



**24TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME YEAR B**

12 September 2021

LITURGY AND BULLETIN

OPENING PRAYER

*Almighty God,
our creator and guide,
may we serve you with all our heart
and know your forgiveness in our lives..
Amen.*

FIRST READING A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord has opened my ear.
For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.
I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face
against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.

My vindicator is here at hand.
Does anyone start proceedings against me?
Then let us go to court together.
Who thinks he has a case against me?
Let him approach me.
The Lord is coming to my help,
who dare condemn me?

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord,
in the land of the living.**

1. I love the Lord for he has heard
the cry of my appeal;
for he turned his ear to me
in the day when I called him. (R.)

2. They surrounded me, the snares of death,
with anguish of the tomb;
they caught me, sorrow and distress.
I called on the Lord's name.

O Lord my God, deliver me! (R.)

3. How gracious is the Lord, and just;
our God has compassion.
The Lord protects the simple hearts;
I was helpless so he saved me. (R.)

4. He has kept my soul from death,
my eyes from tears
and my feet from stumbling.
I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living. (R.)

SECOND READING: A reading from the letter of St James

Take the case, my brothers and sisters, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, '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, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'



SEASON OF CREATION by Nick Brodie

After Jesus spoke of a future involving personal suffering and political rejection Peter remonstrated with him. Jesus in turn rebuked Peter, explaining that such thinking was not of God. Much of the import of this short exchange seems to hinge on the openness of Jesus' assertions. Peter reacted not only to what Jesus said but the way he said it. Jesus' warnings were not given in secret but declared openly.

It is rather understandable that Peter was worried. Perhaps he thought that Jesus would attract unwanted attention from the authorities, or that his gloomy talk would put off potential followers. Either way, Jesus was having none of it. The truth, however dangerous or unpopular, should not be hidden.

Hearing this Gospel during the Season of Creation we might contemplate what truths get hushed up today. Do we encourage our leaders to speak openly about pollution and climate change, or do we collude in their silences? Does our society condemn or condone littering? Are our parishes in environmental denial, or models of sustainability and ecological responsibility? Ultimately, facing even the darkest future with hopeful action is a key part of Jesus' message. Christ's followers are called to bear their share of the cross and face tomorrow's problems today.

Nick Brodie is an Australian historian and writer. He is an alumnus of the Australian National University, Flinders University, and the University of Tasmania. His doctorate examined law and social policy in late medieval and early modern England, he is the author of several books on Australian history, and he has written multiple essays and articles on aspects of European, Australasian, and global history for various Australian and international publications and presses. In 2017 he was awarded the Bruce Mansfield Prize for the best article in the Journal of Religious History.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

On this, Child Protection Sunday, we pray for the children of our world; that all may be always treasured and loved . (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for the whole human family, that all will take up their role as stewards of creation and join together in caring for the earth, our common home. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for leaders responsible for COVID decision-making, that they will exercise their authority with wisdom, courage and clarity, and always for the common good. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for those who make and administer Australian migration policy, that Citizenship Day (17 Sept) will persuade them to end the punitive treatment of temporary visa holders. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for the participants in next month's Plenary Council, that they will speak out in the Spirit, listen with freedom of heart, and discern what God is asking of the church in Australia. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for the residents and staff of aged care facilities; that they will be assured of conditions that foster safety, respect for human dignity, and positive well-being. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for ourselves, that the faith we profess will be manifest in lives of loving service. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for all who suffer in mind, body or spirit, including Norma Flack, Karen Suitor, Bob Haigh, Teonie McMahon, Jeremy Nelson, Helen Campbell-Davys, Ian Vardanega, John Shiels, Tony

Riley, Rupert Ermet, Val Biggers and Celia Roach; that they will unite their suffering with that of Christ (Pause) Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for those who have recently died, Sr. Heather Roberts, Don Ryan, William Gunderson and the people who miss them. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

CONCLUDING BLESSING

Lord,

May love you have given us

influence our thoughts and actions.

May your Spirit guide and direct us in your way.

Amen.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As I write this week I hope there is better news concerning our lockdown and we can soon gather as a community. This has been a stressful time for many parishioners and we need to keep each other in our prayers. I find it incredibly frustrating as there are many things which need to be done but I'm trying to be patient.

Two weeks ago, at the request of head office, members of both Braidwood and Bungendore Parish Finance Councils had a Zoom meeting with Helen Delahunty, Archdiocesan Finance Manager and Fr. Tony Percy, Vicar General, to look at our finances. You would be aware that the pandemic has impacted on finances of parishes everywhere. At this meeting it was suggested that parishioners are unaware of what happens to their contributions. The Archdiocesan Clergy support, formerly the first collection is used to support all the clergy of the Archdiocese. Christmas and Easter offerings (Dues) plus donations given for weddings and baptisms are added to this support. These monies are deposited in the parish Central Presbytery Fund. This account is managed by the Parish Priest and overseen by the Archdiocesan Financial Services. From this account each priest is paid an amount for personal expenses (stipend) \$1,496 per month. This figure is pre-tax, pre-super, pre-compulsory private health insurance. I pay \$726 per quarter health insurance. Domestic needs of the presbytery are met e.g cleaners and food expenses. There is a flat tax of 20% paid to meet other expenses (stipends for the Archbishop, Chancellor, Vicar General and seminarians). There is also 5% paid to the Clergy Retirement Foundation and \$500 is paid to the Remuneration Fund for Long Service Leave and the Education Fund. In wealthier parishes, surpluses in this account is forwarded to the Remuneration Fund.

Of the 55 parishes, 17 receive remuneration support. Even before COVID, both Bungendore and Braidwood has relied on this support and even combined cannot support a priest. I hope this information is helpful.

On Sunday I will be celebrating Mass on Youtube at 10.30am. We only need one reader each Sunday and it has been suggested we follow the Bungendore roster. The link will be available on Friday and be sent to those on email.

Be gentle with yourselves in these strange times.

Yours in Christ,

Mick Burke

The church will be closed to the public for the duration of the NSW lockdown. All other groups and meetings are also cancelled until further notice.

While our churches are closed, Archbishop Christopher invites all to pray the Rosary via Zoom **Wednesdays and Fridays at 4 pm.** If you don't have internet, you could join by saying the Rosary by yourselves. All you need are your Rosary beads and your intentions.

TIME: Every Wednesday and Friday at 4 pm sharp!

ZOOM DETAILS: Simply click on the

link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85022458332?pwd=MDZ4ODFhNjlvdnpFd21aVDQzWnAydz09>

Or enter in the details below after opening the Zoom app

Meeting ID: 850 2245 8332

Passcode: 543675

Don't forget you can watch Mass 11am on Sundays and weekdays at 12.15pm

Online Link: <https://catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online>

COVID-19 Links for information: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19>

Readings for 25th Sunday: 1st: Wisdom 2:12,17-20. 2nd James 3:6-4:3. Gospel: Mark 9:3-37.

Take care, keep safe and look out for each other,
Helen Hart