

LITURGY OF THE WORD  
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Year C  
First Reading Jer 1:4-5. 17-19

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah  
*I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.*  
In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying, ‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you came to birth I consecrated you; I have appointed you as prophet to the nations. So now brace yourself for action. Stand up and tell them all I command you. Do not be dismayed at their presence, or in their presence I will make you dismayed. I, for my part, today will make you into a fortified city, a pillar of iron, and a wall of bronze to confront all this land: the kings of Judah, its princes, its priests and the country people. They will fight against you but shall not overcome you, for I am with you to deliver you – it is the Lord who speaks.’

*The word of the Lord*  
**R. Thanks be to God**

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 70:1-6. 15. 17. R. v.15

**(R.) I will sing of your salvation.**

1. In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame. In your justice rescue me, free me: pay heed to me and save me.
2. Be a rock where I can take refuge, a mighty stronghold to save me; for you are my rock, my stronghold. Free me from the hand of the wicked.
3. It is you, O Lord, who are my hope, my trust, O Lord, since my youth. On you I have leaned from my birth, from my mother’s womb you have been my help.
4. My lips will tell of your justice and day by day of your help. O God, you have taught me from my youth and I proclaim your wonders still.

**(R.) I will sing of your salvation.**

Second Reading

1 Cor 12:31 – 13:13

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians  
*There are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.*  
Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them. If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away all that I

possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever. Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people’s sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes. Love does not come to an end. But if there are gifts of prophecy, the time will come when they must fail; or the gift of languages, it will not continue for ever; and knowledge – for this, too, the time will come when it must fail. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophesying is imperfect; but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will disappear. When I was a child, I used to talk like a child, and think like a child, and argue like a child, but now I am a man, all childish ways are put behind me. Now we are seeing a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known. In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

*The word of the Lord*  
**R. Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation

Lk 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

**Gospel Lk 4:21-30**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*Jesus, like Elijah and Elisha, was not sent only to the Jews.*

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue, ‘This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.’ And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips. They said, ‘This is Joseph’s son, surely?’ But he replied, ‘No doubt you will quote me the saying, “Physician, heal yourself” and tell me, “We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside.”’ And he went on, ‘I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country. There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah’s day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at

Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha’s time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.’ When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away.

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate  
God-given Identity

Nazara was a village of 300-400 people and it had a small town mentality. The inhabitants were enraged when Jesus found good precedent for extending his saving mission to foreigners outside the community of the Chosen People. Jesus embodied the boundary-breaking nature of God’s grace. Many Christians recite the old formula: ‘No salvation outside the Church.’ But we Catholics believe that, by responding to God’s (often anonymous) grace, a person can lead a good life which prepares them for heavenly glory. This means that the billions around the world who will never hear the Gospel, or who hear it distorted through the megaphone of an alien culture, can be saved. There is no limit/boundary to the Merciful God’s finding a way into the hearts of all human beings. We could take a moment to pray in gratitude for our graced privilege of being members of the Church, nourished within it by the Sacraments and the Gospel, but whose boundaries can never circumscribe the mercy of God.

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**SAINTS OF THE WEEK**

**Thursday 3rd-**  
St Ansgar, bishop;  
St Blaise bishop & martyr

**Saturday 5th - St Agatha**



**ST BERNARD'S PARISH**  
**BATEMANS BAY**  
*2 David Avenue, Batehaven NSW 2536*



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Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay  
Office Hours: 10am to 2pm  
Tuesday-Friday

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**Deacon:** Rev. Eden Langlands  
**Secretary:** Roslynn Trompp  
**Finance Admin:** Anne Jackson  
**PC Co-ord:** Marie Weatherall  
**Asst. PC Co-ord:** Sr. Marie McAlister

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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

**Welcome  
back to  
school  
For 2022**

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

**Church  
Cenacle Prayer Tues @  
4.45**

**Pastoral Care Team  
Meeting Tuesday 1st Feb  
1-3pm Meeting Room**

**Finance Meeting Wed  
Feb 2nd @ 5.30 pm  
Meeting Room**

**Liturgy Team Meeting  
Thurs 3rd Feb 4pm  
Meeting Room**

**Charismatic Prayer  
Group - Friday 4th after  
morning mass.**

**Wrap With Love Tues  
8th 10-12 Meeting Room**

**Cuppa with Mary  
MacKillop Tuesday 8th  
10am St Joseph's house**

**Adoration Friday @  
5.30pm**



**Bench Ministry By Request**

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C**

The three Readings in the Mass today are very personal to us all. When God speaks to the people in the Old Testament and especially to the Prophets, in this case, Jeremiah, we have to know that God is speaking to us personally. The beautiful words, ‘Before I formed you in the womb I **knew** you’ would always bring us great joy if only we believed it!!! Yes God is asking big things of Jeremiah, but when God asks deeds of us we are always given the necessary graces to comply and God will always be with us. We can often wonder about that. Life does throw up many difficulties but the **great fact** is that God remains with us no matter what. Do we sometimes forget that?



We have often heard the beautiful hymn to love in St Paul’s reading to the Corinthians. Try replacing the ‘*word*’ love with ‘*Christ*’ in your prayer.. it just may help you understand that is what God is. We hear that often enough too... **God is Love.**

Some of the most important lines in Paul’s letter : ‘If I have all the eloquence of great speakers or of angels, but speak **without love**, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing; faith ,**without love**, understanding, **without love**, prophecy **without love** ..all a complete waste. Sometimes we can forget the most basic. Our Spiritual Life is useless without Love. This Love is the one that forgives, that does not judge, that gives a person a fair go etc. The word Love is often thrown around without understanding its effect on our actions. Who wants to sound like a gong booming?

The Gospel follows on from last Sunday when Jesus begins his public life of preaching. At first the hearers were amazed at this man’s gracious words... but.. hang on... this is Joseph's Son...this can't be right! The penny drops and the listeners begin doubting that any good could come from a local. Do we sometimes judge our neighbours, our locals and put them in a box before we really hear ‘their gracious words’?

This week as we slowly get into the New Year, still combatting Covid, try and take God at God’s Word and really take time to reflect on the goodness around us, in our family, our work mates, our beautiful landscape and join with the Psalmist: *‘It is you, O Lord, who are my hope, my trust, O Lord from my youth. On you I have leaned from birth, from my mother’s womb you have been my help.’*

God bless

**Sr Marie**



*Pope Francis  
Monthly Prayer  
Intentions*

**FEBRUARY**  
**For religious sisters  
and consecrated  
women**

We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our

**WEEKLY MASS TIMES**

**Tues 1st:** 5.30pm Mass  
**Wed 2nd:** 9am Mass  
**Thurs 3rd:** 9.00 am Mass  
**Fri 4th:** 9.15am Mass  
5.30pm Adoration  
**Sat 5h:** 9am Mass 9.30am Reconciliation  
6pm Mass  
**Sunday 6th:** 9am Mass  
5pm Family & Youth Mass

**ROSTERS**

**29/30 JANUARY**  
**Cleaning** 31Jan-4 Feb  
DeSmet Maher & Spaven  
**6.00PM MASS**  
Commentator: P O'Kelly  
Reader: M Bridges  
Eucharistic Minister K Lovering  
Computer K Conway  
REGISTRAR: D Robinson  
**9.00 AM MASS:**  
Commentator . M Lowe  
Reader: A Brown  
Eucharistic Minister A Scicluna  
Computer T Priest.  
REGISTRAR P Jobs  
**5.00PM MASS:**  
Commentator S Ebejer  
Reader: J O'Sullivan  
Eucharistic Minister Volunteer  
Computer Screen M O'Neill  
REGISTRAR: M Devine

**5/6 FEBRUARY**  
**Cleaning**  
7-11 Feb B Coffey & M Paine  
**6.00PM MASS**  
Commentator: J Quigley  
Reader: Sr Marie.  
Eucharistic Ministers:  
P Billington  
Computer Screen  
K Conway  
REGISTRAR: P Jobs  
**9.00 AM MASS:**  
Commentator A Brown  
Reader: B Basevi..  
Eucharistic Ministers  
A Skinner, L Stevens  
Computer Screen D May.  
REGISTRAR M & S Beashel  
**5.00PM MASS:**  
Commentator A Horsfall  
Reader: M O'Neill  
Eucharistic Ministers  
M Devine  
Computer Screen  
J O'Sullivan  
REGISTRAR: N Beatty

**LIVING FAITH IN THE EVERYDAY**  
**The Vocation of the Prophet**

A true prophet is one who speaks on behalf of God, telling the people of Israel what they do not want to hear after they have broken God's Covenant and, consequently, need to repent. The prophet's denouncement angers Jewish authorities or the gathered crowd turning them against him – often violently. We see this in today's first reading (Jer 1:4-5,17-19).

It tells the story of Jeremiah's calling and God's prediction that he is going to be opposed to the point of rejection by his own people in Jerusalem. Jeremiah had invited deeper trust that a Saviour will come. It is clear to Jeremiah that they are not going to repent, but still his task remains to preach the truth to them and proclaim the message of repentance or face the destruction of the city of Jerusalem. Jeremiah met with constant opposition as the Jerusalem priests and leaders did not repent; they even tried to kill him. Still Jeremiah remained convinced that God's will is inevitable, intractable, inviolable; it will be done despite human efforts to thwart it. Eventually Jerusalem was destroyed (c. B.C. 587), the people deported to Babylon and the temple burned to the ground. The people had to learn the hard way before they repented in sackcloth and ashes and returned to God.

Today's Ps 71, a prayer for lifelong protection and help during persecution, is meant to give us hope since for God is our rock and refuge no matter what happens in life by way of opposition and persecution – 'I will sing of your salvation'! It links the prophet Jeremiah, and the suffering and persecution he faced, to Jesus who's rejected in Nazareth and who'll ultimately face the cross. We see that it's of little use putting trust in our own power for it is God only who has the power to save (cf. Mt 5:11-12).

The parallels between the rejection of Jeremiah and the rejection of Jesus in Nazareth will become clearer from today's Gospel reading onwards; both were outstanding and prophetic (Lk 4:21-30 cf. Mt 16:13-14; Mk 13). Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecy of Jeremiah as the Saviour who has now come amongst his people as the 'new' Jeremiah. Having just read from the prophet Isaiah in the synagogue at Nazareth, Jesus concludes: 'This text is being fulfilled today even while you are listening.' We'd expect that to have made the people joyful but, due to their pride, many are not.

Although the initial response to Jesus was positive as these villagers of Nazareth had known Jesus his whole life: 'he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips' Yet Jesus knows that they will not believe until he gives a sign in his own hometown as he had at Capernaum on the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus continues: "In truth I tell you, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country." What really angers the crowd is Jesus quoting instances of God's care being shown to those outside His 'chosen people' – to Gentiles, bypassing the wicked Israelites.

*"Grant us, Lord our God, that we may honour you with all our mind, and love everyone in truth of heart."*  
**Fr Martins**

***FR MARTINS***  
***LONG SERVICE LEAVE***

**Fr Martins will be on leave from  
Tuesday 1st February until Saturday  
30th April to complete a Diploma in  
Grief Counselling.**

**We wish Fr Martins a fruitful and  
refreshing break.**

**TAKING A BREAK**

**Fr Rex Curry will be providing supply to  
the Parish while Fr Martins is away.**

**Fr Rex is a retired priest from the  
Broken Bay diocese. Should you wish  
to get in touch with Fr Rex please call  
him on 0407 068 413 or email @  
curryrex7@gmail.com**

**We warmly welcome Fr Rex to our  
Parish and hope his time with us will be  
enjoyable.**

**Welcome**

**PASTORAL CARE NEEDED**

**Can anyone assist?** We still need two more people to be on a roster to visit and take Holy Communion to a couple in Lilli Pilli.  
**1:1 practical support and resources provided.**  
**If you can help, please ring Marie Weatherall  
0405 028 057**

**GATHERING**

**‘Nourishing our Spirit!’**

Conversation and Sharing with Loretta Parsley, local Aboriginal Elder at St Bernard's Church on **Tuesday February 15, 9-am -12-45pm. ALL WELCOME-** bring a friend!  
A cushion helps re seating & shared morning tea.  
**Cost= Free.** Funded by ' Mary MacKillop today'. Health Protocols will be in place, wear a mask, social distance, and QR/ sign in. **Bookings essential:** Ph: Marie Weatherall

**0405 028 057 or email: [mariet51@bigpond.com](mailto:mariet51@bigpond.com)**

**Croatian Mass  
will be held on  
Saturday 5th  
February at  
11.00a.m.**

**THE ADDAMS FAMILY  
THE MUSICAL**

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February.**  
A fund raising event for the Sisters of Mary Queen of Peace school for children with disabilities in Vietnam.  
**Tickets \$30  
available from Carol  
Schor 0450775067.**

**ENJOY THE GOOD NEWS  
RESUMES**

**on Wednesday 2nd February  
after 9.00 am Mass.**  
The Group's primary purpose is to enrich our participation in the Liturgy of the Word at Sunday Mass by reading, reflecting on and discussing the Scriptures of the coming Sunday Mass.  
**All are welcome.**  
**Convenor Joe Quigley  
0404357744**



**Happy birthday to all those who  
celebrated a birthday in January.  
May the year ahead be blessed and  
full of joy**

**PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

**If you would like to join the Parish e-platform giving for  
both the Priest and the Church, the details are as follows:**  
**Acc. Name: St Bernard's Operating Account**  
**BSB: 062-786 Bank Acc: 000012939 Ref: Family Name**

**Death Anniversaries:** Brian O'Grady, Mirko Baresic, Jack McNamara, Louise Keeley, Pero Burum, Anna Ordelman, Marty Ward,  
**We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community:**  
Lorina Lirio, Dermott, Joan Herne, Dr Bryan Chester, Lorraine Grace, Waine Williamson, Pat Cooper, Theresa Humphrey, Linda Weatherall, John Mula, Margaret Harris, Wayne O'Toole, George Fitzgerald, Robyn Lynette Mundy, Lorna Gunn, Savannah Leane, Bill Guist, Kevin Allen, Evelyn Young, Isobel Evans, Michaele Hatton, Ingeborg Fissler,

**Remembering the Sick:**

Lola, Fr Kevin Murphy, Allan Rogers, Pam Wilson, Antony and Andrew, Lois White, Rita Condon, Ben Copland, Femia and Mark, Roberto Alivio, Vince Burns, John Dillon, James Lee, Trish Hamilton, Daniel Coffey, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Dawn Robinson, Allan Odium, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Janet Thornberry, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke, Kathryn King and those in our local Nursing Homes and Hospital

**Prayer For A Pandemic**

**May we who are merely inconvenienced  
Remember those whose lives are at stake.**  
**May we who have no risk factors  
Remember those most vulnerable.**  
**May we who have the luxury of  
working from home  
Remember those who must choose  
Between preserving their health or  
making their rent.**  
**May we who have to cancel our trips  
Remember those that have no safe place to  
go.**  
**May we who are losing our margin money  
in the tumult of the economic market  
Remember those who have no margin at all.**  
**May we who settle in for a quarantine at home  
Remember those who have no home.**  
**As fear grips our country.  
Let us choose love.**  
**During this time when we cannot physically  
wrap our arms around each other,  
Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace  
of God to our neighbours.  
Amen.**

**Ursuline Sisters of Louisville  
Prayer: Historic Saint Paul Catholic Church**

**COFFEE CLUB**

**Thursdays after Mass.**  
**Venue: Corrigans Cove**



**All are welcome**

**COFFEE N CHAT**

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