

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year C

First Reading *Gen 18:20-32*
 A reading from the book of Genesis
Lord, do not be angry if I speak.

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.' The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' The Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.' Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No', he replied 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.' Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.' The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm
 Ps 137:1-3. 6-8. R. v.3

(R.) Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple.
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul.
3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar. Though I walk in the midst of affliction you give me life and frustrate my foes.

4. You stretch out your hand and save me, your hand will do all things for me. Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.
(R.) Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

Second Reading *Col 2:12-14*
 A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

He has made you alive with Christ for he has forgiven all our sins.

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins. He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.
 The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation *Rom 8:15*
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father. Alleluia!

Gospel *Lk 11:1-13*
 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Ask, and it will be given to you.
 Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray: "Father, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come; give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us. And do not put us to the test."' He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.' So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand

him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!
The Gospel of the Lord
R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate
Heaven and Earth can coincide

People often imagine huge distance between Earth and a Heaven beyond the horizon of the universe. But Jesus Christ taught us to pray 'Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.'

How can this come about? Jesus identified two areas on which we need to focus to help make Heaven and Earth share the same space.

'Give us this day our daily bread.' This petition is very real for most inhabitants of the world – a plea for the necessities of life to stave off real hunger. If we respond to this plea, we can change a Hellish situation to a place where Heaven and Earth coincide.

'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.' But, first to Shakespeare: 'The quality of Mercy is not strained. It falleth as the gentle rain of Heaven on to the place beneath.'

If we develop a hardness of heart which refuses to show forgiveness, then we are like earth concreted over and are unable to absorb God's forgiveness into our own lives. When we forgive someone, we become more able to absorb the gentle rain of heavenly mercy and forgiveness.

So, Heaven and Earth need not be as distant as supposed. Our Lord has shown us how we can help make these dimensions of existence coincide.

We could take a moment to resolve to pray the 'Our Father' by our lives, helping to provide evidence for our acclamation:

'Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts, Heaven and Earth are full of your Glory'

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Asst. PC Co-ord: Carolyn Evenden
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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Choir Practice
Monday @ 1pm

Cenacle Prayer 9.30 am
Fridays after Mass, and 1st Saturday of the month @ 9.30am

Pastoral Care Meeting
Tuesday August 2nd
9.30-11.30 Meeting Room

Wrap With Love
Tuesday 27th July, @ 1pm Meeting Room

Craft Group - 10am
Thursdays

"Enjoy the Good News"
Wednesday after 9 am Mass

Adoration Tuesday @ 4.30pm

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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME- YEAR C

PARISH MASSES THIS WEEK 25th July - Sunday 31st July

- Monday:** Feast of St James 9.00am
Tuesday: Adoration 4.30pm Feast of Joachim & Anne 5.30pm
Wednesday: Mass 9.00am
Thursday: Funeral Mass for Mrs Ruby Swinton 11.00am (No 9.00am Mass)
Friday: Mass 9.00am
Saturday: Reconciliation 9.30am Vigil Mass 5.00 pm
Sunday: Mass 9.00am

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Monday 25th - St James
Tuesday 26th - Sts Joachim and Anne
Friday 29th - Sts Martha, Mary and Lazarus
Saturday 30th - St Peter Chrysologus

PRAYER FOR THE SECOND WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY
July 24th 2022

I give thanks to you, Lord, for the blessing of a long life
 For, to those who take refuge in You, grant always to bear fruit.
 Forgive, O Lord, resignation and disillusionment,
 But forsake me not when my strength declines.
 Teach me to look with hope to the future you give me,
 To the mission you entrust to me and to sing your praises without end.
 Make me a tender craftsman of Your revolution,

To guard with love my grandchildren and all the little ones who seek shelter in You.

Protect, O Lord, Pope Francis and grant Thy Church To deliver the world from loneliness.

Direct our steps in the way of peace.

Amen.



World Day
 for Grandparents
 and the Elderly
 2022

**Pope Francis
Monthly Prayer
Intentions
JULY**

Elderly

We pray for the elderly, who represent the roots and memory of a people; may their experience and wisdom help young people to look towards the future with hope and responsibility.

Pastoral Care Team Meeting: Tuesday Aug 2, 9-30am – 11-30am in the Church Meeting Room. Focus 'Prayer – our deepest Longing'
BYO Shared Morning Tea
RSVP by July 29.
Marie Weatherall
[m] 0405 028 057

FEAST OF ASSUMPTION
Monday 15th August
is a Holy day of
obligation and Mass will be celebrated at 9am and 5pm

Celebrating St. Mary MacKillop's Feast Day with Cuppa, Reflection and Prayer

on **Monday August 8,** 9-30am - 11am in Church Meeting Room.

BYO shared morning Tea

All Parishioners are welcome to join us.

Real men don't do church?

Wrong, but living out your faith can be pretty tough, and most of us need help. If you are a bloke over 18, consider this: On the 13th /14th August, experienced leaders from menALIVE will be running a weekend in Batemans Bay and Moruya for Catholic men. Come along and be inspired, encouraged, and rediscover God's purpose for your life. Details and registration forms are available in the church foyer. If you have any enquiries, please phone Tim Cahill (0428288927), or contact Joe O'Sullivan, or the Parish Office 4472 4153.

STARTING POINT

Taking 'time out' in our busy day to day lives where we give to ourselves something positive and creative is not luxury, it is essential. The gift of space to oneself seems so simple, and in a way it is, but it is surprisingly difficult. The spiritual writer Esther de Waal states: **'If we fail to find the time to stand back, to give ourselves a break, a breathing space we are in danger of failing to be fully alive, or to enjoy that the fullness of life for which we are created.'** [2003] From observation in our



society there seems to be two extremes: people seem busier and living under greater stress than ever before while on the other end of the scale are those 'with little to do' whose lives are empty without any sense of meaning and purpose – many experience a quiet despair. Stopping to look at the pattern of your life; to think and pray about it will allow you to discover more about your life, your relationship with God and others and what and who is important to you.

CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S PURPOSE FOR US.

In today's Gospel [Luke 11: 1- 13] Jesus has taken space 'to pray in a certain place.' His disciples are aware how he takes time and space to pray and ask him: 'Lord teach us to pray.' [11:1] In response Jesus offers a three part teaching which includes:

A model of prayer – the Lord's Prayer where he invites his disciple & us into a deeply personal relationship with God encouraging them/us to call upon '**Abba, Father**' trusting that we belong to God and that God wants what is good and life giving for us.

He then presents a parable of the **persistent friend that illustrates that God can be trusted to respond to our prayers.** Jesus points out if the 'woken up' friend who has mixed motives answers his friend's request how much more God wants to give us what is good and life giving.

Asking, Seeking, Knocking - again Jesus is inviting **trust** – ask, search, knock – confident that we will receive what we ask for.

Let us continue to trust God as a **Divine Parent** who will give us what we need. This Gospel is not about getting things from God but rather about the relationship we have with God, **trusting in God's loving purpose for us.** So let us: **wait... be silent ... be attentive ...wait ... listen ... God is here!**

Marie Weatherall

PRIEST HOME VISITS

If you would like me to come and visit you, please notify the office during working hours and leave your name and phone number. I will be happy to drop by and say *hello*.

23/24 JULY Church Cleaning
B Coffey/M Paine (1-5)

5.00PM MASS

Welcomer: M Devine
Commentator D Robinson
Reader M Weatherall
Eucharistic Minister J Wain
Computer Screen K Conway
9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer Volunteer
Commentator C Lowe
Reader: M Lowe.
Eucharistic Ministers S Beashel, L Stevens
Computer Screen T Priest

MORNING TEA:
L Rodwell & helper

30/31 JULY

Church Cleaning
B Coffey/M Paine (1-5)

5.00PM MASS

Welcomer: C Brownlie
Commentator J O'Sullivan
Reader M O'Neill
Eucharistic Minister A Rogers
Computer Screen K Conway
9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer Volunteer
Commentator C Lowe
Reader: M Lowe.
Eucharistic Ministers S Beashel, L Stevens
Computer Screen T Priest

MORNING TEA:
N Beatty & M deSmet

RCIA

We will be offering the RCIA program in August for anyone who would like to learn about our Catholic faith, who are not already baptised, or have been baptised in another Christian faith.

Should you know anyone who may be interested, we have a brochure which is available in the Church Foyer. Please take them and given them to those you know who may be interested.

Remembering the Sick:

Peter O'Neill, Barry O'Neill, Beverley Biglia, Fr John Walter, Mara Pranjic, Lola, Fr Kevin Murphy, Allan Rogers, Pam Wilson, Antony and Andrew, 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, and those in our local Nursing Homes and Hospital

First Holy Communion

Parents who wish their child in Year 4 to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion, need to attend a **Registration Enrolment Night** in the Church on the 3rd of August between 5 & 6 pm.



Archbishop Christopher's Report on the **Second Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia** is available to be viewed on the Catholic Voice website along with accompanying videos.

Go to <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/plenary-council-report-archbishop>

Death Anniversaries: are listed in the Memorial Book at the front of the Church and names can be added to it if dates are provided.
We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community: Anna Backo, Lois White, Vincent Corbin, Pero Simic, Michael McNamara, Steven Smith, Anton Miloloza, Petronila Aballe, Rosemary Cahill

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
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000012939
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