



12TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A

25 June 2023

LITURGY AND BULLETIN

OPENING PRAYER

*Father,
guide and protector of your people,
grant us an unfailing respect for your name and keep us always in your love.
Amen.*

FIRST READING: A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

Jeremiah said:

'I hear so many disparaging me,
"Terror from every side!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All those who used to be my friends
watched for my downfall,
"Perhaps he will be seduced into error.
Then we will master him
and take our revenge!"
But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;
my opponents will stumble, mastered,
confounded by their failure;
everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.
But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice,
who scrutinise the loins and heart,
let me see the vengeance you will take on them,
for I have committed my cause to you.
Sing to the Lord,
praise the Lord,
for he has delivered the soul of the needy
from the hands of evil men.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Response: Lord, in your great love, answer me.

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts,
that shame covers my face,
that I have become a stranger to my brothers,
an alien to my own mother's sons.
I burn with zeal for your house
and taunts against you fall on me. (R.)

2. This is my prayer to you,
my prayer for your favour.

In your great love, answer me, O God,
with your help that never fails:
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;
in your compassion, turn towards me. (R.)

3. The poor when they see it will be glad
and God-seeking hearts will revive;
for the Lord listens to the needy
and does not spurn his servants in their chains.
Let the heavens and the earth give him praise,
the sea and all its living creatures. (R.)

SECOND READING: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord,
and you also will be my witnesses.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted.

So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'



REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

The message to not be afraid is as much for the original intended audience of the gospel as it was for the apostles. The community for whom this gospel was written were on the verge of being

'squeezed out' and forced into secret. The passage reminds them to have courage and to have the courage of their convictions; to shout from the house-tops their message, not whisper it in darkness. It is a reminder of the abundant love of God who cares for them and sees all their efforts to continue to live out the message and ministry of Jesus.

It is equally a message for us, today. We are called to continue the spread of the gospel message; continuing the work of those early Christian communities, the Twelve and Jesus himself.

Gospel Focus – Fear

When scripture uses the term fear, it tends to fall into one of two meanings. When used in the context of 'do not be afraid' or 'fear not', it is a command to not be daunted by the woes and trials that the world imposes. The other use tends to be a command that we should fear God. In this context, the word does not mean to be frightened of God but rather to show proper reverence. To fear God is to stand in wonder and awe rather than to cower and hide. So, fear God, but do not be afraid!

Living the Gospel – From the house-tops

One of the messages of Jesus to his disciples and, through him, of Matthew to the original community, is to have courage and to have pride in their belief. No matter what threat or persecution they are to endure, the command is to proclaim the message of Jesus from the house-tops. They are to be proud of what they believe and be prepared to share it with others. In a world today that is not always open to the message of Jesus, we too are called to be proud of what we believe and not whisper it in the darkness.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray for Pope Francis, that he will be blessed with the health and strength he needs for his mission of worldwide leadership. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all whose gospel living provokes opposition or puts them in danger, that the apostolic witness of Saints Peter and Paul will give them courage to stand firm. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the whole human family, that a new era of solidarity will draw all people together in peace as sisters and brothers. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who are working hard for the health of the planet, that their example will inspire the world-wide eco-conversion called for by Pope Francis. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the followers of Islam, that their celebration of this week's Eid al Adha festival will bring them joy and peace. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for Catholics who are disillusioned with the church and no longer practise their faith; that God's Spirit will continue to guide them on paths of mercy, justice and love. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

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. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who have been the subject of sexual assault, that their right to just treatment by the law and the media will be upheld. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

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

We pray for the recently deceased Len Sheather, Paul Jeffrey, Ann McDougall, Hans Ferlitsch . . . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will enjoy for ever the fellowship of the saints. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord,
renew your life within us and, in your mercy, bring us to eternal life.
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

Krawarree Mass: Sunday 30th July at 11am.

Araluen Mass: Tuesday 8th August (Mary McKillop's Feast Day) at 11am. You may like to have lunch at the pub afterwards.

Nerriga Mass: Sunday 20 August at 11am. Lunch afterwards at the pub.



Markets in Ryrie Park: Saturday 24 June, donations on our table gratefully received. Wood raffle as usual

The Catholic Parish of Pambula invites members of your community to join with Archbishop Christopher Prowse and other pilgrims, as he leads the annual St. Mary of the Cross McKillop pilgrimage to Eden on Saturday 19th August. He will be leaving from St Christopher's Cathedral at 7.30am on Saturday 19th August and travel to Eden by private vehicle. It is hoped that pilgrims will travel from parishes and school communities within the archdiocese to join with the Pambula Parish community in Eden, to celebrate this important event and place in our church history.

A summary of the program for the day:

- 11.00am (optional) Pilgrim's walk from Eden AFL grounds to Our Lady Star of the Sea Church. Refreshments will be available at Church.
- 12.00 noon Concelebrated Mass with Archbishop Christopher and visiting priests
- 1.00 pm Lunch will be provided by the Parish of Pambula. An occasion to share fellowship with other pilgrims.

As we are organising lunch, it would be appreciated if you could advise if you are attending so catering can be arranged, please book in via our website Catholic Parish Pambula or on the following link Archbishop's Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage

If there are any special dietary requirements, please make these known to us. You can contact either Sue Heffernan (0405 251 947) or myself (0429 774 119)

Braidwood Groups will be participating in a 'Coming together for Yes' event on Sunday 2nd July and joining other groups throughout the country to show support for the 'Yes' campaign in The Voice to Parliament referendum.

All are welcome to join us for a free sausage sizzle in Ryrie Park next to the Dhurga Rock from 12noon to 2pm on Sunday 2nd July. We hope you can join us to demonstrate your support for the 'Yes' campaign and talk about how we can spread the word.

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 the back table (place in 2nd collection bag), donating online at www.vinnies.org.au or by calling 13 18 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 13 18 12 and the Vinnies Relief team can arrange help. Braidwood and district thank you in advance of you support with donations.



Readings for Mass 1st: Jer. 20:10-13. 2nd: Romans 5:12-15. Gospel Matthew 10:26-33.

Next week: 1st: 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16. 2nd: Rom. 6:3-4,8-11. Gospel Matthew 10:37-42.

Radio Church: Sundays at 6pm on FM 88.9

Ministries for our Mass:	24 June	1 July	8 July	15 July	22 July
Welcomer:	Helen P	Geraldine	Cathy F	Helen P	Geraldine
Acolyte:	Felix (when available)				
Reader 1:	Michael	Bobbie	Wendy M-B	Ann T	Michael
Reader 2:	Cathy F	Tommy	Germaine	Wendy H	Cathy F
I noticed I have two June 3 entries on the roster. Please adjust your rosters from that date forward.					
Ministries of service:	23 June	30 June	7 July	14 July	21 July
Altar Decorating:	Cathy F	Margaret	Joy	Helen P	Cathy F
Cleaning:	Pauline & Wendy			Felix	
Counters: 1 st Sunday:	Pauline & Bobbie.		2 nd : Sunday: Wendy H		
3 rd Sunday:	volunteer please		4 th : Phil Owen		
Please advise if you are unable to fulfil your roster, so alternative arrangements may be made.					

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.