

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**  
**Third Sunday of Lent Year C**  
**First Reading**    *Ex 3:1-8. 13-15*  
A reading from the book of Exodus  
*This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you.*

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. ‘I must go and look at this strange sight,’ Moses said, ‘and see why the bush is not burnt.’ Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. ‘Moses, Moses!’ he said. ‘Here I am’ he answered. ‘Come no nearer’ he said. ‘Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,’ he said ‘the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.’ At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God. And the Lord said, ‘I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.’

Then Moses said to God, ‘I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, “The God of your fathers has sent me to you.” But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?’ And God said to Moses, ‘I Am who I Am. This’ he added ‘is what you must say to the sons of Israel: “The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.” This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.’

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

**Responsorial Psalm**  
*Ps 102:1-4. 6-8. 11. 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 does deeds of justice, gives judgement for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to Israel’s sons.

4. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him.

**(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.**

**Second Reading***1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12*  
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians  
*All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.*

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert. These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

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

**Gospel Acclamation** *Mt 4:17*  
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!  
Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand.  
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel** *Lk 13:1-9*  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke  
*Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.*

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, ‘Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.’ He told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man

who looked after the vineyard, “Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?” “Sir,” the man replied “leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.”’

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


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**REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate**  
**Politics, Economics, and the Gardener**  
There was a terrible disaster when a building fell down killing eighteen people. Some said, ‘Oh, those killed must have been sinners, they or their parents.’ Jesus repudiates that notion: ‘No, it wasn’t for anything *they* did.’ It was clear to Jesus that they were the victims of poor construction and conditions at Siloam. Look at the builder. Responsibility needs to be brought home to those who would otherwise hide behind a religious ideology, or the sheer self-interest of evading blame for a situation. To identify those really responsible may well require major changes to the way society is organised. Does it all seem too difficult? Jesus helps us with a metaphor: You are like a fig tree which may not be bearing much fruit just now, but, I am a terrific gardener: I will water you, dig around you, make sure you are well nourished so that you will bear the fruits I desire. Our Lord does that by: watering us with the waters of baptism; pruning us, especially during Lent; nourishing us with the bread of life in Holy Communion. We might pause at various times during Lent to allow Our Lord to garden us so that he may create a heavenly botanical garden, a new Eden, of the whole of humanity.

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THE WALBUNJA PEOPLE OF THE  
YUIN NATION


WE PAY OUR RESPECTS TO  
THEIR ELDERS, PAST,  
PRESENT AND EMERGING



# ST BERNARD'S PARISH

## BATEMANS BAY

2 David Avenue, Batehaven NSW 2536



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Tel: 4472 4153  
E: batemansbay@cg.org.au  
Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay  
Office Hours: 10am to 2pm  
Tuesday-Friday

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**Deacon:** Rev. Eden Langlands  
**Secretary:** Roslynne 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



### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Choir Practice**  
**Church Monday 21st**  
**March 1-2pm**  
**No Practice 28th**  
**March**  
**Resume 4th April**

**Church**  
**Cenacle Prayer Tues @**  
**4.45**

**Lenten Group**  
**Wednesday 23rd**  
**After 9am Mass**

**Lenten Reconciliation**  
**2nd Rite**  
**Wednesday 23rd 6pm**  
**Church**

**Wrap With Love**  
**Wednesday 30th 10am**  
**Meeting Room**

**Craft Group**  
**Thursdays 10am**  
**Meeting Room**

**Adoration & Stations of**  
**the Cross Friday @**  
**5.30pm**  
**6.30pm Soup Dinner**

**COFFEE CLUB**  
**Thursdays after Mass**  
**Venue: Corrigans Cove**  
**All Welcome**  
**COFFEE N CHAT**

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT- YEAR C

### THE GOD OF MANY CHANCES

Jesus in the Gospel today speaks of the unproductive fig tree, the patience of God and our need for time to repent and grow in our faith and prayer. **This Gospel speaks powerfully of the ‘God of many chances.’**



Many of us have gardens and love to potter around in the garden. We tend our plants: nourishing and watering them. We watch them grow and produce. Sometimes though, we find some plants do not flourish in our garden & we often resort to pulling them out. ‘It has had its chance and we move on!’ **Yet the ‘Gardener God’ sees the process of growth differently to us.**

The story of the fig tree in the Gospel is about us – we are the fig tree. Like the fig tree **we grow slowly and the fruit of our life can often take time to develop and mature.** Meanwhile it is God, ‘the Gardener’ who cultivates and nourishes us, patiently waiting for us to bear fruit even when troubled by many droughts and challenging years. **The God of many Chances, the God of Jesus, never lets go of us, believes in us and our future.**

### Symbol of Hope

The fig tree offers a symbol of hope. Jesus shows the people in this story that there is urgency in the situation and what is at stake. **He begs us to wake up to the opportunities he places before us, to bear fruit!** He points out that God will not toss us aside immediately. Our Gardener God, will fertilise us, nurture us, and pull the weeds that are growing around and within us.

However **we have to allow God to be our Gardener.** As Sr. Kristine Harpenau OSB points out: ‘ the question for us is: will we bring our ‘weeds’ to God and ask God to help us uproot the weeds from our hearts? If we ask, God will gift and grace us as we work together with God to uproot the weeds from our lives. **We have to hope and place our trust in our Divine Gardener’s timing. Will we trust God our gardener? Will we strive to be patient with the process?’** [Feb, 2016].

*Marie Weatherall*

6PM SATURDAY MASS WILL BE HELD AT 5PM STARTING ON 23rd APRIL UNTIL OCTOBER 1ST. WE ARE TRIALLING AN EARLIER MASS DURING THE COURSE OF DAYLIGHT SAVINGS AND YOUR FEEDBACK IS MUCH APPRECIATED.



## Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions

### MARCH A Christian Response to Bioethical Challenges

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

#### WEEKLY MASS TIMES

**Tues 22nd:** 5.30pm Mass  
**Wed 23rd:** 9:00am Mass  
**Thurs 24th:** 9:00 am Mass  
**Fri 25th:** 9:15am Mass  
5.30pm Adoration  
**Sat 26th:** 9:00am Mass  
9:30am Reconciliation  
6:00pm Mass  
**Sunday 27th:** 9:00am Mass  
5:00pm Family & Youth Mass

#### ROSTERS

**19/20 MARCH**  
**Cleaning**  
21-25 Mar R & K Ison  
**6.00PM MASS**  
Welcome Volunteer  
Commentator J Quigley  
Reader: P O'Kelly  
Eucharistic Ministers  
M Weatherall,  
Computer Screen  
K Conway  
**9.00 AM MASS:**  
Welcome T van den Broek  
Commentator : N Beatty  
Reader: B Basevi..  
Eucharistic Ministers  
A Skinner A Scicluna  
Computer Screen D May.  
**5.00PM MASS:**  
Welcome Volunteer  
Commentator D Robinson  
Reader: M Devine  
Eucharistic Ministers M O'Neill  
Computer Screen J O'Sullivan  
**MORNING TEA** A Brown & J McCarthy

#### 26/27 MARCH Cleaning

28Mar-1Apr Nugent Favetta/  
O'Neill/  
**6.00PM MASS**  
Welcomer: Volunteer  
Commentator: D Robinson  
Reader: Sr Marie  
Eucharistic Ministers  
K Lovering  
Computer Screen  
K Conway  
**9.00 AM MASS:**  
Commentator L Page.  
Reader: N Beatty.  
Eucharistic Ministers  
L Page, Volunteer  
Computer Screen T Priest.  
REGISTRAR P Jobes  
**5.00PM MASS:**  
Welcomer: D Ebejer  
Commentator S Ebejer  
Reader: J O'Sullivan  
Eucharistic Ministers M Devine  
Computer Screen M O'Neill  
**MORNING TEA** L Rodwell & J Barroman

## PARISH NEWS

### Pastoral Care Introductory Course Invitation.

**Date:** Sat March 26 from 9am – 4pm beginning in the Parish Office. If you are interested in Pastoral Care Ministry, are new to Pastoral Care or wish to refresh your skills please come. Morn/Afternoon Tea provided. BYO lunch. **Cost:** Free. All resources supplied  
**Booking Essential** by Monday March 22nd - Marie Weatherall [m] 0405 028 057

### 2nd Rite of Reconciliation

Will be held on  
Wednesday 23rd  
March at 6.00pm  
All welcome to attend



**CHRISM MASS – Join the Archbishop and the Clergy of the Archdiocese on Monday 11 April at 5.00pm in St Christopher's Cathedral, Forrest for this most important Holy Week ceremony. It is this Mass that the Holy Oils used in the various Sacramental Rites of the Church are blessed and consecrated.**

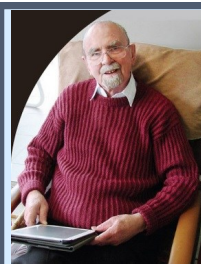
Everyone is most welcome.

### CARITAS AUSTRALIA- CARITAS UKRAINE

Our partner organisation, Caritas Ukraine, is on the ground helping people with emergency food, water, shelter and hygiene support. Donate now to help the people of Ukraine during this humanitarian emergency.  
<https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/ukraine/>

**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, and those in our local Nursing Homes and Hospital

**Lenten Programme for 2022:**  
**'REMEMBER'** will continue every Wednesday after 9am Mass.  
**We will gather through to Wed April 6**  
**Facilitators: Sr Marie and Marie Weatherall.** We look forward to preparing with you as we journey through Lent to Easter.

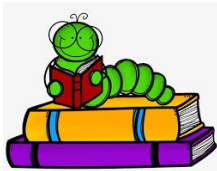


### MEMORIAL MASS FOR FR HENRY BYRNE

will be held on  
Tuesday 22nd March  
at 5.30pm.at  
St Bernard's Church.  
Followed by refreshments in the  
Parish Meeting Room - please  
bring a small plate to share.  
All are welcome to attend

### Preloved book sale

after Mass 2/3<sup>rd</sup> April all books \$2.00  
Proceeds to The  
Sisters of Our Lady  
Queen of Peace school  
for disabled children  
in Vietnam



### "Come to the Fair"

for Maranatha Aged Care.  
We need your support. This is our first fund-raiser in two years. Help us to provide those little extras for our residents.

**Seeking donations of pre-loved, good quality clothing and baked goods, jams etc. for our fair** to be held on Saturday April 30th 9.30am-3.00pm

Come along for some great bargains jewellery, bric a brac, books, art-works, jams, cakes and lots more.  
**Please phone Norma if you can help on 0477759990**

**Death Anniversaries:** William Holmes, Ruth Ryan, Margaret Toy, Ivan Hropic, Angeline Davis, Robert Loftus, Michael Doyle, Marie London

**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, Margaret Harris, Wayne O'Toole, George Fitzgerald, Savannah Leane, Bill Guist

## LIVING FAITH IN THE EVERYDAY



### 'Come back to Me with all your heart' (Joel 2:12) THE LENTEN JOURNEY ... SURRENDER

Nearing the mid-point of Lent this weekend, we still have the opportunity to renew our relationship with God – to surrender and to touch in to God's Presence and Grace in our lives.

A reflection from the celebration of the 400th anniversary of canonisation of St Ignatius of Loyola founder of the Jesuits builds on this theme of surrender:

*Many of us give up something as part of a Lenten fast. Fasting helps us in our almsgiving in having more to give away to others, serves as a penitential offer for past wrongdoing, and unites us in solidarity to those who are hungry. Fasting is good, especially if we keep in mind it is a means and not an end in itself. But as we move through these days and weeks of Lent, we are called to give even more deeply: to give up aspects of our lives and even ourselves to God...we are being asked to consider where we have not yet surrendered our lives to God, not so much by way of great, romantic gestures, but rather in concrete and practical way – some examples:*

- \* *Can I make do without some material goods, so that I can share with others who lack even the basics?*
- \* *Can I stop dwelling on past hurts so that I can give generously here and now?*
- \* *Do I listen for others' voices and perhaps dissenting opinions rather than speak?*

Let us take time to nurture our souls through stillness...to surrender to God's presence...to be nourished so we can be a witness in all aspects of our daily lives by growing more fully into the person God calls us to be.

### Reflection

The soul needs love as urgently as the body needs air. In the warmth of love the soul can be itself. All the possibilities of your human destiny are asleep in your soul. You are here to realise and honour these possibilities. When love comes into your life, unrecognised dimensions of your destiny awaken and blossom and grow.

(Anam Cara: Spiritual Wisdom from the Celtic World – John O'Donohue)

### PROJECT COMPASSION 2022

**Janice 44**, is a proud Wagilak woman, a traditional dancer, living in a remote community in the Northern Territory. As elders grow older and pass away, she knows she must share her knowledge with the younger generation. However, the community faces multiple challenges, including a lack of jobs, limited educational opportunities, and socio-economic problems which can lead to young people becoming disconnected from culture.



With your help, Caritas Australia supports Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation, which operates a centre for traditional and contemporary Aboriginal arts and culture, providing employment and generating income for local communities.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 and help provide employment and training for First Australians, allowing them to remain on country and keep their culture alive.**

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au),

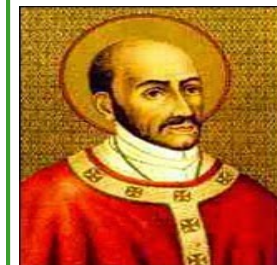


### PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

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

### SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Wednesday 23rd -  
St Turibius de Mogrovejo



Friday 25th -  
The Annunciation of the Lord

**BATEMANS BAY & MORUYA DISTRICT FUNERALS**  
Caring for Eurobodalla shire families for over 50 years  
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