



Bridgeside Bulletin



The weekly Bulletin of the Catholic Parish of Forster Tuncurry

"Unity in Christ"

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

SUNDAY 17 JULY 2022,

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

Dear Brothers and Sisters.

I urge each and every one to continue to pray for the appointment of a new Bishop for the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. We will, of course continue to pray the prayer for the appointment before each Mass. Please take home a prayer card with this prayer on it, which you will find on the table at the entrance of the Church, and pray this prayer daily.

There have been of late quite a few parishioners in hospital. I have tried to visit as many as I can. One thing that has stopped me is that people need to let me know when they or a family member are in hospital and would like a visit. Please either contact the office, or ask the hospital to do this. This is of course of vital importance so that parishioners may receive the Anointing of the Sick and also the Blessed Sacrament while in hospital. There will be information about these Sacraments in the Bridgeside Bulletin over the next few weeks.

It is worth noting that the use of the community kitchen is growing. While this is a wonderful outreach of both CatholicCare and the Parish, it does mean however, that we need more volunteers and also donations of food to assist. If you are able to help please contact the office and we can start the process. One conversation I have had recently about the kitchen raised the issue of space in the hall. A few things will need to be moved around and that includes the pews which line the walls. I raise this because, there are times, when we need extra seats in the church. Particularly at holiday times. One way to achieve this is to move the Tabernacle to in front of the stained glass window and to rearrange the devotional space on the other side of the Sanctuary, this would enable 3 possibly 4 pews on each side to be added. What do people think of this idea? It would on Sundays outside of holiday periods enable more social distancing within the Church. I would welcome any input before I make a decision.

It has been announced by the Holy Father, that the year 2025 will be a Jubilee year. This is in line with Church tradition. The theme for the Holy Year is "Pilgrims of Hope". What can we as a parish do to be "Pilgrims of Hope"?

I would like this idea to form part of the parish pastoral Plan. How can we as a parish show the community that we indeed are "pilgrims of Hope"? Pilgrims are people on a journey, our journey is to God, it is a journey that we are called to share, and it is one that we must invite others to join. It is daunting, it is also exciting. What are we as parish going to do about it?

Please continue to pray for the children who are on their Sacramental Journey this year.

Pray also for a friend of mine, His name is Ben Gandy and he will be ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Sydney on the morning of the 6th of August. I will be attending. I am trying to find a priest to provide cover for that weekend. If I cannot, I will have to drive from Sydney back to Forster on that day. In which case I will move the Vigil Mass on that day to 6pm. This will of course mean that on that day there will be no 930am Mass. More details about that closer to the time, this is just a bit of advance notice.

As we can see in the news there is an increase of both the flu and Covid19 and its various variants. Please follow all relevant health advice. If you are uncomfortable in crowds feel free to wear a mask at Mass. Please note, that I am still having some post Covid symptoms. I have as a result decided that a few things will change for the next few weeks until I feel that I have recovered. I will be in contact with those concerned about this. I apologize for any inconvenience.

With Love.

Fr. Peter.

Parish Timetable

Mon 18 JUL	9am Counters– Team 9 12pm Community Kitchen
Tue 19 JUL	9.30am Christian Meditation 12pm Community Kitchen 3.30pm Holy Hour, followed by Benediction 4.30pm Mass
Wed 20 JUL	9.30am Mass 11am Novena of Our Lady of Perpetual Help 12pm Community Kitchen
Thu 21 JUL	9.30am Mass 12pm Community Kitchen 2.30pm Bible Study
Fri 22 JUL	9.30am Mass
Sat 23 JUL	9.30am Mass 4.00pm Confession 5.00pm Vigil Mass
Sun 24 JUL	8.00am Mass 10.00am Mass

Parish Notices

- **Don't forget to collect your planned giving envelopes** for the 22/23 FY from inside the church. We have spare sets of envelopes available for anyone who would like to sign up for planned giving.
- **"I Give Electronically"** cards are now available in the church. These cards can be placed in the collection bags by those who are set up with electronic giving.
- Please note there will be **NO Bible Study this Thursday, the 21st of July.**

GO FUND ME

A fundraising page has been set up for Sharon & Greg Fowle who lost everything in a house fire recently. In your charity, please offer anything you can: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/house-fire-sharon-and-greg-fowle>

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION FOR CHILDREN Confirmation 2022

- ▶ **1st Preparation Session- Sunday 31 July @ 10am** in Parish Hall
- ▶ **2nd Preparation Session- Sunday 14 August @ 10am** in Parish Hall
- ▶ **Sacrament of Confirmation- Friday 26 August**

Registrations through the parish website: <https://forstertuncurrycatholic.org.au/parish-information/sacramental-preparation/>

Prayer for the appointment of our new Bishop

Shepherding God
you reveal your way of unfailing love
in the image of the Good Shepherd
who seeks the lost,
shows compassion
knows and is known by the sheep
and lays down his life for them.
We your people of Maitland-Newcastle
are without a bishop to shepherd us.
We ask that your Holy Spirit
who moves through this great south land,
inspire the choice of our new Bishop,
empower his 'yes'
and open our hearts in hospitality and love.
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.
Our Lady of Perpetual Help **pray for us**
Mary MacKillop of the Cross **pray for us.**

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.

National Diabetes Awareness Week

10-16 July

Diabetes Australia is calling on all Australians to support the NATIONAL DIABETES AWARENESS WEEK campaign and help to raise awareness of diabetes nationally during 10th to 16th July 2022. Awareness of Diabetes is a National Public Health issue and much still needs to be done, collectively and individually, for better prevention, diagnosis and management of the condition.

For more information go

to: www.diabetesaustralia.com.au

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion for Aged Care

We are seeking Extraordinary Minister of Communion volunteers to go onto a roster for taking communion to the Catholic residents at **Estia Forster once a month.** Depending on how many people we have volunteer, your turn to take communion to Estia Forster might come around every couple of months. There will be formation offered for those who are interested but do not have experience as an Extraordinary Minister of Communion. You will also be required to undergo a police check and register as a parish volunteer if you haven't already completed this process. You will also need to be vaccinated against COVID-19 as this is a requirement to enter aged care facilities. Please contact the parish office if you are interested.

Saints and Feasts

20TH JULY ST APOLLINARIS was believed to be born in Antioch, in the Roman province of Syria. Tradition has it that he was the first bishop of Ravenna and was appointed by St Peter himself, after which, he faced constant persecution by Roman authorities. He was eventually arrested, tortured and put to death by the sword, although there is no reliable written information about his life and martyrdom. Apollinaris is a patron saint against epilepsy and gout.

22ND JULY ST MARY MAGDALENE St Mary of Magdala



Mary Magdalene (c. 1524) by Andrea Solari, showing her as a myrrhbearer

was a disciple of Christ who was healed by him when he cast out seven devils. She stood at the foot of the cross as Jesus died, and went to the tomb the morning of Easter Sunday. She was the first witness to Jesus' resurrection when she found his tomb empty. In St Mark's Gospel, it is said that she went to Rome, where she worked for the re-

whom the risen Jesus first appears and further to this, in St John's account, Jesus gives her a message to pass on to his brethren. Since the time of Pope Gregory the Great, a tradition in the Western church arose that identified Mary Magdalene as the unnamed sinner who anointed Christ's feet, and Mary of Bethany, the sister of Martha and Lazarus. But since 1969 the new Roman calendar has rejected this belief entirely.

23RD JULY ST BRIDGET, RELIGIOUS. Patron saint of

Sweden, Bridget married a young prince and lived happily with him for 28 years, bearing him eight children. St. Catherine of Sweden was their daughter. After her husband died, Bridget anointed his body on the morning of Easter Sunday. She was erecting at Vadstena a double monastery for monks and nuns. Following the guidance of the Holy Spirit, she later went to Rome, where she worked for the re-



Altarpiece in Salem church, Södermanland, Sweden

THE LATEST NEWS FROM OUR SAFEGUARDING PROMOTERS – 17 Jul 22

The Promoters of Safeguarding continue to endorse a culture of safeguarding within the Parish. To this end, your attention is drawn to **falls causing seniors drownings**, which in most cases occurs at, or close to, home.

In the July edition of the free newspaper, *The Senior*, a page 6 article by Eileen Wood is entitled 'Falls cause fifth of senior drownings' and is based on *Royal Life Saving Australia* data. In the past 10 years, this RLSSA study identified that nearly 600 drowning deaths have involved those aged 65 and older. Wood's opening paragraph states, "Falls, medication, medical conditions and use of mobility aids are all high-risk factors for older people when it comes to drowning."

The study highlighted the need for seniors to be aware of water bodies around them **AT ALL TIMES** rather than just when they plan to go swimming or boating. The study further emphasised that, in almost a quarter of all drowning cases, the person involved was known to have impaired mobility. Alarming, it also found that a pre-existing medical condition was known to exist in 89% of seniors' drownings, most commonly cardiovascular disease (72%) and dementia (22%). In 19% of cases, an environmental hazard was noted such as steep or slippery surfaces near water, poor lighting and obstacles which posed a trip hazard.

RLSSA says that risks can be reduced by:

- attending regular medical check-ups;
- taking prescribed medication as directed;
- participating in regular exercise to reduce risk of falls;
- boating and swimming with a buddy, never alone;
- taking extra care getting in and out of bathtubs;
- installing grab-bars designed for weight-bearing to aid entry, exit and movement in your bathtub;
- being realistic about encroaching health limitations;
- limiting or avoiding alcohol consumption when involved with or near aquatic activities.

As with any group, older Australians come from different socioeconomic backgrounds, with varying life experiences and lifestyles. These factors all influence the individual ageing process, and also reflect the risk of drowning for each individual. Many older Australians have not received or were not exposed to the level of water safety education that most Australians receive today. This highlights the importance of introducing water skills and education for older Australians, as well as promoting the health benefits of recreating safely in a controlled environments such as at an aquatic centre.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Recently deceased:

Anniversaries: Robert Greig, & Raymond Startin.

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:

Michael Meyer, Imogen Ralph, Joe Camilleri, Gerard Cross, Reginald Cross, Judith Spicer & Joseph Barnett.

People will remain on the prayers for the sick for 4 weeks. You can resubmit names as needed.



Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Sunday 17 Jul 2022

Priest: Dear friends, let us bring our intentions before the Lord, who we trust in love.

1. Reader: That the Universal Church will instill true adoration to Jesus Christ in Christians all over the world. In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

2. Reader: That all Christians will be inspired by Martha and Mary's discovery of Jesus in their midst. In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

3. Reader: That all who are overwhelmed by life may find hope through the presence of Christ. In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

4. Reader: That through silent reflection, our parish community will listen to Christ's calling as Mary did. In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

5. Reader: That the sick and housebound will find a renewed heart and spirit, especially those in our parish bulletin. In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

6. Reader: That those who have died will live forever in the presence of the Lord, especially Robert Greig & Raymond Startin whose anniversaries occur about now. In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: Loving God, your kindness and love is revealed to us in Jesus. Hear our prayers and help us to live prayerful lives as we rejoice in the mystery of Christ present to us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

A Prayer For Those Unable To Receive Holy Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Sunday 17 Jul 2022
Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year
C

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 53:6,8

See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

First Reading

Gen 18:1-10

A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord appeared to Abraham at the Oak of Mamre while he was sitting by the entrance of the tent during the hottest part of the day. He looked up, and there he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them, and bowed to the ground. 'My lord,' he said, 'I beg you, if I find favour with you, kindly do not pass your servant by. A little water shall be brought; you shall wash your feet and lie down under the tree. Let me fetch a little bread and you shall refresh yourselves before going further. That is why you have come in your servant's direction.' They replied, 'Do as you say.'

Abraham hastened to the tent to find Sarah. 'Hurry,' he said, 'knead three bushels of flour and make loaves.' Then running to the cattle Abraham took a fine and tender calf and gave it to the servant, who hurried to prepare it. Then taking cream, milk and the calf he had prepared, he laid all before them, and they ate while he remained standing near them under the tree.

'Where is your wife Sarah?' they asked him. 'She is in the tent,' he replied. Then his guest said, 'I shall visit you again next year without fail and your wife will then have a son.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1

(R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain? He who walks without fault; he who acts with justice and speaks the truth from his heart; he who does not slander with his tongue. (R.)

2. He who does no wrong to his brother, who casts no slur on his neighbour, who holds the godless in disdain, but honours those who fear the Lord. (R.)

3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may; who takes no interest on a loan and accepts no bribes against the innocent.

Such a man will stand firm for ever. (R.)

Second Reading

Col 1:24-28

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

It makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering now,

and in my body to do what I can to make up all that has still to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body, the Church. I became the servant of the Church when God made me responsible for delivering God's message to you, the message which was a mystery hidden for generations and centuries and has now been revealed to his saints. It was God's purpose to reveal it to them and to show all the rich glory of this mystery to pagans. The mystery is Christ among you, your hope of glory: this is the Christ we proclaim, this is the wisdom in which we thoroughly train everyone and instruct everyone, to make them all perfect in Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

See Lk 8:15

Alleluia, alleluia! Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance. Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 10:38-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said, 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'

Communion Antiphon

Ps 110:4-5

The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of his wonders; he gives food to those who fear him.

Readings for Next Week 23/24 July

First Reading

Gen 18:20-32 Abraham intercedes on behalf of Sodom.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 137:1-3. 6-8. R. v.3 (R.) Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

Second Reading

Col 2:12-14 God pardoned our sins through the death of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Rom 8:15 Alleluia, alleluia! You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father. Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 11:1-13 Jesus teaches the disciples to pray.

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.

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Sunday 17 Jul 2022
SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY
by Brendan Byrne SJ

A clearly identifiable and theme unites today's readings: the theme of 'hospitality', which in many ways runs right through the Gospel of Luke.

The **First Reading**, from Genesis 18:1-10, gives part of a delightful episode where Abraham provides the traditional hospitality of his culture to three mysterious strangers. I say 'mysterious' because sometimes the narrative suggests that there are three figures who have come to visit Abraham, sometimes only one. Patristic commentators in fact saw here an Old Testament hint of the Trinity. Certainly, the travellers have a divine aura about them. Later (19:1) they are referred to as angels. The fifteenth century Russian iconographer Andrey Rublev has wonderfully depicted all these aspects of the mystery in his well-known icon.

What rings through the story is the extreme solicitude of Abraham to provide the duties of hospitality. (In fact, of course, the chief burden will fall upon Sarah, his wife!) But the point to notice is that the guest(s) come not simply to receive but also to give. They leave a promise – a divine promise, in fact. Abraham and Sarah, childless hitherto and now well on in years, are to have a child (cf. Gen 21:1-2). So the hospitable Abraham has received from those to whom he gave hospitality a marvellous gift in return. He has received a future for himself and his family. His family will become a great people (Israel) and a blessing for all the nations of the earth (Gen 18:18).

In the **Gospel**, Luke 10:38-42, two sisters, Martha and Mary, give hospitality to Jesus. Martha appears to be the dominant personality. Certainly, her hospitality is more active and practical. Her sister Mary simply sits at Jesus' feet and listens. This sets up the kind of 'triangular' pattern often to be seen in Luke's gospel: Jesus interacts with a character, usually someone in a marginal situation in some respect; a third character or party takes offence at this and grumbles or murmurs. Jesus defends the more marginal party, showing how her or his action is the more appropriate in terms of what he has to offer.

In this case, it is Mary, seemingly the younger sister, whom Jesus defends. While Martha has fussed about preparing too many dishes, when just one would have sufficed, Mary has 'chosen the better part' – literally, 'the better portion (or 'dish')'. In view of the identity of the One here present as guest and the gift that he has to give, it is Mary's attitude that is the more appropriate. As in the case of Abraham and his guests, hospitality is not simply flowing one way. Martha and Mary have far more to receive from their guest than he has to receive from them.

Understandably, down the ages and perhaps particularly in recent times, it is Martha who has evoked more sympathy. Her complaint that she has been left to do all the work by herself seems at one level very justified. But this is precisely where the provocation of the Gospel has its bite. As Luke's Gospel so often makes clear, frenetic service, even service of the Lord, can be a deceptive distraction from what the Lord really wants. Good people are always prone to measure their goodness by all they do for the Lord. They forget that nothing that they can ever do could match all they need to receive, and that the Lord's primary intent towards us is to bestow upon us life, love and salvation, rather than to make use of our service.

The scene has also been controversial in feminist interpretation. Is Jesus, in a liberating way, defending in Mary the right of women to be free of traditional 'women's work' (kitchen duties, etc) in order to receive the kind of instruction from himself that will equip them for leadership in the community? Or is he, on the contrary, subtly putting women in their place by praising a woman (Mary) who takes a more passive role, while criticising the more active and energetic Martha?

Both these positions miss the mark. The fact that two characters in the episode are women, while significant in its way, may not be the main point. As so often, the Gospel's focus is upon the abundance of God's gift and the barriers that human beings put up against receiving it.

In its own way, the **Second Reading**, from Colossians (1:24-28) likewise dwells upon the abundance of God's gift. Paul meditates upon God's purpose, through his own ministry, to draw the nations of the world into the riches of salvation previously confined to Israel. There is no part of the human world where the saving power of Christ is not ready to break out. Hence the striking 'definition' of the 'mystery' Paul serves: 'Christ among you, your hope of glory.'

POPE FRANCIS

ANGELUS

Saint Peter's Square

Sunday, 10 July 2022

Dear brothers and sisters, *buongiorno!*

The Gospel of today's Liturgy recounts the parable of the Good Samaritan (cf. Lk 10:25-37) – we all know it. In the backdrop is the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Jericho along which lies a man who had been beaten badly and robbed by brigands. A priest passing by sees him but does not stop; he keeps on going. A Levite, someone who performed services in the temple, does the same thing. “But a Samaritan”, the Gospel says, “*as he journeyed*, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion” (v. 33). Let us not forget this word – “he had compassion on him”. This is what God feels every time he sees we are having a problem, we have sinned, we are experiencing misery. “He had compassion on him”. The Evangelist makes it a point to specify that this Samaritan *was on a journey*. So, even though he had his own plans and was heading toward a distant destination, that Samaritan does not come up with an excuse but allows himself to get involved, he allows himself to get involved with what had happened along the road. Let us think about this: isn't the Lord teaching us to do just that? To look off into the distance, to our final destination, while paying close attention to the steps to take here and now in order to get there.

It is significant that the first Christians were called “*disciples of the Way*” (cf. Acts 9:2). In fact, the believer strongly resembles the Samaritan – like him, the believer is on a journey, is a wayfarer. The believer knows they have not “arrived”, but wants to learn each day, following the Lord Jesus who said: “I am the *way*, and the truth, and the life” (Jn 14:6), “I am the *way*”. The disciple of Christ walks along following Him and thus becomes a “disciple of the Way”. He or she goes behind the Lord, is not sedentary, no, but is always on the way. Along the way, he or she meets people, heals the sick, visits villages and cities. This is what the Lord did, he was always on the move.

The “disciple of the Way”, that is, we Christians, observes, therefore, that his or her way of thinking and of acting gradually changes, becoming more and more conformed to that of the Master. Walking in the footsteps of Christ, the disciple becomes a wayfarer and – like the Samaritan – learns *to see and to have compassion*. He sees and has compassion on him. First of all, *to see*: their eyes are open to reality, not egoistically closed in on the circle of their own thoughts. Instead, the priest and the Levite see the unfortunate man, but they pass by as if they do not see him, they look the other way. The Gospel teaches us to see – it leads each of us to correctly understand reality, overcoming preconceptions and dogmatism each day. So many believers take refuge behind dogmatism to defend themselves from reality. Then, it teaches us to follow Jesus, because following Jesus teaches us *to have compassion* – to see and to have compassion – to become aware of others, especially those who suffer, those who are in need, and to intervene like the Samaritan, not to pass by but to stop.

Faced with this Gospel parable, it can happen that we might blame others or blame ourselves, pointing fingers towards others, comparing them to the priest or the Levite – “That person, that person goes on, that one doesn't stop...” – or even to blame ourselves, counting our own failures to pay attention to our neighbours. But I would like to suggest another type of exercise to you all, not one that finds fault, no. Certainly, we must recognize when we have been indifferent and have justified ourselves. But let us not stop there. We must acknowledge this, it is a mistake. But let us ask the Lord to help us overcome our selfish indifference and put ourselves on the Way. Let us ask him *to*

see and to have compassion, this is a grace. We need to ask the Lord, “Lord, that I might see, that I might have compassions just like you see me and have compassion on me”. This is the prayer that I suggest to you today. “Lord, that I might see and have compassion just like you see me and have compassion on me” – that we might have compassion on those whom we encounter along the way, above all on those who suffer and are in need, to draw near to them and do what we can do to give them a hand. Many times, when I am with some Christian who comes to speak about spiritual things, I ask if they give alms. “Yes”, the person says to me.

“So, tell me, do you touch the hand of the person you gave the money to?”

“No, no, I throw it there.”

“And do you look into the eyes of that person?”

“No, it doesn't cross my mind.”

If you give alms without touching the reality, without looking into the eyes of the person in need, those alms are for you, not for that person. Think about this. Do I touch misery, even the misery that I am helping? Do I look into the eyes of the people who suffer, of the people that I help? I leave you with this thought – to see and to have compassion.

May the Virgin Mary accompany us on this journey of growth. May she, who “shows us the Way”, that is Jesus, help us also to more and more become “disciples of the Way”.

After praying the Angelus, the Holy Father continued:

Dear brothers and sisters,

I unite myself to the sorrow of the people of Sri Lanka who continue to suffer the effects of political and economic instability. Together with the Bishops of the country, I renew my appeal for peace and I implore those who have authority not to ignore the cry of the poor and the necessities of the people.

I would like to address a special thought to the people of Libya, in particular to the young people and to all those who are suffering because of the serious social and economic problems in the country. I urge everyone to seek ever new convincing solutions with the help of the international community, through constructive dialogue and national reconciliation.

I renew my closeness to the Ukrainian people, who are daily tormented by the brutal attacks that the ordinary people are paying for. I pray for all the families, especially for the victims, the wounded, those who are sick. I pray for the elderly and for the children. May God show the way to put an end to this senseless war.

Sea Sunday is being celebrated today. Let us remember all seafarers with esteem and gratitude for their precious work, as well as the chaplains and volunteers of “Stella Maris”. I entrust to Our Lady those seafarers who find themselves stranded in war zones so that they might return home.

I greet the group from São Tomás College from Lisbon, and the members of the faithful from Viseu, Portugal; the “Siempre Así” choir from Spain; the young people from the Archdiocese of Berlin and the Confirmation candidates from Bolgare (Bergamo). I extend my greeting to the Polish pilgrims as well as those who are participating in the annual pilgrimage of families from Radio Maria to the Shrine of Częstochowa. I greet the priests from various countries who are participating in the course for seminary formators organized by the Istituto Sacerdos of Rome.

I wish all of you a good Sunday. Please, do not forget to pray for me. Enjoy your lunch and arrivederci!

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COMMUNITY KITCHEN NEWS



The FTCK recently received a substantial food donation from Wiseberry's Real Estate Winter food appeal to restock our community pantry. Many local business generously gave to this appeal, if you know of anyone who is in need, please ask them to contact the Holy Name Parish for food hamper support.

Club Forster has donated a whopping \$10,000, to support Catholic Care's local food programs. This amazing donation will assist them to purchase their very own BBQ trailer and ensure their mobile food program continues to grow and reach our most vulnerable community members, who may not be able to access our community kitchens.



Catholic Care currently have a flash BBQ trailer on loan from Newcastle. This mobile food service provides breakfast once a week, alternating between Bushlands and Tobwabba Communities and afternoon meals twice a week in the Bushlands Community. This program provides food support to children living in these communities in partnership with our local Police and the Taree PCYC. Woolworths Taree have kindly offered to donate weekly produce to support this much needed program and have also donated an additional donation of \$2,500, in the name of Courtney Palmer, a Manager at the Woolworths group, who is passionate about supporting vulnerable children in the Taree area.

For volunteer opportunities contact Michelle Robinson on
0447 184 917



Women of the Well

CREATING SACRED SPACE TO SHARE STORY, LISTENING FOR
THE SPIRIT'S WHISPER IN OUR LIVES

Are you thirsting to connect with your own inner spirit?

We invite you to a weekend of meditation, silence, shared story, creative expression and prayer.

Take time to come and sit by the well, listen deeply to your own story, feel refreshed and revitalised.

Spend time reflecting on how our God of Surprises is calling you forward in your life right now.

- COME - REFLECT - RELEASE - RECONNECT -

2022 Retreat dates:

Sept 9-11, 2022 @ St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park

Nov 18-20, 2022 @ St Joseph's, Kincumber

COST: \$125 (\$50 will secure your place)

In partnership with the Sisters of St Joseph, we are able to offer this subsidised rate.
If this cost is a barrier, a small number of full subsidies are available.

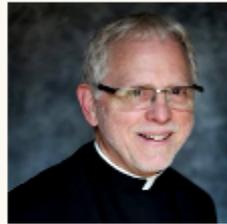
To find out more: www.womenofthewell.com.au or email tricia@womenofthewell.com.au or phone 0417216917

Celebrating Catholic funerals in the face of secularism, COVID and other challenges



Endorsed by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

Over the past several decades, the Catholic Church's *Order of Christian Funerals* has not changed, but the culture surrounding funerals has. For example, people are thinking differently about cremation, the timing of the funeral, the nature of the service, the location of the funeral, and the final disposition of remains. This presentation will review key points from the funeral tradition and engage ways to make it more meaningful.



Fr Paul Turner

Father Paul Turner is pastor of Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Kansas City, Missouri USA and director of the Office of Divine Worship for the Catholic Diocese of Kansas City-St Joseph. He holds

a doctorate in sacred theology from Sant' Anselmo in Rome. He is a former president of the North American Academy of Liturgy, a member of *Societas Liturgica*, and the Catholic Academy of Liturgy. He is the recipient of the Jubilate Deo Award from the National Association of Pastoral Musicians and the Frederick McManus Award from the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions. He serves as a facilitator for the International Commission on English in the Liturgy. His publications include *Ars Celebrandi: Celebrating and Concelebrating Mass* (Liturgical, 2021), *New Church, New Altar A Commentary on the Order of Dedication of a Church and an Altar* (Liturgical, 2021), *Light in the Darkness: Preparing Better Catholic Funerals* (Liturgical, 2017) and dozens of other titles.

Online via Zoom:

18 July 2022
10am (AEST)

Registration fee :

\$10 standard entry
\$5 student/pensioner concession
\$40 groups of five or more

Register online by 15 July:

www.acu.edu.au/publiclecturecfl

Enquiries:

E: centreforliturgy@acu.edu.au
P: 02 9701 4751

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

July/August Retreats at St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park

There are a number of retreats being hosted at St Mary's Towers in Douglas Park during July and August. They are as follows:

- A. 15-21 July \$930 or Weekend 15-17 July \$310: At Home in the Heart: Therese Carroll rsj
- B. 22-24 July \$310 Prayer Weekend: In the Company of Women: Woman with the Haemorrhage: Elizabeth Lee
- C. 3-11 Aug \$1240 or Weekend 5-7 Aug \$310: In the Heart of Creation with Jesus: Retreat Team
- D. 13-22 Aug \$1395 Life's Healing Journey or Private Weekend 19-21 Aug \$310: Retreat Team
- E. 24 Aug – 1 Sep \$1240 or Private Weekend 26-28 Aug \$310: Retreat Team

For more information or a flyer contact contact@towersretreat.org.au or 02 4630 0233. An application form can be found here: www.towersretreat.org.au/1-retreat-application-form/file

Rediscovering Joy- Finding Wonder and Joy in the word of God.

Join us for a Day with Sr Mary Coloe, current Associate Professor of New Testament studies within the University of Divinity Melbourne.

In a retreat style and setting, Sr Mary will help us examine how rich and life-giving Scripture can be, revealing a God whose story intends to renew our lives and calls us to actively engage with the world.

Date: 15 August 2022

Time: 9.00am - 3.00pm (arrive from 8.30am)

Venue: Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley

Cost: \$30

To register go to: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/rediscovering-joy-tickets-339651395467

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 **mnnews.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 11am-3.30pm, Tue-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 **Mon Tue, Wed & Thurs 12pm-1pm**

For volunteer opportunities contact Michelle Robinson: 0447 184 917

PARISH GROUPS

Christian Meditation

Forster Tues 9.30am
Greg 0427 918 568
Hallidays Point Wed 10am
John 0417 249 466

Gardening Group

3rd Monday 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 in the Church

Finance Council

3rd Wednesday of the month,
5.30pm 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
Novena Benediction on the 1st
Wednesday of the month.

Secular Franciscan Fraternity

4th Sunday of the month 9.30am
Barbara Dolahenty 0408 248 018

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

RECONCILIATION

4.00pm 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: **1st 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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