



19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY
TIME YEAR C

7 August 2022

LITURGY AND BULLETIN

OPENING PRAYER

*Almighty and everlasting God,
your Spirit made us your children, confident to call you Father.
Increase your Spirit within us and bring us to our promised inheritance.
Amen.*

FIRST READING: A reading from the book of Wisdom

That night had been foretold to our ancestors,
so that,
once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in,
they would joyfully take courage.
This was the expectation of your people,
the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies;
for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes
you made us glorious by calling us to you.
The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret
and this divine pact they struck with one accord:
that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike;
and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Response: Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
They are happy, whose God is the Lord,
the people he has chosen as his own. (R.)

2. The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. (R.)

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

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he

arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognising that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, since he has founded the city for them.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead, and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready:

You know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 12:32-48

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.

'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming", and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

'The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given

him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.'



REFLECTION ON THE Gospel of Luke 12:32-48 by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel passage carries with it the expectation of the late 1st Century as the early Christians awaited the triumphant return of the Christ (sometimes called the Second Coming or the *Parousia*). This is a familiar theme through the gospels and, in fact, across the gospels we can see that the communities were beginning to face the realisation that the promised return was taking longer than they had expected. In the gospel of Mark, it is clear that the community expects the *Parousia* at any moment, while by the time of the writing of the gospel of Luke, 10 or 15 years later, we can see that the language has taken on an aspect of uncertainty about the timing – it could be sooner or it could be later ('It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third...').

What began to emerge was an attitude that if we don't know when the *Parousia* will come, then we need to live 'in anticipation' of it. We need to live as *if* the *Parousia* were imminent. So, rather than waiting for the kingdom of God to be delivered, we must live our lives in such a way as to bring about the kingdom; to draw the kingdom into the present. Jesus often spoke of the kingdom as both near and not yet. If we all live the values of the kingdom, by our very actions we bring the kingdom into being. This gives an incredible significance to the way we choose to live our lives. If we 'invest' in the kingdom by living out the values of the kingdom and living in expectation of the *Parousia*, then that 'investment' is its own reward.

Historical Context – Parousia

The Greek word *parousia* means 'presence' or 'arrival'. In ancient times the word was usually associated with the formal visit of a king or a ruler. The *parousia* of a king was a significant and sometimes formidable event. In the writings of the New Testament, the word is used for the return of Christ, the drawing to a close of salvation history and the full establishment of the kingdom of God. The earliest Christians expected to see the *Parousia* in their own lifetimes. The realisation that this was not to be the case led to a rethinking about living a Christian life.

Gospel Focus – Answer the Question!

Peter asks Jesus very specifically, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' Frustratingly for Peter (and for the audience), Jesus doesn't give the direct question a direct answer, he answers the question with another story. Throughout the gospels, this is a constant tactic used by Jesus. He almost never gives a question a straightforward answer. By doing this, he invites the questioner to reflect on their own question and their purpose in asking it in the first place. He also cleverly avoids being tied down to a yes/no answer when a matter is not that simple.

Have you thought? – Stewardship

Jesus responds to Peter's questioning the gospel in a roundabout way by speaking about a steward acting either faithfully and with wisdom or alternatively irresponsibly and recklessly. A steward is one who stands in the place of the master during the master's absence – taking on the duties, responsibilities and authority of the master. That's exactly what Christian people are called to do: become stewards who act in the place of Jesus as we await his return. As the prayer of St Teresa of Avila says, Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray for world leaders, that the deadly heatwaves, fires and drought afflicting the Northern Hemisphere will hasten effective action to curb global warming. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for the indigenous peoples of every land, that this week's world observance will honour their cultural heritage and advance their claims for justice. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for the people of Sri Lanka, that the political and economic crisis they face will be peacefully resolved. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for the church in Australia, that the bold witness of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop will be a constant inspiration for missionary discipleship. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for all members of federal Parliament, whether newly elected or returning, that they will serve the common good of the nation with integrity and wisdom. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for young people around the world, especially in places of violence, oppression and poverty, that International Youth Day (12 August) will help sustain their hopes of a better future. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for all who suffer in mind, body or spirit, especially Ron Corby, 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) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for the recently deceased Nigel Hall and Carmel Rooke (Brother Brian's cousin). . . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will receive the eternal inheritance promised them. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord,

*May the blessings you give us bring us to salvation
and keep us faithful to the light of your truth.*

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@cq.org.au

Parish Website: <http://cq.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.

Araluen Mass: 21 August at 11am. Lunch afterwards at the pub. All welcome.

Social Justice Group: Tuesday 6 September 2022 at 10.30am, at the Presbytery

Dear Parishioners,

There will be a Baptism at 4pm on 6 August where we will welcome into our faith family Capri Piera Jade Tilocca, second daughter for Pietro and Jade Tilocca.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation for the children will be celebrated on 13th August at St Bede's Church, commencing at 5.00pm.

There will be a Mass at Araluen on 21st August commencing at 11am. Lunch at the pub afterwards.

Archbishop Christopher has announced that the Archdiocese will embark on a **Year of Walking Together** as a response to the Plenary Council. "Just as the Risen Lord walked alongside (Synodality) the disciples on the road to Emmaus and drew them from anxiety to hope, may we open ourselves up to do the same. In this year we will actively pursue solidarity as an Archdiocese, fostering a 'mindset which thinks in terms of community and the priority of the Life of all' (Evangelii Gaudium n.188)". The Archbishop has appointed a taskforce to help us in this Year of Walking Together. More information as it comes to hand. The year begins on the Feast of Saint Mary of the Cross, MacKillop, 8th August.

Our Vinnies shop: Thank you to all who have donated winter items to our local Vinnies shop, they were much appreciated. If anyone else has items in good condition that they no longer need, please donate them to Vinnies Braidwood, so that we can continue to aid those in need this winter.

Acolytes needed: would any of our Special Ministers like to take on the role of Acolyte? We do not know when we will be permitted to offer the chalice again and this could be an opportunity for you to exercise your ministry in another way. Please speak to Mick or Brian if you would be interested. Training will be given.

"Help Ukranians 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.

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

Readings for Mass: 1st: Wisdom 18:6-9. 2nd: Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19. Gospel: Luke 12:32-48

Readings for next week: 1st: Jer. 38:4-6,8-10. 2nd: Hebrews 12:1-4. Gospel: Luke 12:49-53.

Ministry Rosters for our Masses

<u>Date</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>Welcomer</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Music/PP</u>
6 Aug	James	Helen P	Michael/Cathy F	Helen H
13 Aug	Felix	Cathy F	Bobbie/Tommy G	Helen H
20 Aug	James	Geraldine	Wendy H/Germaine	Helen H
27 Aug	Felix	Helen P	Wendy M-B/Ann T	Helen H

Ministries of Service:

	<u>5 August</u>	<u>12 August</u>	<u>19 August</u>	<u>26 August</u>
--	-----------------	------------------	------------------	------------------

Altar Decorating:	Helen P	Cathy F	Margaret	Joy
-------------------	---------	---------	----------	-----

Cleaners:	Bunny & Ella (fortnightly roster again) Pauline & Wendy			
-----------	---	--	--	--

Counters:	1 st Sunday: Pauline & Bobbie.	2 nd Sunday: Wendy H
	3 rd Sunday: Gabrielle K	4 th Sunday:

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