

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Fifth Sunday of Lent Year C
First Reading Is 43:16-21
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick: No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it? Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds. The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink. The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.
The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 125. R. v.3
(R.) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.
1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs.
2. The heathens themselves said: ‘What marvels the Lord worked for them!’ What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap.
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing; they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves.
(R.) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Second Reading Phil 3:8-14
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians
Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him.
I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only

the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.
The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation JI 2:12-13
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel Jn 8:1-11
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.
Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, ‘Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?’ They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, ‘If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.’ Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, ‘Woman, where are

they? Has no one condemned you?’ ‘No one, sir,’ she replied. ‘Neither do I condemn you,’ said Jesus ‘go away, and don’t sin any more.’
The Gospel of the Lord
R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate
The Gaze of Jesus
The accusers of this woman make her ‘stand there in full view of everybody.’ She is surrounded by the hostile glare of eyes filled with blood lust. It is only when the accusers have left in embarrassment that Jesus, who has been bent to the ground, looks up at her. He adopts the posture of a slave, seeing her as she could be if she gives up her current pattern of behaviour. Up till now, no-one has spoken to this woman. Now Jesus treats her as a human being worth speaking to. And what does she hear? That he does not condemn her but points her to a new sort of life in the future. We could pause for a moment to allow Jesus the time to look at us, talk to us, in that way. Do you have the courage to ‘lock eyes’ with Jesus and live out the consequences? ‘The eyes have it.’
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If you would like to join the Parish e-platform giving for both the Priest and the Church, the details are as follows:
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R.E.C: Erica Drewsen



Upcoming events

Croatian Mass Saturday
2nd April 11am
All Welcome

Choir Practice
Monday 4th April @ 1pm

Cuppa With Mary
MacKillop will be held in the home of Suzanne Hughes
Tues April 5th @10 am.
Rsvp Sr Marie
0429 383 333

Church
Cenacle Prayer Tues @ 4.45

Lenten Group
Wednesday 6th April
After 9am Mass

Wrap With Love
Wednesday 12th April
10.00am 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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT- YEAR C

‘If there is a common thread running through the readings this Sunday, I think it would consist in that each, in some way, reveals primary intent of God, with respect to human beings, is to set them free’ Fr Brendan Byrne sj



I have used this introduction because I feel it sums up beautifully what we need to hear at this stage of our Lenten Journey. We know that at times we fall short of what God requires of us and we may want to give up, but the message we are told constantly, that we are so loved, is sometimes too hard to hear. St Paul speaks of ‘being captured by Christ’ such a wonderful expression that resonates with our good intentions... believe it! He nearly turns himself inside out explaining what it means to him. Sometimes our most precious times in prayer occur when we are ‘just sitting in God’s presence unable to speak’.

In the Gospel, Jesus shows such compassion, but He does it in a way that the woman keeps her dignity. Jesus looks at her, not like her accusers looking down scornfully! We can all, at times, have stones in our hands ready to throw condemnation, gossip or pull people down, but again we picture the woman whom Jesus looks at with love...and no matter what the circumstances of my life, I try to be open to Jesus’s loving gaze and speak with Him what is in my own heart.

God doesn’t want us looking back over our past wrongs... we are forgiven! God knows what is in our heart and wants us to be free and unlike those watching and waiting for Jesus to condemn the woman, we know that He always will choose to ‘set us free’.

So let us this Lent believe all that the Liturgy gives us and co-operate with the graces so freely given to ‘set us free!’ and with the Psalmist ‘the Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy!’

This is my final reflection for St Bernard’s Bulletin. I will be leaving the Bay early May. I want you to know that I have loved living here and meeting you and sharing some part of your journey.
May God continue to bless you and you will always be in my prayers.

Sr Marie

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 APPRECIATED

Pope Francis
Monthly Prayer
Intentions

APRIL

For health care
workers

We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Tues 5th: 5.30pm Mass
Wed 6th: 9:00am Mass
Thurs 7th: 9:00 am Mass
Fri 8th 9:15am Mass
5.30pm Adoration
Sat 9th: 9:00am Mass
9:30am Reconciliation
6:00pm Mass
Sunday 10th: 9:00am Mass
5:00pm Family & Youth Mass

ROSTERS

2/3 APRIL
Cleaning

4-8 Apr D & L May

6.00PM MASS

Welcomer: K Conway
Commentator P O'Kelly
Reader P Nolan
Eucharistic Ministers
J Wain
Computer Screen
T Jackson

9.00 AM MASS:

Welcomer C Connell
Commentator .
Volunteer
Reader: Volunteer .
Eucharistic Ministers C
Schor L Stevens
Computer Screen D May.

5.00PM MASS:

Welcomer M de Smet
Commentator
D Robinson
Reader: M O'Neill
Eucharistic Ministers
M Devine
Computer Screen J
O'Sullivan

MORNING TEA: N
Beatty/ M deSmet

9/10 APRIL
(Palm Sunday)

Cleaning

11-15 Apr M deSmet/
J Maher

6.00PM MASS

Welcomer: Volunteer
Commentator
D Robinson
Reader Sr Marie

Passion Narrator:
M Weatherall
Passion Others:
T Jackson
Eucharistic Ministers
Y Oerder
Computer Screen
K Conway

9.00AM MASS

Welcomer Volunteer
Commentator
S Beashel
Reader: S Barling
E Shalders.
Passion Narrator:
B Maynard
Passion Others:
A Brown
Eucharistic Ministers
J Wain L Rodwell
Computer Screen
T Priest.

5.00PM MASS:

Welcomer Volunteer
Commentator
P O'Kelly
Reader: N Beatty
Passion Narrator:
S Ebejer
Passion Others:
J O'Sullivan
Eucharistic Ministers
M Devine
Computer Screen
M O'Neill

MORNING TEA:
N & L Page

PARISH NEWS

HOLY WEEK TIMES

Palm Sunday 9/10 April

Saturday 6pm Sunday 9am & 5pm

Holy Thursday 14 April

- 6pm Mass

Good Friday 15 April

- Stations of the Cross 10am,
- Celebration of the Passion 3pm

Easter Saturday 16 April

- Easter Vigil 6pm

Easter Sunday 17 April

9am, 5pm Mass



Preloved Book Sale

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

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.

1st RECONCILIATION

Congratulations to the 13 boys and girls
who participated in First

Reconciliation on Thursday 31st March.

Thank you also to the teachers and
parents for your support in preparing the
children for the Sacrament

INVITATION

TO NEXT GATHERING:

*"Authentic Happiness And Using Your
Signature Strengths and Virtues"*

on Tuesday April 26th in the Church
Meeting Room 9am registration for 9.15am
start-12.45pm.

Facilitator: Marie Weatherall.

Cost=FREE

BYO shared Morning Tea.

Bookings Essential by April 18th to Marie
Weatherall 0405 028 057.

Need more Information?

See summary sheet to take home in foyer of
church.

"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 at the CWA Hall, Edward
Road, Batehaven

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

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

Death Anniversaries: Janice
Marion, Terence Thomson, Franciscus
Timmer, Leon Pallamountagne, Anica
Hrstic, Elsie Waltham, Gregory
Parsons, Robyn Albert, Eli Chatfield,
Leonard O'Hara,
**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, Celsa Ybañez

LIVING FAITH IN THE EVERYDAY



'Come back to Me with all your heart' (Joel 2:12)

THE LENTEN JOURNEY ... COMPASSION ~ LOVE ~ CHARITY

Playing out on our TV Screens this week we have seen the historic and heartfelt address to our Parliament by President Zelensky of the Ukraine, the Memorial of Shane Warne revealing his unknown charity work and the two major parties presenting their Budgets revealing their values – what is our Christian response? Is it the Gospel which reveals God's fathomless love which is our inspiration to be compassionate, loving and charitable?

In the Gospels charity is as close to sacred as a word can be... charity inspired the desire to care for people who were neglected.

However even the most precious of words – compassion, charity and love - need constantly to be purified and repolished by |
re-enacting the stories that embody them. For Christians these are the Gospel stories. Underneath them is the large and incredible story of a God who so loves the world and each person so deeply and passionately that he comes into our world on our human conditions, shares our hunger for love and justice, shares the exclusion and tortured death that we so often inflict on good people and opens for us a better and lasting world. That story is the measuring stick of charity.

The stories of the Gospels are sparks from the fire of the larger story of God's love for us in Jesus. They almost always tell of love for the stranger who is thought to be unlovable. They include extortionists, foreigners, prostitutes, soldiers of an occupying power, and people who are impoverished. They also highlight love from strangers who are thought to be incurably unloving: Samaritans, for example, and Roman officers. The test of charity is that it crosses boundaries and dismantles border fences, shining on people in all their differences and seeing each person as precious. It is compassionate.

The sparks of the Gospel, of course, don't remain there. They light fires in people's hearts. (Andrew Hamilton SJ 2022)

What is being lit in our hearts as we near the Holiest Week in our Christian Calendar?

PROJECT COMPASSION 2022

Shaniella 23, grew up in a remote village in the Solomon Islands in a province which has limited educational and job opportunities – and one of the country's highest poverty rates. After leaving school, she decided to move closer to the capital city, Honiara, to study hospitality and tourism. However, her vocational training school was hit by a landslide and cyclone in quick succession, destroying its water supply system and the vegetable garden that it relies on for food.

With your generous support, Caritas Australia has helped the school to install water tanks, re-establish its garden and provided training in disaster risk reduction. Shaniella can now complete her job skills training and the school has enough food and water for its students.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 so this transformational program can continue to empower and strengthen vulnerable communities For All Future Generations.

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 in the foyer, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.

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