

Sunday 20 Sep 2020 Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time A

First Reading Is 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
My thoughts are not your thoughts.
Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18. R. v.18

R The Lord is near to all who call him

I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. the Lord is great, highly to be praised, his greatness cannot be measured.
The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures.
The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, who call on him from their hearts.

R The Lord is near to all who call him.

Second Reading Phil 1:20-24. 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians
For me to live is Christ.
Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I

am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake. Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

See Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son. Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, “You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage.” So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, “Why have you been standing here idle all day?” “Because no one has hired us” they answered. He said to them, “You go into my vineyard too.” In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, “Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first.” So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. “The men who came last” they said “have done only one

hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day’s work in all the heat.” He answered one of them and said, “My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?” Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.’

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

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate
No Salvation outside the Church?
This is a story of the day labourers of Jesus’ time. The ‘early birds’ contracted for the just wage of one denarius and did the hard work over the course of a long day. They were outraged when latecomers also received a denarius. This little parable circulated in the Christian community of the first century because there was great antagonism between the Jews who became followers of Jesus and the non-Jews, the ‘Gentiles’. Jewish Christians looked at their long history of hardship preparing for the coming of the Messiah. And, now, here were these Gentiles who had done nothing by comparison, and God appeared to be granting them whatever it took to enjoy the ‘daily bread’ of the Kingdom of God. Jewish Christians had to be shocked out of *their* idea that God’s grace could *not* be lavished on those outside the boundaries of the Chosen People.

We could pause to pray to be taken by happy surprise by those billions of people outside the Church who, by the grace of God, will share with us ‘the Bread of Life’, given for the salvation of *all* the world.

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St. Bernard’s Primary School, Batehaven
Principal: Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan
Carroll College, Broulee
R.E.C: Sharon Beashel

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Tues 22 5.30 Mass
Wed 23: 9am Mass
Thurs 24: 9am Mass
Fri 25: 9.15am Mass
Sat 26: 9am Rosary /Mass
9.30am Recon
6pm Mass
Sun 27: 9am Mass
5pm Mass

ROSTERS 19/20 SEPTEMBER

Church Cleaning
D & L May (21-25)
Welcomers
6pm Sr Marie McAlister
9am C Connell 5pm L Favetta
Commentator
6pm J Quigley
9am M Lowe
5pm M Devine Readers
6pm M Bridges
9am C Lowe
5pm K O’Sullivan
Eucharistic Ministers
6pm M Weatherall
9am C Connell
5pm A Horsfall
Computer Screen
6pm K Conway
9am T Jackson
5pm J O’Sullivan
REGISTRARS
6pm S & M Beashel
9am B Basevi, G Norris
5pm D & N Gorzalka

ROSTERS 26/27 SEPTEMBER

Church Cleaning
M deSmet/J Maher (28/9-2/10)
Welcomers
6pm K Conway
9am J McClelland
5pm D Ebejer
Commentator
6pm A Jackson
9am N Beatty
5pm S Ebejer
Readers
6pm P O’Kelly
9am L Page
5pm M Devine
Eucharistic Ministers
6pm A Rogers
9am M Lowe
5pm L Favetta
Computer Screen
6pm T Jackson
9am T Priest
5pm M O’Neill
REGISTRARS
6pm J Wain & J McCarthy
9am B Basevi, G Norris
5pm N Beatty

25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—A



SEEK THE LORD
ALWAYS

‘Seek the Lord while He may be found, call him while He is near’. In other words ‘Seize the day! Take advantage of the moment! Make the most of the present opportunity! Strike while the iron is hot! The Lord is near us all the time... if we feel He is far away... ask yourself, ‘Who moved?’

This first Reading is so comforting for us. Our God is telling us to open ourselves to God’s love and forgiveness. God’s thoughts are not ours... we often judge ourselves too harshly.

We need to take God’s word to our hearts and live our day as if it were our last. St Paul is in a **dilemma**. He wants to be with God now but knows that ‘alive or dead’ he is doing God’s work. So we need to look and see where is God’s work in our day? Like Paul do we say, ‘For me to live is Christ’ then if so, we are here to do Christ’s work. Taken seriously to live the joy of the Gospel is a privilege. Let us ask ourselves: Is there someone out there who needs my attention, my listening ear, my willingness to put myself out for them? To be Christ in the world is a challenge.

The greater challenge is to read the Gospel with a generous heart. How often do we listen with indignation at the generosity of the householder. Have we thought that those who worked longer deserved more pay? Can we accept the generosity of God? Our God is full of surprises. ‘For God’s thoughts are not our thoughts, nor God’s ways, our ways’.

Jesus told parables for a reason. They have a point. Perhaps the key line of today’s reading is about the **generosity** of God rather than God’s **Justice**. Our role is not to compare ourselves with others, with what they may seem to have **or not have!**

God treats us all the same and we cannot presume to know everyone’s story. Although we follow God in different ways, we all receive the same reward – **heaven**. All today’s readings are encouraging us to be co-workers and to help build the vineyard of the Lord where there is so much need for Gods kindness and compassion.

God bless.

Sr Marie

MASSSES THIS WEEK TUESDAY 22ND THROUGH TO THURSDAY 24TH
WILL BE HELD AT THE CONVENT CHAPEL

Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions

SEPTEMBER

Respect for the Planet's Resources

We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.



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 30th - 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 MATTHEW FEAST DAY 21ST SEPTEMBER

Patron Saint of: Accountants, Actors, Bankers, Bookkeepers, Tax Collectors, Taxi Drivers

Matthew was the son of Alphaeus born at Capernaum, a settlement on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, about a year after the birth of Jesus. One day Jesus was walking and saw a tax collector named Matthew sitting at a tax collection post, and said to him, "Follow me." And Matthew stood up and followed Him, and became one of His twelve apostles. (See M 9:9-13 = P 2:13-17 = L 5:27-32)

The name "Matthew" means "gift of the LORD." Mark and Luke, in the story of his calling, name him "Levi." Perhaps this was his original name, and he received a new name from Jesus when he became a disciple. It has also been suggested that he was simply a member of the tribe of Levi.

After his calling, when Saint Matthew gave a feast in Christ's honour the guests were drawn from among his friends—including fellow tax collectors and sinners (Matthew 9:10-13). The Pharisees objected to Christ eating with such people, to which Christ responded, "I have not come to call the just, but sinners," summing up the Christian message of salvation.

After Christ's Death, Resurrection, and Ascension, Saint Matthew is said to have preached the Gospel to the Hebrews for as many as 15 years, during which time he wrote the Gospel in Aramaic, before heading east to continue his efforts at evangelisation. By tradition, he, like all of the apostles with the exception of Saint John the Evangelist, was martyred, but accounts of his martyrdom varied widely. All place it somewhere in the East, but, as the Catholic Encyclopedia notes, "it is not known whether he was burned, stoned, or beheaded."

International Day of Peace 21st September

PEACE AS A JOURNEY OF HOPE: DIALOGUE, RECONCILIATION AND ECOLOGICAL CONVERSION

Pope Francis 2020 Theme



In sending his disciples forth on a mission, Jesus told them: "Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!' And if a son of peace is there, your peace shall rest upon him; but if not, it shall return to you." (Lk 10:5-6)

Bringing peace is central to the mission of Christ's disciples. That peace is offered to all those men and women who long for peace amid the tragedies and violence that mark human history. The "house" of which Jesus speaks is every family, community, country and continent, in all their diversity and history. It is first and foremost each individual person, without distinction or discrimination. But it is also our "common home": the world in which God has placed us and which we are called to care for and cultivate.

Pope Francis, 2020 World Day of Peace Message:
http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/papa-francesco_20191208_mess



To Marie Weatherall and the many volunteers who provided morning tea at the "Strengthening Wellness and Self Care in a Challenging Year" gathering, held Tuesday 15th September. It was well attended and was a very informative and helpful session.

Eurobodalla Tea & Talk Sessions Tuesday 29th September 11am—2 pm
All residents are invited to come down for a chat and say hello to your neighbours over a cup of tea or coffee.

Access to bushfire support services will be available with representatives from the Red Cross, Service NSW and the DPI Rural Recovery Team.

PPC RENEWAL PROCESS

We are in the process of renewing the Parish Pastoral Council and the Parish Pastoral Plan. The following parishioners have been invited to participate in the discernment process leading to the renewal of the Parish Pastoral Council. These will collaborate with the incumbent Pastoral Councillors in developing a new Parish Pastoral Plan for 2021-2023. Please keep this process in your prayers.

Mick Lowe, Nola Beatty, Miranda Vidovic, Tony Dcosta, Judith Baroman, Pat Jobes, Peter O'Kelly, Maria Devine, Saskia Ebejer, Jenny Rzepa

Carroll College will be holding a Graduation Mass, Wednesday 23rd @ 9.30 am in the Church.

YEAR 6 CONFIRMATION WILL BE HELD THURSDAY 24TH @ 5 PM IN THE CHURCH

Congratulations to the twelve boys and girls who are taking part !!!

Feasts of the Week

Sun 20th—St Andrew Kim Taegon, St Paul Chong Hasang et al
Monday 21st—St Matthew
Wed 23rd—St Pio of Pietrelcina, Blessed Emilie Tavernier
Thursday 24th—Our Lady of Mercy
Saturday 26th St Cosmas and St Damian



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:

John Dillon, Trish Hamilton, Daniel Coffey, 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 Odum, Luke Ward, Rosemary Cooley, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Janet Thornberry, Judy Betts, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke, Maureen Kinross and those in our local Nursing Homes and Hospital

Death Anniversaries:

Stanley Crowther, Lorna Vella, June Bowditch, Trevor Latta, Egidius Post, Kata Katic, Emilia Marszalek,
We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community:
Pio Liberale, Amelia Davis, Glenda Gallagher, Ivy Rootsey, Tilly Conway, Jan Schor, Dennis Mayer, Regina Mass, Kathleen Brown, Evert Ordeman, Mato Katic, 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

Parish Coffee Club

You are invited for coffee and chat Thursdays after Mass
VENUE: Corrigans Cove

ARCHBISHOP'S COVID-19 PASTORAL VISIT

Archbishop Christopher Prowse will be visiting the Parish on Friday 2nd October. Mass @ 9.15am with coffee afterwards.

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE

Wrap With Love

Bundles of squares are available in the meeting room for people who would like to sew together.

Batemans Bay, Moruya & Narooma
District Funerals
Mark Hewson JP
Funeral Director
Phone 02 4472 8886
Moruya 02 4474 3555
Narooma 02 4476 3888

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