

TEMORA MISSION AREA

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Ardlethan/Sacred Heart Arian Park

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Sacred Heart Temora

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Parish Priest Fr Sijo Jose

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St Therese Barellan

In our Prayers: Jack Wood, Alicia Bonny, Frances Vince, Jim Bonny, Barry Carroll, Neville Caldwell, Kashaya Kuemmel,

For our Deceased: May Rayment, Heather Symth, Franny Stewart, Dorothy Allen, John Stout, Graeme Stout (*anniversaries*)

July 15—16

Arian Park 6.00 p.m. Sat *Liturgy*

Mass

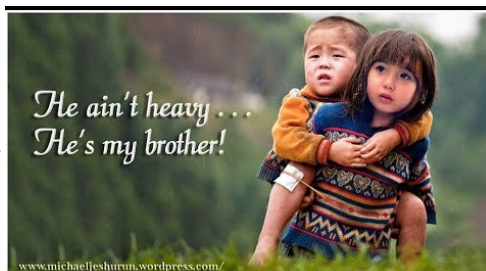
Temora 6.00 p.m.

Mass

Ardlethan 8.00 a.m. Barellan 10.00 a.m.

Reflection

My Yoke is Easy. During the Vietnam war a soldier once saw a boy carrying a child on his back. *'He's not heavy'*, the boy replied, *'he's my brother.'* Hopefully, we experience the yoke of Jesus as light and easy. Serving others and living the Gospel can be burdensome at times but it also brings freedom and joy to our hearts and rest for our souls.



Reflection

“Before I said my first Mass an old priest gave me an advice I recall:

‘Never underestimate the burdens people bring with them into the church. Often we have little idea of the difficulties and pain our parishioners will be carrying.’

I have no idea what you have brought with you to Mass today. I can only imagine the anxiety and burden some of you are carrying. Whatever it is, Jesus invites you to let go of it, if only for a while, and be at peace.

Now all this *'come and rest a while'* talk can be very pious and not sound all that in touch with reality.

Today's Gospel, however, came from the community of the Apostle Matthew and was written in Jerusalem about 45 years after Jesus' death. We know that

this community experienced intense suffering and heavy burdens.

They had been expelled from the Synagogue and were being martyred for their faith in Jesus Christ. No wonder they held so strongly to the words, *'Come to me all you who are weary and heavy burdened and I will give you rest.'* And they found consolation in Jesus' example, *'take my yoke upon you and learn from me for I am gentle and humble in heart.'*

Since the first century, however, Christianity has been guilty of trying to spiritually wallpaper over some tough realities rather than preaching that God is our companion in facing up to whatever our reality is and dealing with it.

Our faith is not about praying away our problems or fears and wishing it were otherwise. Our faith means we have experienced the love of God in Jesus Christ so that we never carry our burdens alone. God is our companion and guide and this parish Community, as with every Christian community, is called to be the sort of place where we carry each other's burdens and rest with each other awhile.

I don't underestimate the burdens some of you have walked into this church with today. Whatever burden you may have brought with you, may you know a moment's rest, the companionship of fellow travellers and the gift of Christ's peace.”

Richard Leonard sj

“Let's hold in our hearts for a moment the burden and the yoke with which each of us has walked into this church .

But whatever the burden and the yoke,
may we all, at some time, know a moment's rest,
the support of companion travellers
and the gift of Christ's peace.”

*“No act of kindness, no matter
how small, is ever wasted. “*

Aesop

“No matter where life takes you,
the place that you stand
at any moment
is holy ground.
Love hard, and love wide
and love long and you will find
the goodness in it.”

Susan Vreeland

Roster: 16 July

Reader: Bernard