

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year C

First Reading
1 Sm 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

A reading from the first book of Samuel

The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them. David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.

3. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults

4. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him.

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading *1 Cor 15:45-49*

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

Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation *Jn 13:34*

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment; love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

Gospel *Lk 6:27-38*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. 'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken

together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate
Learning the Language of Heaven

Jesus challenges us to unlearn the language of the world and to learn a language which is counter-cultural, paradoxical, perplexing, such as: 'Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you' etc, etc. Are such attitudes and actions possible?

Our Lord is the best model. Jesus *is* the Word of God in human history.

Jesus *is* the language of Heaven spoken in a human life. We have to read the Gospels and then imitate His dialect. Otherwise we might merely mutter to ourselves which would end up being eternally Hellish. When we become aware of our language malpractice, i.e., sinning, and if we become *really* tongue-tied, i.e., seriously sinning, we can come to the Sacrament of Confession and emerge articulate and conversant with Christ again. We can talk with Our Lord again. We are singing the same tune. Then at the moment of death we can gracefully pass over to our intended destiny which is not incommunicado, but comunicado, holy comunicado, holy conversation with God and with every creature. We might pause for a moment and resolve to practise the language of Heaven and to 'walk the talk' every day.

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 mtate@bigpond.com

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Monday 21st - St Peter Damian



Wednesday 23rd - St Polycarp



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



P.O. Box 3220, Batehaven, 2536.
 Tel: 4472 4153
 E: batemansbay@cg.org.au
 Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay
 Office Hours: 10am to 2pm
 Tuesday-Friday

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

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



FOR THE
**CELEBRATION OF
 THE WORD AND
 THE EUCHARIST**

2022
**WORLD DAY OF
 SOCIAL JUSTICE**
SUNDAY 20TH
FEBRUARY



Church
Cenacle Prayer Tues
@ 4.45

Good News Bible
Study Wednesday
23rd
After 9am mass

Wrap With Love
Wednesday 23rd 1pm
Meeting Room

Craft Group
Thursdays 10am
Meeting Room

Bereavement Team
Meeting Saturday 26th
9.30-11.30 Meeting
Room

Adoration Friday @
5.30pm

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

Does Jesus ask too much of us?

Let's face it. Life in First Century Palestine was not easy. It was an outpost of the Roman Empire. It was governed by a Prefect who had the awesome power of choosing the High Priest for the year. He had a garrison stationed within the Temple precinct to control Jerusalem. Four rural provinces were ruled by local kings/chiefs, not always of the Jewish race, who swore allegiance to the Emperor.

The Jewish elite in Jerusalem was dominated by the Pharisees, who were religious pedants and their allies the Scribes, who interpreted the Law for the common folk. The Sadducees were conservatives accepting no tradition beyond the Torah, the first five books of the Hebrew scriptures. They curried favour with the Romans in order to make sure their man became the High Priest each year. They had many rich landowners in their ranks. Two other groups (I use the term loosely) were the Essenes, who isolated themselves from the elites in Jerusalem and led ascetic lives in the desert waiting for the Messiah. And the Zealots, in today's parlance religious freedom fighters, who were prepared to use violence to prevent the People of God being subject to a foreign power.

And then there was the occupying force, Rome, whose religion was polytheistic. Even their Emperor was a god. The Romans despised the Jews with their belief in a One True God who was no match for Mars, the Roman god of war. Decades of simmering discontent led to the Jewish Revolt in 66AD and the subsequent destruction of the Temple in 70AD.

This was the volatile mix of Politics and Religion in which the early Christians had to survive and at the same time try to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. For about 250 years the Church was a proscribed organisation. Christians were forced to meet in secret for worship, instruction and the sacraments. They were very dependent on the sacred writings which became the New Testament, to learn about Jesus and his teachings.

Try to imagine a group of Christians in the catacombs listening to today's Gospel (Luke 7: 27- 38) being read by a deacon. He would instruct his congregation in the same way a Rabbi reads the Hebrew scriptures in the synagogue. He would read a sentence, pause, then give a commentary. Then at the end he would take questions. Here's an example: **Text:** Jesus said to his disciples; "I say this to you who are listening." **Deacon:** Brothers and sisters in Christ, Jesus is talking to you. He is the Word of God. You are listening to him through the power of the spirit. Etc...

Text: Love your enemies. **Deacon:** Sad to say, we Christians have many enemies. Jesus had many enemies. From the moment he was born he had an enemy - King Herod of Judea, who wanted to kill him. Herod saw in this baby a potential rival to his position. He was paranoid. He knew he held power only at the pleasure of the Romans. He saw threats everywhere. He was more to be pitied than despised. Etc... If we continue reading through this extract we see how generous Jesus wants us to be towards everyone. **No exceptions.**

And what's in it for us? Jesus says there will be gifts for us like when precious seed is poured into a peasant's basket, a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over into his lap. God will not be outdone in generosity.

Joe Quigley

**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 22nd: 5.30pm Mass

Wed 23rd: 9am Mass

Thurs 24th: 9.00 am Mass

Fri 25th: 9.15am Mass

5.30pm Adoration

Sat 26th: 9am Mass 9.30am

Reconciliation

6pm Mass

Sunday 27th: 9am Mass

5pm Family & Youth Mass

ROSTERS

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: Volunteer

Computer Screen: M O'Neill

REGISTRAR: D Robinson

MORNING TEA: J Barroman & friend

26/27 FEBRUARY

Cleaning

28Feb-4 Mar D & L May

6.00PM MASS

Commentator: P O'Kelly

Reader:

Eucharistic Ministers:

M Weatherall Volunteer

Computer Screen:

K Conway

REGISTRAR: D Robinson

9.00 AM MASS:

Commentator: N Beatty.

Reader: T Jackson..

Eucharistic Ministers: A

Scieluna

Computer Screen: T Priest.

REGISTRAR: P Jobs

5.00PM MASS:

Commentator: S Ebejer

Reader: J O'Sullivan

Eucharistic Ministers: Volunteer

Computer Screen: M O'Neill

REGISTRAR: M Devine

MORNING TEA: M Vidovic &

Zdenka

PARISH NEWS

GATHERING:

**Growing Resilience as a local
community and as an
individual in challenging times.**

We have two guest speakers:

Myf Thomson OAM: Curator

Batemans Bay Museum and

Rodney Hayes - Artist.

9am registration for

9.15 start - 12.45pm.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL by

Monday March 7th

to Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057

BYO shared morning tea

BBECET LUNCHEON

BBECET celebrates 20 years in 2022 and will be holding a **Supporters Lunch** on **Saturday 5th March at 12noon in the Anglican Church Hall.**

RSVP is 1st March

by email: johnhoggan@bigpond.com or phone 0417 801 566.

COST: \$25 to be paid on the day of the lunch. *All are welcome*

COFFEE CLUB
Thursdays after Mass
VENUE: Corrigans Cove
All are welcome
COFFEE N CHAT



NOTICE OF PASSING OF FR HENRY BYRNE

It is with great sadness we inform you that Fr Henry Byrne passed away, Tuesday 15th February 2022. Many of you would remember Fr Byrne fondly, as he was Parish Priest here for 20 years and was instrumental in building up the parish.

For your information here are some details of Fr Byrne's ministry of 69 years in the Archdiocese.

Born 7 April, 1929 Bega

Educated: St Patrick's School Bega and later, St Patrick's College Goulburn

Seminary: St Columba's College Springwood 1945 – 1947, St Patrick's College Manly 1948 – 1953

Ordained: Deacon in 1953 at St Patrick's College Manly;

Priest 23 July 1954 in Bega by Bishop Young

Assistant Priest: Yass, Weethalle, Candelo, Grenfell, Bombala, Braidwood, North Goulburn, Cooma, Queanbeyan and Tumut

Parish Priest: Jindabyne (1973); North Goulburn (1978); and Batemans Bay for 20 years (1983 – 2003). **Retired** 2003

Fr Byrne served as a Dean and the Archdiocesan Archivist and undertook short periods of study in Ireland, Jerusalem and Chicago. In 2004 he was awarded the Order of Australia Medal.

O Lord, we pray for the salvation of the soul of Henry, your servant and Priest, who devoted himself to your ministry, may he rejoice in the company of the Saints. Through Our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

FUNERAL DETAILS

The funeral Mass for Fr Henry Byrne will be at **11 am on Thursday 24 February** at St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Aranda,

7 Bindel St, Aranda ACT 2614.

The Mass will be live-streamed at <https://livestream.com/iv/FrHenryByrne>

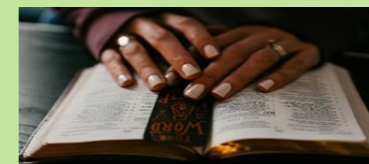
Death Anniversaries: Brian O'Grady, Mirko Baresic, Jack McNamara, Louise Keeley, Pero Burum, Anna Ordeman, Marty Ward

We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community:

Fr Henry Byrne, Christopher Hinton, Fr Laurie Blake, Pat De Lucey, John Hann, Lorina Lirio, Dermott, Joan Herne, Dr Bryan Chester, Waine Williamson, Pat Cooper, Theresa Humphrey, Linda Weatherall, Margaret Harris, Wayne O'Toole, George Fitzgerald, Savannah Leane, Bill Guist, Evelyn Young, Isobel Evans, Michaeline 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 Odum, 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



Prayer of Mutual Presence

How do we understand Prayer?

Some insights from Richard Rohr to affirm and perhaps challenge us in our journey.

Authentic prayer is opening to God's gracious presence with all that we are, with what Scripture summarises as our whole heart, soul, and mind (Matthew 22:37). Therefore prayer is more a way of *being* than an isolated act of doing. Prayer is aimed at our deepest problem: our tendency to forget our liberating connectedness with God. When this happens we become lost in a sense of ultimate separateness. From this narrow outside-of-God place rise our worst fears, cravings, restlessness, and personal and social sinfulness. Prayer also arises from our deepest hope: for the abundance of life that comes when we abide in our deepest home, our widest consciousness. Prayer is our bridge to Home.

Active prayer is present where our wills normally shape our opening to God, with faint or strong promptings from deep within. Intercession, petition, confession, thanksgiving, and praise are forms of active prayer. These are forms of prayer that most of us learn as children and find reinforced in corporate worship and Scripture. Their content and shape rise naturally out of our daily lives and evolving spiritual life. Some insights...

Quiet, contemplative prayer happens when we are still and open ourselves to Christ's Spirit working secretly in us, when we heed the psalmist's plea: "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalms 46:10). These are times when we trustingly sink into God's formless hands for cleansing, illumination, and communion. . . We are in a state of quiet appreciation, simply hollowed out for God. At the gifted [that is, graced] depth of this kind of prayer we pass beyond any image of God and beyond any image of self. We are left in a mutual raw presence. Here we realize that God and ourselves quite literally are more than we can imagine. . .

Such contemplative prayer finds us in what Scripture calls our "hearts": our deepest, truest self in God, the self that is deeper than our normal sense of mind and feelings, yet includes these in a transfigured way. Here is the "home" of God in us, where we are most together, "I pray that Christ will *dwell* in your hearts through faith" (Ephesians 3:17). It is the core dimension of our being where we most realize our divinely gifted nature, indeed, where we sense ourselves being intimately breathed in and out by God continually. In the placeless place of the spiritual heart we are in touch before thoughts, beyond thoughts. We can bring into that inner sanctuary only our naked trust and longing. Tilden Edwards concludes

If the fundamental spiritual discipline is prayer, opening to God, then the fundamental discipline of prayer is turning to our heart and inviting a sustained mutual presence.

Richard Rohr: Daily Meditations – 15 February 2022 Meditations@cac.org

Tilden Edwards, *Living in the Presence: Spiritual Exercises to Open Your Life to the Awareness of God* (San Francisco: Harper-San Francisco, 1987, 1995), 11–13.

In Appreciation

A big Thank You to Marie Weatherall for organizing "The Gathering" last Tuesday. Most of us do not realise the time and effort that Marie gives so freely to help our community. This was a successful day and great to hear stories from Loretta Parsons who shared wonderful insights into the indigenous beliefs and spirituality. Thank you Sr Marie for your help and support and also thanks to Saint Mary McKillop for prayers answered.

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**

<p>BATEMANS BAY & MORUYA Caring for Eurobodalla shire families for over 50 years Batemans Bay 44728886 Moruya 4474 3555 Narooma 4476 3888</p>	<p>INDUSTRIAL REPLACEMENTS 1 Sharon Road, Batemans Bay Buy fuel any time EFTPOS VISA AMEX MASTERCARD</p>
<p>OCEAN BREEZE TAKEAWAY Fish & Chips, Burgers, Sandwiches & Coffee 100% BEEF BURGER 248 Beach Road Batemans Bay NSW 2536 02 4472 1802</p>	<p>THIS SPACE AVAILABLE FOR ADVERTISING PLEASE CONTACT PARISH OFFICE</p>
<p>THIS SPACE AVAILABLE FOR ADVERTISING PLEASE CONTACT PARISH OFFICE</p>	<p>excel <i>ideaspeople</i> with a passion for print P 4472 1599 E batemansbay@excelprint.com.au www.excelprint.com.au Shop 1/25, Old Princes Hwy Batemans Bay NSW 2536</p>
<p>Ray and Anne Brown COASTAL CONCRETE & QUARRY 02 4474 0320</p>	<p>Kate & Tara your vets at Surf Beach EUROCOAST Veterinary Centre 4471 3400</p>