

## NORTHERN MISSION

incorporating Queanbeyan, Michalego, Bungendore and Braidwood Parishes.

<http://www.stgregorysparishqueanbeyan.com>

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Father Troy Bobbin

Associate Priest: Father Peter Day (Braidwood & Bungendore)

Deacons: John Lim (Bungendore)

Chris Van Gessel (Queanbeyan)

Pastoral Associate, Braidwood: Br Brian Berg

Parish Website: <http://cg.org.au/braidwood/Home.aspx>

Braidwood Contact Numbers: Ph. 4842 2444;

Mobile: 0408 687 915

Parish email: [braidwood@cg.org.au](mailto:braidwood@cg.org.au)

Br. Brian email: [bcberg@edmundrice.org](mailto:bcberg@edmundrice.org)

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Trish Ferlitsch Ph. 4842 2413

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Thurs 9.00am - 5.00pm.



### Mission Sunday Masses:

St Raphael's Q'bn 5.30pm Sat

9am & 5.30pm Sun

St Mary's Bung. 5.30pm Sat

St Bede's B'wood 8.30am Sun

# Northern Mission



24TH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME Yr. A

17 September 2017

### Ministries for our Sunday Liturgy: Sunday at 8.30am

	17 September	24 Sept	1 October
Commentator:	P Coady	H Hart	P Coady
Reader:	W Hart	A Monkhouse	B Berg
Reader:	M Byrnes	H Bopping	T Roach
Acolyte:	J Gunderson	F Schlager	L Hart
Sp. Ministers	W Hart	B Schlager	A Monkhouse
	H Bopping	H Pieper	K Godwin
Welcomer:	H Pieper	G Sutton	C Ffrench
PowerPoint:	A Monkhouse	H Hart	J Flores
Gifts:	Laffan Family	Flores family	Celia & Tony

### Ministries of Service: 22 Sept 29 Sept 6 Oct

Altar Decorating:	Cathy	Margaret	Fran
Cleaners:	Margaret & Barbara	Wendy & Pauline	Bobbie

**Sp. Min hospital:** 1st Sun: Eileen Dempsey. 2nd Sun: Helen Pieper.  
3rd Sun: Jane Gardner. 4th Sun: Ann Monkhouse. 5th Sun: Brian Berg

**Counters:** 1st Sun: K & M Toirkens. 2nd Sunday: G Kain. 3rd Sunday: Wendy Hart.  
4th Sunday: E Hannaford. 5th Sunday: H Bopping.

### World Community for Christian Meditation is held Thursdays at 10.30am

at St Bede's Presbytery. For information please contact Br. Brian on 4842

2444. Newcomers are always welcome. Check out the websites:

[www.wccm.org](http://www.wccm.org) or [www.christianmeditationaustralia.org](http://www.christianmeditationaustralia.org)

### St Vincent de Paul Society Braidwood Conference:

*"Giving a helping hand up"*

Office Hours: Friday 11am - 1pm. Ph: 0435856541 or 4842 2444



**Readings this week:** 1st: Sirach 27:30-28:7. 2nd: Rom. 14:7-9. G: Matt. 18:21-35.

**Next week:** 1st: Isaiah 55:6-9. 2nd: Phil. 1:20-24,27. Gospel: Matt. 20:1-16.

### Join Us in Prayer

#### Entrance Antiphon:

Give peace, O God, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true.

Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

#### Responsorial Psalm:

**Response: Our God is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.**

All: My soul, give thanks our God, all my being, bless God's holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Holy One  
and never forget all the blessings.

All: It is God who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave,  
who crowns you with love and compassion.

All: God's wrath will come to an end; and anger will not last for ever.  
God does not treat us according to our sins  
nor repay us according to our faults.

All: For as the heavens are high above the earth  
so strong is God's love for those who are in awe.  
As far as the east is from the west so far does God remove our sins.

#### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I  
have loved you. Alleluia!

#### Communion Antiphon:

The cup of blessing that we bless is a communion in the Blood of Christ;  
and the bread that we break is a sharing in the Body of the Lord.

**Next weekend Mass time:** 8.30am Sunday St Bede's Church.  
**Weekday Mass:** Tuesday 10am in the Presbytery  
**Liturgy of the Word:** Wednesdays at 9.30am in the Presbytery.  
**Meditation:** Thursday at 10.30am in the Presbytery.  
**Braidwood AA** meets each Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Centre.  
**Social Justice Group** next meeting Sunday 8th October, Lolly Shop, 10.30am.

**Congratulations to our children receiving First Holy Communion today:** Annel Clarke, Milly Coe, Mia Yeomans, Tommy Gilbert and Leon Pieper. There will be a cake and morning tea after the Mass.

**The Solemn Blessing and Opening** of the new St Christopher's Pastoral and Residential Centre will take place on Wednesday 20th Sept 2 – 4pm. Archbishop Prowse cordially invites all parishioners to attend. Please see the invitation on the noticeboard for RSVP etc details.

**Social Justice Sunday:** next week. The Bishops' Statement is titled "everyone's Business - Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy". Copies of the statement will be at the back of the Church.

**Ozanam Sunday:** also next Sunday. There will be a retiring collection after Mass. Donations go towards our Twinned Parish in India.

**Please pray for the sick:** Fr Phil Harding, Clem Wilson, Diana Wiley, Tony Ryan, Luke Ward, Len Kanowski, Ted Younger, Paul Conaghan, Tony Riley, Dave Kelly, Robin Marsden, Patricia Golotta, Barbara Monaghan, John Sheldon, Sarah Lewis, Richie Simpson, Mark Sissian, Betty Jones, Sarah Cree, Teresa Neilsen, the residents of Narbethong & the aged care unit and all who need prayers.

**Please pray for those who have died in recent days:** Bonnie Webb, Jan Glass, Jean McClure, Richard Smith (anniv.) and our own deceased relatives and friends.

**Offerings acknowledged with thanks:**  
1st: \$160. 2nd - Envelopes \$142 Loose: \$ 40. Father's Day Appeal \$90 total.

**Markets in Ryrie Park: 8am - 2pm next Saturday**  
Produce; Crafts; Plants; Antiques & Collectibles; Trash & Treasure; Monthly Raffle; Donations of cooking etc gratefully accepted. Enquiries: Geraldine 4847 5061 AH.

Geraldine would appreciate some more raffle ticket volunteers for Fridays. If you could help, please contact Geraldine as above.



## Reflection on the Gospel - Lord, how often must I forgive?

In his book *The Railway Man*, Eric Lomax tells the true account of his imprisonment during the Second World War. He was one of thousands of soldiers forced to work on the infamous Burma-Siam railway. Labouring virtually as slaves, the half-starved men suffered in the burning heat, while living under conditions of exhaustion and malnutrition. Even worse than this, some, like Lomax, were tortured: he was choked with water, endlessly beaten and mercilessly interrogated. He came close to death on many occasions.

When the war ended, Eric Lomax returned to England, but his life was never the same. Tormenting pictures that came as nightmares, together with the physical and mental scars his experience left behind, meant his quality of life was severely diminished. However, the story doesn't stop here. A strange sequence of events eventually led Lomax to return to Japan some fifty years later to meet face to face with one of his tormentors, someone whose life had equally been devastated by the war. The description of their encounter is heart-rending in its honesty. It reaches a climax when the two men finally decide to put the past to rest. Lomax tells his former interrogator that while the memory of what happened in that prison back in 1943 would always remain with him, he can be sure of his total forgiveness. Given all that had happened, what an incredible statement: he offered total forgiveness, an act pardoning more wrongs than it was possible to remember.

The book finishes in Thailand, with the author and his wife gazing over a war cemetery: "For a moment," he writes, "we both knew we should be there." Then I said: "Sometime, the hating has to stop."

Hate is a strong word, but to a greater and lesser degree we all know it in our hearts. We face conflict with those around us: family, friends and even strangers. We carry our prejudices and judgements, we cling to the hurts and offences caused by others.

Whatever its form, however trivial, however serious, there is a time for hating to stop in every life, in all our relationships, and throughout our world. This may not always be easy; it might not come quickly, but we are called to recapture the fact that we live for the Lord, not merely for ourselves. Hating will only stop when forgiveness begins. How often must we forgive? Always. Why? Because God has forgiven us in Christ. GPBS 12/9/2017