"Unity in Christ"

Holy Name of Jesus Church, 33 Lake Street, Forster 2428 NSW

Ph: 6554 6401 E: forster-tuncurry.parish@mn.catholic.org.au W: www.forstertuncurrycatholic.org.au

We acknowledge the Worimi people - the traditional custodians of this place

Sunday 30 August 2020,

Twenty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time - Year A

Dear Parish Family,

This week we celebrated two very linked saints, that of St Monica on Thursday and her son St Augustine of Hippo on Friday. St Monica the long suffering but dutiful mother who followed her son Augustine to Rome, prayed each day for him and the waywardness of his life that he might find a path to Jesus. The prayer of every Christian mother I suspect.

Monica was born in 331AD and died at the age of 56. I hope the picture is not a good likeness of her as she seems somehow so much older in the artwork than her years would attest.

She had three children; Augustine, Navigius and Perpetua. Her daughter Perpetua was widowed early in her life and eventually joined a convent where she became the Abbess. Augustine wrote regularly to his sister and after her death continued to write to the order where his letters eventually informed the rules under which they lived. It appears all three of Monica's children eventually entered religious life although some of the details are sketchy.

Monica had a difficult marriage. Her husband had a violent temper and so did his mother who lived with them.

Her body was originally buried in Ostia but was later transferred to Osta around the 6th Century. Sometime in the 14th Century her body was again moved by Pope Martin V to Rome: many miracles are reported amongst those who lined the Route to Rome as her body was transported. She is considered one of the earliest Saints and as we know from Africa although it seems of Roman decent.

If you get a bit disheartened that your prayers are not being heard take heart from St Monica: she prayed every day for 17 years that her son Augustine would be converted! That's perseverance and resilience! At one time she was even estranged from her son but worked hard to be reconciled. And she persisted even to moving closer to him.

Augustine fathered a child, Adeodatus, sometime in his early 20s; sadly, Adeodatus died during adolescence and this seems to have been a catalyst for a rethink on his life. He was a big drinker and a man about town in his youth. As we know nothing prevents redemption! Or a mother's prayers being answered.

He became a priest around 391 and assumed the office of Bishop in about 395 in Hippo his hometown. One of his works 'Confessions' written around 44AD is still studied in Seminaries today; it tells of his transition to Christian life. One famous recount tells of the young Augustine, with his mates, climbing into the orchard of a neighbour and stealing fruit.

St Monica's original head stone was discovered in 1945 by two boys digging a hole to place a goal post for football. The original was translated from the Latin and these are the translated words:

'Here the most virtuous mother of a young man set her ashes, a second light to your merits, Augustine. As a priest, serving the heavenly laws of peace, you taught [or, you teach] the people entrusted to you with your character. A glory greater than the praise of your accomplishments crowns you both – Mother of the Virtues, more fortunate because of her offspring.'

St Monica is considered the patron saint of many things that might lead to disappointment for mothers like their wayward or estranged children. However, she is also considered the patron saint of wives, mothers, conversions, alcoholics and abuse victims. She is a wonderful saint to pray to if you find yourself in any of those circumstances. Also a great ear and intercessor if you are worried about your own children. She has been there!

Best wishes,

Greg
Parish Priest





PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Recently Deceased: Kevin Malone
Anniversary: Warwick Moulder, Garry John Harnish, Clare Hoole, Thomas Hoole, Athol Hoole, Norah Nebauer, Matthew Roughan, Phillip Prowse

We remember and pray for those who are ill at home and in hospital at this time, may they know the healing presence of Christ:

Roseanne Telfer, Michael O'Hara, Marion Prescott, Roger Curry, Dulcie Goldsmith, Barry Bolton, Elizabeth Thomas, Ray Vidler, Rachal, Robert Greig, John McCaig, Lawson Rankin, Josephine Camilleri, Zac Gogerly, Junior Soliano, Ann Moreira, Dawn Gander, Win Preston, Ken Vote, Anna Lee, Robyn Thomas, Angela McNamara, Lucilla Bacalla, Betty Clarke, Denis Wilson, Pietrina Ruspandini, Barry Morrow, Clare McKay
Please ring the parish office if you wish to add your loved ones to the sick list and also to be taken off the list once they are well. Thank you.

Process For Attending Sunday Mass

Please note that online live streaming of the 8.00am Mass will continue for the foreseeable future.

As you know there are some restrictions included with the re-establishment of public Masses: communion on the hand and under only the species of Bread, no shaking hands, no holy water, designated seating, collection baskets available but not passed, social distancing for the communion line, sign in and sign out sheets available and mandatory, no singing, hand sanitiser and the cleaning of the church after each service: to facilitate a speedy and efficient cleaning process I am asking that you avoid kneeling.

If you are unwell, have flu like symptoms or have anything that would put your health at risk or

the health of others at risk you are asked to stay home.

The current Mass times are: Sat 5.00pm & Sun 8.00am, 10.00am and 12 noon.

If you would like to attend Mass at one of the times mentioned you are asked to register, preferably by email however you are able to contact us by phone: forster-tuncurry.parish@mn.catholic.org.au or 6554 6401.

To Register:

1. Submit your name and others who will attend with you, address and contact phone number.
 2. Nominate the Mass you wish to attend.
 3. You can register on behalf of someone else providing that you have asked them.
 4. Your booking can be re-occurring so that you only need to register once.
 5. For re-occurring bookings let us know when you will be away so that we can take you off the register for that weekend and also if you would like to change Mass times.
 6. You will receive an email or text message on the Friday before the booking to confirm your attendance.
- If there is only a landline available we will only call if you are not able to attend.**

Arrival:

1. Sanitise your hands as you enter the church.
2. One person needs to sign in on the registration sheet for yourself and those attending with you.
3. Look for the crosses and indicators on the seats where places have been allocated for seating. If you live in the same house or have travelled together you are allowed to sit together.
4. Avoid unnecessary movement around the church.
5. Remember social distancing is still in place and we are asked to maintain the 1.5 metre distancing.

Departure:

You are asked not to linger after Mass but make your way home or out as your plan. The carpark and surrounds need to be cleared for the next Mass.

If you are sick could you let us know as soon as possible so that we can take your name off the list and include someone else. If you turn up on the day with flu like symptoms you can't come in.

If you change your mind, please let us know so that we may include someone else in the Mass.

If the Church is full should you just turn up, sadly for me I can't let you in under the current restrictions.

If you are coming from an area of high COVID-19 transmission we ask that you consider viewing Mass through our live stream option instead of attending.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask. I want to make it as easy as possible for you to come.

Parish Timetable	
WEEKDAY MASS 31 Aug– 5 Sep TUE: 4.30pm WED: Funeral Mass 10am FRI: 9.30am	
Mon 31 Aug	9am Counters– team 4
Tues 1 Sep	9.30am Christian Meditation
Wed 2 Sep	10am Funeral Mass- Kevin Malone (<i>register attendance</i>) 12pm Community Kitchen
Thurs 3 Sep	12pm Community Kitchen

Congratulations!

Sean & Audrey Hassett welcomed baby Sebastien on the 27 Aug
Beth and Phillip Guiney welcomed baby Charlie on the 27 Aug.



Dear Parish Family,

If you are concerned about the COVID-19 and about coming to church there is no mandate on us to wear masks but you are welcome to wear one if it helps you feel comfortable, safe and connected.

We are still sanitising; you are asked not to use the kneelers; to sit only in those seats marked; not to receive Communion on the tongue; to maintain social distancing which is 1.5 metres; and to wash your hands regularly using soap.

If you know someone who is isolated, lives alone or has family in other places please either contact them regularly or let us know who they are.

Kind regards,
Greg
Parish Priest

Syro Malabar Masses

I asked Fr Sabu Adimakiyilhas to send through some links to the Syro Malabar Masses on Sunday for those who may find these helpful and as a way of maintaining a cultural link. <https://www.facebook.com/Stmarysnewcastle/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNinQWnJlhv7nQmQRMD1ayQ>



BAPTISMS

This weekend we witness the baptism of *Mia Hunter*

May the gift of baptism she receives strengthen her for her journey of life and faith she will share with us. Please remember the Hunter family in your prayers.



HOLY LAND COLLECTION - SUNDAY SEPT 13th 2020

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land normally takes place on Good Friday. This year, due to the closure of churches around the world during Holy Week because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Pope Francis moved the date for this collection to Sunday September 13th to coincide with the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross on September 14th. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres throughout the Holy Land also rely on assistance from this collection. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Last year, Australian Catholics donated \$1.3 million to this cause, despite tough economic times, rural droughts and the increasing cost of living. This year, we are again facing great challenges due to COVID-19, but your generosity would again be greatly appreciated. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Sunday September 13th and please also keep them in your prayers. Thank you.

Course 2: Safeguarding training in parishes

Friday, 23/10/2020 at 10am-2pm, St Mary's Church Hall, Taree

Who is this for: If you are a paid or unpaid worker of the parish and have never attended any Safeguarding training (formerly Child Protection training) or last attended more than 6 years ago, this is for you. If you have attended child protection training a few years ago and want a refresher, you are also welcome to attend.

How do I register: Registrations are made via Rebecca Mahony, Learning &

Development Officer, Human Resources on 4979 1322 or email

HR-Training@mn.catholic.org.au.

If I have a question: For any further information about the course or questions in relation to your participation, or to check on your attendance history, please call the Office of Safeguarding directly on 4979 1390 or email at oosgtraining@mn.catholic.org.au.

This training will be delivered in a COVID-safe way, attendance is restricted to 10 people per session, social distancing will be maintained and people will be asked normal screening questions to check their wellbeing and potential exposure to the virus. For more information on what precautions will be in place, please go to Office of Safeguarding COVID-19 web page.

Social Justice Sunday 30 Aug

The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support. In the Social Justice Statement 2020-21, To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today, the Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community. Download the Statement at https://agora.catholic.org.au/e/576423/SocialJustice-2020/nf41c/517739138?h=4u0lRjOHBqU5H6K1MMiU8kXbtV5MKuctS_fPG-DX7Fc

National Emergency Appeal for Lebanon

In response to the horrific explosion in Beirut on the 4th of August, the Australian office of the international Catholic Charity, Aid to the Church in Need, has launched a national emergency appeal to raise funds to support the people of Lebanon. To read more about the appeal, and to make a donation, please visit: www.aidtochurch.org/lebanon or call 1800 101 201 during business hours: 8am-5pm, AEST.



HOLY LAND COMMISSARIAT

Franciscan Provincial Office
47 Victoria Street, Waverley NSW 2024, Australia
Tel (02) 9369 9300 Fax (02) 9369 9322
Email: admin@franciscans.org.au
Web: www.holylandfranciscansaustralia.org

To the people of the Church in Australia, for the Holy Land Collection 2020

For 800 years, Franciscan friars have shared the difficult lives of Christians in the often conflict torn countries of the Middle East. Since 2011, the ongoing civil war in Syria has inflicted huge suffering, and up till now, the Franciscan Friars have remained present, living among and working for the local population, including refugees. It is important to remember however that the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land embraces more than Syria and includes Israel and Palestine, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Rhodes and Cyprus. These countries' people face their own difficulties, particularly Christians due to their minority status. Among them, the friars offer pastoral care in various parishes as well as providing vital educational and charitable works. And in addition, there is the constant upkeep of the Holy Places of Christianity.

But 2020 is proving to be a year like no other. As in so many parts of the world, the COVID-19 Pandemic has thrown up enormous challenges for the people of the Holy Land particularly in terms of health and the huge drop of income due to travel restrictions preventing pilgrims, and the closure of all shrines. Pilgrimages to the Holy Land are a vital resource, and as the Custos of the Holy Land, Fr Patton explains: "Pilgrims are those who support us also, thanks to the offerings they leave during their journey. This allows us to carry out our mission: from the care of the Holy Places that give work to the local community, to the pilgrimages that give work to local Christians and schools and social works. The absence of the pilgrims and of the Good Friday collection, postponed by the Pope's will to September 13, represent two major obstacles for the Custody at this time. We hope that the solidarity of Christians throughout the world will not fail, while understanding the serious economic difficulties of all." And now more recently, the terrible explosion and destruction in Beirut has placed even more strain on the humanitarian resources of the Custody of the Holy Land within Lebanon.

Brothers and sisters, all this makes this year's Good Friday Collection, rescheduled by Pope Francis to **Sunday Sept 13th 2020** more needed than ever. The hope of many is that this rescheduling will go some way to offset the collection's cancellation on Good Friday and the closure of churches around the world, even until the present time in some countries. The Collection remains a vital contribution and act of solidarity that the whole Church is invited to make to support, through the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land, the Christian peoples of the Holy Land. These often Arab Christians, who trace their faith back to Pentecost (Acts 2:10), still walk in the footsteps of Jesus and often experience a seemingly endless Way of the Cross.

The solidarity that we Australian Catholics can make is not only with the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land, but also with the Latin Diocese of Jerusalem and with the six ancient Oriental Communities in the Middle East. Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, Prefect of the Congregation for the Oriental Churches, writes: "I am glad to transmit to all who work for the success of the Good Friday Collection, the deepest gratitude of the Holy Father together with my own gratitude and that of the Congregation for Oriental Churches."

Our Australian parishioners, Parish Priests and Bishops have always been most generous to the Holy Land (Good Friday) Collection. Our donation is a direct way to make a difference in the lives of those caught up in war, violence and instability, and now the pandemic, in the Custody of the Holy Land and elsewhere in the Middle East. I thank you all wholeheartedly on their behalf.

Mario Debattista ofm

Friar Mario Debattista ofm
Commissary of the Holy Land (Australia)
www.holylandfranciscansaustralia.org



Message from the Custos of the Holy Land regarding the Pontifical Holy Land Collection, September 13th 2020

This year, due to the pandemic caused by the Corona virus, it was not possible to take up the Good Friday Collection dedicated to supporting Christians living here in the Land of Jesus. This is why Pope Francis has accepted the request to move this gesture of sharing that concerns the whole Church to September 13th.

Why September 13th, you may ask? Because it is the Sunday closest to the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, which we celebrate here with particular solemnity in Jerusalem. On this feast we remember how far the love of the Son of God has come for us: giving His life on the Cross for our salvation and reconciling us to the Father and to each other. This gives birth to a new humanity founded on solidarity and love.

The Cross still characterizes and accompanies the journey of the small Christian community that lives in the Holy Land and throughout the Middle East. A small community that carries the Cross in the midst of situations of conflict on the one hand and indifference on the other. It is a small community that this year suffers even more because of this pandemic that has hit the whole world; for here now, there are no pilgrims or any of the work linked to their reception, which allows many Christians to work with dignity and feed their families. Yet despite this, our small Christian community continues to resist, continues to be evangelical salt, leaven and light in a context that absolutely needs it.

The collection in favour of the Holy Land is a small gesture of solidarity that the whole Church is called to make in order to support through the Custody of the Holy Land, the Christian communities that are in the Holy Land and feel the weight and also the glory of the Cross of Jesus on their shoulders.

It is thanks to you Christians throughout the whole world, who give so generously, that we will be able to continue taking care of the Holy Places of Christianity, from the Holy Sepulcher to the Basilica of the Nativity and to the lesser known sanctuaries. We will be able to support the pastoral action of the parishes entrusted to us. We will be able to guarantee quality education and learning to more than 10,000 students attending our schools. We can help young families find a home. We will be able to assist Christian migrant workers to feel welcomed even though they are far from their homeland. We will be able to stay close to the populations affected by the war in Syria and the refugees now scattered in the various countries in which we find ourselves living our mission.

This is what we have tried to do during an eight centuries long history in the Holy Land and this is thanks to the help of Christians from all over the world. This is what we hope to be able to continue to do thanks to the help of each of you on the 13th September.

Fr. Francesco Patton OFM
Custos of the Holy Land

LINKS:

<https://cmc-terrasanta.org/en/media/terra-santa-news/20756/to-revive-the-memory-of-our-christian-roots>

<https://youtu.be/4euHEsiXKf4>

Acts of Kindness

The staff at St Vincent's enjoyed the wonderful gifts made for them by the students of Holy Name Primary



Cardiothoracic Nurses
4 EAST 🤗👏
THANK YOU HNS!



Cardiothoracic
Nurses
❤️ 4 West ❤️
THANK YOU HNS!

*Baptism
Henry Olling
23/8/20*



Kindness is a gift that can bring life.
May the light of kindness:

warm your heart;
radiate through you;
light your path;
enlighten your steps;
inspire your actions.

May gestures of kindness create a ripple
effect of warmth, goodness and encour-
agement.

Shaun Dowling-Horgan 2014
(Image from melissamiko.com)



Infused With Calm Blessing

"Within you is a stillness and a sanctuary to
which you can retreat at any time and be your-
self."
- Hermann Hesse

May your life be infused with calm, nurturing:
a still mind;
a serene heart;
a gentle way of being;
a quiet confidence;
a positive power.

May you maintain an inner calmness and allow it
to touch the lives of those around you.

Shaun Dowling-Horgan 2018
(Image from roadfortwo.com)



2020 Humour!

I still can't believe people's survival instincts told them to grab toilet paper.

I'm going to stay up on New Year's Eve this year. Not to see the New Year in, but to make sure this one leaves.

If I had only known in March it would be my last time in a restaurant, I would have ordered dessert.

At the store there was a Big X by the register for me to stand on... I've seen too many Road Runner cartoons to fall for that one.

Having some states lock down and some states not lock down is like having a peeing section in a swimming pool.

Until further notice, the days of the week are now called, thisday, thatday, otherday, someday, yesterday, today & nextday.

**THEY SAID A MASK AND GLOVES WERE ENOUGH TO GO TO THE GROCERY STORE
THEY LIED, EVERYBODY ELSE HAD CLOTHES ON**

The dumbest thing I've ever purchased was a 2020 planner.

When Does Season TWO of 2020 Start?
I Do Not Like Season ONE.

Keep in mind, even during a pandemic, no matter how much chocolate you eat, your earrings will still fit.

The buttons on my jeans have started social distancing from each other.

I never thought the comment "I wouldn't touch him/her with a 6 foot pole" would become a national policy, but here we are

SADNESS is like wearing a heavy overcoat that is so old

SADNESS is like wearing an overcoat that doesn't keep out the cold

GRIEF is a feeling that goes straight to the heart

GRIEF is a feeling that tears you apart
So how do you shed these feelings that only do you harm?

You talk to your loved ones, your friends,
You can lean on their arm.

No, these feelings won't just all go away
but the overcoat gets a little lighter each and every day.



By Len Livingstone



First Reading

Jer 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;

you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock,
everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl
and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'

The word of the Lord has meant for me
insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, I will not think about him,
I will not speak in his name any more.

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,
imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me,
I could not bear it.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. (R.)

3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.

My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)

4. For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. (R.)

Second Reading

Rom 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg
you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering

your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God.
Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world
around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by
your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of
God and know what is good, what it is that God wants,
what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel

Mt 16:21-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was
destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the
hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put
to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking
him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven
preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.'
But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan!
You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think
is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a
follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his
cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life
will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will
find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole
world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in ex-
change for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his
Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward
each one according to his behaviour.'





Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel is the first of three predictions of Jesus' death and resurrection in Matthew's gospel (see also Mark and Luke). Despite Peter's confession of faith that immediately precedes this passage (see last week's gospel), the disciples still do not have a very solid understanding of Jesus' purpose. They may regard him as the Messiah, but still do not fully understand what that means. In this passage, Jesus is beginning to prepare them for the events of the passion – his death and resurrection. He is trying to lead them to a greater understanding of his mission and message. But Peter abruptly 'rebukes' Jesus and tells him not to speak like that. One can almost hear Peter saying, 'Look, Jesus, you've got a good thing going here, don't spoil it by talking about dying!' However, Jesus responds to Peter very sharply, suggesting that his lack of understanding is inspired by evil and reflects human thought, not divine wisdom.

The passage then leads in to a description of the challenge of discipleship. To be a follower of Jesus means to 'deny' oneself, take up one's cross and follow Jesus. In the context of this passage, to 'deny' oneself means to not be concerned about 'I' but to be concerned about 'You' – to put others before self. To be a follower of Jesus means to be selfless, not self-centred. In the ultimate example of this, Jesus tells his disciples that whoever wishes to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for Jesus' sake will find it. To 'save' your life is to hold back from giving yourself fully to the message of Jesus – to be 'half-hearted' in your faith. But to 'lose' yourself in the message of Jesus is to fully give yourself over to living the reign of God and through 'losing' yourself in this way, Jesus tells us, is how to truly find life.

Historical Context. Whoever loses his life for my sake...

At the time of the writing of Matthew's gospel (around 75-80 CE), Christians were being persecuted and put to death for their beliefs. They were literally giving up their lives for their faith. These persecuted Christians saw Jesus' triumph over death as a sign of great hope and trust in the future for themselves. Jesus' words in the gospel – 'whoever loses his life for my sake will find it' – would give hope to those under persecution that ultimately they too would triumph and that the deaths of their friends were not in vain.

Scriptural context. Not quite there...

This passage immediately follows the passage of last week's gospel which featured Peter's confession of faith – his inspired revelation that 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God.' The reader might think, 'Aha, the disciples have finally got it!' But in a very clever piece of writing, the author of Matthew's gospel follows this revelation of faith immediately with an example of the lack of clarity that the disciples, including Peter, still possess. This happens throughout the gospels. Whenever the disciples have a bit of an insight, they are almost immediately shown to only have a partial understanding of the truth. The full revelation of Jesus' mission and ministry is not easy to grasp and even the disciples were not quite there until they had seen the 'full story' played out before and within them.

Living the Gospel. Have you got what it takes?

For some people, to be a Christian is a 'soft option' – they see being Christian as being a bit 'fluffy'. This week's gospel is a reminder of the real challenge of being a Christian. Jesus reminds us that to be one of his followers we must be prepared to pick up our cross – whatever our particular cross might be – and still follow his example. To be a Christian means that we don't fall in a heap when difficulty comes our way; we take up the burden – our cross – and continue to look forward with hope. To live like Jesus is no easy option.

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Sunday 30 Aug 2020

Priest: Sisters and brothers, as we walk in the footsteps of Christ, let us bring our prayers before God.

Reader: That the holy Church will continue to carry the cross of responsibility and obligation to its people.

(pause) In your mercy:

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That leaders of nations will not be tempted by gain or greed.

(pause) In your mercy:

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That prisoners and captives will find renewed spirit and liberty in the Lord.

(pause) In your mercy:

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That our parish community may take up our cross each day and walk in the ways of Christ.

(pause) In your mercy:

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That the sick will be healed through Christ, especially all those in our parish bulletin.

(pause) In your mercy:

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That those who have died will be held with the Lord forever, especially Kevin Malone, Warwick Moulder, Garry John Harnish, Clare Hoole, Thomas Hoole, Athol Hoole, Norah Nebauer, Matthew Roughan & Phillip Prowse.

(pause) In your mercy:

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest: Loving God, we discover your will through the Cross. Hear our prayers and help us to live as a pilgrim people, following in the steps of your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**



BAPTISMS

Celebrated most Sundays.
Bookings via the Parish website

MARRIAGE

Celebrated by arrangement with at least 3 months notice. Bookings via the parish website

SACRAMENTAL PROCESS

Enrolment via the Parish Website

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

(RCIA) Parish Office 6554 6304

CATHOLIC CARE

Phone: 6539 5900 for services provided in Forster



PARISH TEAM

Fr Greg Barker - Parish Priest
gregory.barker@mn.catholic.org.au
Emergency Contact 0417 321 209

Danielle Kingdom

Admin Assistant
danielle.kingdom@mn.catholic.org.au

Office Hours:

Mon-Fri 9.00am- 3.30pm
Phone: 6554 6401

Website:

www.forstertuncurrycatholic.org.au

Follow us on facebook:

@catholicparishofforstertuncurry

COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Serving meals to the community from the parish hall
Wed & Thurs 12pm-1pm

PARISH GROUPS

Christian Meditation

Forster Tues 9.30am
Monica 6555 7038
Hallidays Point Wed 10am
John 0417 249 466

Social Justice Group

Last Wed 5.30pm Meeting Room
Tim Prescott 6555 8517

Gardening Group

3rd Thursday of the month, 8am
Church grounds. Howard 6557 6826

Family and Friends Group

Meets monthly, contact Carol and Terry Pearson on 0408768729.

Singing Practice

Ken Heffernan 6554 6304
(see parish timetable)

Holy Hour

Tues 3.30pm in the Church

Finance Council

3rd Wednesday of the month, 5pm
Meeting Room

Pastoral Council

1st Thursday of the month, 5.30pm
Meeting Room

Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Help and Rosary

Wed 11.00am in the Church
Shiony 0411 493 086

Secular Franciscan Fraternity

4th Sunday of the month after the 9.00am Mass

menALIVE Group

Michael Amato 6554 5284



SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Sat 5.00pm
Sun. 8.00am, 10.00am & 12.00pm

RECONCILIATION

By appointment only

YOUTH MASS

3rd Sunday of the month, will resume once restrictions have eased.

AGED CARE MASSES

(Subject to change)

Glaica House:

2nd Thurs 10.30am

Estia Forster: **3rd Tues**

10.30am



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Holy Name Catholic School K-6

41 Lake Street, Forster

Ph: 6554 6504

E: admin@forster.catholic.edu.au

W: www.forster.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Brooke Stephens

St Clare's High School 7-12

Davis Street, Taree

P: 6552 3300

E: Admin@tareesc.catholic.edu.au

W: www.tareesc.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Peter Nicholls

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