

## 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>

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**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. 8.30am Sun

St Bede's B'wood 6.00pm Sat

### Ministries for our Sunday Liturgy: Vigil @ 6.00pm

	20 January	28 January	3 February
Commentator:	H Hart	P Coady	H Hart
Reader:	A Monkhouse	B Berg	T Ferlitsch
Reader:	H Bopping	T Roach	K Toirkens
Acolyte:	F Schlager	L Hart	J Gunderson
Sp. Ministers	B Schlager	A Monkhouse	W Hart
	H Pieper	volunteer	H Bopping
Welcomer:	G Sutton	C Ffrench	H Pieper
PowerPoint:	H Hart	J Flores	H Hart
Gifts:	Flores Family	Cilla and Tony	Cathy

Ministries of Service:	25 January	1 February	9 February
Altar Decorating:	Joy	Helen P	Cathy
Cleaners:	Victor & Felix	Wendy & Pauline	Margaret & Barbara

**Sp. Min hospital:** 1st Sun: Eileen Dempsey. 2nd Sun: Helen Pieper.

3rd Sun: Brian Berg 4th Sun: Ann Monkhouse. 5th Sun: Jane Gardner.

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

### St Vincent de Paul Society Braidwood Conference:

*"Giving a helping hand up"*



**Office Hours: Fridays 11am to 1pm.**

### Readings:

**This week:** 1st: Jonah 3:1-5,10. 2nd: 1 Cor. 7:29-31. Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

**Next week:** 1st: Deut. 18:15-20. 2nd: 2 Cor. 7:32-35. Gospel: Mark 1:21-28.

# Northern Mission



**3RD SUNDAY  
ORDINARY TIME Yr. B**

**21 January 2018**

### Join Us in Prayer

#### Entrance Antiphon:

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth.  
In his presence are majesty and splendour,  
strength and honour in his holy place.

#### Responsorial Psalm:

**Response: Teach me your ways, O God.**

All: O God, make me know your ways.  
teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour.

All: Remember your mercy, O God,  
and the love you have shown from of old.  
In your love remember me,  
because of your goodness, O God.

All: our Go is good and upright.  
who shows the path to those who stray,  
and guides the humble in the right path;  
and teaches his way to the poor.

**Response: Teach me your ways, O God.**

#### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is near:  
believe the Good News!  
Alleluia!

#### Communion Antiphon:

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;  
whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,  
but will have the light of life.

**Next weekend Mass time:** Vigil Saturday at 6pm in St Bede's Church.  
**Weekday Mass:** in recess until February.  
**Meditation:** in recess until February.  
**Braidwood AA** meets each Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Centre.  
**Social Justice Group** in recess until February.

**NB: MASS TIME WILL BE VIGIL AT 6.00PM UNTIL THE END OF JUNE**

**Gospel reflection by Richard Leonard**

Seeing today's Gospel is set by the water's edge, this story seems appropriate.

One day, three men were hiking and unexpectedly came upon a large raging river. They needed to get to the other side, but had no idea of how to do so. The first man prayed to God, 'Please God, give me the strength to cross this river.' In an instant God gave him big arms and strong legs, and he was able to swim across the river in about two hours, after almost drowning a couple of times.

Seeing this, the second man prayed to God, 'Please God, give me the strength and the resources to cross this river.' In an instant God gave him a rowboat and he was able to row across the river in about an hour, after almost capsizing the boat a couple of times.

The third man had seen how this worked out for the other two, so he also prayed to God saying, 'Please God, give me the strength and the resources ... and the intelligence ... to cross this river.' In an instant God turned him into a woman. She looked at the map, went upstream a couple of hundred metres, then walked across the bridge!

The three men's prayers were all about gaining something: strength, resources and intelligence. Today's readings are about gaining things too. Unlike the instant answer to the hikers' prayers, Jonah, Paul and Mark know real gain usually comes less dramatically and quickly, and involves letting go of something as much as it involves taking it on. In the Christian life this is called conversion, and it's at the centre of our life of faith. Christian conversion is not a once-in-a-lifetime moment. It can happen every day in a rich variety of ways. It involves a change in attitude as much as a change in lifestyle.

All three readings show a different facet of conversion. Jonah calls the Ninevites to social conversion. St Paul, who reveals a very strong expectation that the end of time is near, calls the people of Corinth to a conversion of mind. And through relating the call of Simon, Andrew, James and John, St Mark tells us about personal conversion.

These days we regularly hear God's call in personal terms. It's sometimes

called 'me and God' theology. Modern hymns reflect it best. We regularly sing about how Jesus died 'for me', or that 'here I am Lord' or that 'I will follow you'. Individually these lines are all true, the problem is that they tend to play down the more ancient and biblical social dimensions of our call to conversion. In the Bible even though God and Jesus call people to conversion through personal relationships, there is no hint that this is where it stops. Every call leads to the wider community, to the people of Israel in the Old Testament, and out to the entire world in the New Testament.

Today's readings provide a litmus test for our conversion. If our faith has become a self-help club, where we talk about 'my' God, 'my' prayers, 'my' Church, 'my' Mass, we are in need of conversion. We don't need to leave God's personal love for us behind, we just need to see it as a necessary preparation for belonging to the people of God as we engage with the world at every level. We are challenged to reject the idea that it's me-and-God-against-the-world, and welcome in the idea that it's US-and-God-IN-the-world.

May this Eucharist give us the strength, resources and intelligence we need to be converted personally and socially again this Sunday.

**Please pray for the sick:** Ron Cochrane, Derek Kelly, Mollie Grady, 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, 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:** Frank Berg (Br Brian's brother), Lionel (Tussock) Taylor, Robert Digan, and our own deceased relatives and friends.



**Markets in Ryrie Park: 8am - 2pm next Saturday**  
Produce; Crafts; Plants; Antiques & Collectibles; Trash & Treasure; Monthly Raffle.

Donations of produce or cooking would be gratefully accepted.  
Enquiries: Geraldine 4847 5061 AH.

