

LITURGY OF THE WORD Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading *Isaiah 56:1,6-7*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.
Thus says the Lord: Have a care
for justice, act with integrity, for
soon my salvation will come and
my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached
themselves to the Lord to serve
him and to love his name and be
his servants – all who observe the
sabbath, not profaning it, and cling
to my covenant – these I will bring
to my holy mountain. I will make
them joyful in my house of prayer.
Their holocausts and their sacrific-
es will be accepted on my altar, for
my house will be called a house of
prayer for all the peoples.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations
praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless
us

and let your face shed its light up-
on us.

So will your ways be known upon
earth

and all nations learn your saving
help. (R.)

2. Let the nations be glad and ex-
ult

for you rule the world with justice.

With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. (R.)

3. Let the peoples praise you, O
God;

let all the peoples praise you.

May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere
him. (R.)

Second Reading

Romans 11:13-15. 29-32

A reading from the letter of St
Paul to the Romans

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

Let me tell you pagans this: I have
been sent to the pagans as their
apostle, and I am proud of being
sent, but the purpose of it is to
make my own people envious of
you, and in this way save some of

them. Since their rejection meant
the reconciliation of the world, do
you know what their admission
will mean? Nothing less than a
resurrection from the dead! God
never takes back his gifts or re-
vokes his choice. Just as you
changed from being disobedient to
God, and now enjoy mercy be-
cause of their disobedience, so
those who are disobedient now –
and only because of the mercy
shown to you – will also enjoy
mercy eventually. God has impris-
oned all men in their own disobe-
dience only to show mercy to all
mankind.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation *Matthew 4:23*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of
the kingdom and healed all who
were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel *Matthew 15:21-28*

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Matthew

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Gennesaret and with-
drew to the region of Tyre and Si-
don. Then out came a Canaanite
woman from that district and start-
ed shouting, ‘Sir, Son of David,
take pity on me. My daughter is
tormented by a devil.’ But he an-
swered her not a word. And his
disciples went and pleaded with
him. ‘Give her what she wants,’
they said ‘because she is shouting
after us.’ He said in reply, ‘I was
sent only to the lost sheep of the
House of Israel.’ But the woman
had come up and was kneeling at
his feet. ‘Lord,’ she said ‘help
me.’ He replied, ‘It is not fair to
take the children’s food and throw
it to the house-dogs.’ She retorted,
‘Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs
can eat the scraps that fall from
their master’s table.’ Then Jesus
answered her, ‘Woman, you have
great faith. Let your wish be grant-
ed.’ And from that moment her
daughter was well again.

The Gospel of the Lord

**R. Praise to you Lord Jesus
Christ**

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The English translation of the Psalm Respons-
es, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the
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REFLECTION

by Fr Michael Tate

On Catholic Dogs

A pagan woman approaches a
Jewish man and she begs Jesus to
heal her daughter. Jesus gives a
dismissive answer to the woman:
‘It is not fair to take the children’s
bread and throw it to the house
dogs.’ The children are obviously
the Jewish people.

This remarkable *pagan* woman
stands her ground and engages in a
verbal joust with Jesus! She ar-
gues: ‘Yes, Lord, but even the
house dogs get the crumbs that fall
from their master’s table.’ Jesus
recognises *her* faith and the daugh-
ter was healed. This story was put
in the Gospels to show how Jesus
extended his saving mission to non
-Jews in Pagan territory. That is
Good News for billions of non-
Jewish people over the course of
history since then and into the fu-
ture. That is why we are truly
‘Catholic’, which, as you know, is
the Greek for ‘world-wide’.

We could pause for a moment to
celebrate this Canaanite woman as
the first ‘Catholic’!

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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

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A



Upcoming Events

Choir Practice
1PM Mondays

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

ENJOY THE GOOD NEWS
Wednesdays after 9am Mass

Gathering—Bridging
Aboriginal & Christian
Spirituality Tuesday Aug
22nd 10-3pm Church

Wrap With Love
Wednesday 30th August 1pm
CMR All welcome

Parish Feast Day Celebration
20th August 11.30 am
All Welcome

School/Clergy Leadership
Day Canberra Aug 25th

Craft Group Thursdays 10am

ADORATION TUESDAYS @
4pm

COFFEE CLUB Thursdays
after Mass
Venue: Corrigan's Cove
All are welcome

WHO BELONGS TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD?...

The readings remind us and even highlight the differences socially,
politically and religiously relevant and prevalent during the time of Jesus as He
travelled, telling as many people as possible about God. Jesus was anxious to
assure people that we are all part of one body held in God's love.

Isaiah sets the scene by his use of the word “foreigners” and those “ who
observe the Sabbath, not profaning it” suggesting that inclusivity is important for
“ my house will be called a house of prayer for all peoples”.

Paul uses the word pagan stating he is there as their “apostle” speaking of
his work which was easing the relationship between Jews and Gentiles at this
time. He was assuring them that they were all loved by God.

The Gospel has Jesus moving geographically, but more importantly
beyond His comfort zone where His audience had been primarily Jewish. He
was now in what was regarded as the Gentile region. One can't help but
wonder about the reason for this move. Can we read into this as it being a
lesson to be taught/explained?

There, we read of a loud, outspoken Canaanite woman desperate to attract
the attention of Jesus. Initially, He seemingly ignored her and the disciples
encouraged Him to give her what she wanted in order to shut her down and out.

Jesus continued with the encounter, even incorporating the word “dog”
which to us could seem to be rude/harsh but “dog” was a common colloquial
expression among Jews for Gentiles. It is as though Jesus kept engaging with
the woman to test her persistence and her sincerity. She did refer to Him as
Son of David, acknowledging with respect His beliefs. He saw her faith even
though she was not a member of “His” people.

Is this Gospel revealing to us Jesus modelling particular behaviour and
attitudes towards someone who could be regarded as “an outsider”? The
woman with her persistence may also be teaching us something!

The two of them exhibit the beginning of a real relationship going beyond
race, socio economic status, political and religious affiliation. Is it a reminder to
us to reflect on and consider some of our relationships? Are we being asked to
go beyond our comfort zone, encouraging real relationships by being inclusive,
fair and letting go of any prejudice?

The readings, each with their own message are reminders of God's love
for us all.

Jesus came to restore/renew us so we know

WE ALL BELONG TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD!

Ken and Carolyn Evenden



MASS THIS WEEK

Monday 21st August

Sunday 27th August

Monday 21st: No Mass

Tuesday 22nd: Mass 5pm
Adoration 4pm

Wednesday 23rd: Mass 9am

Thursday 24th: Mass 9am

Friday 25th: Mass 9am

Saturday 26th: Mass 5pm

Reconciliation 3.30-4.30pm

Sunday 27th: Mass 9am

PARISH FEAST DAY CELEBRATION

Come along and join us for lunch and help us celebrate
St Bernard's Feast Day



WHERE: St Bernard's Church

WHEN : Sunday 20th August

TIME : 11.30 am

An Aussie BBQ, and

Philippino lunch will be provided,

preceded by morning tea and coffee.

ALL PARISHIONERS, FAMILIES, AND FRIENDS

WELCOME !!!

A Gold Coin Donation would be appreciated

**Please note: Mass on that Sunday will commence at 10am
instead of the usual 9am**

Convent Garden Working Bee



With Spring fast
approaching...we
**NEED YOUR
HELP...**

Saturday August 26,
9-30am - 11-30am.

BYO garden tools for
weeding and pruning.
Remember garden gloves, hat
and
water bottle.

To put your name down:
Marie Weatherall
[m] 0405 028 057

VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK

August 24 – 31 has
been nominated as
Archdiocesan Vocations
Awareness Week. Join
us as we begin the week
with a special prayer
vigil on Thursday, 24
August at St
Christopher's Cathedral
from 6 - 7 pm.
More Vocations infor-
mation can be found at
[www.facebook.com/
cgvocations](http://www.facebook.com/cgvocations)

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
BSB: 0062-786
Bank Account: 00012939
Ref: Family Name

**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 PASTORAL COUNCIL

Fr Loi has requested that the PPC be
reformed in our parish.

The PPC will be a body reflecting the life of
the parish providing advice and support to Fr
Loi.

In 2023 the PPC will be made up of the
following:

1 rep from the Pastoral Care team
1 rep from the Liturgy team
1 rep from the Finance Committee
1 rep from St Bernard's School
1 rep from Carroll College
Parish Priest
PPC Chair.

**We are asking for 2 additional members
from the parish to nominate to join the
PPC. Their roles will be Social Justice
Coordinator and Social Coordinator.**

Meetings will be held once every 2
months and will last for 1 hour.

If you would like to nominate
for one of the two roles above
please give your name to Fr Loi
before August 14 with the first
meeting to be held in early
September

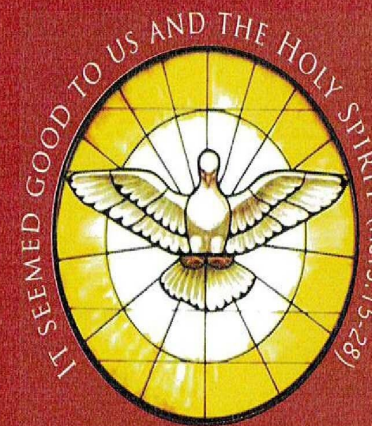


Remembering the Sick:

Maria de Rocco, Pam Wilson, Laurence Foran, Julie Morgan, Myrna Glenn, Norma Dean,
Ann Marie McLoughlin, Antionette Doyle, Christine Norman, Anne Gatehouse, Tony Vogel,
Suzanne Hughes, Trent Fisk, Carolyn Burns, Sr Marie McAlister, Peter 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, 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 Odum, Luke Ward, Andrew
Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, 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: Julie McDonald, Tony Plascak,
Janet Thornbury, Michele (Mick) Ferrante, Barry O'Neill, Frank Belsa, Henry Thomas, Rosa Spano,
Geza Markovits, Del Bateman, Kayleen Mortlock, Dan Quigley, Maree O'Brien, Rees De Winter,
John Dunne, Maria Ivelja, Stjepan Matasin, Peter McGann, Dante Pasqualin, Loretta Jones,
Filomena Dela Torre, Christopher Horsfall, Dawn Millman, Mara Pranjic, Travis Basevi, Judith
Dewick, Nita Gorzalka, Linda Russell



YEAR OF THE Holy Spirit

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT
FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE

O God, who by the light
of the Holy Spirit,
did instruct the hearts
of the faithful,
Grant that by the same
Holy Spirit we may be
truly wise and ever rejoice in his
consolations.
Through the same
Christ Our Lord

AUGUST 2023 - AUGUST 2024

Pope Francis
Monthly Prayer
Intentions

AUGUST

For World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth
Day in Lisbon will help
young people to live and
witness the Gospel in
their own lives..



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