

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary
Time Year C

First Reading Wis 18:6-9

A reading from the book of Wisdom
Just as you struck our enemies, you made us glorious by calling us to you.

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you. The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:1, 12, 18-20, 22. R. v.12

(R.) Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. They are happy, whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own.

2. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

(R.) Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Second Reading Heb 11:1-2, 8-12

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

We will look for the city designed and built by God.

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended. It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city

founded, designed and built by God. It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Mt 24:42, 44

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready:

You know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 12:32-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

See that you are prepared.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom. 'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. 'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate
The Gospel and the Commonwealth

Jesus lived in a remote part of the Roman Empire where the majority eked out an existence. One of the few ways in which redistribution of wealth could occur was by voluntarily giving to the poor. So Jesus instructs his followers: 'Sell your possessions and give generously to those in need.' We live in a very different society: 'The Commonwealth of Australia.' 'Common-wealth' indicates that the wealth of this nation, its people and resources, are meant to be directed to the common good. So, we must respond to Our Lord's command in ways very different to what was possible in his day. We have a compulsory taxation system which forces us to give up some of our possessions, some of our wealth to the common-wealth. Taxation and social justice policies help fulfil Our Lord's command to create a society more humane than anything remotely possible under the Roman Empire. And that would please Our Lord. Why? In part because those in need are helped. But, perhaps in greater part, because it makes us larger hearted people. We have to arrive at the moment of death with a heart so capacious that it can include the billions of people we hope inhabit heavenly existence. We might pause for a moment to pray for our hearts to be expanded by our contribution to the common-wealth of all peoples throughout the world.

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Finance Admin: Anne Jackson
PC Co-ord: Marie Weatherall
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



Choir Practice Monday @ 1pm

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

Wrap With Love Tuesday 9th August, @ 10am 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

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME- YEAR C

PARISH MASSES THIS WEEK 8th August - Sunday 14th

- Monday:** Mass 9.00am -*Feast of St Mary MacKillop*
- Tuesday:** Funeral Prayers @ 11.00am for Wayne Sing
 Adoration 4.30pm
 Mass 5.30pm
- Wednesday:** Mass 9.00am
- Thursday:** Mass 9.00am
 Funeral Service for Ms Linda Russell @ 11.00am
- Friday:** Mass 9.00am
- Saturday:** **Men Alive** Weekend in the church all day from 9.30am
 Vigil Mass 5.00 pm
- Sunday:** Mass 9.00am



SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Monday 8th - St Mary of the Cross

Tuesday 9th - St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

Wednesday 10th- St Lawrence

Thursday 11th - St Clare

Friday 12th- St Jane Frances de Chantal

Saturday 13th - Sts Pontian & Hippolytus

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

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.

SIMON PETER THE BRIDGE BUILDER

Before I started to prepare my Sunday Reflection on the Scripture Readings for this Sunday's Mass, my first step was to say this simple prayer to the Holy Spirit. "Holy Spirit, I want to get to know Jesus better. I want to understand the Good News He preached to His followers which has been passed on to me in the Scriptures and in the teachings of Holy Church. Help me exercise the gifts promised at my Confirmation - Wisdom, Understanding & Right Judgment. " **Amen**

Today's texts are taken from the Old Testament (The Book of Wisdom 18: 6-9 and Psalm 32) and from the New Testament (Hebrews 11: 1-19 & Luke 12: 32-48) How blessed are we Christians to be beneficiaries of God's Covenant with Abraham, Patriarch of the Jewish people - a Covenant that is realised in the coming of the Messiah, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

As I read through the Gospel text one verse, Luke 12: 41, struck me most vividly. "Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?'" The parable Peter was referring to were actually two parables: one was to be ready like servants who wait for the return of their master (the bridegroom) at any time; the other was to protect oneself & one's house against burglary if Neighbourhood Watch has raised an alert.

The first promises a very positive reward - the master will serve them supper himself. The second is a reminder that there are evil forces in the world and we must be prepared to protect our assets, both physical and spiritual against them. In asking his question I see Peter acting as building a bridge between Jesus and his followers.

Summus Pontifex (Supreme Bridge Builder) is a title used to describe the office of the Pope. His duty is to build & maintain a bridge between God and the People of God. Peter, several times in the Gospels, raises questions/issues with Jesus. Pope Francis takes building bridges very seriously. He often says he prefers to build bridges rather than walls.

As is often the way in the Gospels, Jesus answers Peter's question not with a Yes or a No. He tells another parable. Jesus tells a parable of a master, who before going away, appoints a manager over his household staff. If this manager does his job of supervising the staff properly the master on his return will place him over everything the master owns. **Wow!**

On the disobedient side Jesus describes a wicked manager. He is positively awful. He beats the servants and maids, eats & drinks & gets drunk. He will be dismissed in disgrace. Another servant may take advantage of this situation. He knows what tasks he ought to be doing, but doesn't. He will receive a severe whipping. A third servant doesn't know what he should be doing, but muddles through. He will receive a lenient punishment.

How does this answer Peter's question? Jesus has introduced a new element between the Master (Bridegroom) and the servants. He has delegated his authority to an interim manager. He expects trust. This is precisely what Jesus will do when he commissions his Apostles to preach the Good News of the Kingdom of God. This same commission has been given to Pope Francis and our Bishops.

Let Us Pray

Heavenly Father, in these trying times when the spirit of the age threatens our Christian values bless Pope Francis and all our Bishops with holiness of life and with the wisdom to direct and guide us, sisters & brothers in the one family of Christ, that we may grow in your love.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord, **Amen.**

Joe Quigley

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.

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

August 15th

Is a Holy Day of Obligation - Masses will be celebrated at 9am and 6pm

You are invited

To attend a meeting on Wednesday 10th August @ 5.30pm in the church meeting room to plan the celebrations for the sisters of St Joseph and their 85 years of ministry in the parish of St Bernard's.

We need people who will be prepared to get in and organise and run the various parts of the celebration.

Your input and contribution will be gratefully received.

Many thanks



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 Odlum, 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

TOGETHER... "We Can" Module 3

An Initiative of Batemans's Bay Community Life is a free program over 6 sessions to encourage people to learn new skills as they move through significant and difficult life changes.

Tuesday 9th August @ Soldiers Club
Ph: Janice Ackland 0416 298 349 for further information.
Flyers available in church foyer

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: Wayne Sing, Linda Russell, Ruby Swinton, Anna Backo, Lois White, Vincent Corbin, Pero Simic, Michael McNamara, Steven Smith, Anton Miloloza, Petronila Aballe, Rosemary Cahill

6/7 AUGUST

Church Cleaning
R & K Ison (8-12)

5.00PM MASS

Welcomer: B Oerder
Commentator S Ebejer
Reader P Nolan
Eucharistic Minister Y Oerder
Computer Screen M O'Neill
9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer C Connell
Commentator A Skinner.
Reader: N Beatty
Eucharistic Ministers C Schor
L Rodwell
Computer Screen D May.

MORNING TEA:

L & N Page

Church Cleaning

Faveta O'Neill
Nugent (15-19)

5.00PM MASS

Welcomer: J Anderson
Commentator D Robinson
Reader J Mackay
Eucharistic Minister M Weatherall
Computer Screen K Conway
9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer M deSmet
Commentator B Basevi
Reader: A Brown.
Eucharistic Ministers L Stevens, A Scicluna
Computer Screen T Priest

MORNING TEA:

M Vidovic & Zdenka

13/14 AUGUST

Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions
AUGUST

Small Businesses
We pray for small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities.

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