



22nd SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A

3 September 2023

LITURGY AND BULLETIN

OPENING PRAYER

*Almighty God,
fill our hearts with love for you, increase our faith,
and by your constant care protect the good you have given us.
Amen.*

FIRST READING: A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.
I am a daily laughing-stock,
everybody's butt.
Each time I speak the word, I have to howl
and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'
The word of the Lord has meant for me
insult, derision, all day long.
I used to say, I will not think about him,
I will not speak in his name any more.
Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,
imprisoned in my bones.
The effort to restrain it wearied me,
I could not bear it.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Response: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. (R.)
3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)
4. For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. (R.)

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

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart,
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 16:21-27.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life? 'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'



REFLECTION on Matthew 16:21-27 by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel is the first of three predictions of Jesus' death and resurrection in Matthew's gospel (see also Mark and Luke). Despite Peter's confession of faith that immediately precedes this passage (see last week's gospel), the disciples still do not have a very solid understanding of Jesus' purpose. They may regard him as the Messiah, but still do not fully understand what that means. In this passage, Jesus is beginning to prepare them for the events of the passion – his death and resurrection. He is trying to lead them to a greater understanding of his mission and message. But Peter abruptly 'rebukes' Jesus and tells him not to speak like that. One can almost hear Peter saying, 'Look, Jesus, you've got a good thing going here, don't spoil it by talking about dying!' However, Jesus responds to Peter very sharply, suggesting that his lack of understanding is inspired by evil and reflects human thought, not divine wisdom.

The passage then leads in to a description of the challenge of discipleship. To be a follower of Jesus means to 'deny' oneself, take up one's cross and follow Jesus. In the context of this passage, to 'deny' oneself means to not be concerned about 'I' but to be concerned about 'You' – to put others before self. To be a follower of Jesus means to be selfless, not self-centred. In the ultimate example of this, Jesus tells his disciples that whoever wishes to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for Jesus' sake will find it. To 'save' your life is to hold back from giving yourself fully to the message of Jesus – to be 'half-hearted' in your faith. But to 'lose' yourself in the message of Jesus is to fully give yourself over to living the reign of God and through 'losing' yourself in this way, Jesus tells us, is how to truly find life.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray for people of all religious faiths. May they, like the prophet Jeremiah, have hearts on fire with a passion for God's saving justice. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for churches observing the Season of Creation this month. May they heed the call of the prophet Amos and let justice and peace flow across the face of the earth. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for our nation. May all sectors of the Australian community contribute fairly to the cost of the social goods with which we are blessed. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers and all who serve in a fatherly role. May their love be life-giving for their children and fulfilling for themselves. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for Australia's children. May National Child Protection Week (3-9 September) bring everyone together to ensure no child is maltreated. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for our family members, our friends and our parish community. May they be made new in mind and heart by the Spirit of God. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, especially Ted Hart, 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, Dianne Sutherland and Bernie Fletcher . . . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time. May they be raised to life in Christ crucified and risen. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord,

May your grace strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other.

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 Mass this Tuesday. Dianne Sutherland's funeral in Gundaroo at 11am.

Meditation: Thursdays in Presbytery at 10.30am

Happy Fathers' Day to all our father figures.

Fathers' Day collection for the Retired Priests Fund will be taken up this weekend.

Reconciliation will be held on 9th September at 5.30pm in the church. This is to be a communal 2nd Rite so that parishioners can join with the children in being reconciled to Christ. We don't very often have reconciliation and this is a great opportunity for us to be witnesses to our faith.

First Thursday lunch at the Club 7th September commencing at 11.30am. \$10 per person Tango exhibition and lessons for anyone who cares to try it out. Fun for those watching too.

Brother Brian's Farewell Sunday 17th Sept, 2-4pm at the Club for afternoon tea This will be a self-catered event. 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. **If you can't get to church but would like to attend the farewell, please reply to this email.** The Vicar General, Father Richard Thompson, will be attending as well as Frs. Dermid and Hilton and Bishop Pat with whom Brian has shared ministry.

31 August - Integral ecology pilgrimage 6:30 PM

With ACU, the Archdiocese is convening a series of online dialogues on Care for Our Common Home teaching as first steps in our synodal journey for the year of the Holy Spirit. Six Thursday evenings 6.30-8.30pm 31-Aug/5-Oct. Information - <https://cgatholic.org.au/services-directory/caring-for-creation/> Register at <http://bit.ly/3rTieKp> If anyone is interested in undertaking this pilgrimage, please contact Bronnie Schlager for more information.

Readings for Mass: 1st: Jeremiah 20:7-9. 2nd: Romans 12:1-2. Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27.

Next week: 1st: Ezekiel 33:7-9. 2nd: Romans 13:8-10. Gospel Matthew 18:15-20.

Radio Church: Sundays at 6pm on FM 88.9 Reflection by Helen Pieper

Ministries for our Mass:	2 Sept	9 Sept	16 Sept	23 Sept
Welcomer:	Cathy F	Helen P	Geraldine	Cathy F
Acolyte:	Felix (when available)			
Reader 1:	Ann T	Michael	Bobby	Wendy M-B
Reader 2:	Wendy H	Cathy F	Tommy	Germaine
Ministries of service:	1 September	8 Sept	15 Sept	22 Sept
Altar Decorating:	Joy	Helen P	Cathy F	Margaret
Ladies – I put the artificial flowers on the altar but if you have flowers, please use them				
Cleaning:	Pauline & Wendy		Bronnie & Felix	
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.



A CONVERSATION ABOUT THE VOICE TO PARLIAMENT

ALL WELCOME!

SPEAKERS



NARDI SIMPSON

A Yuwaalaraay musician and writer.
Founding member of the Indigenous folk
group STIFF GINS.
Author of 'Song of the Crocodile'
published 2020.



SENATOR DAVID POCOCK

Independent Senator for ACT
and former Wallabies Captain

MC



MICHAEL CROSBY AM

Local resident and formerly Federal Secretary,
Actors Equity; General Secretary, Federation
Internationale des Acteurs; National President,
United Voice

Includes performance by local musician and refreshments.



Saturday, 9 September 2023



11am - 12.30pm



**National Theatre
100 Wallace Street, Braidwood**

For more information

0478 608 041

We acknowledge the Dhurga language group of the Walbinja people of the Yui nation as the traditional custodians of country.
We recognise their continuing connection to lands, waters and communities; and pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres
Strait Islander cultures; and to Elders past and present.

Authorised by Michael Crosby, Braidwood YES Action Group, PO Box 98, Braidwood 2622