

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Third Sunday of Lent Year A
First Reading Ex 17:3-7

A reading from the book of Exodus
Give us water to drink.
Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. ‘Why did you bring us out of Egypt?’ they said. ‘Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?’ Moses appealed to the Lord. ‘How am I to deal with this people?’ he said. ‘A little more and they will stone me!’ The Lord said to Moses, ‘Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.’ This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, ‘Is the Lord with us, or not?’
The Word of he Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 94:1-2, 6-9. R. v.8
1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord.
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand.
3. O that today you would listen to his voice! ‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.’
(R.) If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Second Reading Rom 5:1-2, 5-8
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God’s glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for

sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.
The Word of he Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 4:42, 15
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!


Gospel Jn 4:5-42 Shorter form
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.
Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, ‘Give me a drink.’ His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, ‘What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?’ – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied: ‘If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.’ ‘You have no bucket, sir,’ she answered ‘and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?’ Jesus replied: ‘Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.’ ‘Sir,’ said the woman, ‘give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water.’ ‘Go and call your husband’ said Jesus to her ‘and come back here.’ The woman answered, ‘I have no husband.’ He said to her, ‘You are right to say, “I have no husband”; for although you have had five, the one you have now is not your husband. You spoke the truth there.’ ‘I see you are a prophet, sir’ said the woman. ‘Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that

Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.’ Jesus said: ‘Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshiper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.’ The woman said to him, ‘I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.’ ‘I who am speaking to you,’ said Jesus ‘I am he.’ Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman’s testimony when she said, ‘He told me all I have ever done’, so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, ‘Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.’
The Gospel of the Lord
R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate
Our Sacred Site
The Jewish people worshipped at the Temple in Jerusalem. The Samaritans to the north worshipped on Mount Gerizem. But Jesus says to the woman of Samaria: ‘Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem . . . true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth.’ We do this by acknowledging Jesus Christ as *our* sacred site. Jesus is where God is to be found. In his earthly ministry this was around places like the well in Samaria. As Risen Lord, he is to be found in those in dire need, and in the Heavenly Bread. In both cases we need to incline the body as an act of worship: in the case of the needy, by doing something practical; in the case of the Heavenly Bread, by genuflecting, bowing, before the Blessed Sacrament. We could pause for a moment to reorientate ourselves to the Sacred Site who is the Risen Christ, acknowledging him as indeed the ‘Saviour of the World’.

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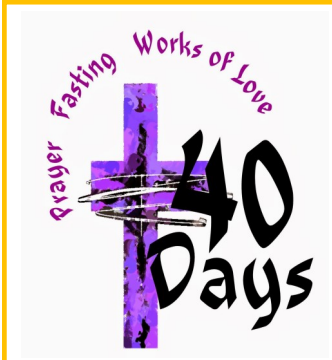
ST BERNARD'S PARISH BATEMANS BAY

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E: batemansbay@cg.org.au
Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay
Office Hours: 10am to 2pm
Tuesday-Friday

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R.E.C: Sharon Beashel
Principal: Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan
Carroll College, Broulee
R.E.C: Erica Drewsen



Upcoming Events

Choir Practice
Monday @ 1pm

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

ENJOY THE GOOD NEWS
Resumes after Easter

Cuppa with Mary MacKillop
Tuesday 14th March 10-11am @ Sue & Bob Hughes home PH: 44723810

Wrap With Love
Tuesday 14th March 10 am
B/Bay Library

Craft Group Thursdays 10am


ADORATION TUESDAY @ 8AM

COFFEE CLUB
Thursdays after Mass
Venue: Corrigans Cove
All are welcome

STATIONS OF THE CROSS & SOUP DINNER
5.00PM FRIDAY during Lent

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT —YEAR A

...LIFE-GIVING WATER...



Water is a basic need for life and for us as Christians it symbolises our call as the baptised to life in Christ as the People of God.

This weekend's familiar Gospel of the Samaritan Woman at the Well has many layers of meaning for us, especially during this Lenten Season. The first is perhaps the understanding of **encounter**. Jesus encounters the Samaritan Woman at the well and asks her to give him a drink – he breaks the traditional cultural boundaries by speaking with a Samaritan when Jews did not associate with them and especially not women.

Breaking traditional boundaries was core to the mission of Jesus – reaching out to give the message of eternal life through telling us that **'anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life'**.

An outcast in her own community, the Samaritan woman even despised herself, but Jesus recognised her spiritual thirst and engaged with her. It is important for us all to accept that the grace of God is always there for everyone. Regardless of the messiness of our lives, Jesus values all of us enough to actively seek us, to draw us into relationship with him. If we wish to drink this life-giving water, we are invited to **encounter** Jesus and in the words of the Psalm – **'If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.'**

Living water can be understood in various ways, but the clearest way is that living water is **a symbol for salvation and a true knowledge of God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit**. God provides us with everything we need and is the "living water" that continues to always give to us.

The story of the woman at the well is **a rich example of love, truth, redemption, and acceptance**. And best of all, not only does Jesus accept her, but He accepts us, too. He invites us all to belong and to be open to believing in God's kingdom.

The Samaritan woman **became the first evangelist**. She preached the message to the whole city...**'many Samaritans of that town had believed Jesus on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, "He told me all I have ever done'.**

As we journey during Lent are we willing to really encounter God, to trust in God so that we can not only share in the living water but be the living water to others through our witness and love of others.

Phil Billington



MASS THIS WEEK

Monday 13th March-
Sunday 19th March

Monday 13th: No Mass
Tuesday 14th: Mass 9am
Adoration: 8.00am
Wednesday 15th: Mass 9am
Thursday 16th: No Mass
Friday 17th: Mass 9am
5pm Stations of the Cross
and Soup Dinner
Saturday 18th: Vigil 6pm
Sunday 19th: Mass 9am

Masses in Aged Care Facilities

- Mass First Wed of Month @10.30am Denhams Beach Community Care (Opal)
- Mass 2nd Wed of the month @10.30am The Glen
- Mass 3rd Wed of month @2pm The Manor
- Mass 4th Wed of month @2pm Maranatha Lodge

ROSTERS

11/12 MARCH Cleaning

13-17 March
Favetta/O'Neill/Nugent

6.00PM MASS

Welcomer: K Conway
Commentator: D Robinson
Reader: J Mackay
Eucharistic Ministers: M Weatherall, K Lovering
Computer Screen: J O'Sullivan

9.00 AM MASS:

Welcomer: L Foran
Commentator: N Beatty
Reader: D Herring
Eucharistic Ministers: A Skinner, A Scieluna
Computer Screen: T Priest

MORNING TEA:

M & C Lowe

18/19 MARCH Cleaning

20-24 D & L May

6.00PM MASS

Welcomer: B Oerder
Commentator: M Weatherall
Reader: P Nolan
Eucharistic Ministers: Y Oerder, L Rodwell
Computer Screen: K Conway

9.00 AM MASS:

Welcomer: C Connell
Commentator: B Basevi
Reader: D Herring
Eucharistic Ministers: V & C Burns
Computer Screen: D May

MORNING TEA:

A Brown & helper



LENTEN PROGRAM

God is on the Journey too:
All are welcome to attend the
Lenten Program

beginning on each
Wednesday February 22 – March 29 after
the 9am Mass in the Church Meeting
Room. **Or** you might like to join the
Evening Lenten Group at 5pm in the
Church Meeting Room, contact Bernie Basevi: [m]0428 227 384
Or join a **zoom group** contact Phil Billington [m]0428 593 191

A good way to prepare with other like minded people for the
Lenten Journey to Easter.

We ask a \$5 donation for the booklet if you are able.

Any enquires contact: Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057

CHRISM MASS— MONDAY 3RD APRIL, 5pm @ St Christopher's
Cathedral Forrest for this most important Holy Week Ceremony.

Everyone is most welcome

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 PEOPLE PLEASE for Maranatha

All resources and guidance given on 1:1.

Please consider this request.

One Day Pastoral Care Introductory Course: a time
to review if you are experienced, a time to learn if
you are new and want to know more.

Date: Saturday March 25, 2023. 9am – 4pm
beginning in St Bernard's Parish Office. **BYO Lunch.**

Morning Tea & Afternoon Tea provided. Free.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL.

Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057

PARISH GALONG RETREAT

20-23 MARCH, 2023
The cost for this retreat is:
Shared Room \$130 pp per night
Single Room \$150 per night
All rooms have en suites
Includes: All meals and
afternoon teas
CONTACT: Rev Fr Joe Tran
on 4476 2191

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

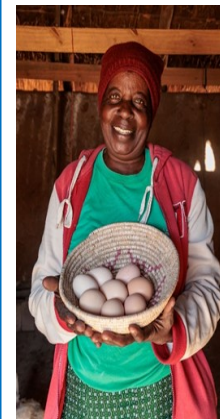
If you would like to join the Parish
e-platform giving for both the Priest and
the Church, the details are as follows:

Acc. Name:

St Bernard's Operating
Account: BSB: 062-786

Bank Acc: 00012939

Ref: Family Name



Priscilla lives in the
Hwange district in
Zimbabwe with her
husband, Charles, and
their two grandsons.

Climate change continues to
bring unprecedented
challenges for people living
in the most vulnerable and
remote communities in
Zimbabwe.

With the support of Caritas
Hwange, Priscilla learnt
conservation farming skills to
grow drought-resistant crops
to support her family during
the current food crisis.

Priscilla was able to produce a bumper harvest
in her first year of practising conservation
farming. Priscilla used the funds from her
harvest to start poultry farming, which enabled
her to sell eggs to pay for her grandchildren's
school fees, books and stationery. The poultry
farming provides a safety net for Priscilla and
her family during times of hardship, like the
current drought.

While the situation in Zimbabwe and across
eastern Africa remains dire, the work of Caritas
Hwange means that Priscilla can learn the skills
she needs to build resilience and support her
family during this current food crisis.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities
face their challenges today and build a better
tomorrow **For All Future Generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion
donation boxes/envelopes available from your
parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.



Remembering the Sick:

Sr Marie McAlister, Peter O'Neill, Barry O'Neill, Beverley Biglia, Fr John Walter, 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 Lanson, 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: Loretta Jones, Filomena Dela Torre, David Coates, Christopher Horsfall, Dawn Millman, Mara Pranjic, 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*

MARCH

For victims of abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

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Patrick Fleming

Batehaven Medical Centre
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