

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**  
**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Year C**

**First Reading** Jer 17:5-8

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah  
*A curse on those who trust in humanity; a blessing on those who trust in the Lord.*

The Lord says this: 'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man, who relies on things of flesh, whose heart turns from the Lord. He is like dry scrub in the wastelands:

if good comes, he has no eyes for it, he settles in the parched places of the wilderness, a salt land, uninhabited. 'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord, with the Lord for his hope. He is like a tree by the waterside that thrusts its roots to the stream: when the heat comes it feels no alarm, its foliage stays green; it has no worries in a year of drought, and never ceases to bear fruit.'

*The Word of the Lord*

**R. Thanks be to God**

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Ps 1:1-4. R. Ps 39:5*

**(R.) Happy are they who hope in the Lord.**

1. Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked; nor lingers in the way of sinners nor sits in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the Lord and who ponders his law day and night.

2. He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper.

3. Not so are the wicked, not so! For they like winnowed chaff shall be driven away by the wind. For the Lord guards the way of the just but the way of the wicked leads to doom

**(R.) Happy are they who hope in the Lord.**

**Second Reading** 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*If Christ is not raised from the dead, your faith is in vain.*

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life

only, we are the most unfortunate of all people.

But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

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

**Gospel Acclamation** Lk 6:23

Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Rejoice and be glad;  
 your reward is great in heaven.  
 Alleluia!

**Gospel** Lk 6:17, 20-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*Happy are the poor. Woe to the rich!*

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases. Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said: 'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God. Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied. Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh. 'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets. 'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now. Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry. Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep. 'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

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**REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate**

**Not a Celestial Joke!**

*Blessed* are the poor? – the hungry? – those who mourn? What is Jesus doing in these Beatitudes? Jesus was not a 'pie in the sky' dreamer saying: 'You are destitute,

hungry now. Don't worry, you will be okay in paradise in the long distant future.' *That* would be a cruel celestial joke. Rather, Jesus was setting about the task of creating a new sort of society, the Kingdom of God on earth, in which the destitute, the starving, the weeping, are *blessed* in the sense that they can expect their suffering to be alleviated, companions to be found in their distress. The Divine imperative is that His followers break out of their comfort zone of plenty of money, full stomachs, much to laugh about. They must enter into the harsh reality of other people's destitute, starving, weeping lives. Woe to them if they do not. Can Our Lord look into the heart of each one of us living in our comfortable world, and then with confidence turn to that *other* world and recite the Beatitudes? We might pause for a moment, recognise that Jesus' credibility is on the line, and pray that His Father's will be done on *earth* as it is in Heaven.

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**SAINTS OF THE WEEK**

**Monday 14th - Sts Cyril and Methodius**



**Thursday 17th- The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order**



**ST BERNARD'S PARISH**  
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FOR THE  
 CELEBRATION OF  
 THE WORD AND  
 THE EUCHARIST



**Church Cenacle Prayer Tues @ 4.45**

**Good News Bible Study Wednesday 16th After 9am mass**

**Bereavement Team Meeting Sat 26th 9.30-11.30am Parish Office**

**Adoration Friday @ 5.30pm**

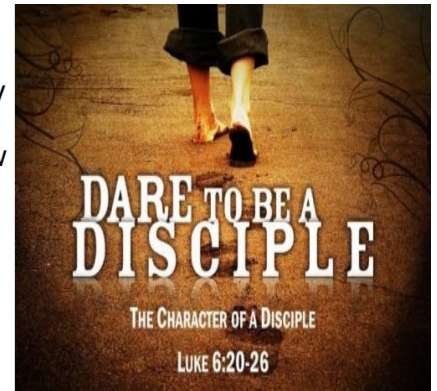


*The Marian Movement of Priests*

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

**PLAIN SPEAKING ON THE PLAIN**

When someone looks you in the eye and says 'there is something you should know' ...you immediately pay attention. Luke's Gospel [Luke 6:17, 20-26] today is such an occasion. Jesus is preaching to his followers on the plain or 'level ground'- unlike Matthew who presented a similar teaching on the mountain-basis truths of the Good News of the kingdom of God. Jesus is asking his followers to stay grounded, to live in the present following the values and practices of the Beatitudes. He comes to renew the 'level places' of life and reveals a way of living while standing in a 'broken level world'. **The gospel challenges us to review how we live the values and practices revealed in today's Gospel.** Jesus is showing us the way to be deeply happy in this broken world - to align ourselves to the Kingdom of God.



The Gospel concentrates on **four Beatitudes and four woes**. In Jesus time, and dare I say in our own materialistic world, material well-being was considered a sign of God's blessing; happiness was reckoned to consist in a long life and abundant possessions. But Jesus clearly opts for the position of the prophets and the poor who place their hope and trust in the Lord. As the prophet Jeremiah states in the first reading:

*'A blessing on the one who puts their trust in the Lord, with the Lord for their hope. He/she is like a tree by the waterside that thrusts its roots into the stream ...it has no worries in years of drought and never ceases to bear fruit.'*

**Jesus himself is the message of Happiness.**

The blessedness of the Kingdom begins from today, it is both present and it is to come.

**Jesus came as the poor one, the persecuted one; who took to himself the cause of all the unhappy ones of this world.** We live in a world that is divided not only between rich and poor nations but where divisions are found within each nation and society. **Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who died recently, is a prime example of a Christ like figure who was aware of the poor, the injustices & divisions in his own society and the world.** He was inspired and guided by the Gospel to fight for freedom, justice and equality; to face opposition and struggle against apartheid. Like the prophets, he placed his trust in the Lord. He worked tirelessly alongside the forgotten people of his nation. His was a movement towards the Kingdom of God. He states: **'Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.'**[Desmond Tutu]

More than ever this Gospel today urges us to be men and women of hospitality and hope – to be welcoming of all in our community and beyond; to reach out in love to the poor, the disadvantaged, to anyone in need. **'For we are made for loving. If we don't love we will be like plants without water.'** [Desmond Tutu]

**Marie Weatherall**



**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 times

**WEEKLY MASS TIMES**

**Tues 15th:** 5.30pm Mass  
**Wed 16th:** 9am Mass  
**Thurs 17th:** 9.00 am Mass  
**Fri 18th:** 9.15am Mass  
5.30pm Adoration  
**Sat 19th:** 9am Mass 9.30am Reconciliation  
6pm Mass  
**Sunday 20th:** 9am Mass  
5pm Family & Youth Mass

**ROSTERS**

**12/13 FEBRUARY**  
**Cleaning**  
14-18 Feb R & K Ison  
**6.00PM MASS**  
Commentator: D Robinson  
Reader: P Nolan  
Eucharistic Ministers  
SrMarie, A Rogers  
Computer Screen  
K Conway  
REGISTRAR G&MWeatherall  
**9.00 AM MASS:**  
Commentator L Page  
Reader: A Brown  
Eucharistic Ministers  
N Page C Schor  
Computer Screen T Priest  
REGISTRAR P Jobs

**5.00PM MASS:**  
Commentator J O'Sullivan  
Reader: S Ebejer  
Eucharistic Ministers  
Volunteer  
Computer Screen M O'Neill  
REGISTRAR: M Devine  
**MORNING TEA**  
T van den Broek & P Jobs

**19/20 FEBRUARY**

**Cleaning**  
21-25 Feb Favetta/O'Neill/  
Nugent  
**6.00PM MASS**  
Commentator: Sr Marie  
Reader: J Mackay  
Eucharistic Ministers  
K Lovering, Y Oerder  
Computer Screen  
K Conway  
REGISTRAR: P O'Kelly  
**9.00 AM MASS:**  
Commentator: B Basevi  
Reader: A Brown..  
Eucharistic Ministers L Stevens  
Computer Screen D May.  
REGISTRAR B Basevi  
**5.00PM MASS:**  
Commentator M Devine  
Reader: B Maynard  
Eucharistic Ministers M O'Neill  
Computer Screen J O'Sullivan  
REGISTRAR: D Robinson

**PARISH NEWS**



**Mission Opportunities Overseas**  
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Join the online forum 5.30pm Thursday 17th March.

**ENJOY THE GOOD NEWS**

Wednesdays 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

**CURSILLO WEEKEND**

Cursillo is Spanish for a "little course" and provides an experience of Christian living over 3 days. Many have found a Cursillo weekend provides a new direction for being a Christian in today's world. Cursillo weekend in 2022:

**WESTERN WOMEN'S CURSILLO WEEKEND 12th to 15th May, St Clements Retreat Centre, Galong** for further information contact Dianne Franks at [dmfranks@bigpond.com](mailto:dmfranks@bigpond.com) or Mob: 0418619740

**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:**

Fr Laurie Blake, Pat De Lucey, John Hann, Lorina Lirio, Dermott, Joan Herne, Dr Bryan Chester, Lorraine Grace, Wayne 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, Michaeline Hatton, Ingeborg Fissler

**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 by Monday February 7th:** Ph: Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057 or email: [mariet51@bigpond.com](mailto:mariet51@bigpond.com)

**COFFEE CLUB**

Thursdays after Mass.  
**Venue:** Corrigans Cove  
All are welcome



**COFFEE N CHAT**

**ACCR WEBINAR**

Australasian Catholic Coalition for Church Reform presents - *Our voices* - **WEBINAR Wednesday 16th February 2022 (7.30-8.30pm)**

In Australia we are having a Plenary Council. Globally the Pope is having a Synod on Synodality.

**HEAR FROM :**

**Introduction:** Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv  
**Presentation:** Dr Elissa Roper  
**Conversation:** Andrea Dean and Kevin Liston  
**Moderator:** Dr Eleanor Flynn

Your support is appreciated. These convocations are presented free of charge. Any financial assistance you are able to provide ACCCR to aid with the costs of organising these significant events, and keeping them accessible to all, would be greatly appreciated. For more information go to:

<http://www.accr.com.au/>

**BAPTISMS**

Patrick  
Harris  
Keen



**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

**LIVING FAITH IN THE EVERYDAY**



**Each a God-Carrier**

Last week we reflected on **Hope – Who are Your Life-Shapers?**

The Beatitudes in the Gospel of Luke this weekend remind of who we are called to be 'created in the image of God'. Fr Richard Rohr OFM offers us the following wisdom -

*The late Bishop Desmond Tutu understood our interdependence with each other as part of what it means to live in the image of God:*

God has created us, upholding us in being from moment to moment, providing us with our very existence.... despite everything that conspires to deny this truth, each one of us is of immense worth, of infinite value because God loved us. That is why [God] created us. Thus our value is intrinsic to who we are. It comes with the package of being human. It depends neither on extrinsic attributes such as ethnicity and skin colour nor on our achievement, however that may be computed. Our worth stems from the fact that we exist only because of the divine love. We are each a God-carrier, a tabernacle of the Holy Spirit, indwelt by God the holy and most blessed Trinity...God has created us for interdependence as God has created us in God's image—the image of a divine fellowship of the holy and blessed Trinity. . . God has created us to be different in order that we can realize our need of one another. There is an African idiom: "A person is a person through other persons." I learn how to be human through association with other human beings.

**Prayer For Our Community**

*God, Lord of all creation, lover of life and of everything, please help us to love in our very small way what You love infinitely and everywhere. We thank You that we can offer just this one prayer and that will be more than enough, because in reality everything and everyone is connected, and nothing stands alone. To pray for one part is really to pray for the whole, and so we do. Help us each day to stand for love, for healing, for the good, for the diverse unity of the Body of Christ and all creation, because we know this is what You desire: as Jesus prayed, that all may be one. We offer our prayer together with all the holy names of God, we offer our prayer together with Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

*(Richard Rohr OFM)*

[1] Desmond M. Tutu, "My Credo," in *Living Philosophies: The Reflections of Some Eminent Men and Women of Our Time*, ed. Clifton Fadiman (New York: Doubleday, 1990), 234, 235. Note: Minor changes made to incorporate inclusive language.

**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**

**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*

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