



Bridgeside Bulletin



The weekly Bulletin of the Catholic Parish of Forster Tuncurry

"Unity in Christ"

Holy Name of Jesus Church, 31 Lake Street, Forster 2428 NSW

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

SUNDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2021, TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

Dear Brothers and Sisters

The news last week about the ill health of Bishop Bill was and is quite shocking, it has filled me and many others with a sense of sadness and it has left us feeling robbed. Because this man who has done so well for our diocese has had to tender his resignation due to an insidious illness that will, in due course, claim his life. We are left to wonder why! We are left to wonder what might have been, considering he was meant to be the Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle until 2027. We are left asking what can we do now. Well, we can, and indeed must, pray for him. Pray for his family, pray for our diocese, pray for the Holy Father as the processes will soon start to appoint a new Bishop for the diocese. Given all that, and the fact that October is the month of the Rosary; I ask that our community of faith join together to pray the Rosary before each Mass throughout October. This will be an act of love holding our Bishop before the Lord, through the intercession of Our Lady at this time. I ask therefore, for volunteers to lead the Rosary. The prayer will start 20 minutes before the Mass is due to begin and finish about 5 minutes before the Mass is due to start. Please contact the office to register your interest in leading these prayers for our Bishop.

On Saturday the 11th of September the Mid Coast LGA came out of lock down and we were able to have public Masses again. The first Mass was the vigil Mass that evening. Sometime between the end of that Mass and the next morning, the money from the collection plate went missing and is yet to be found. As a result of this, the procedures around the collection and storage of the collection money will change. Indeed, as an added security measure, they will be changed every few months without notice. Part of the change will be that I will, following the vigil Mass ask two other people to come with me and witness me putting the money from the collection into a storage place. There will be no roster for this, I will ask random people each week and I seek your cooperation in this matter. If asked, please do assist. I do not know what happened to the money. For the inconvenience that this has caused I am deeply sorry. I ask that there be no gossip about this, it would be unhelpful and indeed, sinful. Whoever did this and how ever it was done, it must have been by someone who needed it and whom for whatever reason, could not come to the parish and ask for help. This aspect of the whole situation, has left me bitterly disappointed and very sad. Please, can we as a community of faith pray for whoever did this. It is my hope that we as a Parish and a community of faith are able to feel comfortable enough to come and seek help should it be needed. If anybody is in need of help please, please reach out.

Starting from Monday the long awaited solar panels will be placed on the roof. This will bring to completion the redevelopment plan of the site. It will reduce our carbon footprint, as well as our power costs. I look forward to this being completed.

I would like to thank the Gardening Group, who have worked so hard to beautify the side of the Church. They laid the pavers that had been stacked up, and completed a path and laid garden beds down the side of the Church. The area is quite beautiful! It is a meditative space that leads from the Church down to the Columbarium. As the plants grow and thrive it will provide a lovely vista for people to look at. Five crosses have been constructed and hung on the fence. I have decided to call this space the "Rosary Walk". I have received quotes to have 5 plaques made that list the mysteries so that people can walk up and down and pray the Rosary. If anybody is interested in contributing towards to cost of these plaques please do see me after Masses this weekend or contact the office. These cost \$560.20 each.

This weekend the Parish financial statement for the 2020-2021 financial year has been released. It shows that, things are tight! We have returned a small surplus, and are just managing to get by. The statement has been emailed out to all the parishioners, and there will be a few printed copies at the back of the Church this weekend. Following Covid restrictions there will be a presentation on this after Mass one weekend. I thank all members of the Finance Committee for their dedicated work and support of the Parish, and to me personally since my arrival. I commend the report to you for your consideration.

With Love.

Fr. Peter.



Parish Timetable

WEEKDAY MASS
 27 SEP—2 OCT
 TUE: 4.30pm
 WED: 9.30am
 THU: 4.30pm
 FRI: 9.30am
 SAT: 9.30am

Sun 26 SEP	9.30am Franciscan meeting— <i>Parish Office</i>
Mon 27 SEP	9am Counters— Team 3 12pm Community Kitchen
Tue 28 SEP	9.30am Christian Meditation 12pm Community Kitchen 3.30pm Holy Hour, followed by Benediction
Wed 29 SEP	11am Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help 12pm Community Kitchen
Thu 30 SEP	12pm Community Kitchen 3.30pm Holy Hour, followed by Benediction

What's happening locally...

Secular Franciscans are lay Catholic men and women who follow Jesus by living the gospel values in their everyday secular lives in the footsteps of St Francis of Assisi. Their members come from all walks of life.

Website: <http://www.ofsaustralia.org.au>
Enquiries: 6554 5250

Safeguarding Training

The Office of Safeguarding is offering Safeguarding Training locally in the parish hall for volunteers. If you are a current volunteer or thinking of volunteering in the future then this training session is beneficial to you. Safeguarding Training is mandatory for those volunteering in child related ministries or working with vulnerable people in the community.

Date: Friday 29th October

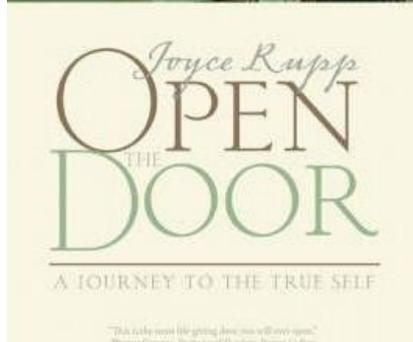
Time: 11.30am—3pm

Location: Parish hall, 31 Lake Street, Forster

Registrations: 02 4979 1390
oosgtraining@mn.catholic.org.au

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION: A Meditation Group meets each Tuesday morning at 9.30am in the Forster Church. Come and join us and take an hour out of your busy week to be still and be at peace in the chaos of the world.

Enquiries Greg Byrne 0427 918 568.



OPEN THE DOOR by Joyce Rupp

We would like to invite anyone who is interested in joining us in the study of 'Open The Door' by Joyce Rupp to give us a call. The book is about journeying to your true self – a very rich resource for opening the doors of our spiritual life! If this appeals to you in any way give it a go and join us. If you are interested please call any one of us: Monique : 0419 212 350, Teresa : 0407 557 127 or Grace 0415 409 637.

Chairs for sale. Contact Parish Office:

- Office chairs for sale for \$20 ea
- Plastic chairs for sale for \$5 ea



8am Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Church Live Stream

When: Sep 26, 2021 07:30 AM

Topic: 8am Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Church

Please use the link below to join the webinar:

<https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/64146779775>

Columban Art Calendars 2022
 Now available in church for \$15 ea

THE LATEST NEWS FROM OUR SAFEGUARDING PROMOTERS

The **Promoters of Safeguarding** continue to endorse a culture of safeguarding within the Parish and this has resulted in your attention being drawn to a number of important events such as *National Child Protection Week* and *R U OK Day* which are celebrated to protect and connect communities. It is also important that we remind you of the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese decree marking a Perpetual Day of Remembrance which falls annually on a Sunday close to 15th September which marks a day of remembering and acknowledging the harm caused by a history of child sexual abuse and failure to protect children within our diocese. This day also recognises the continual unfolding of these maltreatments and neglect on those directly and indirectly affected, thus ensuring such abuse never happens again.

The *Perpetual Day of Remembrance* continues to push us to think deeply about what it means to be and live as a Catholic community. Many find recalling this chapter of our history to be confronting. Our Parish Priest, Fr Peter, has assured us that he will never forget and that he "...finds it important because, if we do not remember our history and evilness that infected the Church and did so much damage to so many innocent people, we will not learn from our past mistakes."

We celebrated the 2021 Perpetual Day of Remembrance on Sunday 12th September and Bishop Bill reminded us that those still living among us and still suffering the effects of abuse deserve to be remembered in our prayers and by taking into account their needs in our Church life and ministry. As the saying goes, "It takes a village..." We need every glimmer of light if together we hope to **shine the light of Christ** into this dark space: a light of solidarity, a light of prayer, a light of courage and commitment to change, a light of healing and hope.

Counselling support is available:

Healing and Support (Zimmerman Services)

02 4923 0636

or healing.support@mn.catholic.org.au or
Blue Knot Helpline 1300 657 380

The Spring 2021 edition of Liturgy News is out now! Liturgy News issues are available for free download from the Liturgy Brisbane website:

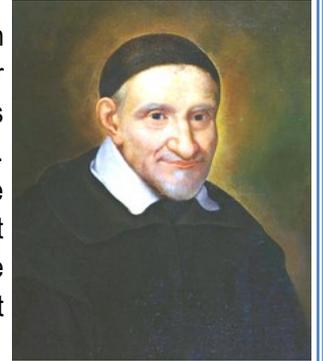
<https://www.liturgybrisbane.net.au/resources/liturgy-news/>

Saints and Feasts



26TH SEPTEMBER, SAINTS COSMAS AND DAMIAN, MARTYRS were brothers, born in Arabia, who had become eminent for their skill in the science of medicine. Being Christians, they were filled with the spirit of charity and never took money for their services. At Egaea in Cilicia, where they lived, they enjoyed the highest esteem of the people. When the persecution under Diocletian broke out, their very prominence rendered them marked objects of persecution. Being apprehended by order of Lysias, governor of Cilicia, they underwent various torments about the year 283. They are patron saints of pharmacists.

27TH SEPTEMBER, ST VINCENT DE PAUL, PRIEST. St Vincent de Paul was born to a French peasant family in 1580. He was a highly intelligent youth and was educated by the Franciscans for several years, before being ordained at the age of 20. In 1605 he was captured by Turkish pirates who sold him into slavery, but won his freedom after he converted one of his masters to Christianity. After returning to France, he served as a parish priest near Paris and began to establish charitable organisations that helped the poor, nursed the sick and found work for the unemployed. St Vincent founded the Congregation of the Daughters of Charity with Louise de Marillac, and instituted the Congregation of Priests of the Mission, also known as the Lazarists. Today the Society of St Vincent de Paul provides relief to people in need across the world.



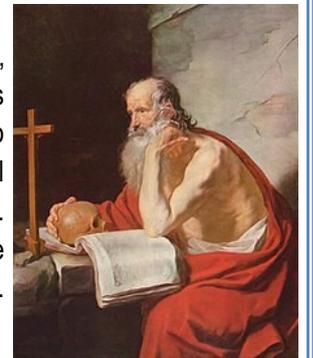
29TH SEPTEMBER, STs MICHAEL, GABRIEL AND RAPHAEL.

St Michael cast Lucifer out of Heaven. He is the Patron St. of Police and Soldiers and the guardian of Souls.

St Gabriel was the Messenger to Mary, telling her that she would be the mother of the Saviour. Patron St. of communications.

St. Raphael travelled with and guarded Tobiah in the Old Testament. Patron St. of travellers.

30TH SEPTEMBER, ST JEROME, PRIEST, DOCTOR born Eusebius Hieronymous Sophronius, was the most learned of the Fathers of the Western Church. He is one of the four great Latin Doctors of the Church and is perhaps best known for his translation of the Hebrew books of the Bible into Latin, termed as the Vulgate. He teaches us the wisdom of obedience to the Church's magisterial authority, and, certainly, to the supreme earthly authority of the Roman Pontiff, the Vicar of Christ. For St. Jerome frequently showed his reliance on the authority of the pope, as well as the extreme importance of the Magisterium (teaching office of the Church) for guidance on doctrinal matters. Please note not all memorial, solemnities, feasts for August are listed



1ST OCTOBER, ST THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS, VIRGIN, DOCTOR. St Thérèse was born at Alençon, France in 1873. She entered the Carmelite convent of Lisieux at a young age and was recognised for her humility, simplicity and confidence in God. She died of tuberculosis in 1897, at the age of 24. Her autobiography, 'The Story of a Soul', was published after her death—she also left many letters, poems, religious plays and prayers. St Thérèse was canonised in 1925 and in 1997, Pope John Paul II declared her the thirty-third Doctor of the Church; the youngest person and only third woman to receive this title.

2ND OCTOBER, THE HOLY GAURDIAN ANGELS. The Angels are pure spirits endowed with a natural intelligence, will power, and beauty far surpassing the nature, faculties, and powers of man. They offer continuous praise to God and serve Him as messengers and ministers, and as guardians of men on earth. Those blessed spirits who are appointed by God to be protectors and defenders of men are called Guardian Angels. Faith teaches us that each individual has a Guardian Angel who watches over him during the whole course of his life.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:



Recently Deceased: Mary Gleeson

Anniversary: Lydia Fazio, Anika Collins & Timothy Street

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:

Bishop William Wright, Max Dunn, Ken Vote, Michael Dolahenty

People will remain on the prayers for the sick for 4 weeks and will then be taken off automatically. You can resubmit names as needed.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

- Fr:** Brothers and sisters, we have been marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit. Trusting in God's mercy, let us bring our needs and the needs of the world before our God.
- Reader:** That the Church will continue to minister fearlessly to those who live amid hostility and danger.
In your mercy:
- All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Reader:** That Pope Francis will lead the Church faithfully as the Vicar of Christ.
In your mercy:
- All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Reader:** That nations will continue to strive to break the chains of poverty and oppression.
In your mercy:
- All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Reader:** That those who have repented will be given trust and encouragement as they make a new start.
In your mercy:
- All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Reader:** For people who have lost hope, that the Lord will bind their wounds and give them new heart.
In your mercy:
- All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Reader:** That the sick will find healing and peace, especially Bishop Bill Wright, and all those listed on our bulletin.
In your mercy:
- All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Reader:** That this community will show greater concern for people with limited mobility, particularly those who are housebound.
In your mercy:
- All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Reader:** For those who have died, including Mary Gleeson who has died recently, and for Lydia Fazio, Anika Collins & Timothy Street who's anniversaries occur at this time and for those who mourn them.
In your mercy:
- All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Fr:** God of mercy, in your great love you reconcile us to yourself. Hear our prayer, and raise us up that we may become a people of faith. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
- All:** **Amen.**

Sunday 26 Sep 2021
Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Entrance Antiphon

Dn 3:31,29,30,43,42

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

First Reading

Nm 11:25-29

A reading from the book of Numbers
The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look', he said, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 18:8. 10. 12-14. R. v.9

(R.) The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

1.The law of the Lord is perfect, it re-
vives the soul. The rule of the Lord is
to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the
simple. (R.)

2.The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding
for ever. The decrees of the Lord are

truth and all of them just. (R.)

3.So in them your servant finds in-
structions; great reward is in their
keeping. But who can detect all his
errors? From hidden faults acquit me.
(R.)

4.From presumption restrain your
servant and let it not rule me. Then
shall I be blameless, clean from grave
sin. (R.)

Second Reading

Jas 5:1-6

A reading from the letter of St James
An answer for the rich. Start crying,
weep for the miseries that are coming
to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your
clothes are all eaten up by moths. All
your gold and your silver are corroding
away, and the same corrosion will
be your own sentence, and eat into
your body. It was a burning fire that
you stored up as your treasure for the
last days. Labourers mowed your
fields, and you cheated them – listen
to the wages that you kept back, call-
ing out; realise that the cries of the
reapers have reached the ears of the
Lord of hosts. On earth you have had
a life of comfort and luxury; in the time
of slaughter you went on eating to
your heart's content. It was you who
condemned the innocent and killed
them; they offered you no resistance.

Gospel Acclamation

See Jn 17:17

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your word, O Lord, is truth:
make us holy in the truth.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mk 9:38-43. 45. 47-48

A reading from the holy Gospel ac-
cording to Mark
John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a
man who is not one of us casting out
devils in your name; and because he
was not one of us we tried to stop
him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not
stop him: no one who works a miracle

in my name is likely to speak evil of
me. Anyone who is not against us is
for us. 'If anyone gives you a cup of
water to drink just because you be-
long to Christ, then I tell you solemnly,
he will most certainly not lose his re-
ward. 'But anyone who is an obstacle
to bring down one of these little ones
who have faith, would be better
thrown into the sea with a great mill-
stone round his neck. And if your
hand should cause you to sin, cut it
off; it is better for you to enter into life
crippled, than to have two hands and
go to hell, into the fire that cannot be
put out. And if your foot should cause
you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you
to enter into life lame, than to have
two feet and be thrown into hell. And if
your eye should cause you to sin, tear
it out; it is better for you to enter into
the kingdom of God with one eye,
than to have two eyes and be thrown
into hell where their worm does not
die nor their fire go out.'

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 118:49-50

Remember your word to your servant,
O Lord,
by which you have given me hope.
This is my comfort when I am brought
low.

Readings for Next Week 2/3 Oct

First Reading

Gen 2:18-24 The Lord God creates
woman.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 127. R. v.5 (R.) May the Lord
bless us all the days of our lives.

Second Reading

Heb 2:9-11 Jesus was made low to
taste death for all people.

Gospel Acclamation

cf. 1 Jn 4:12 Alleluia, alleluia! If we
love one another, God will live in us
in perfect love. Alleluia!

Gospel

Mk 10:2-16 'Let the children come
to me.'

THE ORDER OF MASS

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. either:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And with your spirit.** or:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **And with your spirit.** or:

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL ACT

Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries. either:

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, (striking the breast) through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.** or:

Have mercy on us, O Lord.

For we have sinned against you.

Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

And grant us your salvation.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.** or:

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart:

P: Lord, have mercy or: **P:** Kyrie, eleison.

R: Lord, have mercy or: **R:** Kyrie, eleison.

You came to call sinners:

P: Christ have mercy or: **P:** Christe, eleison.

R: Christ have mercy or: **R:** Christe, eleison.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us:

P: Lord, have mercy or: **P:** Kyrie, eleison.

R: Lord, have mercy or: **R:** Kyrie, eleison.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

The Kyrie follows, unless it has occurred in the Penitential Act. either:

P: Lord, have mercy. **R:** Lord, have mercy.

P: Christ, have mercy. **R:** Christ, have mercy.

P: Lord, have mercy. **R:** Lord, have mercy.

or:

P: Kyrie, eleison.

R: Kyrie, eleison.

P: Christe, eleison.

R: Christe, eleison.

P: Kyrie, eleison.

R: Kyrie, eleison.

Gloria (when said)

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Let us pray. At the end of the Collect, the people acclaim: **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

At the end of the reading:

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

At the Gospel:

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to N.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

At the end of the Gospel:

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (all bow) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come

again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, (all bow) born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray, brethren ... the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of His name, for our good and the good of all His holy Church.

At the end of the prayer, the people acclaim:
Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right and just.**

After the Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The mystery of faith. either:

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again. or:

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again. or:

**Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.**

Through him, and with him, ... for ever and ever.
Amen.

THE COMMUNION RITE

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

Our Father, who art in heaven...

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil...

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever.

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles...

Who live and reign for ever and ever.

Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And with your spirit.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. (X2)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

The Body of Christ. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray. At the end of the prayer, the people acclaim:
Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the † Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

either:

Go forth, the Mass is ended. or:

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord. or:

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your Life. or:

Go in peace.

Thanks be to God.

© 2019 design by Rev Fr Peter Street. Text from the Roman Missal 2011.



SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY

by Brendan Byrne SJ

At this stage in the readings for Year B we have arrived a point in Mark's Gospel where a connecting thread running through various incidents and sayings is not easy to find – though all are subsumed into the overriding concern of Jesus throughout the journey, which is to instruct his disciples concerning his passion and death. What makes that instruction so difficult for the disciples to accept is their preconceived idea of the glory that is to accrue to them as leading associates of the Messiah. In several incidents and instructions, including those making up today's Gospel (Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48) Jesus chips away at the notion that messiahship and being associated with it will bring privilege, rather than involving – as he has been insisting – costly service.

The disciples were disturbed when they came upon someone who is using Jesus' name – and hence his authority – to cast out demons. They did their best to put a stop to his activity because, as they explain to Jesus, 'he was not one of us'. Instead of approval, what they get is a mild rebuke. Jesus does not mind his name being used by another for a good purpose. The main thing is that human beings are being set free from the power of Satan and reclaimed for the fullness of life. The disciples, on the other hand, are less focused upon the objective good being done and more concerned about an outsider's use of what they see as their own prerogative and possession.

The **First Reading**, Numbers 11:25-29 offers a helpful biblical precedent for this part of the Gospel. It tells of a similar misguided response on the part of Joshua when two individuals who were not numbered among the designated seventy elders appointed to assist Moses manifest the same spirit of prophecy that the seventy had shown. By contrast the large-heartedness of Moses stands out.

In a later part of the **Gospel**, Jesus reinforces the point with the statement about outsiders who give members of the community (possibly travelling missionaries are particularly in mind) a cup of water to drink 'because they belong to Christ'. Such outsiders show the kind of service to others that is supposed to be a hallmark of the followers of Jesus. What determines the 'reward' one will receive (at the judgment) is not whether one is inside or outside the community but whether one has performed the service expected of the community.

Taken together, both elements of instruction on the part of Jesus show a remarkable openness to the possibility of goodness and effective ministry outside the community of disciples strictly so defined. They invite the disciples to look away from their own sense of distinctiveness and privilege and to be prepared to find and rejoice in goodness wherever it exists. This is not to play down the importance of being associates of Jesus. It is simply to insist that what is supremely important about such belonging is preparedness for costly service rather than resting on privilege and power.

So much for good found outside the community. The second part of the Gospel in a balancing way takes up the issue of evil that may exist inside the community. Any community consists of strong and weak, people whose faith is mature and people whose faith is still growing. 'These little ones' are either children or else simply the more vulnerable in the latter sense: those whose faith – and hence salvation – can be placed in jeopardy by bad example or exploitative behaviour on the part of the stronger members. Presupposed is a sense to which Paul gives memorable expression: 'The life and death of each of us has its influence on others' (Romans 14:7 [Jerusalem Bible translation]).

The sense that wrongdoing is a community concern rather than simply a private matter accounts for the severity of the 'remedies' Jesus suggests. (Being tied to a large stone and thrown into the sea seems to refer to a particularly abhorrent Roman form of execution.) Later, Jesus seems to have in mind a surgical operation where a diseased limb is sacrificed in order to save the whole body. The advice is not, of course, to be taken literally. The image makes the point that one's own salvation and that of other members of the community is of such supreme importance that one must be prepared to act vigorously against immediate self-interest or temptation in order to safeguard it. Needless to say, nonetheless, this second part of today's Gospel has acquired a striking new relevance in view of the sexual abuse crisis that has been uncovered in the Church.

In the **Second Reading** (James 5:1-6) James' prophetic declamation against the rich for exploitation of the poor reaches fever pitch. In many ways, it is simply an intensification of Jesus' own teaching, as seen, for example, in the Beatitudes.

POPE FRANCIS
ANGELUS
Saint Peter's Square
Sunday, 19 September 2021

Dear brothers and sisters, buongiorno!

The Gospel of today's Liturgy (Mk 9:30-37) narrates that, on the way to Jerusalem, Jesus' disciples were discussing "with one another who was the greatest" (v. 34). So, Jesus directed harsh words toward them that are still valid today: "If any one would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all" (v. 35). If you want to be first, you need to get in line, be last, and serve everyone. Through this shocking phrase, the Lord inaugurates a reversal: he overturns the criteria about what truly matters. The value of a person does not depend any more on the role they have, the work they do, the money they have in the bank. No, no, no, it does not depend on this. Greatness and success in God's eyes are measured differently: they are measured by service. Not on what someone has, but on what someone gives. Do you want to be first? Serve. This is the way.

Today, the word "service" appears a bit hackneyed, worn out by use. But it has a precise and concrete meaning in the Gospel. To serve is not a courteous expression: it means to act like Jesus, who, summing up his life in a few words, said he had come "not to be served, but to serve" (Mk 10:45). This is what the Lord said. Therefore, if we want to follow Jesus, we must follow the path he himself traced out, the path of service. Our fidelity to the Lord depends on our willingness to serve. And we know this often costs, because "it tastes like a cross". But, as our care and availability toward others grows, we become freer inside, more like Jesus. The more we serve, the more we are aware of God's presence. Above all, when we serve those who cannot give anything in return, the poor, embracing their difficulties and needs with tender compassion: and we in turn discover God's love and embrace there.

After having spoken of the primacy of service, Jesus does something precisely to illustrate this. We have seen that Jesus' actions are stronger than the words he uses. And what is that action? He takes a child and puts him in the midst of the disciples, at the center, in the most important place (cf. v. 36). In the Gospel, the child does not symbolize innocence so much as littleness. For like children, the little ones depend on others, on adults, they need to receive. Jesus embraces those children and says that those who welcome a little one, a child, welcome him (cf. v. 37). The ones who are to be served above all are: those in need of receiving who cannot give anything in return. To serve those who need to receive and cannot give anything in return. In welcoming those on the margins, the neglected, we welcome Jesus because He is

there. And in the little one, in the poor person we serve, we also receive God's tender embrace.

Dear brothers and sisters, challenged by the Gospel, let us ask ourselves: Am I, who follow Jesus, interested in the one who is neglected? Or am I rather seeking personal gratification, like the disciples that day? Do I understand life in terms of competing to make room for myself at others' expense, or do I believe that being first means serving? And, concretely: do I dedicate time to a "little one", to a person who has no means to pay me back? Am I concerned about someone who cannot give me anything in return, or only with my relatives and friends? These are the questions we need to ask ourselves.

May the Virgin Mary, the humble servant of the Lord, help us understand that to serve does not belittle us, but helps us grow. And that there is more joy in giving than in receiving (cf. Acts 20:35).

After the Angelus the Holy Father continued:

Dear brothers and sisters,

I am near the victims of the flooding that happened in the State of Hidalgo in Mexico, especially to the sick who died in the hospital of Tula and their families.

I want to assure my prayer for the people who have been unjustly detained in foreign countries: unfortunately, there are several cases, for different, and sometimes, complex causes. I hope that, in the due fulfillment of justice, these people might return as soon as possible to their homeland.

I greet all of you, people from Rome and pilgrims from various countries – Poles, Slovaks, those from Honduras – you are great! – families, groups, associations and individual members of the faithful. In particular, I greet the Confirmation candidates from Scandicci and the Allievi Association (Association of Students) founded by Servant of God, Father Gianfranco Maria Chiti, a Capuchin brother, on the hundredth anniversary of his birth.

My thoughts go to those who are gathered in the Shrine of La Salette in France, on the 175th anniversary of the apparition of the Madonna who appeared in tears to two children. Mary's tears make us think of Jesus' tears over Jerusalem and of his anguish in Gethsemane: they are a reflection of Christ's suffering for our sins and an appeal that is always contemporary, to entrust ourselves to God's mercy.

I hope you all enjoy your Sunday and please, do not forget to pray for me. Enjoy your lunch and arrivederci!

The children of the Immacolata are great!

The Chaplet of Mercy is recited using ordinary Rosary beads of five decades. The Chaplet is preceded by two opening prayers from the Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska and followed by a closing prayer.

1. Make the Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

2. Optional Opening Prayers

St. Faustina's Prayer for Sinners

O Jesus, eternal Truth, our Life, I call upon You and I beg Your mercy for poor sinners. O sweetest Heart of my Lord, full of pity and unfathomable mercy, I plead with You for poor sinners. O Most Sacred Heart, Fount of Mercy from which gush forth rays of inconceivable graces upon the entire human race, I beg of You light for poor sinners. O Jesus, be mindful of Your own bitter Passion and do not permit the loss of souls redeemed at so dear a price of Your most precious Blood. O Jesus, when I consider the great price of Your Blood, I rejoice at its immensity, for one drop alone would have been enough for the salvation of all sinners. Although sin is an abyss of wickedness and ingratitude, the price paid for us can never be equalled. Therefore, let every soul trust in the Passion of the Lord, and place its hope in His mercy. God will not deny His mercy to anyone. Heaven and earth may change, but God's mercy will never be exhausted. Oh, what immense joy burns in my heart when I contemplate Your incomprehensible goodness, O Jesus! I desire to bring all sinners to Your feet that they may glorify Your mercy throughout endless ages (Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, 72).

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

(Repeat three times)

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You!

3. Our Father

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, Amen.

4. Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death, Amen.

5. The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

6. The Eternal Father

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

7. On the 10 Small Beads of Each Decade

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

8. Repeat for the remaining decades

Saying the "Eternal Father" (6) on the "Our Father" bead and then 10 "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion" (7) on the following "Hail Mary" beads.

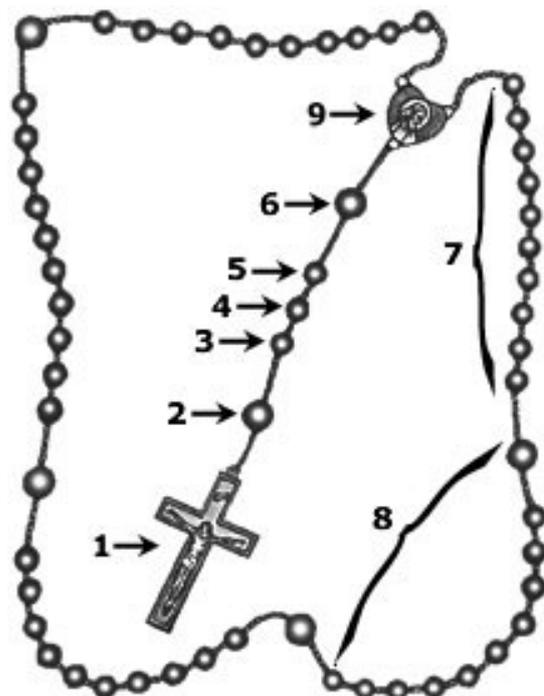
9. Conclude with Holy God (Repeat three times)

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

10. Optional Closing Prayers

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion — inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

O Greatly Merciful God, Infinite Goodness, today all mankind calls out from the abyss of its misery to Your mercy — to Your compassion, O God; and it is with its mighty voice of misery that it cries out. Gracious God, do not reject the prayer of this earth's exiles! O Lord, Goodness beyond our understanding, Who are acquainted with our misery through and through, and know that by our own power we cannot ascend to You, we implore You: anticipate us with Your grace and keep on increasing Your mercy in us, that we may faithfully do Your holy will all through our life and at death's hour. Let the omnipotence of Your mercy shield us from the darts of our salvation's enemies, that we may with confidence, as Your children, await Your [Son's] final coming — that day known to You alone. And we expect to obtain everything promised us by Jesus in spite of all our wretchedness. For Jesus is our Hope: through His merciful Heart, as through an open gate, we pass through to heaven (Diary, 1570).



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE DIOCESE AND SURROUNDS...



Reach out. Give life.

The second reading offers us a salutary reminder about the importance of always looking beyond this world, and this life, as men and women of faith. Wealth and material possessions are temporary – the call to build the kingdom of God is permanent. As Christians, and as members of the Catholic Church, we are baptised with the Holy Spirit, in preparation for our foray into the world around us. This is what it means to be on Mission and this reading urges us not to forget that storing up “treasure for the last days”, when others around us are going without and are suffering, is not the Christian way. As we prepare to enter the month of October – a time when the Church celebrates World Mission Month - let us turn our hearts, minds and even our financial affairs, to the missionary work that the Catholic Church does with, and for, children around the world, including Thailand. Consider your capacity to either make a major gift in this life or an eternal legacy, through a gift in your will.

For more information about ways you can contribute to the vital, life-giving work supported by Catholic Mission, go to <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/see-our-work-in-action/kusa>

Parishes in Harmony with Creation

You are warmly invited to the Parishes in Harmony with Creation.

To be held on Wednesday 6 October from 10:00 am to 11:00 am or a repeat of previous session from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Eventbrite Registration is open now:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/parishes-in-harmony-with-creation-tickets-169193336825>

The one-hour online presentation and discussion will explore how parishes can best respond to Pope Francis' 2015 Encyclical *Laudato si'*: On Care For Our Common Home.

On 04 October 2021, the Vatican will release resources for its *Laudato si* Ac-

tion Platform. With the expected media coverage, some parishioners might want their parish to commit to the *Laudato si* Action Platform. Parish Priest and Parish Leaders are aware of this initiative.

The Parishes in Harmony with Creation session will include:

- a brief overview of the main teaching in *Laudato si'*;
- an overview of the *Laudato si* Action Platform;
- an overview of the Catholic Earth-care Parishes option and other resources;
- an introduction to the Diocesan Environmental Sustainability Manager; and
- small group discussion of the hopes and challenges of developing Parishes in Harmony with Creation

ACU Centre for Liturgy | Ritual Bodies as 'Reasonable Worship': Putting Liturgy in Proper Ethical Perspective

Bruce T Morrill SJ will present on Ritual Bodies as 'Reasonable Worship': Putting liturgy in proper ethical perspective. In our current Synod process we hear a longing for more formation opportunities so this lecture is an opportunity not to be missed. It will explore the challenges of theological rhetoric for 21st century Catholics, and how those challenges can illuminate the connection between liturgy and ethical living.

Time: 10:00AM-11:30AM

Date: 18 October 2021

Register: www.acu.edu.au/publiclecturecfl

2021 Abraham Conference

The Abraham Conference plays an important role in bringing Jews, Christians and Muslims together to discuss contemporary issues of concern for the members of the three religions and for the wider society.

The theme of the 2021 Abraham Conference is Women Leaders in the Abrahamic Traditions: Role Models for Our Time. Our context is the continuing strong impact and significance of the Me Too and Black Lives Matter movements and the revelations of abuse in our federal parliament, all of which brought thousands of women onto the streets in protest.

This year, the Abraham Conference wants to highlight the positive role of women in the Abrahamic traditions. The three speakers will help conference attendees recover some of the lost traditions of inspiring women leaders, to highlight the contribution and the difference they made in their time.

Time: 2:30PM-4:00PM

Date: 10 October 2021

Register: <https://events.humanitix.com/2021-abraham-conference>

"Amoris Laetitia Family Year " 19 March 2021- 26 June 2022

The “Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love) Family Year” is an initiative of Pope Francis, which aims to reach every family around the world through several spiritual, pastoral and cultural proposals that can be implemented within parishes, dioceses, universities, ecclesial movements and family associations.

Over the course of ten monthly episodes, hear the Holy Father talk about each of the chapters of the Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*, along with the testimonies of different families who will share some aspects of their daily lives.

This initiative is a joint collaboration between the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life and Vatican News, and aims to facilitate the reading of the Apostolic Exhortation, with the aid of downloadable material prepared for personal and community reflection.

To access this resource:

<http://www.laityfamilylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/en/amoris-laetitia/iniziativa-e-risorse/10-video-amoris-laetitia.html>

9.30am Mass at Sacred Heart cathedral Live Stream

Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>

Don't miss out on anything in your Diocese! Go to mnews.today to view the events calendar, see photos and read stories about what is happening locally.



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 02 6554 6401

CATHOLIC CARE

Phone: 02 6539 5900 for services provided in Forster



PARISH TEAM

Fr Peter Street - Parish Priest

Peter.street@mn.catholic.org.au
Emergency Contact: 0458 327 219
(Please only calls to this phone no texts)

Danielle Kingdom

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

Office Hours:

Mon-Fri 9.00am- 3.30pm
Phone: 02 6554 6401

Website:

www.forstertuncurrycatholic.org.au

Follow us on facebook:

@catholicparishofforstertuncurry

Feedback, complaints or concerns can be communicated directly to the Parish Office, through our website (Contact Us) or if the concern is relating to the safety of a child, contact the Office of Safeguarding: 02 4979 1390 childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au

COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Serving meals to the community from the Parish Hall
Tue, Wed & Thurs 12pm-1pm

PARISH GROUPS

Christian Meditation

Forster Tues 9.30am
Monica 02 6555 7038
Hallidays Point Wed 10am
John 0417 249 466

Social Justice Group

Tim Prescott 6555 8517

Gardening Group

3rd Thursday of the month, 8am
Church grounds.
David Olliffe 0424 369 485

Family and Friends Group

Meets monthly, contact Carol and Terry Pearson on 0408768729.

Singing Practice

Ken Heffernan 02 6554 6401
(see parish timetable)

Holy Hour

Tues 3.30pm & Thurs 3.30pm in the Church

Finance Council

3rd Wednesday of the month, 5pm
Meeting Room

Pastoral Council

1st Thursday of the month, 6.00pm
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 9.30am

The above groups are all subject to Covid-19 restrictions, please enquire before attending.



SUNDAY MASS TIMES

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

Registration through the parish website is required

RECONCILIATION

9.00am Saturday and during Holy Hour

YOUTH MASS

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

AGED CARE MASSES

(Subject to change)

GLAICA: **2nd Tues 10.30am**
Estia Forster: **3rd Tues 10.00am**



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Holy Name Catholic School K-6

41 Lake Street, Forster

Ph: 02 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: 02 6552 3300

E: Admin@tareesc.catholic.edu.au

W: www.tareesc.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Peter Nicholls

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