

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary
Time Year A

First Reading Zep 2:3; 3:12-13
A reading from the prophet
Zephaniah

In your midst I will leave a humble and a lowly people.

Seek the Lord all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord. In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths.

But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:7-10. R. Mt 5:3

(R.) Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free.

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan.

3. It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age.

(R.) Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Second Reading 1 Cor 1:26-31

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning.

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Mt 5:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad; Your reward will be great in heaven.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 5:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Happy are the poor in spirit.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: 'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate
The Beatitudes ... A Call to Action

Jesus doesn't start in a fantasy dream world of perfection. Jesus looks at the world as it often is for many people, perhaps for most people around the world: 'the poor in spirit', 'those who mourn', 'those who are gentle', 'those who hunger and thirst for justice'. Jesus astonishes the crowd by saying that such people are 'Blessed'. How can this be? The answer lies in our Lord's emphasis on the new community he is establishing under the reign of God: what he calls 'the Kingdom of God'. Those in such wretched circumstances *will* have things set right, but only if followers of Jesus do everything possible to lift the poor out of the poverty which crushes their spirit, do everything to comfort those who mourn, do everything possible to make sure the gentle share the earth's resources, do everything possible to satisfy the craving for justice. We could pause for a moment to pray the "Our Father" pledging ourselves to construct this new society where the Beatitudes can come true. "Thy kingdom come, they will be done on *earth* as it is in heaven?"

Copyright FatherMichaelTate
mtate@bigpond.com.

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



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. Loi Viovicente
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



For the celebration
of the Word and the
Eucharist

Upcoming
Events

Choir Practice
Monday @ 1pm
Resumes 2023

Cenacle Prayer
9.30 am Fridays
after Mass, and
1st

Saturday of the
month @ 9.30am

ENJOY THE
GOOD NEWS
Wednesdays
after 9am Mass
Parish Meeting
Room

Craft Group
Thursdays 10am
Resumes 2023

Adoration
Tuesday @ 8am

COFFEE CLUB
Resumes
Thursday 2nd
February

FOURTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME—YEAR A

Search for Happiness

The search for happiness is understood in many different ways in our society. There has been a great deal written about the search for happiness and its links to purposeful living and loving human relationships.

Martin Seligman PhD in his book: 'Authentic Happiness' [2002] states: 'Authentic happiness comes from identifying and cultivating your most fundamental strengths and virtues and using them every day in work, love, play and parenting....on the journey to lasting fulfilment, meaning and purpose.' [pgs xiii- xiv].

In an interview in 1999 the **Dalai Lama** reflecting on happiness from a Buddhist perspective asks his followers to reflect on what is truly valuable in their life; what gives meaning to their life. It is from here he says we set our priorities. He reflects: 'for our life to be of value we must develop good basic human qualities – warmth, kindness, compassion. Then our life becomes meaningful and more peaceful – happier.'

Jesus offers a different perspective on the path to Happiness.

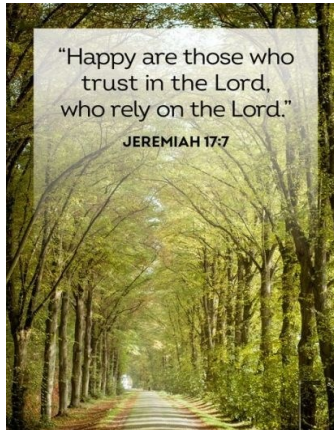
In Matthew's Gospel [5:1-12] Jesus offers us the disconcerting message of the Beatitudes which open with the words '**HAPPY**' By 'being poor in spirit, that is, lowly and meek; in looking to God alone for salvation; by being merciful and pure in heart ; by working for justice and peace. **What a challenging plan for the pursuit of happiness!**

The Beatitudes are happiness from a very different perspective. As Joy Bowen points out in the Spiritual Reflection Guide for St Vincent de Paul: '**Jesus embodies an all encompassing love and expresses his wisdom so beautifully in the Beatitudes to show us his interior landscape, a source of your joy.** This not a set of regulations, but a vision of where transformation can grow eventually.' [Jan- April 2023 Guide]

It is not happiness the way we want and plan, but the way God wants it & desires it for us. Jesus came to heal a broken world – our own broken world today with its many rifts, wars and concerns. We must not be content with short lived-happiness. Let us turn away from our own self interest and confidently turn towards God's path day by day so that with St. Augustine we can pray:

'You made us for yourself, Lord, and our hearts are restless till they rest in You.'

Marie Weatherall





MASSES THIS WEEK Monday 30th January— Sunday 5th February

Monday 30th: NO MASS
Tuesday 31st: Mass 9am
Wednesday 1st: Mass 9am
Thursday 2nd: Mass 9am
Friday 3rd: Mass 9am
Saturday 4th: Vigil 6pm
Sunday 5th: Mass 9am

Offertory Procession

will be starting again this weekend.
We welcome families to take up the gifts.

ROSTERS

28/29 JANUARY
Cleaning
30Jan-w FebR & K
Ison

6.00PM MASS
Welcomer: D
Robinson
Commentator: S
Ebejer
Reader: P O'Kelly
Eucharistic
Ministers
M Weatherall J
Wain
Computer Screen
J O'Sullivan

9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer C Connell
Commentator . M
Lowe
Reader: N
Beatty ..
Eucharistic
Ministers N & L
Page
Computer Screen T
Priest.

**MORNING
TEA:**
N Beatty

4/5 FEBRUARY

Cleaning
6-10 Favetta, O'Neill,
Nugent

6.00PM MASS
Welcomer M Devine
Commentator M
Bridges
Reader P O'Kelly
Eucharistic
Ministers
J Wain C Brownlie
Computer Screen
M O'Neill

9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer J
McClelland
Commentator . B
Basevi
Reader: A
Skinner
Eucharistic
Ministers
V & C Burns
Computer Screen T
Jackson

**MORNING
TEA:**
M & S Beashel, L
Foran

Sunday, February 5th 2023 marks 50 years since Saint Christopher's consecration as the Cathedral Church of the Archdiocese.

If you are able, and if the tyranny of distance isn't too much of a hurdle, please join:

Sunday, February 5th 2023 – 11:00am
St Christopher's
Anniversary Mass &
A Reception Celebration
Following Mass – Haydon Hall

A year of celebrations and events is organised for the following 12 months, with a 'More Formal' Archdiocesan gathering with Archbishop Christopher on the 17th of March 2023, the Solemnity of Saint Patrick. Details to be published soon.

RECONCILIATION

Beginning on Saturday 4th
February, Reconciliation will be held at 4.30 pm.

Please make a note of this in your diaries

Pastoral Care Gathering Invitation: on Tuesday Feb 14
Patrick [Paddy] McGrath, St Vincent de Paul Director of
Community Engagement and Spirituality will facilitate
sessions on: **The Wounded Healer – in our Woundedness
we become a Source of Life.**

Registration: 9-15am for 9-30am start – 12noon in the
Church Meeting Room. Cost Free. BYO shared morning tea.
Booking Essential by Tuesday Feb 7 Marie Weatherall 0405
028 057 or Carolyn Evenden 0400 021 119. **ALL WELCOME**

NAME TAGS As we welcome Fr Loi to our Parish please
wear nametags which are next to the Piety Stall in the foyer. If
your name is not there could you please write it on the sheet
which will be on the bench below. Please return them to the
rack at the conclusion of Mass.

Aged Parishioners who belong to St. Bernard's need Visit and Holy Communion
Are you able to help once a month? We provide Pastoral Service to 5 Aged Care
Facilities a total of 46 residents.

They belong to our Faith Community and they need our outreach. I need the following
once a month on a roster :
2 for Maranatha; 1 for the Manor and 1 for the Glen. All resources and guidance given
on 1:1.

Please consider this request. Marie Weatherall [m] 0405 028 057.



We extend a very warm
welcome to those who may be
visiting our Parish over the
summer.

We hope you enjoy our church and
our town.

As you return to your homes
please travel safely

Cuppa with Mary MacKillop Tuesday
February 21, 10 AM at Marie & Greg
Weatherall's home.

All welcome
[0405 028 057.](tel:0405028057)

ENJOY THE GOOD NEWS

Prayer and Scripture Study Group

meets every Wednesday after the 9am Mass in
the Parish Meeting Room. We study the
Gospel Reading of the upcoming
Sunday Mass.

Facilitator Joe Quigley
0404357744

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: Dawn Millman, Pope Benedict XVI, Cardinal George Pell, Michael Thornton, Barbara Mills, Travis Basevi, Judith Dewick, Flavia Clyburn, Nita Gorzalka, Michael Dove, Wayne Sing, Linda Russell, Ruby Swinton, Anna Backo, Lois White

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*

Pope Francis
Monthly Prayer
Intentions

February

For Parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

BATEMANS BAY & MORUYA
DISTRICT FUNERALS

Caring for Eurobodalla
shire families for
over 50 years
Batemans Bay
44728886

Moruya 4474 3555 Narooma 4476 3888

INDUSTRIAL REPLACEMENTS

1 Sharon Road, Batemans Bay

Buy fuel any time

EFTPOS
VISA
AMEX
MASTERCARD

OCEAN BREEZE TAKEAWAY

Fish & Chips, Burgers,
Sandwiches & Coffee

100% BEEF BURGER

248 Beach Road
Batemans Bay NSW 2536

02 4472 1802

MAYDAY
Plumbing And
Gas

Fully licensed
Plumber and
Gas Fitter

Gutter Cleaning
General
Maintenance

RHYS MAY

0427 373 826

THIS SPACE
AVAILABLE
FOR
ADVERTISING
PLEASE
CONTACT
PARISH
OFFICE

excell
Ideaspeople
PRINTING GROUP

P 4472 1599
E batemansbay@excellprint.com.au
www.excellprint.com.au

Shop 1/25, Old Princes Hwy
Batemans Bay NSW 2536

COASTAL
CONCRETE
& QUARRY

02 4474 0320

Kate & Tara
your vets
at Surf Beach

EUROCOAST
Veterinary Centre

4471 3400