



26th SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME  
YEAR A

1 October 2023

LITURGY AND BULLETIN

### OPENING PRAYER

*Father, you show your almighty power in your mercy and forgiveness.  
Continue to fill us with your gifts of love.  
Amen.*

**FIRST READING:** A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**Response: Remember your mercies, O Lord.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour. (R.)

2. Remember your mercy, Lord,  
and the love you have shown from of old.  
Do not remember the sins of my youth.  
In your love remember me,  
because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)

3. The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
he guides the humble in the right path;  
he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

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

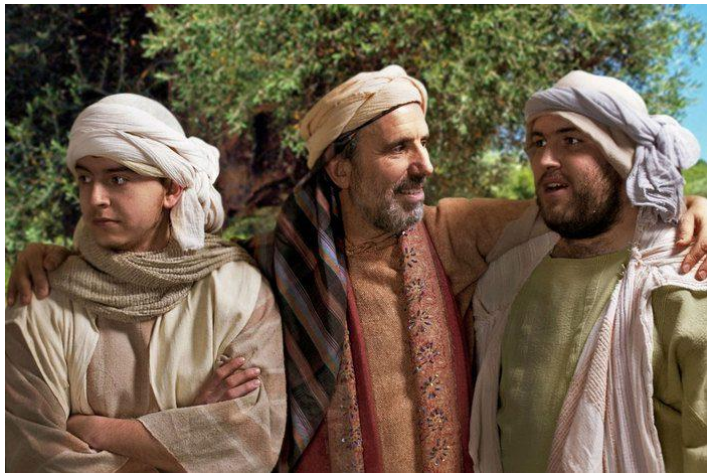
If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,  
yet he did not cling  
to his equality with God  
but emptied himself  
to assume the condition of a slave,  
and became as men are;  
and being as all men are,  
he was humbler yet,  
even to accepting death,  
death on a cross.  
But God raised him high  
and gave him the name  
which is above all other names  
so that all beings  
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,  
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus  
and that every tongue should acclaim  
Jesus Christ as Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;  
I know them, and they follow me.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 21:28-32



Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness,

but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

### **Reflection on the Gospel of Matthew 21: 28-32 by Fr Michael Tate**

#### **'No, no, no, no ... Y-yes!'**

Jesus tells a little story about two brothers. One said 'Yes', but never did anything. The other said 'No', but then had a change of heart and did what was required. Jesus loved the brother who came around. He was very hard on the one who said 'Yes' but did not 'walk the talk'.

That is why he loved those tax collectors who gathered the revenue for the Roman authorities, and the prostitutes who serviced the Roman occupying army, but who switched allegiance from the Empire of Caesar to the Kingdom of God. This signalled a profound change of heart.

We may have said 'No' to God at various times with various intensity in our lives. But God is wonderfully patient and prepared to hear 'No' many times in the hope of hearing 'Yes'. God's patience never runs out. But our time to say 'Yes' does run out. We only have a relatively short life span!

At the end of Mass, the priest will say 'Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.' As St Francis of Assisi put it, 'Preach the Gospel, and occasionally use words.' Walk the talk.

### **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

We pray for all members of the Synod on Synodality starting in Rome this week. May they be inspired by the Holy Spirit in their deliberations. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the whole human family. May tomorrow's World Habitat Day (2 October) and this week's feast of St Francis of Assisi (4 October) inspire us all to delight in nature and care for the earth, our common home. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the people of Morocco and Libya and all places laid low by natural disasters. May the international community be generous and resolute in providing aid. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the global Christian community. May all the baptised be one in acclaiming Jesus Christ as their Crucified and Risen Saviour. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the people of Australia, whether ancient inhabitants or modern migrants. May the upcoming referendum on the Voice unite the nation in service of justice, respect and recognition. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all whose lives are given over to the full-time care of a dependent family member. May their devotion be matched by the community resources they need. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, especially Dennis Dempsey, Fr. Mick, Peter Gillan, Penny Crawford, Tony Riley, Jenny Bodman Ross Lawless, Rongo Tee Peeti, Helen Montgomery, Judy Nielson, 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, . . . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time. May they be raised on high with Christ to the glory of God the Father. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

### **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

*Lord, bring us your salvation and make us one with you in glory.*

*Amen.*

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**Pastoral Associate: Br Brian Berg**

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

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

**Mass: Saturdays at 6.00pm. No weekday Masses for now.**

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

**Krawarree Mass: 29 October at 11.00am (to be confirmed)**

***Dear Parishioners,***

The Pope has called a ***Synod on Synodality***. Yes, you read right. It has two parts: October 2023 and October 2024.

The question arises: what does the word synod actually mean? It comes from a Greek word meaning, 'meeting.'

Remember the **two disciples** walking on the road to Emmaus? They had lost hope after the death of Jesus, and were heading out of town. Jesus joined them, reinvigorated their faith and purpose and so they invited Jesus to '*stay with them.*' They subsequently recognised him at the '*breaking of the bread*' (Luke 24).

The basic idea then is that we have come from God, we are moving towards God, and God is with us as we **walk the way** with each other.

The **two key bodies** that any parish has at its disposal are the *Parish Pastoral Council* and Parish Finance Committee. They should be effective in action and communication. They are founded, of course on the grace of baptism:

*Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to **life in the Spirit** and the **door** which gives access to the other sacraments.*

*Through Baptism we are freed from sin and **reborn as children of God.***

*We become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made **sharers in her mission**: "Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1213).*

I like that phrase '*life in the Spirit*' and '*sharers in her mission.*' There should be a **spontaneity** about our Christian life because we are baptised. Each of us accepting the grace of being God's children, sharing intimately in the mission of spreading the Gospel, in and through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. So, let's get on with it, doing things '**two-by-two.**'

Father Tony

**Braidwood Lions Antique Fair:** The Braidwood Lions Club is running an Antique Fair from Friday 29 September to Sunday 1 October in the historic National Theatre. For sale will be antiques, collectables, bric-a-brac, linen, porcelain, jewellery, vintage clothes, and furniture.

**First Thursday Community Lunch at the Club:** 5 October, commencing at 11.30am. All welcome.

**Braidwood Hospital Auxiliary Fete** Saturday October 14th in the National Theatre.



**Café of the Gate of Salvation Choir:** Get ready for an October choral weekend! You, your family, neighbours and friends are enthusiastically invited to attend: **SATURDAY 14 October (Referendum Day) 7pm** in St Bede's Catholic Church: a concert and community singalong by Sydney's premier a cappella gospel choir, Cafe at the Gate of Salvation. **SUNDAY 15 October, 10am** in St Bede's Catholic Church: an ecumenical choral service, led by the choir, celebrating Br. Brian's contribution to the Braidwood community.

**Archdiocesan Pilgrimage** to the Old Cathedral Sts. Peter & Paul's Sunday 22 October 2023 12noon Mass & Lunch. Followed by Devotions (replaces Galong Marian Day)

**Braidwood Open Gardens** November 4 & 5.

**Book Launch of selected poems by Jeremy Lockhart Nelson "SIC TRANSIT GLORIA MUNDI" (THUS PASSES THE GLORY OF THE WORLD).** The launch will be held on Sunday, November 5, 2023 at 2.30 P.M. at the former church, 153 Sawyer's Ridge Road, Reidsdale. Book: \$20 at launch. (AMAZON, 200PP. \$25.00)

RSVP to John Fulcher. Phone 0423 749 464 Email: [jfulcher@gmail.com](mailto:jfulcher@gmail.com)

**The Braidwood RSL Sub Branch Commemoration Dinner** is on again this year at the National Theatre -11 Nov. Add it to your diary now so you don't miss out. Wonderful food, BYO drinks and

exhilarating music from one of Braidwood's best music talents. A great time to dress up and enjoy great company in a delightful night out. Details and booking information coming soon.

**Braidwood Quilt Event 2023** 25/26 November Contact [braidwoodquilterstextiles@gmail.com](mailto:braidwoodquilterstextiles@gmail.com)

**Save the Date:** Ecumenical Advent Womens' Breakfast, 2nd December 8-9.30am Old Sunday School hall. Hosted by St Bede's Prayer Groups. More details to follow.

**Advent Resource from Brisbane.** In the past we have provided the prayer resources for Advent and Lent free of charge to parishioners. Unfortunately, due to the huge increase in our insurance premiums, we can no longer afford to do this. If you would like to purchase a copy of this Advent's 22 page prayers and reflections, entitled "With Expectant Hearts" (cost \$6.00) please copy and paste the email address: [formation@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:formation@bne.catholic.net.au) or scan the QR code on the poster in the church.

**Readings for Mass:** 1<sup>st</sup>: Ezek. 18:25-28. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Phil. 2:1-11. Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32.

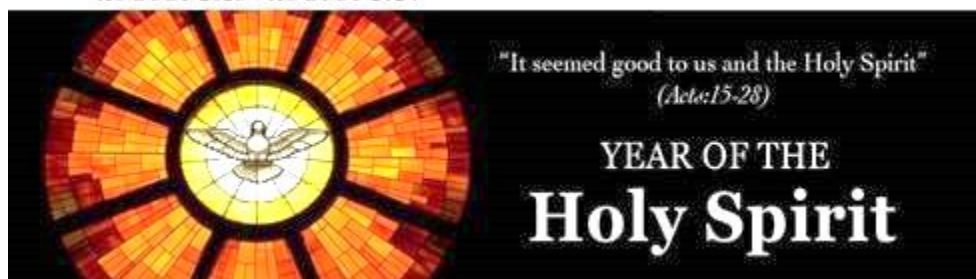
**Next week:** 1<sup>st</sup>: Isaiah 5:1-7. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Phil. 4:6-9. Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43.

**Radio Church:** Sundays at 6pm on FM 88.9 Catholic reflection.

<b>Ministries for our Mass:</b>	<b>30 Sept</b>	<b>7 Oct</b>	<b>14 Oct</b>	<b>21 Oct</b>	<b>28 Oct</b>
Welcomer:	Helen P	Geraldine	Cathy F	Helen P	Geraldine
Acolyte:	Felix (when available)				
Reader 1:	Ann T	Michael	Bobbie	Wendy M-B	Ann T
Reader 2:	Wendy H	Cathy F	Tommy	Germaine	Wendy H
<b>Ministries of service:</b>	<b>6 Oct</b>	<b>13 Oct</b>	<b>20 Oct</b>	<b>27 Oct</b>	
Altar Decorating:	Helen P	Cathy F	Margaret	Joy	
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:	Brenda		4 <sup>th</sup> : Phil Owen		
Please advise if you are unable to fulfil your roster, so alternative arrangements may be made.					

Take care of each other,  
Helen

AUGUST 2023 - AUGUST 2024



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.