

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary
Time Year C

First Reading Wis 11:22 – 12:2
A reading from the book of Wisdom

You have mercy on all things because you love everything that exists.

In your sight, Lord, the whole world is like a grain of dust that tips the scales, like a drop of morning dew falling on the ground. Yet you are merciful to all, because you can do all things and overlook men's sins so that they can repent. Yes, you love all that exists, you hold nothing of what you have made in abhorrence, for had you hated anything, you would not have formed it. And how, had you not willed it, could a thing persist, how be conserved if not called forth by you? You spare all things because all things are yours, Lord, lover of life, you whose imperishable spirit is in all. Little by little, therefore, you correct those who offend, you admonish and remind them of how they have sinned, so that they may abstain from evil and trust in you, Lord.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:1-2, 8-11, 13-14. R. see v.1

(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

1. I will give you glory, O God my King, I will bless your name for ever. I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever.

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures.

3. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God.

4. The Lord is faithful in all his words and loving in all his deeds. The Lord supports all who fall and raises all who are bowed down.

(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

Second Reading 2 Thes 1:11 – 2:2

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

The name of our Lord Jesus Christ will be glorified in you and you in him.

We pray continually that our God will make you worthy of his call, and by his power fulfil all your desires for goodness and complete all that you have been doing through faith; because in this way the name of our Lord Jesus Christ will be glorified in you and you in him, by the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. To turn now, brothers, to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and how we shall all be gathered round him: please do not get excited too soon or alarmed by any prediction or rumour or any letter claiming to come from us, implying that the Day of the Lord has already arrived.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Jn 3:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 19:1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The Son of Man came to seek and to find that which was lost.

Jesus entered Jericho and was going through the town when a man whose name was Zacchaeus made his appearance; he was one of the senior tax collectors and a wealthy man. He was anxious to see what kind of man Jesus was, but he was too short and could not see him for the crowd; so he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to catch a glimpse of Jesus who was to pass that way. When Jesus reached the spot he looked up and spoke to him: 'Zacchaeus, come down. Hurry, because I must stay at your house today.' And he hurried down and welcomed him joyfully. They all complained when they saw what was happening. 'He has gone to stay at a sinner's house' they said. But Zacchaeus stood his ground and said to the Lord, 'Look, sir, I am going to give half my property to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody I will pay him back four times the amount.' And Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because this man too

is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek out and save what was lost.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Over the Top

Zacchaeus was an over-the-top character, not only figuratively but, in this incident, quite literally up in a sycamore tree. He thought he was keeping an eye out for Jesus, but Jesus was keeping an eye out for his sort of character! 'Zacchaeus' means 'clean'. But his fellow Jews regarded him as a filthy collaborator with the Romans. However, Jesus looked up and saw Zacchaeus in a double perspective, not only as he was but as he could become if only he responded to the grace on offer. He did, and the response was truly 'over the top'! We come to Mass to catch a glimpse of Jesus in the scriptures and sacrament. But, we find that our Risen Lord is constantly gazing at us. He is the Divine Seer who sees us as we are, but also as we are capable of becoming. We could pause for a moment to pray to become more conscious of the gaze of the Divine Seer. There could be 'over-the-top' consequences!

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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



ST BERNARD'S PARISH
BATEMANS BAY
2 David Avenue, Batehaven NSW 2536



P.O. Box 3220, Batehaven, 2536.
Tel: 4472 4153
E: batemansbay@cg.org.au
Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay
Office Hours: 10am to 2pm
Tuesday-Friday

Priest: Rev. Tom Thornton
0408 623 303
Secretary: Roslyne 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 Beashele
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

Cuppa with Mary MacKillop will be at Nola and Bernie Beatty's home
Tuesday Nov 8th 10-11am. All welcome.

Wrap With Love
TUESDAY 8TH November @10am

Craft Group - 10am
Thursdays

"Enjoy the Good News"
Wednesday after 9 am Mass

Adoration Tuesday @ 8am

COFFEE CLUB
Venue: Corrigans Cove
All Welcome
COFFEE N CHAT

THIRTY FIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME- YEAR C

MASSES THIS WEEK:

Monday 31st Oct -Sunday 6th November

Monday: Mass 9am
Tuesday: ALL SAINTS DAY
Adoration 8am, 9am Mass
Wednesday: ALL SOULS DAY
Mass 9am, Croatian Mass 11am
Thursday: Mass 10am Anointing of the Sick
Friday: Mass 9am with Year 4 from school
Saturday: Reconciliation 9.30am, Vigil 6pm
Sunday: Mass 9am

ST BERNARD'S PARISH has a new Parish Priest who commences here on 10th January, 2023.

He is **Fr Loi Viovicente** who is presently Parish Priest of North Belconnen in Canberra.

WEEK-END MASSES NEXT WEEKEND 5TH-6TH November will be celebrated by Fr Rex Curry

Dear Parishioners of St Bernard's,

On behalf of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, I joyfully thank you for all you did to make our farewell week– end such a precious time.

From the welcome as we arrived to the homely accommodations, barbecues, all meals, the gathering at the Club, words of appreciation, the plaque in the Church foyer, masses, brunch, meet and greet at the Convent and presentation of the photographic history—all made us feel extra valued and appreciated.

In a sense we could speak for all the Sisters at Batemans Bay over the last 85 years.

You certainly have a tangible spirit of the gospel and of welcoming all to your table.

God bless you all and keep you in good company,

Kerrie Cusack rsj



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



The Year of Walking Together

The Risen Lord walked together with the disciples on the road to Emmaus, drawing them from anxiety to hope, from confusion to joy.

Jesus, centre of our common Emmaus walk, with You alone to guide us, make Your home in our hearts; as we pour "new wine into fresh wineskins" (Mk 2:22)

Like Mary, imbued by the Holy Spirit, may we give birth to a renewed faith and united pastoral action in this Archdiocese in the years ahead.

St Mary of the Cross, our Great Australian Intercessor, pray for us.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us. All Saints of God, who name and sanctify our parishes, pray for us. *Amen*

ROSTERS
29/30 OCTOBER Church Cleaning
D & L May (31/10-4/11)
6.00PM MASS
Welcomer: J Anderson
Commentator: D Robinson
Reader: S Ebejer
Eucharistic Ministers: M Weatherall, M Bridges
Computer Screen: J O'Sullivan
9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer: C Connell
Commentator: A Skinner
Reader: A Brown
Eucharistic Ministers: L & N Page
Computer Screen: T Priest
MORNING TEA:
M & S Beashel & L Foran

5/6 NOVEMBER
Church Cleaning
M deSmet/J Maher (3-7)
6.00PM MASS
Welcomer: B Oerder
Commentator: D Robinson
Reader: J Mackay
Eucharistic Ministers: Y Oerder, C Brownlie
Computer Screen: M O'Neill
9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer: J McClelland
Commentator: L Page
Reader: D Herring
Eucharistic Ministers: L Stevens, S Beashel
Computer Screen: T Priest
MORNING TEA:
L Rodwell & J Barroman

MASS FOR ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Will be celebrated next Thursday 3rd November @ 10am. This will give people time to get there. So if you know anyone who would like this sacrament, please bring them along with you if they are able to get to the Church.

Anointing of the Sick is for emotional, physical and spiritual healing.

2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION
Will be celebrated on the 10th November @ 6pm.
It is an opportunity to come together as a family of God to pray for each other as we receive this Sacrament of forgiveness and healing.

Please put the date and time in your calendar.

PASTORAL CARE VISITATION AND HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK

Thank you to the three people who have offered to help. We still need someone to visit a lady in Sunshine Bay.
Phone Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057
All resources and help provided.

GATHERING- "Dying to know"

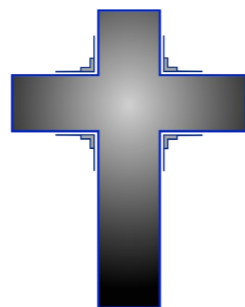
What you need to know if someone dies or planning ahead yourself.

Monday Nov 7th 9.15am
registration for 9.30am –12 noon in Church Meeting Room.
Cost=FREE
BYO Shared Morning Tea.
Facilitated by Teresa Hamer ex funeral director.
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL BY TUESDAY NOV 1st TO
Marie Weatherall
0405 028 057

CLERGY RETREAT

Fr Eden and I will be on Retreat from Sunday 13th November (after Sunday Masses) until 18th November. The diocesan clergy retreat will be held at Galong Monastery.

Please keep us and all the diocesan clergy in your prayers during those days. *Fr Tom*



TO CATCH A GLIMPSE

The recent death of Queen Elizabeth II reminded me of her first visit to Australia in 1954. The memory tied in with Luke's story in today's Gospel about Zacchaeus and the effort he put in to catching a glimpse of Jesus.

On 4th March 1954 as part of her tour, the Queen was scheduled to visit the Heidelberg Military Repatriation Hospital in Heidelberg West. My family lived nearby. I was seventeen years old and responsible for looking after my younger siblings. As school children, they had been given a school holiday. They were also allocated positions at the barrier lining the royal cavalcade. I had to find my own vantage point.

Despite being dressed in my best 1950s clobber, I climbed up a cyclone wire fence that gave me a clear view of the intersection where the Queen's Rolls Bentley would turn towards the entrance to the Hospital. As luck would have it the Rolls did slow down at the intersection. The canopy was down so I had a clear view of the royal couple, but just when I might have been able to see the Queen's features she turned away to wave at the crowds on her right. All I got was a view of a pale blue bonnet.

There are obvious differences between my experience and that of Zacchaeus. I knew the Queen and her role in the British Empire. This visit was a unique event in Australian history. What did Zacchaeus know of Jesus? That he was a faith healer? A miracle worker? A prophet? Or had he heard perhaps from a minor tax collector in Capernaum (Levi/Matthew?) that Jesus mixed with people at the margins? Zacchaeus was curious. I was ego-tripping.

Unlike me, he was a despised senior public servant who collected taxes for a foreign government (The Roman Empire) and became very rich by fleecing the local population. He was also very short. So throwing aside any self respect he might have had, he sought a vantage point in a leafy sycamore tree. To see without being seen. Probably much to the amusement of the locals.

Imagine his surprise and joy when Jesus stopped beneath the tree, looked up & said: "Hurry down, Zacchaeus! I must stay in your house today." How did Jesus know Zacchaeus' name? (Inappropriately it means "pure/innocent") Why does Jesus expect him to agree to his request for hospitality?

The locals were gobsmacked. They grumbled: "This man has gone as a guest to the house of a sinner." Indeed Zacchaeus was. His avarice as a tax collector was there for all to see.

Zacchaeus, in the presence of the Lord, sees himself for what he really is and wants to make amends, right away. "I will give half my belongings to the poor. And if I have cheated anyone I will give back four times as much." This is a conversion that can be compared with that of Saul's on the road to Damascus. Except that Zacchaeus is never mentioned in the Scriptures again.

Wherever I am in my spiritual development, some days I may feel strong and confident, other days weak and fearful. I need to remind myself that **God is forever loving me**. I do not have to change, grow or be good **in order to be loved. Rather I am loved** so that I can change, grow and be good. Look at Zacchaeus. His natural curiosity led to a complete change of heart.

Here I am, Lord. I place my trust in You.

Joe Quigley

Remembering the Sick:

Sr Marie McAlister, 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, 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: Flavia Clyburn, Nita Gorzalka, Michael Dove, Wayne Sing, Linda Russell, Ruby Swinton, Anna Backo, Lois White, Vincent Corbin, Pero Simic, Michael McNamara,

Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions
For children who suffer
We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

BATEMANS BAY & MORUYA DISTRICT FUNERALS
Caring for Eurobodalla shire families for over 50 years
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Moruya 4474 3555 Narooma 4476 3888

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Ray and Anne Brown
Kate & Tara your vets
at Surf Beach
EUROCOAST Veterinary Centre
4471 3400