





PARISH BULLETIN Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, 27 August 2023

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Response: (R)Lord, hear our prayer

CELEBRANT/LEADER:

The power of God was manifest in all that Jesus said and did. Through the Spirit of Jesus, we open our hearts in prayer.

READER: For Pope Francis on his apostolic visit to Mongolia this week. May he confirm that nation's small Christian community in the faith of Peter the apostle. We pray to the Lord. *(R)*

For rain in due abundance, so that being supplied with what sustains us in this present life, we may seek more confidently what sustains us for eternity. We pray to the Lord. We pray to the Lord. **(***R***)**

For our faith community. Inspired and strengthened by the Eucharist we share; may we give witness to the Good News of Jesus in our daily lives. We pray to the Lord. (R)

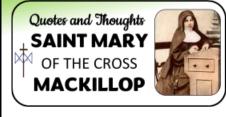
For our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples on this Social Justice Sunday. May we renew our engagement with each other by respectful listening, learning and loving. We pray to the Lord. **(***R***)**

For our sick relatives and friends and those who care for them. We remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rejoice in the blessings of God's kingdom. We pray to the Lord. (*R*)

For Our Lady's intercession for all our needs and especially for the people of Ukraine. We pray Hail Mary...

CELEBRANT/LEADER:

Merciful Father, hear the prayers of your children gathered here today. May your saving grace reach out to all for whom we pray. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **AMEN**



PRAYER INTENTIONS

POPES INTENTION AUGUST FOR WORLD YOUTH DAY

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives

We pray for rural dioceses and parishes struggling with limited resources, that they will find creative ways to build community and continue proclaiming the Gospel.

We pray for the many who are struggling to find affordable housing in Australia. May local, state and federal authorities join forces with industry to alleviate their need.



We pray for the sick and suffering, may the healing sacraments and pastoral care of the Church always be available to them:

Sue Minchin, Jane Nash, Keith Brownlie, Ashton, Danielle & Stewart Hurley, Barry & Alma Reed, Wendy White, Anna & John Vincent, Jim Parkes, Marlene Kennedy, Bill McIntosh, Kim Peisley, Val Perkins, Natalie Lestone, Merilyn Knight, Jen Farrell, Betty Cowell, Tom Kennedy, Patricia Guthrie, Joyce Cotterill, Peter Hopkins, John Elliott, Heather Whitby, Larry Bedingfield, Erika & Margo Birmingham

PARISH CALENDAR

Mon: Saint Augustine Tue: Passion of John the Baptist Wed: Mass Bombala 9.30am Thu: Fri:

Sat: LW&HC Delegate 5pm Mass Bombala 5pm Sun: Father's Day





August Anniversaries

Saint Mary MacKillop Lou Black, Pam Clear Kay Cuthel, Athol Duffell Laura Elton, Pat Elton Jean Ingram, Nat Ingram Vince Jones, Peter Martin Mary Monk, Wayne Mustard Sr Kathleen Price Nick Spoljaric, Ellen Stewart Jack Stewart, John Thompson Dick Walker, Tom Walker



"We have loved them in Life: Let us not forget them in death."



PASSION OF JOHN THE BAPTIST – 29 AUGUST The Church commemorates one of the oldest feasts within the Church, the Memorial of the Beheading of Saint John the Baptist. Just as John preceded Jesus in birth, preaching, and baptising, so too did he precede Jesus in death, dying as a prefiguration of the one who would give His life sacrificially on the Cross.

Saint John the Baptist, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

God grant that today may be a truly happy one rich in graces for your soul. (28.8.1896) Be of good heart. (29.8.1876) Great is the strength we possess in our unity. (30.8.1874) Never lose courage under your sufferings (1.9.1873 Sisters take possession of Kensington property, South Australia, 1872.

READINGS

FIRST READING: FROM THE PROPHET ISAIAH

I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(*R*) Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple. **(R.)**

2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar. Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands. **(R.)**

SECOND READING: LETTER OF ST PAUL TO THE ROMANS

From him, through him, and in him are all things.

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it. Alleluia!

GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

1. STRONG AND CONSTANT Fr Frank Andersen MSC

1.I will be Your God who walks with you! You will be always in my hand! Take your heart and give it all to me! *R*

Refrain: Strong and constant is my love! Strong and constant is my love!

2.Should you wander far away from me; I will search for you in every land! Should you call then you will truly know. *R*

3.When you know sorrow within your life, I will come I will embrace your heart! Through your pain you will discover Me! *R*

2. ONE BREAD ONE BODY John Michael Talbot Refrain: One bread, one body, one Lord of all One cup of blessing which we bless And we, though many, throughout the Earth We are one body in this one Lord

1. Gentile or Jew, Servant or free Woman or man, No more *R*

2. Many the gifts, many the works One in the Lord, Of all. *R*

Reflection by Father Michael Tate



Jesus had a sense of humour! Simon, son of Jonah, was far from being a rock solid supporter of Jesus. So Jesus gave him the nickname "Rocky" which in the Greek is Petros. Jesus puns with the nickname: "You are Rocky and upon this rock I will build my church."

The natural personality of shifting sands was being transformed by the blessing just given (the only blessing bestowed upon an apostle by Jesus). Notice that Jesus only makes promises about "my" church, not a church shaped by human imagination, e.g. modes of Roman Imperial rule or with a Eurocentric mindset. Fortunately, we have a successor of St Peter responding to our risen Lord's command to St Francis of Assisi, "Rebuild my church." We could pause for a moment to pray that the Risen Lord showers the 265th successor of St Peter with every blessing so that the Church of Jesus the Christ continues to prevail over the forces of death which threaten humanity. There is anger and suspicion at sexual abuse and its cover up. Many of our contemporaries are openly hostile or contentedly indifferent. In all these situations and many more, Our Lord will not allow us the indulgence of nostalgic yearning for the safety of the past country inhabited by the Church. We are not to throw Tradition with a capital 'T' overboard. To jettison the spirit led experience of the Church over two millennia will not help us. Discerning tradition from nostalgia, we must make our way to the other shore. We could pause for a moment, resolving to row with courage because we know we are in the same boat as Peter whom our Risen Lord assures: 'Do not be afraid.'

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SAINT MARY MACKILLOP EDEN PILGRIMAGE



A great turn out at last Saturday at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church Eden for this annual pilgrimage. More details next bulletin along with photos.