

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary  
Time A 23 Aug 2020

First Reading Is 22:19-23

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.*

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,  
I remove you from your post,  
and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiyah.  
I invest him with your robe,  
gird him with your sash,  
entrust him with your authority;  
and he shall be a father  
to the inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and to the House of Judah.  
I place the key of the House of David  
on his shoulder;  
should he open, no one shall close,  
should he close, no one shall open.  
I drive him like a peg  
into a firm place;  
he will become a throne of glory  
for his father's house.

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

Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 137:1-3. 6. 8. R. v.8*

**R.** Lord, your love is eternal;  
do not forsake the work of your hands.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple.

2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul.

3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar. Your love, O Lord, is eternal.

**R.** Lord, your love is eternal;  
do not forsake the work of your hands, discard not the work of your hands

Second Reading Rom 11:33-36

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*From him, through him, and in him are all things.*

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and

how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen  
*The Word of the Lord  
R Thanks be to God*

Gospel Acclamation Mt 16:18

Alleluia, alleluia! You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it. Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 16:13-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven*

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ  
*The Gospel of the Lord  
R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

What's in a Name?

Jesus had a sense of humour! Simon, son of Jonah, was far from being a rock solid supporter of Jesus. So Jesus gave him the nickname 'Rocky' which in the Greek is Petros.

Jesus puns with the nickname: 'You are Rocky and upon this rock I will build my church.' The natural personality of shifting sands was being transformed by the blessing just given (the only blessing bestowed upon an apostle by Jesus).

Notice that Jesus only makes promises about 'my church', not a church shaped by human imagination, e.g. modes of Roman Imperial rule or with a Eurocentric mindset.

Fortunately, we have a successor of St Peter responding to our Risen Lord's command to St Francis of Assisi, 'Rebuild my church'.

We could pause for a moment to pray that the Risen Lord showers the 265th successor of St Peter with every blessing so that the Church of Jesus the Christ continues to prevail over the forces of death which threaten humanity.

© Fr Michael

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

**WHEN YOU  
KNOW WHO  
YOU TRULY  
ARE, THE NEED  
TO  
COMPARE  
YOURSELF TO  
OTHERS  
BECOMES  
UNNECESSARY**

*-Edmond Mbiaka*



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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 25: 5.30 Mass  
Wed 26: 9am Mass  
Thurs 27: 9am Mass  
Fri 28: 9.15am Mass  
Sat 29: 9am Rosary  
9.30am Recon  
6pm Mass  
Sun 30: 9am Mass  
5pm Mass

### 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

### ROSTERS 29/30 AUG

Church Cleaning  
B Coffey/M Paine (31-4/9)  
Welcomers  
6pm B Wilson  
9am J McClelland  
5pm D Ebejer  
Commentator  
6pm M Bridges  
9am C Lowe  
5pm S Ebejer  
Readers  
6pm J Quigley  
9am M Lowe  
5pm M Devine  
Eucharistic Ministers  
6pm A Rogers  
9am L Stevens  
5pm D Gorzalka  
Computer Screen  
6pm K Conway  
9am T Priest  
5pm M O'Neill  
REGISTRARS  
6pm J Wain, J McCarthy  
9am B Basevi, G Norris  
5pm N Beatty

## 21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—A

### WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?

Have we really answered Jesus' question honestly? Or have we depended on others to give answers.

When Peter responds with 'You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God' he was responding with the gift given him by the Heavenly Father...in other words it was his **personal discovery**. Our responses must be the same. If we truly believe that Jesus is who we say He is, our daily lives should bear witness to His truth, and bring His love to others. Let us not act impetuously, but with calm and sincere thought to declare who Jesus is for us.



This weeks' readings are a goldmine of references to what Jesus was revealing to Peter when He asked **that** question. Jesus was laying foundations for structures that will enable the community to function during the time when He will no longer be with them in the human form they have known.

The Reading from Isaiah takes the **key** of the House of David from Shebna to Eliakim and forecasts the handing of the **keys of the kingdom** to Peter and passed on to his successors where they are a **telling symbol** of the power to give entry into the kingdom of heaven.

The beautiful hymn of praise to the Romans gives us a taste of the depths of God. How wonderful that we are able to feast on these words and in our humility invited to meditate on these mysteries. Let us be grateful for that which is freely given.

Interestingly in the Gospel, Jesus uses the word **Church** when he responds to Peter's act of Faith, handing him the **keys** and naming him Peter (rock) on whom the church will be built. (This **word** is used only one other time in the New Testament. Mt 18:15-17) Jesus also warns the disciples not to tell anyone of this revelation because there was a lot more for them to learn before they could **accurately communicate** the full Messianic message. The suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus was yet to occur.

In thinking what may be **my response** let us truly be open to the honesty of our own reality. God loves me as I am. I cannot repeat that truth too often. Let my response be mine and not something we may have heard or read that can sometimes stop us from going deeper into relationship with our God. Be mindful that we have the abiding gift of the Holy Spirit to help us in our ponderings! God bless

Sr Marie

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



**SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY**  
**30th AUGUST 2020**

**This year the Bishops statement focuses on Mental Health in Australia Today.**

**The Covid-19 pandemic is impacting the mental health of many members of our parishes, school and communities. In fact many of us will experience a mental health problem at some point. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those needing support. Our parishes, organisations and communities can be places of acceptance, care and healing, not places of rejection, judgement or stigma.**

**In the Social Justice Statement To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today, the Bishops welcome the de-institutionalisation of mental health care in Australia. However, without adequately funded community mental health services, there is a gap in the system through which people continue to fall. Social determinants including poverty, living conditions and personal security are significant contributors to mental ill-health. The statement highlights the experience of First Nations people and communities, asylum seekers and refugees, people who are homeless and those who are in prison.**

**The Bishops observe that “our society tends to draw away from, or to push away, those who confront us with our frailties and limitations” which is completely at odds with the story of Jesus who “takes on the frailty of the human condition and draws near to those who are sick or who have disabilities, are marginalised or despised”.**

**People living with mental ill-health are part of the Body of Christ—us and not them and share equally in Jesus’ promise of the fullness of life (Jn 10:10)**

**We are all called to reject stigmatisation and work for transformation of policies and services that meets the need of the poorest and most marginalised in our society.**

**St Pius X**

**Pope Pius X** was born Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto on 2nd June 1835 and was head of the Catholic Church from August 1903 to his death in 1914.

**Pius X is known** for vigorously opposing modernist interpretations of Catholic doctrine, promoting liturgical reforms and scholastic philosophy and theology. He initiated the preparation of the 1917 Code of Canon Law, the first comprehensive and systemic work of its kind.

**He died on 20th August 1914 and was canonised on May 29th 1954 by Pope Pius XII.**



**RESPONDING TO THE CALL**  
The Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn Women’s Taskforce invites you to a women’s reflection afternoon.  
Saturday August 29th 2pm –4.30pm. This event is free and will be livestreamed on the day.  
Register now: <http://bit.ly/WomensReflectionAfternoon> or call/text Lara on 0429 192 869

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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**

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



**WRAP WITH LOVE**  
Help is needed to sew up squares. Batches of squares are available on the shelf in the meeting room, or contact Jenny on 0414 664 077. Thankyou

**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:**  
Regina Mass, Kathleen Brown, Eli Chatfield, Mary Carter, Joe Johnson, Noni Boyce, Rose Lambert, Tony Craddy, Terry Parsons, Anne Bevern, Sylvia Mayer, Veronica Holmes, Barbara Simpson Anacorita Villanueva Sencio, Janette Gosman, Evert Ordelman, Mato Katik

**Parish Coffee Club**  
You are invited for coffee and chat Thursdays after Mass  
**VENUE: Corrigans Cove**

**CROATIAN MASS** will be held on Saturday 5th September at 11am. All welcome

Batemans Bay, Moruya & Narooma  
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