



23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY  
TIME YEAR C  
4 September 2022

LITURGY AND BULLETIN  
FATHERS' DAY



### OPENING PRAYER

*God our Father,  
you redeem us and make us your children in Christ.  
Look upon us, give us true freedom  
and bring us to the inheritance you promised.  
Amen.*

### FIRST READING: A reading from the book of Wisdom

What man can know the intentions of God?  
Who can divine the will of the Lord?  
The reasonings of mortals are unsure  
and our intentions unstable;  
for a perishable body presses down the soul,  
and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind.  
It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth,  
laborious to know what lies within our reach;  
who, then, can discover what is in the heavens?  
As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom  
and sent your holy spirit from above?  
Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened  
and men been taught what pleases you,  
and saved, by Wisdom.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**Response: In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**

1. You turn men back into dust  
and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'  
To your eyes a thousand years  
are like yesterday, come and gone,  
no more than a watch in the night. (R.)
2. You sweep men away like a dream,  
like grass which springs up in the morning.  
In the morning it springs up and flowers:  
by evening it withers and fades. (R.)
3. Make us know the shortness of our life  
that we may gain wisdom of heart.  
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?  
Show pity to your servants. (R.)
4. In the morning, fill us with your love;  
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.  
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:  
give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

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

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let your face shine on your servant,  
and teach me your laws.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 14:25-33

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'



**REFLECTION on the Gospel of Luke 14:25-33 by Dianne Bergant CSA**

The wisdom tradition from which the first reading is taken is rooted in the fact that life is a series of choices. The epistle and the gospel reading provide us with examples of the way Christians should choose. Finally, the psalm's description of the fleeting nature of life sets the context and tone of our decision-making.

Discipleship demands that, in the face of all the choices available to us, we keep our priorities straight. In the gospel, Jesus insists that we must be single minded. We must cling to the one thing necessary, and that one thing is authentic discipleship. In choosing Jesus, we choose other things as well. We choose new relationships with the very people to whom we have already been committed. Those who were slaves, or lower class, or employees, or providers of service are now regarded as sisters and brothers in Christ. In choosing Jesus, we also choose the cross. We choose to live in a way that calls us to travel the high road: to forgive offences committed against us; to live simply so that others can simply live; to take responsibility for the moral character of society.

The fleeting nature of life as characterised in the psalm forces us to look at the meaning of life. When the day dawns for us to return to dust, what will we have gained from life? The realisation of

our finiteness and the transitory nature of life should help us to set our priorities right and should give us the courage to remain faithful to them.

### **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

We pray for an end to the brutal warfare in Ukraine and every place of armed conflict on earth. May the killing cease and negotiations for peace succeed. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for Christian churches around the world. May they be faithful teachers of divine wisdom for all who seek the truth. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the Australian community. May this week's Threatened Species Day (7 September) move us to protect their habitat and care for all the creatures God has given us. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for fathers, grandfathers and all who play a fatherly role in our lives. May they be blessed with wisdom, love and lasting joy. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the children of Australia. May National Child Protection Week (4-10 September) help ensure they are always safe, supported and get a fair go. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who are driven by despair to consider ending their lives. May they find the support they need from family, friends and the community to survive. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who suffer in mind, body or spirit, especially Ann McDougall, Bruce Feehan, Ross Lawless, those on our prayer list and all who need our prayers; that they will be cared for by loving family, friends and community (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the recently deceased Ron Corby and Nigel Hall . . . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time. May they live in the light of God's face forever. (Pause) Lord, hear us

### **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

*Lord, your word gives us life.*

*May this gift of your Son lead us to share his life forever.*

*Amen.*

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

**Next weekend Mass time: 6pm in the church.**

**Weekday Mass: Tuesdays at 10am in the church.**

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

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

**First Communion Mass: 17 September at 6.00pm**

**Vinnies meeting: changed to 9 September at 1.30pm.**

**Dear Parishioners,**

**In 2022, National Child Protection Week will continue to embrace the overarching message that 'Every child, in every community, needs a fair go'. In particular, this year we will be shining a light on children growing up safe and supported.**

Children and young people thrive when they grow up safe, connected and supported in their family, community and culture. They have the right to grow up in environments that support them according to their needs, now and into the future.

This year let us talk about how we create a supportive environment for every child. National Child Protection Week will be looking at what works to keep children safe and supported... what children are telling us... what families are telling us... what the evidence is telling us... and how to translate this knowledge into action.

We know that too many children are not growing up safe and supported and that Child Protection systems are overloaded. There are many opportunities to change the trajectory for these children. We can stop child abuse and neglect – and reduce its impact – by working together to make sure every child in every community has a fair go.

**September calendar: we are restarting our monthly calendar** so that everyone is kept up to date on happenings. If you have anything you would like added, please let me know.

It is included with this newsletter. This is one of the suggestions put forward by Archbishop Christopher, for our “Year of Walking Together”. We last produced the calendar in 2013.

**Vinnies Ozanam Sunday Appeal** will be held on Saturday next, 10<sup>th</sup> September. Some of the international work we do is through what we call Twinning, which is where one conference directly supports another somewhere in the world. The Society in Canberra Goulburn has approximately 70 twin conferences in Indonesia, India, Thailand, and the Solomon Islands. Through Twinning, our members seek to support our fellow members in developing countries spiritually, financially and through mutual encouragement. Our Conference is currently Twinned with one in Kerala. You might remember we had a special appeal many years ago to enable the purchase of treadle sewing machines. We hope for some support from our fellow parishioners when we open the appeal on Ozanam Sunday.

**News from the pews:** If you have any news or photos to share, please email me. Sharing our news (happy and sometimes sad) is part of “Walking Together” as the Archbishop is asking us to do this year. This forms part of our local response.

Ann McDougall is home again. Keep well Ann.

Happy birthday and congratulations to Ted who celebrates his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on 6<sup>th</sup> September. Happy Fathers’ Day to all our fathers, grandfathers and father figures.

Radio Church Sundays 6pm, 88.9 FM. Michael is giving the reflection this Sunday.

**Readings for Mass:** 1<sup>st</sup>: Wisdom 9:13-18. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Philemon 9-10,12-17. Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

**Readings for next week:** 1<sup>st</sup>: Exodus 32:7-11,13-14. 2<sup>nd</sup>: 1 Tim. 1:12-17. Gospel: Luke 15:1-32.

### Ministry Rosters for our Masses

Date	Acolyte	Welcomer	Readers	Music/PP
3 Sep t		Helen P	Michael/Cathy F	Helen H
10 Sept	Felix	Cathy F	Bobbie/Tommy	Helen H
17 Sept		Geraldine	Wendy H/Germaine	Helen H
24 Sept	Felix	Helen P	Wendy M-B/Ann	Helen H

Ministries of service:	2 Sept	9 Sept	16 Sept	23 Sept.
Altar Decorating:	Helen P	Cathy F	Margaret	Joy
Cleaning:	Bronnie & Felix		Bunny & Ella	
Counters: 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday:	Pauline & Bobbie.		2 <sup>nd</sup> : Sunday: Wendy H	
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday: Gabrielle K		4 <sup>th</sup> : Phil Owen	

Please advise if you are unable to fulfil your roster, so alternative arrangements may be made. Take care, keep warm, Spring is on its way. Helen Hart