



17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY
TIME YEAR C

24 July 2022

LITURGY AND BULLETIN

OPENING PRAYER

*God our Father and protector,
guide us to everlasting life by helping us to use wisely
the blessings you have given us.
Amen.*

FIRST READING: A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.'

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' The Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.'

Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No', he replied 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'

Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Response: Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

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.
Though I walk in the midst of affliction

you give me life and frustrate my foes. (R.)

4. You stretch out your hand and save me,
your hand will do all things for me.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. (R.)

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

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins.

He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children,
and in that Spirit we call God our Father.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 11:1-13

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy,
your kingdom come;
give us each day our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us.
And do not put us to the test."

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'



REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL OF LUKE 11:1-13 by Greg Sunter

In today's gospel, Jesus provides his disciples, and all Christians, with a model for prayer. In keeping with this modelling by Jesus, it is significant that the Lord's Prayer, or Our Father, is the common prayer of all Christians, regardless of denomination.

The parable and teaching that follow the Lord's Prayer make clear the particular purpose of prayer that Jesus was highlighting – prayer as petition. In this instance, Jesus assures us that if we pray for what we need with conviction and confidence, then God cannot fail to respond to our prayer. Jesus in fact encourages us to be demanding and persistent in our prayer. However, the parable used to demonstrate the persistent nature of prayer is not focused on demands for selfish purposes, but rather the neighbour needs assistance in fulfilling his obligations of hospitality to a traveller. He is not waking his neighbour in the middle of the night to ask for bread for himself; he asks for bread to give to his guest. He asks for help to fulfil his duty and responsibility. This gives us something of an idea about how we might focus our prayer. Praying for a pony or new bike isn't quite in the same league!

The final element of the gospel passage provides us with a description of God's love and care by something of a negative comparison: if human parents would not do harm instead of good to their children, God is even less likely to act like this towards us. It's a bit of an odd way around of saying that God's love is greater than anything within our experience or imagination.

Living the Gospel – Ask, Search, Knock

Jesus says in the gospel, 'Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you.' The actions of asking, searching and knocking are means by which we initiate the encounter with God. If we don't ask, search and knock, how is anyone (including God) to know our needs or know what it is that we are searching for. Particularly in our spiritual lives, it is only through the search and the knocking on the doors of different experiences that we ever come closer to finding answers.

Historical Context – Stone for bread

The stone/bread, snake/fish and scorpion/egg comparisons seem a little far fetched to us, but would have made perfect sense to a 1st Century Palestinian audience. The flat, brown stones around Lake Galilee look very similar to the flat bread that was baked in the area. The 'snake' may refer to a sea-snake – an eel – which might be caught up in a fisherman's nets but was regarded as unclean by the Jews. The poisonous scorpions of the region are very pale in colour and when curled up at rest could be mistaken for an egg.

Gospel Focus – Relationship

A crucial aspect of prayer is the attitude with which we view God. We trust in God's character that it is not a pointless exercise to ask for something. We trust that God is even more loving than a parent who tries to give their child what they need. If we did not make these basic assumptions about God, there would be little point in prayer. When our prayer lives falter at times, perhaps we need to first check out our relationship with God and our attitude towards God before trying to 'fix' the ways we pray.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

For the whole human family, that all will come to believe in the goodness of God and everything that God has made. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

For a world-wide groundswell of mercy, that nations, communities and families will practise forgiveness and foster healing. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

For all the baptised in Christ, that they will show God's power to raise up love from the turmoil and strife of the world. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

For leaders dealing with the global energy and food crisis, that they will promote the common good and the wellbeing of the earth. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

For grandparents and the elderly, that this week's World Day in their honour will highlight both their gifts and their needs. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

For librarians and all who encourage a love of books and reading, especially in children, that they will deepen and enrich our shared human experience. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

For our parish community, that we will put Jesus' teaching on prayer into practice in our daily lives. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for all who suffer in mind, body or spirit, especially Bruce Feehan, Ross Lawless, Bob Haigh, Richie Simpson, Paul Fa'Oa, Rongo Tee Peeti, Helen Montgomery, Judy Nielson, Tony Riley, Val Biggers and all who need our prayers; that they will be cared for by loving family, friends and community (Pause) Lord, hear us.

For the recently deceased . . . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will praise God forever in the company of the saints. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord,

*as we celebrate the memory of the death and resurrection of your Son,
may this gift bring us closer to our eternal salvation.*

Amen.

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Father Mick Burke

Mobile: 0448 414 541

Pastoral Associate: Br Brian Berg

Braidwood Contact Numbers: Ph. 4842 2444;

Mobile: 0408 687 915

Parish email: braidwood@cg.org.au

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

Br. Brian email: bcberg@edmundrice.org

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Marylou Gorham Ph. 4842 2413

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays: 9.30am – 3.30pm; Fridays: 9.30am – 12.30pm

Weekday Mass: Tuesdays at 10.00am in the Church.

Meditation: Thursdays at 10.30am in the Presbytery.

Krawarree Mass: Sunday 31st July at 11.00am.

Social Justice Group: Tuesday 2 August 2022 at 10.30am, at the Presbytery

Dear Parishioners,

Our Vinnies shop is low in stocks of winter items – clothing and bedding. If you have spare items, you don't need and that are in good condition, please donate them to Vinnies Braidwood, so that we can continue to aid those in need this winter.

Acolytes needed: Geoff has had to step back from his Acolyte ministry once again, because of his concern for Suzie and covid. Another acolyte or two, to assist James and Felix would be very helpful. Please speak to Mick or Brian if you would be interested. Training will be given. Ladies welcome.

“Help Ukrainians Raffle”, sponsored by the Goldsmith Street Surgery in Goulburn. Tickets available from Wendy Hart either at Mass times or wherever you see her around town. Many prizes are on offer. See poster for details. Tickets \$5 each or 5 for \$20.

The Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation will be celebrated in the coming months. Reconciliation 13 August; First Eucharist 18 September and Confirmation 20 November. Preparation for Reconciliation to commence this week.

Mass will be celebrated at St Brigid's Krawarree on Sunday 31st July 2022 at 11am.
Lunch will be served over at the Hall after Mass. All welcome.



The 2nd World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly occurs on Sunday 24 July. Pope Francis has chosen the theme "In old age they will still bear fruit" (Ps 92) and calls us all to reflect on how grandparents and the elderly bear fruit in our world: through the giving of our time, presence, memories, tenderness and blessing.

PRAYER FOR THE SECOND WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

I give thanks to you, Lord, for the blessing of a long life
For, to those who take refuge in You, grant always to bear fruit.
Forgive, O Lord, resignation and disillusionment,
But forsake me not when my strength declines.
Teach me to look with hope to the future you give me,
To the mission you entrust to me and to sing your praises without end.
Make me a tender craftsman of Your revolution,
To guard with love my grandchildren and all the little ones who seek shelter in You.
Protect, O Lord, Pope Francis and grant Thy Church
To deliver the world from loneliness.
Direct our steps in the way of peace.
Amen.

Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage: join with Archbishop Christopher Prowse and other pilgrims, as he leads a pilgrimage to Eden on Saturday 13th August. This pilgrimage will commemorate Australia's first saint, Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop, at the site she visited on two separate occasions, in 1899 and 1901. Mass will be concelebrated with Archbishop Christopher and visiting priests at 12.00noon in Our Lady Star of the Sea church. Following Mass lunch will be provided by the Parish of Pambula.

Reopening and Blessing of Sts Peter and Paul's Old Cathedral, Goulburn.
Wednesday 30th November 2022 11am Mass and celebration.

I have been asked to include the banking details once again:

1st Collection: BSB: 062-786

Account: 00029248

Account Name: St Bedes Braidwood CPF

Reference: BRAIDWOOD & SURNAME

For 2nd collection: BSB: 062-786

Account No: 00017755

Name: St Bedes Parish Braidwood.

Reference: name **and** giving number if you have one.

Readings for Mass: 1st: Gen. 18:20-32. 2nd: Col. 2:12-14. Gospel: Luke 11:1-13.

Readings for next week: 1st: Eccl. 1:2,2:21-23. 2nd: Col.3:1-5,9-11. Gospel: Luke 12:13-21.

Ministry Rosters for our Masses

| Date | Acolyte | Welcomer | Readers | Music/PP |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 22 July | James | Cathy F | Wendy H/Germaine | Helen H |
| 29 July | Felix | Geraldine | Wendy M-B/Ann T | Helen H |
| 6 Aug | James | Helen P | Michael/Cathy F | Helen H |
| 13 Aug | Felix | Cathy F | Bobbie/Tommy G | Helen H |

| Ministries of Service: | 22 July | 29 July | 5 August | 12 August |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Altar Decorating: | Margaret | Joy | Helen P | Cathy F |
| Cleaners: | | Bunny & Ella | | Pauline & Wendy |

Counters: 1st Sunday: Pauline & Bobbie.
3rd Sunday: Gabrielle K

2nd: Sunday: Wendy H

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 Hart