

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
A 16 Aug 2020
First Reading *Is 56:1.6-7*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

*The Word of the Lord
R Thanks be to God*

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

R. Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation
1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land.
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven.
3. The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps.
R. Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Second Reading *Rom 9:1-5*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.

Second Reading *Rom 11:13-15. 29-32*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.
Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection

meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

*The Word of the Lord
R Thanks be to God*

Gospel Acclamation *Mt 4:23*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

Gospel *Mt 15:21-28*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, ‘Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.’ But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. ‘Give her what she wants,’ they said ‘because she is shouting after us.’ He said in reply, ‘I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.’ But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. ‘Lord,’ she said ‘help me.’ He replied, ‘It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the house-dogs.’ She retorted, ‘Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master’s table.’ Then Jesus answered her, ‘Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.’ And from that moment her daughter was well again.

*The Gospel of the Lord
R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

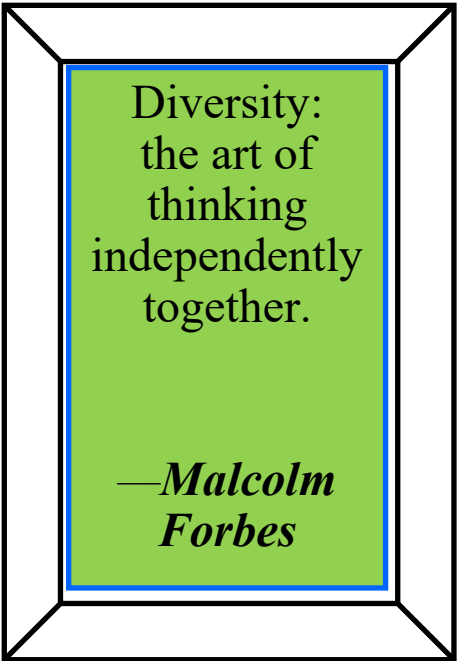
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REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The overarching theme derived from today’s readings is the question of insider-outsider. We see here that the divisions and barriers that emerge out of human experience have been shattered by the graciousness of God. Jesus’ openness to ‘the other’ finds a precedent in the prophetic tradition. Isaiah spoke of a time when outsiders would join insiders in worshipping God, thus dissolving the categories of insider and outsider. He was, of course, referring to the age of eschatological fulfilment. This age dawned with the coming of or religiouJesus. Jesus himself moved out of the constraints of his own cultural worldview, and he directs us to do the same. People are either excluded because of gender, culture s perspective, or included only because they are able and willing to conform to discriminatory standards. In the reign of God, this should not be the case. People are accepted along with their own cultural profiles.

God’s embrace first enclosed even those who rejected Jesus, and then God’s plan of salvation unfolded in a new way. An invitation to enter the kingdom was issued to the Gentiles, those who had been considered outsiders. If outsiders are now insiders, what has happened to the former insiders? Paul insists that they are still insiders. God has not simply shifted the identifying boundaries; God has dissolved them. In the interim between the dawning of the eschatological age and the end of time, the invitation to be included remains open to all.

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ST BERNARD'S PARISH
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Finance Admin: Anne Jackson
PC Co-ord: Marie Weatherall

Principal: Mrs. Jo Wain
St. Bernard's Primary School
Batehaven
Principal: Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan
Carroll College
Broulee

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Tues 18 : 5.30 Mass
Wed 19: 9am Mass
Thurs 20: 9am Mass
Fri 21: 9.15am Mass
Sat 22: 9am Rosary
9.30am Recon
6pm Mass
Sun 23: 9am Mass
5pm Mass

ROSTERS 15/16 AUG

Church Cleaning
D & L May (17-21)
Welcomers
6pm K Conway
9am L Page
5pm L Favetta
Commentator
6pm J Quigley
9am A Skinner
5pm J O'Sullivan
Readers
6pm J Mackay
9am B Basevi
5pm M Devine
Eucharistic Ministers
6pm P Billington, A Rogers
9am C Connell, A Horsfall
5pm P Hamer
Computer Screen
6pm T Jackson
9am T Priest
5pm M O'Neill
REGISTRARS
6pm P Billington
9am B Basevi, G Norris
5pm D & N Gorzalka

ROSTERS 22/23 AUG

Church Cleaning
M deSmet/J Maher (24-28)
Welcomers
6pm Sr Marie McAlister
9am C Connell
5pm M deSmet
Commentator
6pm P O'Kelly
9am N Beatty
5pm A Jackson
Readers
6pm M Weatherall
9am A Jackson
5pm K O'Sullivan
Eucharistic Ministers
6pm J Wain, A Rogers
9am V & C Burns
5pm L Favetta
Computer Screen
6pm K Conway
9am T Jackson
5pm J O'Sullivan

REGISTRARS

6pm S & M Beashel
9am B Basevi, G Norris
5pm C Jackson

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—A

The Reward of Persistent Faith

Last weekend, Jesus addressed Peter as, “a man of little faith”. This weekend, he acknowledged the Canaanite woman of the Syro-Phoenician background who accosted him on his journey to the pagan region of Tyre and Sidon as, “a woman of great faith” and rewarded her faith with answers, though not without the price of patience and persistence. This is the second miraculous healing of gentiles in Matthean gospel: The first being the healing of the Centurion’s servant (Mt 8.10-12) and second, the healing of the Canaanite woman’s daughter.



According to records, the Canaanite woman recognises Jesus as “Lord” and identified Him as the “Son of David” (v.22). On this basis, she approached him, to ask for the healing of her sick daughter. In response, firstly, Jesus ignores her cry and even took no notice of the impatient disciples who were asking him to send her away for shouting after them. Secondly, he tried eliciting faith in her with an indirect refusal, telling her, that he, “...was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But the woman was persistent in her request. She knelt before him and begged, “Lord, help me.” Thirdly, Jesus makes a seemingly harsh statement, “It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.” This was enough to put the woman off, however, she persisted.

Meanwhile, in Jewish expression, the term “dogs” was a derogatory word used to refer to Pagans, known as the Gentiles, especially the Canaanites, considered to be the arch enemies of the Jews. The Canaanites were generally regarded by the Jews as pagans and idolaters who were ritually unclean and so described as dogs. The Jews regarded dogs as unclean for indiscriminate consumption of food including pork, a forbidden meat.

However, in this context, Jesus had used the word *kunariois*, the word for household pets, rather than the ordinary Greek word for dogs - *kuon*. This was to test the faith of the woman. In response, she insisted saying, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table!” (v. 27), expressing her conviction that Jesus could and would heal her daughter. For her, *pets (dogs) are not outsiders but insiders. They not only belong to the family but are part of the family. While they do not have a seat at the table, they enjoy intimacy at the family's feet.* Jesus was completely won over by the depth of her faith, confidence and wit and responded, “Woman, you have a great Faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.”

Noticeably, the woman was refused three times by Jesus before he granted her request; finally, at her fourth attempt, Jesus rewarded her persistence, curing her daughter in answer to her resilient faith and patient plea.

The Canaanite woman exemplifies the undying faith that yield answers. She was willing to cross the barrier of racism to achieve her objective, while offering a foretaste of the faith to come of the gentiles. No wonder Jesus distinguished her as a woman of great faith. Additionally, she surprised the onlooking disciples with her understanding of pets, especially dogs as important members of the household, against the Jewish position. In modern times, they are the confidant, the most trusted, loyal friend and companion of humans. When you reverse the spelling of dog, you end up with God. Like the Canaanite woman, we are invited, against all odds, to persistently place our unyielding faith in God especially at this unprecedented time. There is always a reward.

Fr Martins

Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions AUGUST

The Maritime World

We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

O Immaculate Mary, Help of Christians, Queen of heaven and earth, and tender Mother of humanity, at this time when a pandemic threatens all your children, we entrust to you our nation, Australia, and all who live in this country. We commit to your intercession all the members of our community, beginning with the weakest ones, from the unborn to the sick, the disabled and the elderly. We commit to you our families, our young and old, and all who are vulnerable, those who are quarantined or anxious. We entrust to your Immaculate Heart those who have lost their livelihood or employment, our pastors and other essential service workers, and our leaders at this time. We implore your intercession especially for the protection of doctors and nurses and those who minister to the contagious sick in this crisis. Reign over us, Mother of God, and teach us how to make the Heart of Jesus reign and triumph in us and around us, as it has reigned and triumphed in you!



UPCOMING EVENTS



Wrap With Love
Wed 26th 11am
Bible Study/Faith Formation—Wed 9.30am
Craft Group—Thursday 10am--12pm

Adoration—Friday 5.30pm
Reconciliation—Saturday 9.30am
E-Activity Singalong Mon 1pm

St Bernard's Feast Day

August 20 every year we celebrate the Feast of our Patron Saint, Bernard of Clairvaux born 20th August 1090. He was a Saint of the middle ages known to be an Abbot and strong in his influence on the Benedictine Monasticism through the Cistercian Order.

He worked hard to ensure unity in the church that was experiencing schism in the middle ages.

Each year as a community made up of the parish and the school, we celebrate St Bernard and work hard that **all may be one**. Our focus last year was on the family and it brought together families of many generations of the St Bernard's Parish family.

Our focus this year as announced last year, is on diversity and the multicultural face of the parish community today. This is meant to bring together the traditional Irish Catholic heritage, the fair-go of Australian Catholics, the creative spirit of the indigenous community, the colourful Asian tradition, the demonstrative African worship style and the charismatic South Americans along with their cuisine and colourful attire. Unfortunately while we are unable to celebrate as planned due to covid-19, we acknowledge the visible diversity in our community and thank you all for the blessings and gifts that you bring.

There will be 9 am mass on Thursday 20 August to mark the feast. The social gathering is postponed until further notice.

Congratulations to the Parish and the school on the feast of St Bernard.

World Humanitarian Day

On the 19th August each year we celebrate World Humanitarian Day. The purpose of World Humanitarian Day is to raise awareness of the plight of civilians around the world who have become caught up in conflicts, and also honour and raise support for the humanitarian workers who risk, and sometimes lose, their lives to help.

Over 130 million people throughout the world are currently in crisis, either through war or natural disasters and are in need of humanitarian aid.

This year, World Humanitarian Day is extra special as we have a number of people who risk their lives to save the sick ones. The year 2020 has been a disaster to all of us, and yet people who work for saving lives amid COVID-19 deserve to be celebrated.

Humanitarians are not only doctors but also nurses, hospital workers, police officers, and many other government employees who are involved in the betterment of the world during this time. This World Humanitarian Day is dedicated to every individual who works for the needy by risking their life. Even if you step out to provide face masks or food for the underprivileged, you are a humanitarian and this day is to celebrate you.



PARISH MASSES

Mass continues with contact tracing and social distancing protocols with a limit of 100 people per Mass at any time.

With local cases of Covid-19 now present, it is prudent that everyone attending the church wears a mask. The parish can provide disposable masks available for single use if you don't yet have one.

Pastoral Care "Calming Waters—flowing into life" Retreat at St Joseph's Chapel has been re-scheduled for Tuesday August 25th at 9.15—11.45am with registration from 8.45am. Numbers are limited. Cost is Free. Please park in the Church parking area. If you have mobility concerns please contact St Marie for convent parking. All health protocols will be followed—bring a mask to wear please. RSVP by August 18th to Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057 or email: mariet51@bigpond.com

Gathering: "Strengthening Wellness and Self Care in a Challenging Year" This invitation is extended to all parishioners, family and friends who have been impacted by the many events of this year. **Date:** Tuesday September 15th at St Bernard's Church, 9 am Registration for 9.30am start—12.30pm. **Guest Facilitator:** Bruce Chan BA (Psych) Bruce has over 13 years experience in counselling. Cost is Free—sponsored by Baptist Care Fire Relief Funds. Health Protocols will be in place. Please wear a mask. **RSVP:** September 8th to Parish office, notice in foyer of church or Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057 email: mariet51@bigpond.com. Please bring a plate if you are able to. We have extended this invitation to other churches.

Feasts of the Week—August

19th St John Eudes
20th St Bernard
21st St Pius X
22nd The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Commencing August/September an ecumenical group of participants will look together each fortnight at *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis' letter "On Care for Our Common Home". You can register interest in obtaining further information in taking part at BelconnenSouth@cg.org.au or on 0428-625-110.

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

If you would like to join the Parish e-platform giving, the details are as follows:

1st Collection Acc. Name: Central Presbytery Fund Bank Acc: 000029248 BSB: 062-786 Ref: TOWN & SURNAME. Eg: Batemans bay Jones

2nd Collection Supports the running costs of the Parish Acc. Name: St Bernard's Operating Account BSB: 062-786 Bank Acc:000012939 Ref: Family Name

Please note: For banking at any bank but not the Commonwealth Bank You may also contribute using this link: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/CATHOLICDEVELOPMENTFUNDARCHDIOCESEOFCANBERRA>.

Remembering the Sick:

Daniel Coffey, Pio Liberale, Vince Burns, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, James Lee, Mary Henderson, George Fitzgerald, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Dawn Robinson, Margaret Harris, Bill Giust, Allan Odlum, Luke Ward, Rosemary Cooley, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Janet Thornberry, Judy Betts, Anica Bautovic, Glenda Gallagher, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke, Maureen Kinross and those in our local Nursing Homes and Hospital

Death Anniversaries:

George Shacklock, Heather Roberts, Kevin O'Dwyer, Pamela Carriage, Robyn Moore, Guiseppe Ferrante, Gloria Harrison, Ray Duke, Des Beckhaus, Anthony Clift, Marie Stewart
We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community:
Eli Chatfield, Mary Carter, Joe Johnson, Noni Boyce, Rose Lambert, Tony Craddy, Terry Parsons, Anne Bevern, Sylvia Mayer, Veronica Holmes, Barbara Simpson, Anacortia Villanueva Sencio, Janette Gosman, Evert Ordelman, Ma-to Katik

Parish Coffee Club

You are invited for coffee and chat Thursdays after Mass

VENUE: Corrigan's Cove



<p>Batemans Bay, Moruya & Narooma</p> <p>District Funerals</p> <p>Mark Hewson JP Funeral Director Phone 02 4472 8886</p> <p>Moruya 02 4474 3555 Narooma 02 4476 3888</p>	<p>INDUSTRIAL REPLACEMENTS</p> <p>1 Sharon Road, Batemans Bay</p> <p>Buy fuel any time</p> <p>EFTPOS VISA AMEX MASTERCARD</p>
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<p>OCEAN BREEZE TAKEAWAY</p> <p>Fish & Chips, Burgers, Sandwiches & Coffee</p> <p>100% BEEF BURGER</p> <p>248 Beach Road Batehaven NSW 2536</p> <p>0478 146 837 02 4472 1802</p>	<p>ST BERNARDS PRIMARY SCHOOL</p> <p>ENROLLING NOW</p> <p>Ph 4472 4446</p> <p>Member of the Eurobodalla K-12 Catholic Schools' Community</p>
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<p>CARROLL COLLEGE</p> <p>ENROLLING NOW</p> <p>Ph 4471 5600</p> <p>Member of the Eurobodalla K-12 Catholic Schools' Community</p>	<p>excell Ideaspeople —with a passion for print</p> <p>P 4472 1599 E batemansbay@excellprint.com.au www.excellprint.com.au</p> <p>Shop 1/25, Old Princes Hwy Batemans Bay NSW 2536</p>
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<p>Ray and Anne Brown</p> <p>COASTAL CONCRETE & QUARRY</p> <p>02 4474 0320</p>	<p>Kate & Tara your vets at Surf Beach</p> <p>EUROCOAST Veterinary Centre 4471 3400</p>
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