

SACRED HEART PARISH MORUYA



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Priest: Fr George Azhakath msfs

Secretary: Mrs Pat Anderson

Parish Office hours: Wed. and Fri. 10am—3pm

Mass Times:

Moruya: Sat: Vigil 6.00 pm Sun: 10.00 am

Tue: 5.30 pm. Wed, Thu & Fri: 9.15 am

Sat: Reconciliation: 10—10.30 am

Tuross Mass: Sun. 8am. Bodalla Mass: 2nd Thursday of the month 9.15am. Fifth Sunday of the month 3pm.

Schools: St Mary's Moruya: 4474 2817

Carroll College Broulee 4471 5600

Caring Group: Tuross Head: 0497 315 534 Moruya: 0431 354 993

Devotions: Daily Rosary after mass. First Friday Adoration & Benediction. 9.45—10.45 am



22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

-YEAR A-

August 29 & 30 2020

Three Conditions of Christian Discipleship

“Deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me.”



The readings for this Sunday remind us that Christians are called to live their lives in a different way from others around them. Christian discipleship demands honesty, the willingness to suffer (“take up your cross” generosity (“to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice to God”), and readiness to follow Jesus by obeying his commandment of love.

Today’s readings explain how these things may be done. Jeremiah, in the first reading is certainly a prototype of the suffering Christ. In the second reading Paul advises the Romans and us (Rom 12: 1-2) to “offer our bodies as a living sacrifice” to God by explicit-

ly rejecting the ungodly behaviour of the behaviour of the world around us and by discerning and doing the Will of God.

In today’s gospel, Jesus takes his disciples by surprise when, after Peter’s great confession of faith, he announced that he “must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised.” After correcting Peter’s protest, Jesus announces the three conditions of Christian discipleship: “deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me.” Unless we constantly remind ourselves of the demands of this difficult vocation from God, we will fail to be the kind of disciples that Christ expects us to be.

Fr George Azhakath.

Entrance Antiphon: I call to you all day long, have mercy on me, O Lord. You are good and forgiving, full of love for all who call to you.

Communion Antiphon: O Lord, how great is the depth of the kindness which you have shown to those who love you.

Prayer for Australia: Lord you place deep in our hearts the love of Mary Help of Christians. Through her prayers grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens. Under her protection may Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer after Communion: Lord, we thank you for coming into our hearts in Communion. We believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. You are our life and our hope. Draw us more deeply to yourself and transform our hearts through your abiding love. May we come to know Sunday as a special day of faith, the day of our Risen Lord. May our celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday consecrate this day to you.

O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, All Praise and All Thanksgiving be every moment thine.

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time A

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: Jer 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

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

you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

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

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

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

I used to say, I will not think about him,

I will not speak in his name any more.

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

imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me,

I could not bear it.

This is the word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 62:2-6. 8-9.

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

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. **(R.)**
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. **(R.)**
3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. **(R.)**
4. For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. **(R.)**

SECOND READING: Rom 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Eph 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Mt 16:21-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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

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

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

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

"If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me"

THE WORD AND LIFE this week....

1. We need to be extremophiles for Christ: True disciples of Christ are:

a) *extremely compassionate*; they are willing to visit the infected and the sick in hospitals, the incontinent elderly in nursing homes, and AIDS patients in hospices; b) *extremely humble*; they are able to see that every good gift comes from God alone, and that personal talents and resources should inspire gratitude, not pride; c) *extremely patient*; they are committed to working with challenging children, adolescents with problems, and young adults who are struggling with their faith; d) *extremely forgiving*; they are willing to forgive not just once, or twice, but again and again, because they know that God has forgiven them again and again; e) *extremely faithful*; they are living out a committed, trusting relationship with God, with spouse, with family and friends.

2. We need to ask these questions as we examine our conscience.

Do today's churches offer a faith strong enough to command a sacrifice? Do I have enough faith to offer up a genuine sacrifice for Christ's sake? Can a church in today's self-centred culture ask its people to sacrifice something for the sake of the gospel? Jesus' challenge to all would-be disciples requires more than a 'feel-good' spirituality. A true disciple asks, "Am I willing to sacrifice something for the kingdom?" What made it possible for first-century Christians to choose a martyr's death? What has kept generations of Christians from losing faith and falling apart when confronted by the violence and hatred of this world? How can I offer even the day-to-day sacrifices of my faith that demand things I don't want to do? Can I sacrifice some of my time in order to visit a homeless shelter or soup kitchen? Can I sacrifice my job security and refuse to 'go along' with a policy that is unjust? Can I sacrifice my need to be in control and let Christ do with me whatever he may will? Can I refuse to let my children watch television programs filled with sex and violence?

SEASON OF CREATION 2020: Pope John Paul II in 1990 named environmental care as integral to the Catholic faith and named St Francis of Assisi as the patron of ecological conversion. Pope Benedict XVI reinforced this Catholic vocation delivering homilies and speeches asking world leaders to take action. Pope Francis, in his 2015 Encyclical Laudato Se' detailed the call to See, Judge, Act on care for our common home.



Every year, Christians of all denominations join in prayer and action for our common home and celebrate the Season of Creation starting on 1st September, the Day of Prayer for Creation and ending on 4th October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I proclaimed 1 September as a day of prayer for creation for the Orthodox in 1989. Christians worldwide have embraced the season as part of their annual calendar. Pope Francis made the Roman Catholic Church's warm welcoming of the season official in 2015. He encouraged Catholics to use this season as an opportunity to reaffirm their personal vocation to be stewards of creation.

LAUDATO SI DIALOGUE: Commencing August/September an ecumenical group of participants will look together each fortnight at Laudato Si, Pope Francis' letter "On Care for Our Common Home". You can register interest in obtaining further information in taking part at BelconnenSouth@cg.org.au or on 0428 625 110.

MASKS FOR VICTORIA: Thank you to those making masks to donate to the Salvation Army in Victoria. Our next parcel to them will contain 54 masks. The Project Manager, Phoebe passes on their gratitude saying also that the need is still there for more masks.

WELCOME TO OUR COVID-19 FREE VENUE WITH ALL THE PROTOCOLS IN PLACE.
PLEASE FOLLOW THEM ALL AS WE CARE FOR EACH OTHER.

Hand sanitizing and recording personal details are to be strictly followed. Yellow marks have been placed on the floor to make it easy for distancing between persons as you move around. Please keep safe distancing when entering a pew. A small number of masks are available in the foyer for anyone who might feel more confident using one.

BODALLA MASS THIS SUNDAY AT 3.00 PM (5 TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND HOUSE BOUND: We continue to pray and extend our support to those who are in near lock down at Banksia Village, IRT Moruya; and the sick members of our Parish: Jake Harris, Graham Beer, Gail Fenton, John Gerber, Debra Morris, Ben Pollock, Catherine Hulse, Catherine Ebbelaar, Carmel Trenholme and Gerry Ebbelaar still undergoing physiotherapy in Western Australia. Love and prayers to all of them for a speedy recovery.

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED AND THEIR FAMILY: Please pray for the soul of Bill Jay, beloved father of Pauline Parnell who died 20th August, 2020 at 5.30pm in the Moruya Hospital. His funeral was held on Friday 28th August. Our prayers are with his family and friends at this sad time. May Bill rest in peace.

EMERGENCY APPEAL FOR LEBANON: Aid to the Church in need. An appeal is being sent to parishes, schools, congregations and groups across Australia and New Zealand. We are begging for your (1) prayers for Lebanon and her people (2) your most generous financial offering. Donate to “Aid to the Church in Need” PO Box 335 Penrith NSW 2751. call 1800 101 201 or arrange your offering at www.aidtochurch.org/lebanon.

CLERGY RETIREMENT FOUNDATION APPEAL: Envelopes for the Clergy Retirement Foundation Appeal will be available for your contribution on 5-6/9/2020. This is Father’s day, a day to also remember the retired priests of our parish and Archdiocese.

LIFELINE SOUTH COAST: COMMUNITY TRAINING SESSIONS AT BATEMANS BAY:

A variety of topics will be offered over two days: 23/9/20 10am– 12.30. QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer—the 3 simple steps anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide. Sessions will be held on: 23/9/20. 2pm—5pm: Psychological First Aid. The PFA workshop is a 3 hour program and aims to provide basic skills for helping people affected by a disaster.

24/9/20 9. 30am—11.30am DV-alert. Lifeline is committed to raising the awareness of Domestic and Family Violence and is holding a public Awareness session. Cost: Free. To register phone Donna 012422813 or email: donna.moss@llsc.org.au



SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY:
30/8/2020.

The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support. In the Social Justice Statement 2020-2021, *To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health In Australia Today*, the Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatization, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalized members of our community. Download the Statement from the website of the Bishops’ Office for Social Justice.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

TO LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL—PRAYER

Jesus, you invite us all into the fullness of life.

May we support one another to flourish
in body, mind and spirit.

Strengthen our commitment to ensure
that nobody falls through gaps in our systems of care.

People called you mad.

Help us to recognise you
in those who suffer mental ill-health today.

Show us how to eliminate stigmatisation of mental ill-health
from our parishes, schools, communities and organisations.

You drew near to those
who were suffering in body or mind.

May we too feel your nearness
when we struggle with mental health challenges.

May we be one as members of Your Body.

You invite us to share in your ministry
of love and true compassion.

May we be empowered by your Spirit
to reach out to all people in need.

May we build communities of welcome and inclusion.

Amen