
$11^{\text {TH }}$ SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

18 June 2023

LITURGY AND BULLETIN

## OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, our hope and our strength.
Help us to follow Christ and to live according to your will.
Amen.
FIRST READING: A reading from the book of Exodus
From Rephidim the Israelite set out again; and when they reached the wilderness of Sinai, there in the wilderness they pitched their camp; there facing the mountain Israel pitched camp.

Moses then went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel, "You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation."'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:
Response: We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

Cry with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy. (R.)
Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him, we are his people, the sheep of his flock. (R.)

Indeed, how good is the Lord, eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age. (R.)
SECOND READING: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man - though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die - but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
The kingdom of God is near; repent and believe the Good News!
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows:
'Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'


## REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The major themes today are call and discipleship. Most of us are rather insignificant in the eyes of the broader society. And even those who are well known or in some way famous are still just simple human beings with needs and fears and dreams like the rest of us. Yet we have been called by God. This is what makes us special. Paul picks up this theme in his development of justification. He argues that we are special because when we were still sinners we were justified. All this has come to us as a pure gift from God. It is God who calls; it is God who chooses; it is God who justifies. If we are to boast, we must boast in God.

Paul further teaches that good works do not gain faith. It is the other way around. It is faith that manifests itself in works. In the gospel we see that the disciples are sent out to give to others the gift of faith which had been given to them. They proclaim the gospel, the good news that the time of fulfilment has come, and then they perform mighty works that demonstrate what they preach. We too have been called to discipleship; we have been made God's special people. To us has been entrusted the good news of salvation to proclaim to others. We must be the healing touch of Christ in our world. We must comfort those who mourn, bring back to life those who are in despair, embrace those who have been ostracised by society, drive out anger and fear and hatred.

## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray for Pope Francis and all successors of the apostles, that their service of the Gospel will offer life, hope and healing to the human family. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for all the baptised, especially young Noah, baptised today, that they will awaken to their calling and bear bold witness to the Gospel with lives of justice, love and peace. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for the multitudes of people displaced from their homeland, that World Refugee Day (20 June) will summon every nation to play its part in securing their safety and well-being. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for women and girls living under repressive regimes, that international efforts to uphold their right to respect, education and freedom will give them hope. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for all men and women serving in Australia's defence forces, that they will conduct themselves with honour and be esteemed for their devotion to duty. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for international students in Australia, that they will feel welcome and supported in the social, educational and financial challenges they face. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for all who suffer in mind, body or spirit, especially Penny Crawford, Len Sheather, Jenny Bodman, Ross Lawless, Rongo Tee Peeti, Helen Montgomery, Judy Nielson, Tony Riley, Val Biggers and all who need our prayers, that they may be cared for by loving family, friends and community. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for the recently deceased, Paul Jeffrey, Ann McDougall, Hans Ferlitsch. . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will inherit the eternal life Christ won for them. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord,
may your grace accomplish in your church the unity and peace it signifies.
Amen.

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PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mondays: 9am - 3pm; Fridays: 9am - 12pm
Weekday Mass: Tuesdays at 10am
Meditation: Thursdays in Presbytery at 10.30am
Social Justice Group: Wednesday 5 July 2023 at 9.30am, at the Presbytery
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Krawarree Mass: 30 July at 11am.
Araluen Mass: Tuesday $8^{\text {th }}$ August (Mary McKillop's Feast Day) at 11am. You may like to have lunch at the pub afterwards.

Markets in Ryrie Park: Saturday 24 June Produce; Crafts; Plants; Antiques \& Collectibles; Trash \& Treasure; Monthly wood Raffle. Donations of cooking etc gratefully accepted at the Parish table. Enquiries to Cathy Ffrench on 0418262011


Masonic Lodge Wood raffles: Saturday $17^{\text {th }}$ June from 9am - 12 noon outside newsagency. Auction at 12.30pm near servo.

Canberra Strings: will be playing at the Servicemen's Club Sunday 18 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ June at 2.30pm


Southern NSW Local Health District reports:
'Healthy and Active for Life' (HAL) online is back for Term 3, 2023 and you can register online now! If you have been thinking about improving your health and are 60 years or over this is the program for you.
Healthy and Active for Life Online is a 10 week healthy lifestyle program that teaches you all about healthy eating and exercise, from the comfort of your own home. All you need is internet access, a computer or tablet and some space to exercise..... oh and did we mention it's free.
To find out more and sign up now visit:
https://www.activeandhealthy.nsw.gov.au/.../healthy-and.../

Vinnies Winter Appeal still open: the theme of this year's appeal is 'What if your mum, grandma or sister became homeless?' If you are able to make a contribution to the Vinnies Winter Appeal, please do so by using an envelope from your seats (place in $2^{\text {nd }}$ collection bag), donating online at www.vinnies.org.au or by calling 1318 12. Donations of $\$ 2$ or more are tax deductible. Vinnies Braidwood is looking for donations of blankets. Your donation of blankets will be sold in-store here at Braidwood to assist with providing Emergency relief to members of our community needing assistance with their electricity, food, petrol, living expenses, medical expenses and clothes. If you are in need of assistance, please call 131812 and the Vinnies Relief team can arrange help. Braidwood and district thank you in advance of you support with donations.

Readings for Mass: $1^{\text {st. }}$ Exodus19:2-6. $2^{\text {nd. }}$ Rom. 5:6-11. Gospel: Matt. 9:36-10:8.
Next week: $1^{\text {st. }}$ Jer. 20:10-13. ${ }^{\text {nd. }}$ Romans 5:12-15. Gospel Matthew 10:26-33.
Radio Church: Sundays at 6pm on FM 88.9


Keep warm and take care of each other, Helen
The Parish of St Bede's Braidwood acknowledges the Yuin people, the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for many thousands of years. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

