



**27TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME YEAR B**

3 October 2021

LITURGY AND BULLETIN

OPENING PRAYER

*Father,
Your love for us
surpasses all our hopes and desires.
Forgive our failings and
keep us in your peace.
Amen.*

FIRST READING: A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them, each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:

'This at last is bone from my bones,
and flesh from my flesh!
This is to be called woman,
for this was taken from man.'

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Response: May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper. (R.)
2. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table. (R.)
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life!
May you see your children's children.
On Israel, peace! (R.)

SECOND READING: A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

If we love one another,

God will live in us in perfect love.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.



REFLECTION on Mark 10:2-16 by Greg Sunter

For the second time in the last few weeks, the gospel shows Jesus welcoming children and praising their attitude as the way to the kingdom of God. Children of the time had no status and were regarded as literally the property of their father. When Jesus laid his hands on the children and gave them his blessing, this was the action of a father 'claiming' the child as their own. To welcome the kingdom like a little child is to enter into living the kingdom of God without any claim to position or status; to recognise our complete dependence on others; to let go of our ideas of who is important and who is not; to allow ourselves to be 'claimed' by Jesus.

Scriptural context – Discipleship

This section of Mark's Gospel explores what it means to be a disciple. While this particular passage may seem to be a bit out of place, Jesus seems to be stressing to the disciples that there are some bottom lines – some non-negotiables – when it comes to being a disciple. Unlike the Pharisees who are preoccupied with the letter of the Law, Jesus encourages his disciples to get beyond that and understand the spirit of the Law – God's dream for humankind. The shift in the passage to the focus on children seems a little disconnected but the whole passage is about living in the kingdom with the right attitude.

Gospel Focus – Like a little child

Most of us at some time or another have been told to ‘grow up’; ‘stop acting like a child’; or to ‘act your age’. It implies that, as we grow older, we have to behave in a more ‘responsible’ or ‘mature’ way than when we were children. Jesus turns this on its head and tells us that unless we ‘welcome the kingdom like a little child’ we will never enter it. The gospels are full of stories about people who call on God’s mercy because they recognise that without God they are nothing. When they subsequently receive God’s mercy or healing they welcome it all the more – like a little child.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray for a new era of mutual respect and collaboration between nations, that all peoples may enjoy peace and a just share of the world’s resources. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all creatures of the earth, that World Habitat Day and the feast of St Francis of Assisi will bring to light the interconnection of all life on the planet. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for Pope Francis, that his vision of a thoroughly synodal church will come to fulfilment in every land. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all the members of the Plenary Council, that they will speak out boldly in faith and listen to the Spirit in freedom of heart. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for married couples, that the covenant of love they have made with each other will be life-long and life-giving. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for teachers, that they find joy in their vocation as educators and are valued for their service to families and society, especially during home schooling. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for one another, that we will have the grace to welcome the kingdom of God as little children. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

For all who suffer in mind, body or spirit, including Norma Flack, Karen Sutor, 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.

For all who have died, including Geoff Hassell . . . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will share to the full in the glory of Christ. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Almighty God,
may the love of Christ fill us with your life. Amen.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It is looking more hopeful we will return to the new way of living with Covid in the next few weeks and we will be able to gather once more as Christ’s faithful. Since ordination to the priesthood I have served in the Cathedral, Young, Cootamundra, Queanbeyan, Gowrie, Grenfell, back to Queanbeyan, Bega, Yass/Gunning and now in Bungendore/Braidwood. There has never been anything like this last appointment due to the pandemic and the hopelessness I feel not being able to get to know you all and minister to your needs. Please God this is about to change.

Some of you may be aware that the Fifth Plenary Council begins this coming Sunday with Mass in the Adelaide Cathedral at 2pm. A Plenary Council is the highest formal gathering of all local churches in a country. The Fifth Plenary Council is being held so that we can dialogue about the future of the Catholic Church in Australia. My experience of the process has been disappointing. There was initial enthusiasm in Yass with a significant number of parishioners involved, putting forward their suggestions for the Council delegates. There was no response and parishioners lost interest. To quote Archbishop Coleridge, “The culture in which we have to proclaim the Gospel is

very different to what it was even 20 or 30 years ago.” I hope and pray the delegates will be in tune with the Holy Spirit for the direction of the Catholic Church in Australia into the future.

It is a challenge for us in Bungendore and Braidwood parishes to be directed by the Holy Spirit in a vastly different culture to what we experienced only a couple of decades ago. We must also discern the best way forward in proclaiming the Gospel. There must be significant changes if we are to survive and grow.

May the Lord continue to bless our communities as we continue to cope in these difficult 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. September markets have also been cancelled.

Hello parishioners, it sounds like we are nearing the end of our “stay at home” rules. It will be lovely to be able to see you all again. We are eagerly awaiting the new protocols from Head Office. In the meantime, please continue to tune in for Mick’s Mass.

Here is the link to the YouTube channel for our Sunday 10.30am “Mass with Mick” –

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-d0_CGVn2p4-BsNiAwSLdA/

To avoid technical difficulties, the service will be recorded and then uploaded so will be available from 10.30am Sunday. This link will not change from week to week.



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA

www.thatcatholicshop.com

A message from *Aid to the Church in Need Australia*: *That Catholic Shop* is an exciting development of ACN Australia. It is a go-to shop for Catholic gifts and devotional items. From Sacramental gifts, statues, books, rosaries, Christmas items and more, there is something for everyone. The purchases you make at TCS go to support the work of *Aid to the Church in Need* to keep the faith alive in those places where it is most at risk. To browse our full range visit



As we prepare to enter the month of October – a time when the Church celebrates World Mission Month - let us turn our hearts, minds and even our financial affairs, to the missionary work that the Catholic Church does with, and for, children around the world including Thailand. Consider your capacity to either make a major gift in this life or an eternal legacy, through a gift in your will.

For more information about ways you can contribute to the vital, life-giving work supported by Catholic Mission, click [here](#). For information about leaving a bequest to Catholic Mission, click [here](#)

To follow up with Catholic Mission and about any aspect of its work, please call our Diocesan Director in Canberra & Goulburn, Karen McKerrow on 0411 924 288 or email her at kmckerrow@catholicmission.org.au

Pray the rosary with Archbishop Christopher - Every Wednesday and Friday at 4 pm sharp!

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85022458332?pwd=MDZ4ODFhNjlvdnFkd21aVDQzWnAydz09>

Or enter in the details below after opening the Zoom app. **Meeting ID:** 850 2245 8332

Passcode: 543675

Don't forget you can watch the Cathedral Masses 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 28th Sunday: 1st: Wis. 7:7-11 2nd Hebrews 4:12-13 Gospel: Mark 10:17-30.

1st Collection: BSB: 062-786

Account: 0000029248

Account Name: St Bedes Braidwood

Reference: BRAIDWOOD & SURNAME

For 2nd collection: BSB: 062-786

Account No: 00017755

Name: St Bedes Parish Braidwood.

Reference: name or giving number if you have one.

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