



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

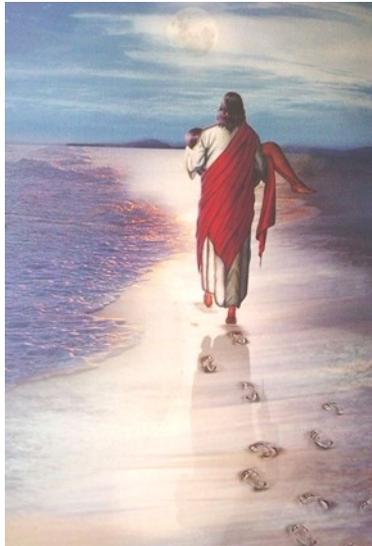
Sunday 20 September 2020,

Twenty-Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time - Year A

Dear Parish Family,

I don't know where this picture comes from as I borrowed it off another website where the original owner wasn't identified. I apologise to the owner for using it without permission but couldn't find you! Would love to be able to acknowledge whoever they are.

It says a lot though to me and you will automatically know it as an image of the Footprints poem that I also include here. Such a wonderful image and reminder that even in those dry or lonely days, even when we can not feel his presence Jesus is right there beside us, holding us, carrying us. I find that comforting!



I am really pleased that our Community Kitchen has begun, small steps which are becoming now bigger strides. I realise of course that we will be but a drop in the ocean of need in our community, but it is important to still be that 'drop'.

It reminds me of this modern day parable; *one day a man was walking along the beach when he noticed a boy picking something up and gently throwing it into the ocean. Approaching the boy, he asked, "What are you doing?" The youth replied, "Throwing starfish back into the ocean. The surf is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them back, they'll die." "Son," the man said, "don't you realize there are miles and miles of beach and hundreds of starfish? You can't make a difference!"*

After listening politely, the boy bent down, picked up another starfish, and threw it back into the surf. Then, smiling at the man, he said..." I made a difference for that one."

Footprints

One night I dreamed a dream.
As I was walking along the beach
with my Lord.
Across the dark sky flashed scenes
from my life.
For each scene, I noticed two sets of
footprints in the sand,
One belonging to me and one to my
Lord.

After the last scene of my life flashed
before me,
I looked back at the footprints in the
sand.
I noticed that at many times along
the path of my life,
especially at the very lowest and
saddest times,
there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked
the Lord about it.
"Lord, you said once I decided to
follow you,
You'd walk with me all the way.
But I noticed that during the saddest
and most troublesome times of my
life,
there was only one set of footprints.
I don't understand why, when I
needed You the most, You would
leave me."

He whispered, "My precious child, I
love you and will never leave you
Never, ever, during your trials and
testings.
When you saw only one set of foot-
prints,
It was then that I carried you."

I remember having a heated conversation with a social worker one day, as I was heading off to court with a troop in trouble during my posting to RAAF Base Edinburgh in Adelaide, about that very thing. She loudly proclaimed “Padre, you can’t save everyone!” She is of course right – well more right would have been ‘you can’t save anyone’. Psychologically speaking I can only make the journey with a person in need while they find the strength and the tools to save themselves; I can give them clues and point them in the right direction but at the end of the day I can’t save them. Theologically speaking, only God can save! Again, I can give them the clues and point them in the right direction but ultimately it will be God who will save them.

But what I think I do, and you do this too, is that somehow in making the journey with our brothers and sisters we assist God in his saving action and we assist our brothers and sisters as they find their way back to life. The image of Jesus carrying in the photo is for me what I am called to sometimes as his voice, or his hands or his shoulders, or his feet! It’s not pious platitude but a definitive action to be present in the world: the starfish is helped back to the water and that help obviously makes a difference.

What I am hoping for our community kitchen is that somehow as food is cooked and served, we walk the journey with those on that day who need to be carried a little by Jesus. They may not see it themselves that day or necessarily feel his loving presence, but he is there because we are there in his name. And for that moment we make a difference.

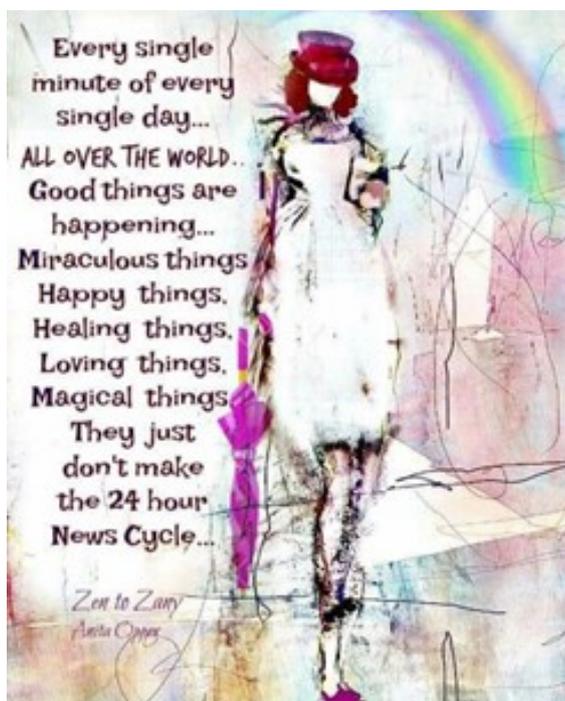
I would hope that we could ‘normalise’ in some way what we do in the kitchen, so that those who come just don’t see themselves in the place of charity or handout, loneliness or just being needy. This is about dignity and respect, so if you were passing and felt okay about popping in for a delicious meal and some fellowship that would be a wonderful thing to do! St Vincent De Paul have this lovely motto **‘a hand up, not a hand out!’** People today get fed and tomorrow might be in a place of being able to feed; that today those who need support get supported and tomorrow they support another.

I think the conversation and the fellowship that comes with a sit-down meal is life giving! I’ve had some lovely conversations in there about the weather and the food.

Have a great week all,

Kind regards,

Parish Priest





PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Recently Deceased: Marie O'Neill & Joel Dark

Anniversary: Mark Cairns-Cowan & Mary Cutjar

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, Kath Copas, Bill McElroy, Monica Alkaili

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.pariah@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 21 Sep—26 Sep TUE: 11.00am (funeral Mass) WED: 9am FRI: 9.30am	
Mon 21 Sep	9am Counters— team 4
Tues 22 Sep	9.30am Christian Meditation 11.00am Funeral Mass- Marie O'Neill (register attendance)
Wed 23 Sep	12pm Community Kitchen
Thurs 24 Sep	12pm Community Kitchen

FACE MASKS FOR SALE

\$10 ea or 3 for \$25.

New Date for Holy Land Collection

Because the proposed date for the 2020 Holy Lands Collection conflicted with the newly proclaimed Perpetual Day of Remembrance Sunday, the decision was taken to find a new date for this year's collection. The new date proposed is **Sunday 25 October 2020** which is the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Most of the previously distributed resources will still be usable, though there may be a need to change any that contain a reference to the readings of the day. Your support of the collection is appreciated.

World Day of Migrants and Refugees

Sunday 27 September 2020 The Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office (ACMRO) "Migrant and Refugee Kit 2020" is now available online for you to download. Pope Francis has chosen the theme, "Like Jesus Christ, forced to flee", for the 106th World Day of Migrant and Refugees. Included in the "Migrant and Refugee Kit 2020" are stories from local communities, reflections and prayers to be used in preparation for the day. ACMRO hopes that the Kit will assist parishes and schools in commemorating this important event.

The Spiritual Rosary Pilgrimage

Parousia is pleased to be teaming up with Pentecost Pilgrimage and Smart Catholics to bring to you the Spiritual Rosary Pilgrimage. It starts on September 8 the birthday of Our Lady and concludes on October 7 the feast of the Rosary. Speakers from all over the world will be sharing reflections on each meditation of the rosary. Journey through the life of Christ with His mother and join thousands around the world for this powerful, prayerful experience. Register online <https://www.parousiamedia.com>



Cleaning Position Vacant: Hygiene Heroes Cleaning Services are looking for people to clean holiday rentals, bond cleans, offices and domestic houses. Contact Carla on 0484 870 883 or hygieneheroescleaningservices@gmail.com



In the spirit of Mary MacKillop, we invite you to

"Take fresh courage."

This year is the ten year anniversary of Mary's canonisation.

During the challenging times we all face, please pray and support Mary MacKillop Today, so that we can continue to transform lives through our vital works and carry on the legacy of Saint Mary MacKillop of the Cross.

For more information please call 02 8912 2777 or visit marymackillop-today.org.au

MARY MACKILLOP
today

Confirmation Pastoral Guidance 2020 Review

The Pastoral Guidance for Confirmation is a living document which develops in response to our experience and ever deepening insight into the meaning of Confirmation as a Sacrament of Initiation. 2020 was specified as the first period of formal review. In response to COVID-19 and the suspension of Sacraments of Initiation for 2020, the Diocesan Liturgy Council (DLC) prepared the Sacraments of Initiation Fallow Year Resource document which was made available to communities in July. Pages 43-44 of that document outline a review process for Parish Sacraments of Initiation Teams to engage with as the first step of our review of the Pastoral Guidance for Confirmation. It is now time to listen

to the reflections of the community

The ideal is to gather in a way that enables parishes to listen to each other. COVID makes that difficult. In response the DLC is hosting a mix of physical gatherings and online gatherings before November 15. Participants will need the ZOOM app. Those who register will be sent the link ahead of the gathering. Refer options below.

Online gatherings

- Saturday Oct 17, 10 am – 12.30 pm
- Wednesday Oct 21, 4 pm – 6.30 pm • Saturday Oct 24, 10 am – 12.30 pm

To register or if you have any queries please contact Sharon Murphy sharon.murphy@mn.catholic.org.au or 02 4979 1134

World Peace Day Webinar

6:00 – 7:00 PM, September 21, 2020
Mayfield Mosque (Via Facebook Live at: www.facebook.com/MayfieldMosque)
Fr. Camillus Nwaha will be the Catholic Clergy to talk. This year's theme is 'Shaping Peace Together'.

Engaging your Catholic Faith

Engaging Your Catholic Faith is a series of short sessions offering an opportunity to explore your faith through a variety of topics including: Meditation and Prayer, Spirituality, Women in the Early Church, Interfaith Relations, Reading the Church Classics, Eucharist, Science and Religion. All topics are presented by lecturers of Catholic Theological College.

Choose one, choose all, choose what interests you and all for just \$20 per session, running 14 September to 31 October. <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/adult-faith-formation/>

LITed: Liturgical Education News from Liturgy Brisbane

** The September 2020 edition is now ready to view at <https://litedliturgybrisbane.weebly.com/>. **

Staying Connected

Family, Faith and Friends sums up how we are surviving in these challenging times!

- 1) We set up meetings on Zoom with family and friends. A challenge!
- 2) Shared Parish Mass with Fr Greg. (He does look good on television.)
- 3) Cooked up a storm and shared food with neighbours.
- 4) Stayed in contact with family through phone hook ups and the use of social media!
- 5) Once restrictions have been relaxed, we are visiting family, babysitting and having picnics with friends.

Life is good!

Ian and Annie Evans





READINGS 19/20 SEPTEMBER

First Reading

Is 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

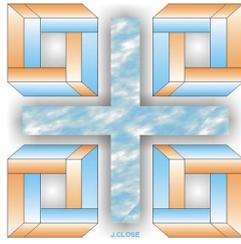
Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.

Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.

Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;

for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.



Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18. R. v.18

(R.) The Lord is near to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.

the Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. (R.)

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)

3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.

He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. (R.)

Second Reading

Phil 1:20-24. 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philipians

For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake. Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel

Mt 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vine-

yard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

On a first reading of this gospel story, the reader is probably struck by the unfairness of the situation. The landowner has employed day labourers at different times throughout the day to work in his vineyard. However, come the end of the day, the landowner pays all the day labourers the same amount. Not surprisingly, the labourers employed at daybreak to work the whole day are upset that those who have only worked the last hour of the day are paid the same amount. The landowner reminds them that he is paying them what they agreed at the start of the day, and yet the reader is left uncomfortable about the whole arrangement.

Of course, this is the purpose of Jesus' story! The key to the story is in the introduction. Most of the kingdom parables told by Jesus begin with a formulaic statement, 'The kingdom is like ...' and this one is no different. What follows is almost always a description of an everyday event that is turned on its head. In all of the kingdom parables recorded in the gospels, Jesus describes a world order in which people respond in unexpected and sometimes confusing ways. His message is that the kingdom, or reign, of God turns expectations upside down. In the kingdom, people who are treated badly in this world are held in great esteem; the balance of power is turned upside down; and the usual order of things is challenged. The landowner's final comment in the parable, 'the last will be first, and the first, last', is a perfect example of the challenging nature of Jesus' kingdom parables. In the kingdom, those who hold themselves to be first in this world will be brought down, and those who are treated as least in this world will be exalted.

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Sunday 20 Sep 2020

Priest: Dear friends, coming to God in prayer we bring our intentions before the Lord.

Reader: That our Holy Father Pope Francis may serve God's people with justice.

(pause) In your mercy :

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

Reader: That communities in troubled or warring countries will experience justice and freedom.

(pause) In your mercy :

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

Reader: That workers will be provided with rights and just rewards for their labour.

(pause) In your mercy :

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

Reader: That our parish community will be generous with our time in helping those in need.

(pause) In your mercy :

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

Reader: That the sick and housebound will be shown kindness and compassion, especially all those in our parish bulletin.

(pause) In your mercy :

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

Reader: That those who have died will dwell forever in the kingdom of heaven, especially Marie O'Neill & Joel Dark

(pause) In your mercy :

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

Priest: Holy Father, you are near to all and loving in your deeds. Hear our prayers and help us to always live by your ways as generous and compassionate people. 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](https://www.facebook.com/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



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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