



**19<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME  
YEAR A**

**13 August 2023**

**LITURGY AND BULLETIN**

### **OPENING PRAYER**

*Almighty and ever-living God,  
your Spirit made us your children.  
Increase your Spirit within us and bring us to our promised inheritance.  
Amen.*

**FIRST READING:** A reading from the first book of the Kings

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

**Response: Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.**

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace.  
His help is near for those who fear him  
and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)

2. Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
justice and peace have embraced.  
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth  
and justice look down from heaven. (R.)

3. The Lord will make us prosper  
and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him  
and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

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

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises

were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I hope in the Lord,  
I trust in his word.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'



### **REFLECTION by Greg Sunter**

#### **Historical Context – Separation**

The image of Jesus still ashore while the disciples battled against strong winds and rising seas must have been an evocative one for the Matthean community. Like the disciples, they were acutely aware of their separation from Jesus. Unlike the disciples, they were separated by time and the raging storm that beset them was a tide of suspicion and persecution. At times they felt the strength and courage of Peter to step out of the boat and be Jesus in their world, but at other times they doubted their own abilities. It is a message for the Church of the day and the Church of today.

#### **Living the Gospel – Christian**

What does it mean to describe oneself as a Christian today? A common understanding might be 'one who follows the teachings of Jesus Christ'. Perhaps, based on the understanding of what it meant to be a disciple, we might better describe a Christian as one who learns from the teachings of Jesus and seeks to emulate the work of Jesus. That is, a Christian is someone who models their life on the example of Jesus and is the face of Jesus to others. That's a tougher job description than just turning up to church once a week or putting a bumper sticker on your car.

## **Gospel Focus – ‘Lord! Save me!’**

The cry of Peter is one that each of us feels the need to cry out at some stage in our life. Jesus trusted Peter’s ability to walk to him on the water; otherwise he would not have called Peter to do so. It is Peter who doubts himself. In this moment of realising that he can’t do it alone, he calls out to Jesus. One of the enduring images of Jesus is as the one who saves – the Saviour. When the realisation eventually comes to each of us that we can’t do it all alone, we need only call on the one who saves.

### **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

We pray for the world-wide church, that like Elijah all the baptised will listen in silence and stillness to the voice of the Spirit. (Pause) Lord, hear us

We pray for the human family, that people everywhere will respect the awesome power of nature and choose to live in harmony with God’s creation. (Pause) Lord, hear us

We pray for God’s ancient people, that Jewish believers will continue to find life and joy in the covenant God made with them of old. (Pause) Lord, hear us

We pray for troubled states in Africa and Central America: that violent struggles and religious persecution will give way to peace and respect for human rights. (Pause) Lord, hear us

We pray for packaging manufacturers and users, that they will work together to eliminate polluting plastics and drastically reduce waste. (Pause) Lord, hear us

We pray for our parish community, that the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary will deepen our faith in God’s promise of eternal life. (Pause) Lord, hear us

We pray for all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, especially Father Mick, Penny Crawford, Jenny Bodman, Ross Lawless, Rongo Tee Peeti, Helen Montgomery, Judy Nielson, Tony Riley, Val Biggers 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 those who have died recently, Frs. Laurie Beath and Rafael Cabezon, Joan Daniel, Judy Bevege. . . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will enjoy God’s glory with Mary and all the saints. (Pause) Lord, hear us

### **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

*Lord,*

*May your gifts bring us to salvation and keep us faithful to the light of your truth.*

*Amen.*

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**SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Marylou Gorham Ph. 4842 2413**

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mondays: 9am – 3pm; Fridays: 9am – 12pm**

**Weekday Mass:** Tuesdays at 10am Solemnity of The Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary 15<sup>th</sup> August.

**Meditation:** Thursdays in Presbytery at 10.30am

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

**PPC and whole of parish meeting:** Tuesday 15th August following the Mass to celebrate the Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary at 10am. This is the follow-up meeting to discuss the prospective developments of the Presbytery and to prepare ourselves for taking over from Brother Brian. All members of our parish community are encouraged to attend as the decisions we make this day will affect the future direction of our parish.

**Sacramental Programs:** these will now be 'Parish Based' and will be conducted in the Church on the Saturdays preceding the ceremony. **Reconciliation** will be held on 9th September, with preparation sessions on Saturdays from 5-5.45pm on 12, 19 & 26 August and 2 Sept. Our grateful thanks to Cathy Ffrench, Ann Tracey and Mary Fetterplace for taking on this important ministry.

**A date has been set to farewell Brother Brian. Sunday 17th Sept, 2-4pm** at the Club for afternoon tea This will be a self catered event. We are all sorry that Brian is leaving us as he has become such a loved member of our parish family. Please mark this date in your diaries.

**We have some old china and glassware** in a cupboard in the Presbytery that hasn't been used in over 20 years. If any parishioner would like to have some, please contact Helen on 0430169849 to check it out. Anything not taken will be sold on our market stall in the coming months.

**Readings for Mass:** 1<sup>st</sup>: 1 Kings 19:9,11-13. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Romans 9:1-5. Gospel Matt. 14:22-33.

**Next week:** 1<sup>st</sup>: Isaiah 56:1,6-7. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Romans 11:13-15,20-32. Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

**Radio Church:** Sundays at 6pm on FM 88.9

<b>Ministries for our Mass:</b>	<b>12 August</b>	<b>19 Aug</b>	<b>26 Aug</b>	<b>2 Sept</b>	
Welcomer:	Helen P	Cathy F	Geraldine	Cathy F	
Acolyte:	Felix (when available)				
Reader 1:	Michael	Bobbie	Wendy M-B	Ann T	
Reader 2:	Cathy F	Tommy	Germaine	Wendy H	
<b>Ministries of service:</b>	<b>11 Aug</b>	<b>18 Aug</b>	<b>25 Aug</b>	<b>1 September</b>	<b>8 Sept</b>
Altar Decorating:	Helen P	Cathy F	Margaret	Joy	Helen P
Cleaning:		Bunny & Ella		Pauline & Wendy	
Counters: 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday:	Pauline & Bobbie.		2 <sup>nd</sup> : Sunday: Wendy H		
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday:	volunteer please		4 <sup>th</sup> : Phil Owen		
Please advise if you are unable to fulfil your roster, so alternative arrangements may be made.					





### **Mary MacKillop Day at Araluen**

We had a lovely day in Araluen celebrating the Feast Day of Mary MacKillop. As you all would know, Mary MacKillop visited there and set up a school and convent. It was lovely that we could have two nuns from the Sydney Mother House to celebrate with us. Pictured left they are Sister Jeanette and Sister Lynette. We also had four Bungendore parishioners join us for the day. Afterwards we gathered outside for the group photo, then went up to the park and Rec ground for a sausage sizzle lunch. The work they have done on the area is amazing. It is now a very inviting place to go for a family day out. Thanks to all the people who brought along delicious slices etc to share.

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.