

  
**ST BERNARD'S PARISH**  
 P.O. Box 3220,  
 Batehaven, 2536.  
 Tel: **4472 4153**  
**2 David Street, Batehaven**  
 E: batemansbay@cg.org.au  
 Website: www.cg.org.au/  
 batemansbay  
**Office Hours:** 10am to 2pm  
 Tuesday-Friday  
**Rev. Martins Aloga**  
 Parish Priest  
**Don Nguyen**  
 Parish Deacon  
**Sr. Marie McAlister**  
 0429383333  
**Roslynn Trompp**  
 Parish Secretary  
**Mrs. Jo Wain, Principal**  
 St. Bernard's Prim. Sch.  
**Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan,**  
**Principal,** Carroll College

**Mass Times**  
**Tues 24:** 5.30 Mass  
**Wed 25:** 8.40 Rosary  
 9am Mass  
**Thurs 26:** 9am Mass  
**Fri 27:** 9am Stations of the Cross  
 9.15am Mass  
 5.30pm Adoration  
**Sat 28:** 9am Rosary  
 5pm Reconciliation  
 6pm Vigil Mass

**Sun 29:** 9am Mass  
 5pm Mass  
**Sacristans**  
**6pm:** Carmody & Rogers  
**9am:** Scicluna & Bemelman  
**5pm:** D. & B. McCormack  
**ROSTERS 28/29 March**  
**Church Cleaning**  
 D & L May (23-27 Mar)  
**Welcomers**  
**6pm** L Baz  
**9am** C Connell  
**5pm** M deSmet  
**Readers**  
**6pm** P Billington, S Smith  
**9am** N Beatty, A Fowler  
**5pm** J O'Sullivan,  
 K O'Sullivan  
**Commentator**  
**6pm** M Weatherall  
**9am** A Brown  
**5pm** A Horsfall  
**Extraordinary Ministers**  
**6pm** J Wain, J&N O'Neill,  
 M Bridges  
**9am** C Schor, M&C Lowe,  
 A Scicluna  
**5pm** B McCormack L Favetta  
**Computer Screen**  
**6pm** K Conway  
**9am** T Jackson  
**5pm** D McCormack  
**Children's Liturgy**  
 No Liturgy at present due to  
 Coronavirus.  
**Morning Tea**  
 Cancelled for the present  
**Hospital Visits ( Mar 29th)**  
 Maureen Kinross



## Where is God in Suffering?

One of the most difficult things we as human beings have to deal with in our lives is the question of suffering and evil. None of us are immune to this, and in greater or lesser degrees each of us at different stages of our lives come face to face with this awful reality. In times of deep distress and in the face of great tragedy and trauma, we are often left asking ourselves the question: If God is all-good and all-powerful then why is there evil in the world?

The answer to this question has been attempted by all civilisations and religions throughout history. We see in the Gospel this Sunday that Jesus' disciples ask him, concerning the man born blind: "who sinned, this man or his parents?" This question echoed the views of the Jewish people at the time, that illness and misfortunes in general were a punishment for personal sins, either one's own or that of a person's parents. Jesus, however, gives a different response. Jesus states that it was neither his sin nor his parent's sin that caused the blindness in the man, but rather, "he was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him." This is an extraordinary claim. What Jesus is saying is that the glory of God is greater than sin and suffering and that God's power is particularly shown forth, not in eliminating suffering from the world, but in his ability to bring good out of even the most painful of our situations. St Paul reminds us of this truth when he states that "we know that in **EVERYTHING** God works for good with those who love him." (Rom 8:28).

These are not just consoling words and pious thoughts to help us cope with the ups and downs of our lives, for this is the central mystery of our faith. We see this drama of good emerging from evil played out so vividly in the life of Jesus. It was precisely when he was at his weakest and most vulnerable, and enduring the most horrendous suffering, that his greatest work of redemption was carried out for us all.

As we journey with Jesus this lent we do so in faith and confidence that our suffering and the pains of our lives do not, and will not have the final word, like Jesus, who triumphs over sin and death, we too will come out victorious with him and share in that blessed life where he himself will "wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning or crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." (Rev 21:4).

### PREPARING FOR HOLY WEEK LITURGIES

You are invited to join the **Monday Singalong Group at 1 - 2pm in the Church** as we begin our practices of the music for Holy Week. Even if you don't wish to join the Choir please come and learn the hymns - your presence and voice will make a difference! A great way to prepare during this Lenten Season



### PROJECT COMPASSION 2020

*'Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things, with great love' (Saint Teresa of Calcutta)* Through your generosity during Project Compassion in 2020, you are empowering communities with hope and helping those in need to shape a better future for themselves, their families and their communities. Mindful of all the needs here locally in our own community perhaps we can give *something small with great love!* **The boxes and envelopes are in the Church Foyer.**

### STORY FOR WEEK 4—SAKUN, INDIA

Sakun is from the Gond tribal community (historically disadvantaged, they suffer higher poverty rates than other parts of India). In 2018, joined a Caritas Australia-funded program, through their strategic guidance and support, Sakun learned new skills and gained important mobility. Sakun now earns her own income and makes a small profit which goes towards her family's basic needs. She is more resilient, more confident and more independent.

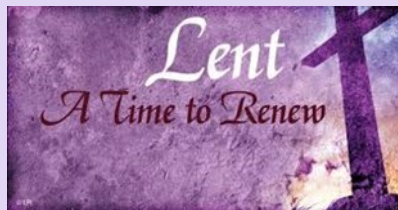
**Please Note:** There will be no further Rosters for Masses at the present.  
**Wrap with Love** will be in the Meeting Room 11am-1pm Wednesday 25th

#### Weekly Events:

**Singalong:** Monday at 1pm in the Church.  
**Bible Study/Faith Formation** Wed. at 9.30am  
**Rosary:** Wednesday at 8:40am, Church  
**Stations of the Cross:** Friday, 9am in church  
**Adoration/Vespers:** Friday at 5:30pm  
**Craft:** Thursday 10 –12pm Meeting Room  
**Wrap With Love:** 2nd Tue & last Wed,  
**Men Alive:** Every 1st & 3rd Wed in Church  
**Reconciliation:** Saturday at 5pm in Church  
**Cenacle Prayer:** Tues at 4.45pm in Church

#### Monthly Events

**First Saturday:** 9 am Mass  
**Opal Mass: No Masses at this time**  
**Glen Mass: No Masses at this time**  
**Maranatha Mass: No Masses at this time**  
**Baptism Preparation:** Last Wed at 6.30pm  
**Mass of the Sick:** Every 1st Tue at 5.30pm  
**Weddings and Funerals** by arrangement  
**Upcoming Events:**  
**March**  
 25 Lenten Sessions 9.30am & 6pm Church Meeting Room



## LENTEN REFLECTION: WEEK 4

### SEEING WITH GOD'S EYES

**During these worrying times and as we persevere in our Lenten Commitments we are perhaps in need of reassurance.**

**How do we open our eyes to completely trust in God? Perhaps by realising that God is present in all around us and in our creation – arms open in loving embrace.**

**Psalms 22 reassures us – let us meditate on this during the coming week:**

*The Lord is my shepherd there is nothing I shall want.*

*Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose  
 Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.*

*He guides me along the right paths, he is true to his name.  
 If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.*

*You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort.*



### PARISH PASTORAL VISITS

As part of our ongoing response to the disaster recovery process, the Parish would like to offer the opportunity for pastoral visits to any parishioner who may feel they would benefit from such a visit. Fr Martins, Sr Marie or Eden will be available to respond to requests. A visitation box has been placed in the church foyer for requests.



**Rosary 4.35pm every Sunday**

#### Updated protocols for Eucharistic Assembly

- Remove holy water from fonts
- The faithful are asked to sit 1.5metres apart (Approximately 5 feet), except for immediate family.
- No touching at the sign of peace.
- Priests, Deacons, Acolytes and Extraordinary Ministers to sanitise their hands before distributing Holy Communion and after distributing Holy Communion. Holy Communion in the hand. No Communion on the tongue.
- The Sacred Host, not the Precious Blood, is given to the faithful.
- Recommended method of collecting monies: The faithful to place money in the retiring collection at the end of Mass until further notice.
- Communion to the sick in hospital, aged care facilities or private home of those who have COVID 19 is **not permitted**.

#### Penance

First rite of penance should be conducted in the confessional behind a screen or only if the penitent is 1.5metres away from the priest. If the penitent is under 18, confessional door to be open. Second rite of penance is **suspended**

#### INFORMAL LOSS, GRIEF AND BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

**MEETING**—Friday March 27th at 10am in the Church Meeting Room. For anyone who has had a loved one die, experienced loss of any kind e.g effected by the fires. Morning tea is provided. Bereavement Support team attending. Input on :men, women and children grieving differently. All are welcome.

**ORGAN RECITAL—Special Bushfire Recovery Edition PLEASE NOTE: THE ORGAN RECITAL HAS BEEN POSTPONED DUE TO COVID-19**

#### RELICS OF ST THERESE & HER PARENTS CANCELLED

**CAN'T RECEIVE THE EUCHARIST? HERE'S HOW TO MAKE A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION** - For various reasons we may be prevented from receiving the Eucharist at Mass. This could be because we are unable to leave our home to attend Mass. This is especially relevant for many of us in this time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In these cases the Church encourages us to make an act of "spiritual communion," where we unite ourselves to God through prayer. It is a beautiful way to express to God our desire to be united with him when we are unable to complete that union in the reception of Holy Communion.

Below is a traditional prayer of spiritual communion that many saints have prayed over the years. It can be prayed if you find yourself at Mass unable to receive the Eucharist, or at any time at home, especially if you are unable to attend Mass.

The ultimate goal of our lives should be communion with God and an act of spiritual communion can help a person draw closer to that goal.

*My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
 I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
 Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,  
 come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*

Adapted from <https://aleteia.org/2018/09/20/cant-receive-the-eucharist-heres-how-to-make-a-spiritual-communion>

#### Banking details

**1st Collection**  
**Acc. Name:**  
**Central**  
**Presbytery Fund**  
**Bank Acc: 29248**  
**BSB: 062-786**  
 Ref: SUBURB/  
 TOWN &  
 SURNAME.  
 Eg: Batebay jones

#### Banking details

**2nd Collection**  
 There is be a Tap & Go machine set at \$5 donation in the foyer at Masses for those wishing to contribute to the upkeep of the Parish

#### Remembering the Sick:

Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, James Lee, George Fitzgerald, Declan Holmes, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Dawn Robinson, Margaret Harris, Bill Giust, Allan Odium, Luke Ward, Rosemary Cooley, Andrew Morton, Judy Betts, Ken Evendon, Janet Thornberry, Anica Bautovic, Glenda Gallagher, Joan, Robert Craddy, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke and those in our local Nursing Homes and Hospital.

#### We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community:

Patricia McLennan, Maureen Noyeaux, Tom Nagle, Breda O'Kelly, Jack McNamara, Lyn Attenbury, Faye Therese Uren, Evelyn Freiburger, Des Jeffs, Louise Keeley, Peter Burum.,

**Anniversaries: Angeline Davis, Robert Loftus, Michael Doyle, Joan Neems, William Holmes, Ruth Ryan, Margaret Toy, Ivan Hropic**

### Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer Intention

**March**  
**Catholics in China**

**We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.**

Batemans Bay, Moruya & Narooma <b>District Funerals</b> Mark Hewson JP Funeral Director Phone 02 4472 8886 Moruya 02 4474 3555 Narooma 02 4476 3888	<b>INDUSTRIAL REPLACEMENTS</b> 1 Sharon Road, Batemans Bay <b>Buy fuel any time</b>  EFTPOS VISA AMEX MASTERCARD
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<b>OCEAN BREEZE TAKEAWAY</b> Fish & Chips, Burgers, Sandwiches & Coffee <b>100% BEEF BURGER</b> 74R Ranch Road <b>0478 146 837</b> <b>02 4472 1802</b>	<b>ST BERNARDS PRIMARY SCHOOL</b> <b>ENROLLING NOW</b> <b>Ph 4472 4446</b> Member of the Eurobodalla K-12 Catholic Schools' Community
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<b>CARROLL COLLEGE</b> <b>ENROLLING NOW</b> <b>Ph 4471 5600</b> Member of the Eurobodalla K-12 Catholic Schools' Community	<b>excell</b> Ideaspeople ...with a passion for print P 4472 1599 E batemansbay@excellprint.com.au www.excellprint.com.au Shop 1/25, Old Princes Hwy Batemans Bay NSW 2536
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Ray and Anne Brown <b>COASTAL</b> <b>CONCRETE &amp; QUARRY</b> <b>02 4474 0320</b>	Kate & Tara your vets at Surf Beach <b>EUROCOAST</b> Veterinary Centre <b>4471 3400</b>
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**PARISH COFFEE CLUB**  
**All are welcome to join us after the mass on Thursdays.**  
**VENUE:**  
**To be decided on the day**