



**4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY
TIME YEAR A**

29 January 2023

LITURGY AND BULLETIN

OPENING PRAYER

*Lord our God,
help us to love you with all our hearts
and to love all peoples as you love them
Amen.*

FIRST READING: A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

Seek the Lord
all you, the humble of the earth,
who obey his commands.
Seek integrity,
seek humility:
you may perhaps find shelter
on the day of the anger of the Lord.
In your midst I will leave
a humble and lowly people,
and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord.
They will do no wrong,
will tell no lies;
and the perjured tongue will no longer
be found in their mouths.
But they will be able to graze and rest
with no one to disturb them.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**Response: Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!**

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)

3. It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

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

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad;

Your reward will be great in heaven.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy the gentle:
they shall have the earth for their heritage.
Happy those who mourn:
they shall be comforted.
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.
Happy the merciful:
they shall have mercy shown them.
Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God.
Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called sons of God.
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'



Image: Mount of the Beatitudes and Lake Tiberias – depositphotos.com

Reflection on the Gospel of Matthew 5:1- 12 by Dianne Bergant CSA

To follow Jesus does not mean merely that one travels with him from place to place. It means that one learns from him, that one follows his manner of life and his way of thinking. To follow Jesus means to follow his example in the way he respects himself and other people, in his use of the things of the natural world. It means that one listens to what he says, and asks for an explanation when what he says is not understood. All of this requires that the disciple be a learner, one who can learn from the life of Jesus as well as from his teaching.

The first lessons that the disciples must learn are found in the beatitudes. The same lessons are placed before us, the modern-day disciples. The setting of Jesus' teaching is so serene; a mountain apart, a teacher with his disciples gathered around him, simple statements that are coupled with glorious rewards. However, the reality of the lessons is in stark contrast with this tranquil scene. These beatitudes, these blessings call for profound inner transformation.

The gospel outlines the kind of person the disciple is to become; the psalm sketches the program to which the learner is called. The disciples of Jesus are not merely his followers; they also continue the work that he began. In whatever circumstance of life we find ourselves, as disciples of Jesus we work to sustain the good that is in the world and to transform whatever needs transformation.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray for the followers of all world faiths, that Interfaith Harmony Week (1-7 February) will draw them together in service of the human family. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for peace-makers in every place of bloodshed, that they will persuade warring parties to end their deadly violence. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for aid workers in the world's refugee camps: that their care for the displaced will help restore people's dignity and self-respect. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for teachers and students, that they will start the new school year with energy and confidence. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for the primary carers of people with a disability or chronic poor health; that they will have all the support they need to provide sustained and loving care. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for women in violent or controlling relationships, that they will find their way to safety and freedom. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

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

We pray for the recently deceased, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Cardinal George Pell, Walter Stutchbury, Laurie Moran and Wynne Jones . . . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will live forever in the kingdom of heaven. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

*Nourished by your Word, we pray, O Lord,
that through this help to eternal salvation
true faith may ever increase.
Amen.*

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Father Mick Burke

Mobile: 0448 414 541

Pastoral Associate: Br Brian Berg

Braidwood Contact Numbers: Ph. 4842 2444;

Mobile: 0408 687 915

Parish email: braidwood@cg.org.au

Parish Website: <http://cg.org.au/braidwood/Home.aspx>

Br. Brian email: bcberg@edmundrice.org

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Marylou Gorham Ph. 4842 2413

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

Weekday Mass: in recess until further notice

Meditation: Thursdays in Presbytery at 10.30am

Social Justice Group: Tuesday 1 February 2023 at 9.30am, at the Presbytery
Call to Connect Women's Prayer Group in recess
Krawarree January Mass cancelled

Dear Parishioners,

Congratulations to Bronwyn Crosby who was awarded an OAM for her services to Community Health since 1973. See next page for details..

Don't forget to check out the book fair. Closes at 4pm on Saturday 28th January.

First Thursdays Community Lunch at the Servicemen's Club 2nd February.

From 11.30am. \$10 per person; choice of 5 dishes & dessert; **Keith Potger performing**; courtesy bus available – please book; Bookings helpful but not essential. Contact the Club on 4842 2108

Market Helpers needed: Cathy Ffrench needs ticket sellers for the market raffles. Can you spare an hour once a month on the Friday before the markets to sell tickets? Please call her on 0418 262 011 if you can help. Our markets are our biggest income stream, so it is really important that we do all we can to help to make them successful. Our next market day is 28 January and raffle tickets will be sold on Friday 27th.

Markets in Ryrie Park: 9am - 1pm Saturday 28 January.

Produce; Crafts; Plants; Antiques & Collectibles; Trash & Treasure; Monthly Raffle. Donations of cooking etc gratefully accepted at the Parish table. Enquiries to Cathy Ffrench on 0418 262 011

Brother Brian returns from his holidays on Saturday, hopefully wonderfully refreshed.

Readings for Mass: 1st: Zeph. 2:;3:12-13. 2nd: 1 Cor. 1:26-31. Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

Readings for next week: 1st: Isaiah 58:7-10. 2nd: 1 Cor. 2:1-5. Gospel: Matt. 5:13-16.

Offerings acknowledged with thanks: 1st: \$135. 2nd: envelopes: \$63. Loose: \$108. Thanks also to those parishioners who contribute online and annually.

Ministry Rosters for our Masses

| Date | Acolyte | Welcomer | Readers |
|--------|---------|-----------|------------------|
| 28 Jan | Felix | Cathy F | Bobbie/Tommy |
| 4 Feb | | Helen P | Wendy H/Germaine |
| 11 Feb | Felix | Geraldine | Wendy M-B/Ann T |
| 18 Feb | | Helen P | Michael/Cathy F |

| Ministries of service: | <u>27 Jan</u> | <u>3 Feb</u> | <u>10 Feb</u> | <u>17Feb</u> |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Altar Decorating: | Margaret | Cathy F | Helen P | Joy |
| Cleaning: | | Pauline & Wendy M-B | | Bronnie & Felix |

Counters: 1st Sunday: Pauline & Bobbie. 2nd: Sunday: Wendy H
3rd Sunday: volunteer please 4th: Phil Owen

Please advise if you are unable to fulfil your roster, so alternative arrangements may be made.

Take care of each other
Helen Hart

MEDAL (OAM) OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

Mrs Bronwyn CROSBY, Braidwood NSW 2622

For service to community health.

Health

- Official Visitor, Official Visitors Program, New South Wales, since 2014.
- Founding Member, Methadone Advice and Conciliation Service, 1999.
- Developer, Drug and Alcohol Specialist Advisory Service.

St Vincent's Hospital,

- Deputy Director, Alcohol and Drug Service, 1995-2014.
- Developer, New South Wales Quitline and Aboriginal Quitline, 2000 and 2009.
- Developer, Stimulant Treatment Program, 2006.
- Founder 1300Driver, (truck driver support hotline), 2014.
- Founder, SMART Recovery Australia, 2004.
- Developer, Iris recognition computerised methadone dosing system.
- Developer, Sheck early intervention and prevention for stimulant users.

Nursing

- Nurse, public mental health facilities, New South Wales, 1973-1990.
- Member, New South Wales Nurses and Midwives Association, since 1995.
- Senior Clinician, Institute of Psychiatry, London, United Kingdom, 1990-1995.