

SACRED HEART PARISH MORUYA



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Priest: Fr George Azhakath msfs

Secretary: Mrs Vickie Moore

Parish Office hours: Wed. and Fri. 9am—2pm

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 and Fourth 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 before/after mass. Adoration & Benediction Fridays 9.45—10.45am



25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

-YEAR B -

SEPTEMBER 18 & 19 2021

The Christian Criterion of Greatness

We must become great through humble, self-giving service

Jesus, in today's gospel, gives us a glimpse of the character of the path proposed by the first and second readings—namely, embracing the vulnerable in our midst: the defenceless children, the despairing poor, the terrified, the mentally ill, the marginalised, the disabled and the refugees of war.



Jesus also teaches his apostles

that child-like humility and selfless service make one great in the eyes of God.

Today's readings invite us to become great in the sight of God by doing God's will, as Jesus did surrendering our lives in the service of others. The passage from the **Book of Wisdom** sounds like a messianic prophecy similar to the "Suffering Servant" prophecy in Isaiah. It refers to Christ's passion and urges us to choose the path of righteousness in spite of painful consequences, as he did. **In today's psalm** the psalmist prays for help against the insolent people who rise against the upright.

The **second reading** is in tune with the dispute among the apostles about who is the greatest. James warns us that selfish ambitions destroy peace and cause conflicts and war. He advises us to choose the path of righteousness and humble service which leads to lasting peace.

The Christian criterion of greatness: Jesus says that people who serve humbly and lovingly are the greatest. He uses a play on an Aramaic word that can mean either *servant* or *child*. Presenting a child before them, Jesus explains that one who wishes to be the first among them must be a *servant* to all. True greatness consists in loving service of one's fellow men and is never self-centred. It lies in the ability to see and respond to the needs of others and it presupposes compassion and sympathy. The two conditions of true greatness are humility and loving service. This vocation to living service belongs to the Church as a whole and to every member of the Church. In other words, the Christian vocation is an apostolate of bearing witness to Christ through loving service. Christian history teaches us that whenever the members of Christ's Church have forgotten or ignored this call, the Church has suffered..

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.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Wis 2:12, 17-20

A reading from the book of Wisdom

The godless say to themselves,

‘Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing.

Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have.

If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies.

Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof.

Let us condemn him to a shameful death since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.’

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 53:3-6. 8. R. v.6

(R.) The Lord upholds my life.

1. O God, save me by your name; by your power, uphold my cause. O God, hear my prayers; listen to the words of my mouth. **(R.)**
2. For proud men have risen against me, ruthless men seek my life. They have no regard for God. **(R.)**
3. But I have God for my help. The Lord upholds my life. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart and praise your name for it is good. **(R.)**

Second Reading James 3:16 – 4:3

A reading from the letter of St James

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it.

Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation See 2 Thes 2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Alleluia!**

Gospel Mk 9:30-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, ‘The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.’ But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, ‘What were you arguing about on the road?’ They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, ‘If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.’ He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, ‘Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.’

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



The WORD AND LIFE ... this week

Exegesis: The context: Jesus was returning to Capernaum after journeying incognito through the Northern Province of Galilee, avoiding crowds and teaching the apostles. Mark presents Jesus as giving three predictions about his suffering and death, one each in chapters 8, 9 and 10. The response by Jesus' disciples was horror and disappointment because they had been dreaming of a political messiah who would usher in an early kingdom. Hence, in chapter 8, Peter rebukes Jesus for his words. In chapter 9, (the first part of today's text), an argument arises among the disciples as to who among them is the greatest. In the third passage (in chapter 10), James and John foolishly ask Jesus to give them seats on his right and left, when he comes to power. The second part of today's gospel describes Jesus' return to Peter's house in Capernaum, where he gives his apostles a picture of what true greatness is. Washington Irving once wrote: "Great minds have purposes, little minds have wishes". All these men had was a wish—a wish for greater status, a wish to stand in Jesus' spotlight and soak up some applause. Jesus wanted them to look beyond their own selfish wishes to embrace the purposes of God.

Messages: We must become great through humble, self-giving service. Greatness, in Jesus' view, is found in our willingness to accept, welcome and serve those who are considered unacceptable and undeserving by reason of class, colour, religion, wealth or culture. We must welcome people the way a child welcomes them before he is taught discrimination. If we are to be truly great, we must be ready to accept four challenges: **(1) to put ourselves last, (2) to be the servant of all, (3) to receive the most insignificant human beings with love, and (4) to expect nothing in return.** During the holy Mass let us pray for the true spirit of service, for an attitude of love for those around us. We need to ask the Holy Spirit to help us to become truly great through humble and selfless service. Mother Teresa puts it like this: "*Be the living expression of God's kindness through humble service. Show kindness in your face*". The Missionaries of Charity, the order of nuns founded by Mother Teresa, live by this motto: "The fruit of Silence is Prayer. The fruit of Prayer is Faith. The fruit of Faith is Love. The fruit of Love is Service. And the fruit of Service is Peace".

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND: 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: John Gerber, Ben Pollock, Catherine Hulse, Kathleen Ebbelaar, Dale Moore, Gerry Ebbelaar, Kylie Leplaw, Monique Driver, Andy McCosker, Paul Croese, Clare Broekhuysse, Trish Tarlinton, Anthony Morris, Pat Morris, Julie and John Kay, Lee Maat, Paul Rummery Jnr, Lesley Cornish, Sandra Spellacy, Kirk Dowling, Rosemary Patyus, and Kay Morton.

CONDOLENCES: **Charlie Francis** from Canberra died suddenly - Charlie was the son in law of Margaret and John Brown who live in Banksia Village and attend Sunday Mass. Charlie and his wife Virginia also attended Mass with Margaret and John. **Michael Williams** from Canberra also died suddenly on the weekend. He and his wife Mary also attended Mass in Moruya - Michael was the father in law of Stephen Honan. **Kevin Allen** died suddenly in Cobargo. Kevin was married to Jeanette and they have 8 children. Please keep these families in your prayers.

LOCKDOWN HAS BEEN EXTENDED: COVID PROTOCOL: Parish Offices are **closed**.

Face Masks are **mandatory**. Churches and chapels

are **closed**. Public Masses and Liturgies are **not** to be celebrated. **Funerals** (10 people only) are permitted. **Weddings** (5 people only, couple, minister, two witnesses). Holy Communion **can** be taken to the sick. Anointing of the Sick **can** be celebrated. Visitation to hospitals by priests should be minimal.

COLLECTIONS DURING LOCKDOWN: During Lockdown and whilst Churches are closed, there are some payment options available for parishioners who are wanting to do so:

1) Via CDF's facility: The CDF's website address is:

<https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/CATHOLICDEVELOPMENTFUNDARCHDIOCESEOFCANBERRA>
Payments can be made for both 1st (Clergy) and 2nd (Parish) Collections; **2) Direct credit to Parish account** Please contact the CDF to confirm the account details – Note the BSB/Account number combination must include our CBA CDF Canberra Goulburn unique BSB 062-786; **3) Please save your weekly Planned Giving envelopes with money in to take to the Church when lockdown is over.**

BIRTHDAYS: Happy Birthday to Brenda Gillet on 16 September!

ACN AUSTRALIA: A message from *Aid to the Church in Need Australia: One Million Children Praying the Rosary:* ACN invites you to join the prayer campaign 'One Million Children Praying the Rosary' for unity and peace in the world on the 18th of October. Be part of this prayer campaign and join many others! Register and learn more at www.aidtochurch.org/one-million-children



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA

MARRIAGE COURSE: Whether you've been together for 6 months or 40 years, in a good place or struggling, maybe now is the time to consider The Marriage Course. The Marriage Course offers practical support and ideas to strengthen your marriage, in a fun, impactful format. Hosted by the Archdiocese, explore 7 topics together in the comfort of your own home (via ZOOM). It is for all ages and stages of marriage. Starting Tuesday 19th October. Cost is \$70. To watch a trailer about the course click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qba2wYpXgUs> To register for the course: www.cgatholic.org.au/marriagefamily/the-marriage-course/ or contact Steph Ransom steph.ransom@cg.org.au

MORE WITH JESUS: *More with Jesus* has been written for anyone who would like to understand a little more about Christian baptism. The Archdiocese of Brisbane has developed *More with Jesus*, an adult formation resource to lead Catholics into a deeper understanding of the baptismal vocation. By gifting a copy of *More with Jesus* to those engaging with the sacraments in our parish, we have the opportunity to hear God calling us back to him and to re-engage in our parish beyond the sacraments we seek to receive.

More with Jesus can also be provided to parishioners and gifted to friends as an aid towards spiritual renewal—especially during these times when face-to-face attendance at Mass can be difficult. Parishioners can purchase *More with Jesus* by visiting: evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/shop

Live Stream Mass St. Christopher's Cathedral Monday – Saturday 12.15pm,
Sunday 11am <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online/>

Dear Parishioners

Please be reminded of the online Rosary with Archbishop Christopher Prowse on Wednesdays and Fridays at 4pm. Please make an effort to join. It is very enriching and is in solidarity with the whole Archdiocese. It is a good thing also to be regular with online Sunday live-streamed mass from the Canberra Cathedral on all Sundays of this lockdown period. There is no lockdown for spiritual life. Let us remain united as a Parish community with prayers and reflections of the Word of God, coming to you through emails and bulletins from the Parish or picking up a printed hard copy of the Bulletin from the church door. The Parish Office, especially on Wednesdays and Fridays, as well as the PPC members and the Moruya Caring Group are all there to listen to you and help you in any way, if needed. Let us remain hopeful that this peril will end soon and we will be able to walk in the House of the Lord rejoicing. God Bless—Fr George



ROSARY WITH THE ARCHBISHOP: While our Churches are closed, Archbishop Christopher would like to invite all to pray via zoom. All you need are your Rosary beads and your intentions.



TIME:

Every Wednesday and Friday
at 4 pm sharp!

(Archbishop Christopher will lead us in prayer)

ZOOM DETAILS: Simply click on the link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85022458332?pwd=MDZ4ODFhNjIvdnpFd21aVDQzWnAydz09>

Or enter in the details below after opening the Zoom app Meeting ID: 850 2245 8332 Passcode: 543675

The Rosary inspires us to meditate on the mysteries of the lives of Jesus and Mary in the Scripture. Praying Rosary with Mary will lead us to grow closer to God. It is a powerful prayer and mirrors the rhythms of daily family life. "Hail Mary" Ava Maria