

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
First Reading Wis 9:13-18

A reading from the book of Wisdom
Who can comprehend the will of God?

What man can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord? The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind. It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens? As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above? Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

1. You turn men back into dust
 and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'
 To your eyes a thousand years
 are like yesterday, come and gone,
 no more than a watch in the night.

2. You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades

3. Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants.

4. In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. **(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**

Second Reading Phlm 9-10, 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon

Receive him, not as a slave anymore, but as a very dear brother.

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Ps 118:135

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 14:25-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

All who do not renounce their possessions cannot be my disciples.

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. 'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The wisdom tradition from which the first reading is taken is rooted in the fact that life is a series of choices. The epistle and the gospel reading provide us with examples of the way Christians should choose. Finally, the psalm's description of the fleeting nature of life sets the context and tone of our decision-making. Discipleship demands that, in the face of all the choices available to us, we keep our priorities straight. In the gospel, Jesus insists that we must be single minded. We must cling to the one thing necessary, and that one thing is authentic discipleship. In choosing Jesus, we choose other things as well. We choose new relationships with the very people to whom we have already been committed. Those who were slaves, or lower class, or employees, or providers of service are now regarded as sisters and brothers in Christ. In choosing Jesus, we also choose the cross. We choose to live in a way that calls us to travel the high road: to forgive offences committed against us; to live simply so that others can simply live; to take responsibility for the moral character of society. The fleeting nature of life as characterised in the psalm forces us to look at the meaning of life. When the day dawns for us to return to dust, what will we have gained from life? The realisation of our finiteness and the transitory nature of life should help us to set our priorities right and should give us the courage to remain faithful to them.

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ST BERNARD'S PARISH
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 Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay
 Office Hours: 10am to 2pm
 Tuesday-Friday

Priest: Rev. Tom Thornton
 0408 623 303
Secretary: Roslynn Trompp
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



Choir Practice
Monday @ 1pm

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

Cuppa with Mary
MacKillop Tuesday Sep
6th 10-11am at Mary
Haigh's home

Thursday 8th Sep- There
will be a Eucharist Retreat
held at the church from
9.00am - 2.30pm

Wrap With Love
Tuesday 13th September @
10am Meeting Room

Croatian Mass
Saturday 10th
September @ 11am. All are
welcome

Craft Group - 10am
Thursdays

"Enjoy the Good News"
Wednesday
after 9 am Mass

Adoration Tuesday @
4.30pm

COFFEE CLUB
Thursdays after Mass
Venue: Corrigan's Cove
All Welcome
COFFEE N CHAT

TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME- YEAR C

THIS WEEK:

Fr Tom is away on holidays.

There will be no morning masses
over the next couple of weeks at St
Bernard's.

Daily Mass is available at Moruya

Tuesday 5.30pm

Wednesday - Friday 9.15am

Fr John Walter is doing weekend
masses

In case of **EMERGENCY ONLY**
 you can call Fr Eden Langlands
 on 0411 581 753

NEXT Weekday mass at St Bernard's is
 Friday 16th September @ 9am

Father's Day is a time to remember all that fathers do. Things like cutting the grass, providing a home, education, motivation, encouragement and much more. It is a day for daughters and sons to recognise and celebrate this special day of the year.

How wonderful is it to have the honour of being a father and watching your children grow into adults and parents themselves?

God knew what he was doing when he allowed men to become fathers. Perhaps he was giving us a glimpse of his own glory.

To all the dads, granddads, foster dads and father figures,

We wish you a very Happy Father's Day today and for the rest of the year.

Celebration of Thanksgiving
for the

Sisters of St Joseph
St Bernard's Parish Batehaven
1937-2022

Friday 14 October

12.35pm Lunch at school for Sisters
 1.30pm Assembly with parents and children in Hall

2.15pm Tour of school by SRC
 6.00pm BBQ Dinner at the Convent

11.00am Drop-in gathering to meet and greet Sisters

5.00pm Mass
 6.30pm Dinner at Club Catalina

Sunday 16 October
 10.00am Mass
 Unveiling of plaque and presentation of History Book
 Brunch After Mass of bacon and egg rolls

SAINTS OF THE
WEEK

Friday 9th -
 St Peter Claver



WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE
TRADITIONAL
CUSTODIANS OF THE
LAND THE
WALBUNJA PEOPLE OF
THE YUIN
NATION.
WE PAY OUR
RESPECTS TO THEIR
ELDERS, PAST,
PRESENT AND
EMERGING

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The children of the Parish are preparing for this celebration on the weekend of 17th & 18th September.

Parishioners please keep these children and their families in your prayers as they prepare for reception of this most sacred gift.

Parents please remember to sign off your attendance in the folder in the church foyer and bring your children forward for a blessing when you come to communion.

BOOKINGS FOR CATALINA CLUB DINNER TO CELEBRATE THE SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH IN BATEMANS BAY

Saturday 15th October 2022 @ 6.30pm.

The sheet with booking details will be available in the church foyer until the second week in September. Please fill it in if you are coming, so we can finalise numbers and costs.

HELP NEEDED

for Maranatha Lodge

Is anyone available with a bus license that could volunteer to take residents out on a little bus trip?

Staff would accompany.

If you can help please call Judy 0406 788 730 or Linda 4475 1100



Many thanks

PAUL PLEADS FOR ONESIMUS

"This young man has made some poor choices since leaving the Holy Family Orphanage. He is truly sorry for the pain he has caused the plaintiff. May I suggest, with all due respect, my Lord, that a custodial sentence would not improve his chances of reform but rather undermine his commitment to turning his life around."

How often have we read about this sort of plea when a barrister asks in court for some leniency in the sentencing of a youthful client?

A similar situation is at the heart of the letter by St Paul to Philemon, a leader in the Christian community at Colossae (180 kms east of the port city of Ephesus, where Paul was in prison). In it Paul explains to Philemon that he is returning to him a runaway slave, Onesimus, who Paul has converted to Christianity. The lad had been a great help to Paul in spreading the Good News, while Paul was confined by his prison chains

We don't know what type of slave Onesimus was. Nor do we know why he ran away. Running away under Roman law, was an offence punishable by imprisonment, scourging & even execution, depending on whether or not it was accompanied by theft, or damage to property and/or persons.

Paul asserts in verses 8 & 9 that "although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do, yet I appeal to you on the basis of love." By way of a pun (in Greek anyway) Paul says, Onesimus (The name can mean helpful) by running away became useless (a-chreston) to Philemon but now by having become a Christian he can now be useful (eu-chreston) to both Paul and Philemon. You can hear the similarity in sound between 'chrest' and 'Christ'.

Let's be clear. Paul is intervening in the master-slave relationship; a relationship fully entrenched in the culture of the day. Philemon would be within his rights to prosecute Onesimus. Onesimus would need courage to trust that Philemon will accept Paul's argument that the three of them are brothers in Christ. We learn from Colossians 4.9 that Onesimus when returning to Colossae was accompanied by Tychicus, a faithful deacon to Paul, primarily to carry an open letter from Paul to the Colossian community but also the personal letter to Philemon re-Onesimus. Besides being a reliable courier for Paul Tychicus would also be moral support for the young deserter, who couldn't be sure what sort of reception he'd get when he fronted Philemon, the master he had deserted.

We for our part don't know the result of the re-union. However there is a tradition in the Eastern Orthodox Church that a Bishop Onesimus of Ephesus was martyred in Rome c95 AD under the Emperor Domitian (Reigned 81-96 AD). It is possible that Onesimus followed in the footsteps of his spiritual father, Paul, who twenty eight years earlier was executed in Rome c67 AD under the Emperor Nero.

May Paul's words challenge and inspire us to make peace with any sister or brother in our community who may have wronged us. Love & forgiveness go beyond the letter of the Law.

Joe Quigley

FATHERS DAY APPEAL 2022

3rd & 4th September

Father's Day Appeal – Collection for our retired priests: There are 26 priests in our Archdiocese. We should remember our retired priests as we celebrate the theme for the **Second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly** "In old age they will still bear fruit" (Psalm 92:15).

Please join us in generous giving. You can make a gift today:

By envelopes

By giving at: www.cgatholic.org.au/donate

By calling: (02) 6239 9801

Thank you for taking care of our priests in their retirement.

Pastoral Care Visitation and Communion to the Sick:

We are in need of more volunteers. Can you give an hour of your time once a month or fortnightly and be on a roster? Training on 1:1 and all resources provided.

Call Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057

Jamberoo Abbey Retreat

Sacred Heart Parish, Moruya is organising a retreat to the Jamberoo Abbey in November 2022. We will be arriving after 2pm on Wednesday the 9th of November and vacating our rooms before 10am on the Friday 11th November.

The rooms available are:

- 6 x Self-contained hermitages with an ensuite bathroom, kitchenette and sitting area (**\$100 per night or \$150 for two people.**)
- 11 x Shared cottage rooms where each guest has their own lockable bedroom and shares the bathroom and kitchen. There are two bathrooms to be shared by six people in each cottage (**\$60 per night**) These rooms have access to shared cooking facilities.

We have also invited parishioners from St Bernard's and Our Lady of the Sea.

The dining room is not open currently so we will be providing our own meals. The pantry is still available for basic supplies.

Please RSVP ASAP to Sue McCosker by **phone or text: 0426820860** as **we must pay a 25% deposit by end of September.**

MASS INTENTIONS:

Joe Borg, Eddy Borg, Sam Scargull, Rommy Borg, Scott Hassen, William Borg, Romeo Buhagiar, Joe Borg, William Buhagiar, Charlie Buhagiar

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 Odium, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Janet Thornberry, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke, those in hospital and nursing homes.

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

ROSTERS

3/4 SEPTEMBER Church Cleaning
B Coffey/MPaine (5-9)

5.00PM MASS

Welcomer: D Robinson
Commentator J Quigley
Reader J O'Sullivan
Eucharistic Ministers M Devine, Y Oerder
Computer Screen K Conway

9.00 AM MASS:

Welcomer C Connell
Commentator . L Page.
Reader: B Basevi
Eucharistic Ministers N Page C Schor
Computer Screen D May.

MORNING TEA:

M & S Beashel, L Foran

10/11 SEPTEMBER

Church Cleaning
R & K Ison (12-16)

5.00PM MASS

Welcomer: M Devine
Commentator M Bridges
Reader S Ebejer
Eucharistic Ministers A Rogers, M Weatherall
Computer Screen J O'Sullivan

9.00 AM MASS:

Welcomer M deSmet
Commentator . A Brown
Reader: A Skinner
Eucharistic Ministers L Stevens, S Beashel
Computer Screen T Priest

MORNING TEA:

L Rodwell & J Barroman

Pope Francis
Monthly Prayer
Intentions
SEPTEMBER

For the abolition of the death penalty

We pray that the death penalty that attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.

BATEMANS BAY & MORUYA DISTRICT FUNERALS
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Moruya 4474 3555 Narooma 4476 3888

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