



**20TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A**

20 August 2023

LITURGY AND BULLETIN

OPENING PRAYER

*God our Father,
may we love you in all things and above all things
and reach the joy you have prepared for us beyond all our imagining.
Amen.*

FIRST READING: A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Response: O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)

2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. (R.)

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

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

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.



REFLECTION by Dr Jenny Close (Australian Catholics)

When a Canaanite woman kept bothering Jesus and his group they looked at her and saw an outsider. By her annoying persistence she virtually forced Jesus to look again and he saw something different – she was no longer a non-person, but someone who challenged him. This unnamed woman, out of her anguish for her daughter, was able to nudge Jesus into reconsidering the nature of his mission, and broadening his vision. Matthew's story is a conversion story with a twist because it is Jesus who experiences a transformation and the catalyst for this change is an anonymous woman.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray for all people of good will, that whatever their faith, they will join together and work for a just and peaceful world. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray in thanks for the women of faith who have inspired generation after generation of believers. May their testimony lead today's young women to discover Christ. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for those in positions of political, economic and social influence, that they will use their power wisely for the wellbeing of planet earth. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the families grieving soldiers' deaths in Russia, Ukraine and every theatre of war. May their anguished cries pierce the hearts of those who dictate war. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for our teachers and catechists. May they communicate the joy of the Gospel to all their students. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the Church. May every parish church be a house of prayer that welcomes all who seek the face of God. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, especially Father Mick, Peter Gillan, 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 the recently deceased, Diane Sutherland (Rex's wife), Frs. Laurie Beath and Rafael Cabezon, and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time. May they share to the full in the banquet of eternal life. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

God of mercy, make us one with Christ by becoming more like him on earth and may we come to share his glory in heaven.

Amen.

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SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Marylou Gorham Ph. 4842 2413

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

Weekday Mass: No further weekday Masses while Mick is on sick leave.

Meditation: Thursdays in Presbytery at 10.30am

Nerriga Mass: Sunday 20 August **CANCELLED**

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 19 & 26 August and 2 Sept. Our grateful thanks to Cathy Ffrench and Ann Tracey 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. Germaine will have a sheet at the back of the church for people to put down their names if they are attending and/or providing a plate of goodies. The Vicar General, Father Richard Thompson, will be attending as well as some clergy with whom Brian has shared ministry.

Parish Meeting 15th August: the plan for the building of units has proved unviable and so the Finance Committee sought the agreement of the parish to instead redevelop the Presbytery itself by creating an apartment upstairs and refurbishing the parish rooms downstairs. Those members present agreed to this being investigated.

Markets in Ryrie Park: 9am - 1pm Saturday 26 August Produce; Crafts; Plants; Antiques & Collectibles; Trash & Treasure; Monthly wood Raffle. Donations of cooking etc gratefully accepted at the Parish table. Home cooking is much appreciated. Enquiries to Cathy Ffrench 0418 262 011

We have some old china, silver 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.

Examples below



Readings for Mass: 1st: Isaiah 56:1,6-7. 2nd: Romans 11:13-15,29-32. Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28.

Next week: 1st: Isaiah 22:19-23. 2nd: Romans 11:33-36. Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

Radio Church: Sundays at 6pm on FM 88.9

Ministries for our Mass:		19 Aug	26 Aug	2 Sept	9 Sept
Welcomer:	Cathy F	Geraldine	Cathy F	Helen P	
Acolyte:	Felix (when available)				
Reader 1:	Bobbie	Wendy M-B	Ann T	Michael	
Reader 2:	Tommy	Germaine	Wendy H	Cathy F	
Ministries of service:		18 Aug	25 Aug	1 September	8 Sept
Altar Decorating:	Cathy F	Margaret	Joy	Helen P	
Ladies – I put the artificial flowers on the altar but if you have flowers, please use them					
Cleaning:	Bunny & Ella		Pauline & Wendy		
Counters:	1 st Sunday: Pauline & Bobbie.		2 nd : Sunday: Wendy H		
	3 rd Sunday: volunteer please		4 th : Phil Owen		
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

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.