

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Fifth Sunday of Lent B

First Reading Jer 31:31-34

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind. The Word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-4, 12-15. R. v.12

(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt. and cleanse me from my sin.
2. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit.
3. Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me, that I may teach transgressors your ways and sinners may return to you.
(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Second Reading Heb 5:7-9

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 12:26

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Jn 12:20-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, ‘Sir, we should like to see Jesus.’ Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them: ‘Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled.

What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!’

A voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, ‘It was an angel speaking to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

‘Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.’ By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die. The Gospel of the Lord.
R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

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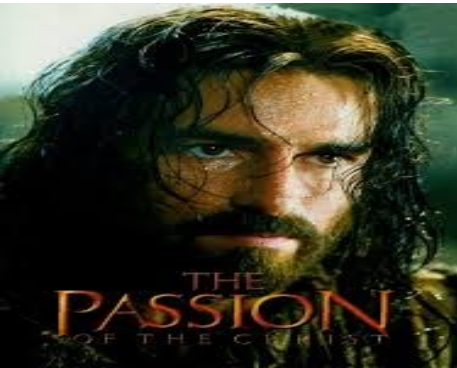
REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

The moment of eschatological fulfilment gathers together the sense of the past (‘the days when Christ was in the flesh’), the future (‘the days are coming’), and the present (‘the hour has come’). We live in the time when the past and the future are made present; we live in the ‘already-but-not-yet’ time of anticipation/fulfilment. This is a moment of great ambiguity, of fear and trepidation but of electric excitement. It is a moment of decision. We hover at the edge of dawn, weighing whether or not to step forward into the new day or to return to the darkness of night. This ‘hour’ brings a new covenant, a deep interior relationship with God that is not based on law but which overflows from a commitment of the heart. It brings an abundant harvest that springs from a simple grain of wheat. It brings a promise from God’s own Son that those who serve him will be honoured by God, and those who obey him will enjoy eternal life.

Although the ‘hour’ brings all of these blessings, it only does so with a price. The new covenant could only be written on new hearts; the abundant harvest sprang from the dying grain of wheat; eternal salvation was won at the price of Christ’s blood. As challenging as the message of these readings may be, the last note is one of hope. It can overcome the demons that control us, because it is the power of the almighty God.

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

Fifth Sunday of Lent -YEAR B

Launching the Year of St Joseph

Celebrating the solemnity of St. Joseph, March 19th, we launch the Year dedicated to him in our Parish. This is in response to Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter *"Patris corde"* ("With a Father's Heart"). In the letter, Pope Francis recalled the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church by Blessed Pope Pius IX's in 1870, and to mark the occasion, he has proclaimed a *"Year of Saint Joseph"* beginning from 8th December, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 2020 and extending to the same feast this 2021.



St. Joseph is a father figure par excellence, and truly epitomised the qualities of fatherhood. Pope Francis described him as, a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a chaste father, a father in the shadows, a father who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet, and hidden presence, who nonetheless played *"an incomparable role in the history of salvation."*

As a father, Joseph was accepting and obedient. He accepted Mary in obedience to the message of the angel and took responsibility for the Holy Family (cf. Matt. 1.24). He accepted the demands of fatherhood even when it requires sacrifice and dying to self through suffering as evident in the gospel this weekend. As a working father, Joseph kept a balance between doing and being, working to provide for the family and being with the family to ensure their safety and protection. Joseph was always motivated by charity against the three 'P's' of today: power, profit, and pleasure.

Additionally, being a chaste father, Joseph was not domineering and possessive. According to Pope Francis, Joseph, knew how to love with extraordinary freedom. He never made himself the centre of things. He did not think of himself but focused instead on the lives of Mary and Jesus, the holy family. For Joseph, happiness, involved selflessness: "In him, we never see frustration, but only trust," writes Pope Francis. "His patient silence was the prelude to concrete expressions of trust." Joseph stands out, as an exemplary figure for our time.

Fatherhood is one of the most transforming vocations as distinct from a career, a profession, and a job. During this year, Pope Francis invites all to celebrate and promote the vocation of fatherhood, bearing in mind that "Fathers are not born, but made," encouraging that fathers are raised not only by bringing forth children, but taking responsibility for their skills and education following the example of St. Joseph, the model of fatherhood and a 'sign' pointing to a greater fatherhood: that of the "heavenly Father".

Pope Francis' dedication of the year to St. Joseph is timely. As we launch the year of St. Joseph in our Parish, we wish to prayerfully identify with all fathers and father figures in our community, knowing that it is a vocation that often attracts more blame than appreciation. We look forward to some additional activities and opportunities through the Year to gather in solidarity with fathers and to celebrate fatherhood. We ask for the intercession of St Joseph, the patron of the Universal church for all, especially father figures. **Fr Martins**



**For the
Celebration of
The Word and
The Eucharist**



Cenacle Prayer:
Tues at 4.45pm Church
Lenten Program:
After 9 am Mass Wed 24th
Opal Mass - Every 1st Wed 10.30am
Glen Mass - Every 2nd Wed 10.30am
Goodwin Manor Mass - Every 3rd Wed 2pm
Maranatha Mass - Every 4th Wed 2pm (24/3)
Lenten Reconciliation Parish Second Rite - Wednesday 24th 6pm
First Reconciliation 2nd Rite - Thursday 25th 5pm Church
Craft Group-Thursdays 10 am
Men Alive-1st & 3rd Wed in March
Singalong- Mon 1pm
Adoration- Fri at 5pm.
Stations of the Cross/ Soup Dinner Fri - 6pm.
Reconciliation- Sat 9.30
Wrap With Love- 31 Mar 11am

**Pope Francis
Monthly Prayer
Intentions
March 2021**

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Tues 23rd 5.30 Mass
Wed 24th: 9am Mass , 5.30pm, Marantha Mass 2pm
Thurs 25th 9am Mass
Fri 26th 9.15am Mass
Sat 27th: 9am Rosary/Mass 9.30am Recon 6pm Mass
Palm Sunday 28th: 9am Mass 5pm Youth Mass
ROSTERS
20/21 March 2021
Church Cleaning
M deSmet/J Maher (22-26)
Welcomers
6pm Sr Marie
9am C Connell
5pm D Ebejer
Commentator
6pm P O'Kelly
9am C Lowe
5pm M O'Neill
Readers:
6pm M Weatherall
9am M Lowe
5pm S Ebejer
Eucharistic Ministers
6pm J Wain
9am L Stevens
5pm A Horsfall
Computer Screen
6pm K Conway
9am T Priest
5pm J O'Sullivan

REGISTRARS
6pm G & M Weatherall
9am G Norris/ B Basevi
5pm M Devine
27/28 March 2021
Church Cleaning
B Coffey/M Paine(29-1/4)
Welcomers
6pm K Conway
9am C Schor
5pm M deSmet
Commentator
6pm J Quigley
9am A Brown
5pm A Horsfall
Readers:
6pm M Bridges
9am A Skinner
5pm L Miller
Eucharistic Ministers
6pm M Weatherall
9am G Norris
5pm M Devine.
Computer Screen
6pm T Jackson
9am T Priest
5pm J O'Sullivan.

REGISTRARS
6pm P Billington
9am M & S Beashel
5pm. N Beatty

**PROJECT COMPASSION
BE MORE**

**PROJECT
COMPASSION 2021:
ASPIRE NOT TO HAVE
MORE BUT TO BE
MORE (St Oscar
Romero)**



Halima is raising her two children in a refugee camp in Bangladesh while caring for her mother, who has a disability. Widowed at 21, Halima fled violence in Myanmar's Rakhine State and arrived at the camp with nothing. Caritas Australia, through Caritas Bangladesh, helped Halima out with a shelter, cooking equipment, hygiene and sanitation training. She took on the role of community trainer herself, organising the cleaning of washrooms, wells and toilets. **Halima aspired to 'Be More'.** She is proud that she is now able to earn a small income while maintaining the health of her family and the cleanliness of the camp community.

Please feel free to take one of the charity boxes home



**A reminder about
Singing Practice for Holy
Week and Easter on
Mondays at 1-2 in the
Church.
All are welcome**



LENTEN REFLECTION: WEEK 5

***SUSTAINING HOPE – EMBRACING NEWNESS!
'Unless a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies,
It remains only a single grain; but if it dies
It yields a rich harvest' (Jn 12)***

As we near Holy Week and the promise of the Resurrection we may be asking ourselves how has my Lenten Commitment, renewed my faith – my prayer life and my Christian outreach to those in need?
How have I grown closer to God?

This fifth Sunday of Lent reminds us that 'God is in the newness of life. It is, however, the old, the familiar, the routine that we prefer – to which we cling'. However, if we take a chance and trust in God we begin to see with fresh eyes -the opportunities to which God is calling us.

As we near the end days of Lent, let us have the trust and hope not to be trapped in the past but to truly begin life anew.

Let us embrace our lives of twists and turns and embrace the 'call of the New Beginning where God dwells in our hearts and takes away our fear and loneliness' *(Inspired by Lent 2021: To Live Anew by Joan Chittister)*

...Our Prayer for the Week...
***Loving God we pray for the courage to begin life anew
In your Spirit. To take a chance and open our hearts to you
and each other - to surrender control.
As Julian of Norwich reminds us "God loved us before God
created us; and God's love has never diminished and never
shall".***

Loving God we place our trust in you.



RENEWAL OF LITURGY MINISTRIES
***Liturgy is enriched by the 'full and active p
participation of all gathered'.***

We are renewing the ministries of:
**Special Ministers of the Eucharist
Lectors/Readers & Commentators
Welcomers & Collectors & Counters**
You are invited to consider volunteering for one or more of these ministries.

A Renewal Session will be held on SATURDAY MARCH 27: 10am – 11.00am in the Church. Please add your details to the Expression of Interest Form in the Foyer. Please add your details to the Expression of Interest forms in the foyer. Any queries please contact Phil Billington, Anne Jackson or Bernie Basevi
Our Parish needs the 'VARIETY & UNITY OF GIFTS OF ALL' (St Paul to the Corinthians).

2021 PARISH LENTEN PROGRAM
Wednesday morning 24th March *Comfort Lenten Program*
Bible Study ... 'Enjoy the Good News' will continue after Easter

Second Rite of Reconciliation for Lent - 6 pm Wednesday March 24th.
Pope Francis' message for Lent 2021.
<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2021/02/12/210212a.html>

PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH
**Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.**

**PARISH CELEBRATIONS FOR
HOLY WEEK & EASTER**

Second Rite of Reconciliation for Lent - 6pm Wednesday March 24th
Palm Sunday - Mass 6pm, 9am, 5pm
Holy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper 6pm
Good Friday - Stations of the Cross 10am, Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3pm
Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil Mass 6.30pm
Easter Sunday - Masses 9am ,5pm



Saints Of The Week

Tues 23rd Mar - St Turibius of Mogrovejo, bishop

Thurs 25th- Annunciation of the Lord

PPC DOT POINTS - 18th March, 2021

- ♦ We launch the Year of St Joseph in our parish on his feast day and look forward to more activities throughout the year.
- ♦ We support the family and youth Mass on Sunday at 5pm and encourage more active and inclusive participation.
- ♦ We encourage all to volunteer their talents across the range of ministries listed on the volunteer sheet at the back of the church including the garden ministry. Parishioners are encouraged to engage with any PPC members on matter of concern.

Congratulations!
*to the boys and girls for the
Celebration of the
Sacrament of
Reconciliation on Thursday
24th March, 2021*

***Gathering: "A World Turned
Upside Down - Let's Clear a Space"***
23rd March 9am start

Resilience and balancing our emotional equilibrium **Facilitator:** Bruce Chan (Bach Psy)
Cost: Free. If able please bring a plate.

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

From 1st October 2020 there is only be one collection which will be deposited in the Parish Operating Account this will include existing Credit Card transactions, Direct Debits, collection box and Tap machine. The collection will then be apportioned with a percentage forwarded to the Archdiocese for the Central Presbytery Fund each month.

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

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

If you currently have a direct debit to the Central Presbytery Fund a suggestion is that it be cancelled and combined into the St Bernard's Operating Account in order to facilitate the continuity of funds.
Please contact Anne Jackson in the Parish Office on a Friday from 10am-2pm if you need any further information.

Remembering the Sick:

Rita Condon, Michael Corbin, Antony and Andrew, Ben Copland, Femia and Mark, Roberto Alivio, Vince Burns, John Dillon, Trish Hamilton, Daniel Coffey, 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 Odium, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Janet Thornberry, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke, and those in our local Nursing Homes

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

We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community: Pauline Effeney, Francis Mines, June Edie, Kathleen Buckley, Fr Kevin Barry-Cotter, Martin Ward, Marie Hann, Billy Borg, Pauline Chalkley, Anna Dang, Anna Ordelman, Joan Logue, Sue-Anne Clarke, Rosemary Cooley, Pam O'Keefe, Malgorzata Colebrook, Te Otinga Te Kowhai Brennan, Maurice Connell, Susan McNamara, Dario Panes, Elizabeth Gallagher, Ken Bow, Maureen Kinross, Jan Schor, Pio Liberale, Glenda Gallagher, Ivy Rootsey

COFFEECLUB
**Thursdays after the
9am Mass**
**Venue:
Corrigans Cove**
Coffee N Chat



**Thank
You**

St Vincent de Paul would like to thank all Parishioners who supported our 'Knock on Effect' Appeal/Raffle. We raised a total of \$611-10 for our Good Works projects. We also received two donations \$100 and \$ 250 respectively. Winners of our raffle are noted on the church foyer notice.

Thank you to local Conference members who organised this event.

Batemans Bay, Moruya & Narooma

District Funerals

Mark Hewson JP

Funeral Director

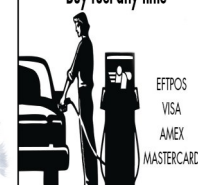
Phone 02 4472 8886

Moruya 02 4474 3555
Narooma 02 4476 3888

INDUSTRIAL REPLACEMENTS

1 Sharon Road, Batemans Bay

Buy fuel any time



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Sandwiches & Coffee

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Ray and Anne Brown

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Kate & Tara

your vets

at Surf Beach

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Veterinary Centre

4471 3400

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