LITURGY OF THE WORD

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading *Ezekiel 33:7-9* A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

The Word of the Lord R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2.6-9. R. v.8

- (R.) O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.
- 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 mv work.'
- (R.) O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not vour hearts.

Second Reading *Romans* 13:8-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Love is the fulfilment of the Law.

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried

out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

The Word of the Lord R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

2 Corinthians 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia!

Gospel *Matthew 18:15-20*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with vou: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

- 'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.
- 'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'
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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Boundaries and Juries

Our Lord acknowledged that the community he was establishing had to set boundaries. Who is to decide who is within or outside those boundaries?

In today's Gospel, Our Lord teaches that a nuanced step by step process should be invoked. First, there is private conversation, then slightly extended to bring in two or three others, then a sort of church community jury before a person is put beyond the pale. Our Lord promises to be with them to help guide their decision.

We all know of marriages which are fractured and where one partner has found intimacy and security in a second (civil) marriage.

Pope Francis has not suggested that the second marriage be regarded as valid. But he has suggested a process of discernment to allow a divorced person to receive 'the Eucharist . . . a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.'

Could a jury of ordinary Catholic lay people help make that discerning judgement, and then advise the Bishop as to the next step?

We could pause for a moment to ponder the promise: 'Where two or three are gathered into my name. I am there with them.'

© Fr Michael Tate; 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 **BSB:** 062-786 **Bank Acc:** 00012939 **Ref**: Family Name



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Priest: Rev. Loi Viovicente Secretary: Roslynne 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

TWENTY THIRD **SUNDAY IN** ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A



Upcoming Events

Choir Practice

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

ENJOY THE GOOD NEWS Wednesdays after 9am Mass

First Eucharist Celebration Mass Sunday 10th September 9am

Cuppa with Mary MacKillop Tuesday 12th September @ Mary O'Neill's home 10-11am All welcome

Wrap With Love Tuesday 12th September @ 10am B/Bay Library All are

PPC Meeting Thursday 14th September 5pm Meeting Room

Carroll College Graduation Mass Wednesday 20th September 5

Craft Group Thursdays 10am

ADORATION TUESDAYS @ 4pm

COFFEE CLUB Thursdays after Venue: Corrigans Cove All are welcome

...'I shall be there with you' (Matthew 18:20) ...

This weekend the Gospel of Matthew further develops the theme of discipleship and our understanding of the community of the Church. In August tens of thousands of young people and those not so young, gathered in Lisbon Portugal for World Youth Day – the largest, inclusive expression of Church in the world in one place, people are able to choose themselves to attend.

In the midst of the preparation for the Synod on Synodality in Rome in October which signals a change in the culture of the Church – inviting participation by all the baptised – and which has elicited varying responses across the Church, Pope Francis gave the following address to the young people in Lisbon...

In the church, Pope Francis said, "there is space for everyone, and when there isn't, please, let's work so that there is — also for who makes mistakes, for who falls, for who it is difficult." Departing from his prepared speech, he asked all the young people to "repeat with me: 'Everyone, everyone, everyone!" before waves of "todos, todos, todos"—" everyone" in Spanish and Portuguese—spread throughout the crowd.

"That is the church," he said, "the mother of all; there is room for all."

Throughout the crowd there were flags from countries with large Catholic populations such as Spain and Brazil, but also proudly displayed banners from countries where Catholics represent a small portion of the population. After a greeting from Cardinal Manuel do Nascimento Clemente of Lisbon, young people read messages in various languages sent to the pope asking for advice and sharing the personal challenges they face in life and in the faith, from migration problems and hunger to hopelessness and a loss of faith.

But rather than give direct responses, the pope told the young people that asking questions is "often better than giving answers, because one who asks remains restless, and restlessness is the best remedy for routine, which is sometimes a form of normalcy that numbs the soul."

Pope Francis urged them to ask never stop asking themselves questions and to bring them before God in prayer. "Life goes on giving answers, we just have to wait for them," he said. "I invite you think—this is so beautiful—that God loves us as we are, not how we would like to be or how society wants us to be, as we are," he said looking up from his prepared text. "He loves us with the limits we have, with the defects we have, and with the desire we have to keep moving forward in life! God loves us like

So let us each reflect personally on what Pope Francis challenges us in his statement:

"That is the church," he said, "the mother of all; there is room for all."

Is there indeed room for all in our Church?

Phil Billington



MASSES THIS WEEK Monday 11th September Sunday 17th September Monday 11th: No Mass

Tuesday 12th: Mass 5pm

Adoration 4pm

Wednesday 13th: Mass 9am Thursday 14th: Mass 9am Friday 15th: Mass 9.15am Saturday 16th: Mass 5pm Reconciliation 3.30-4.30pm **Sunday 17th:** Mass 9am

MASS TIME CHANGE

Please note Saturday Mass will revert to 6pm on Saturday 30th September. Also Reconciliation will change to 4.30 pm PLEASE NOTE IN YOUR DIARY

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

16/17 SEPTEMBER

5.00PM MASS

Reader P Nolan

Welcomer B Oerder

Eucharistic Ministers

M Devine, L Rodwell

Computer Screen

9.00 AM MASS:

Welcomer M deSmet

Commentator L Page

Eucharistic Ministers

C Schor, A Scicluna

Computer Screen T

MORNING TEA:

Reader: T Jackson

K Conway

Priest.

N & L Page

18-22 M deSmet/J Maher

Commentator B Maynard

Cleaning

ROSTERS 9/10 SEPTEMBER Cleaning

11-15 D & L May

5.00PM MASS

Welcomer: M Devine Commentator: S Ebeier Reader: J Mackay **Eucharistic Ministers** K Lovering, M Bridges Computer Screen J O'Sullivan

9.00 AM MASS:

Welcomer School Commentator . School Reader: School **Eucharistic Ministers** J Wain, S Beashel Computer Screen D May

MORNING TEA: J Barroman/G

Berryman

(CONGRATULATIONS)

to the boys and girls celebrating their First Eucharist this Sunday 10th September.

Many thanks to the parents and teachers who participated in their Sacramental Preparations.



Cuppa with Mary MacKillop

will be at the home of Mary O'Neill on Tuesday September 12, 10am - 11 am All welcome.

Enquiries: Mary 0403 147 242 Need transport: Ring Marie 0405 028 057

Thank you Convent Working Bee Team

WHO WEEDED AND TIDIED UP THE CONVENT AREA: John K. Christian D, Matthew C, Lisa & Vaughan N, Tonnie Your help was really appreciated.

St Vincent de Paul needs translation help

with a letter from St Margaret's Conference in Sth India whom we support.

The letter comes from Govada Amarthaluru Guntur -Andhra Pradesh and the language is Telungu.

Please phone Marie Weatherall if you can assist. (M) 0405 028 057

Carroll College Graduation Mass will be held at St Bernard's Church on Wednesday 20th September at 5 pm

Baptism

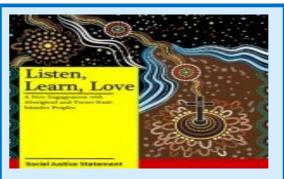
This weekend we welcome Beaudine Keen into our faith community through the waters of baptism. May God's love and blessings be upon her on this baptism day and always.

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY 2023

This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters.

We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church equires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place that builds and supports safe communities for all people. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023

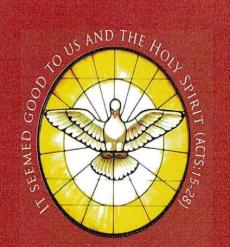
WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND THE WALBUNJA PEOPLE OF THE YUIN NATION. WE PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THEIR ELDERS, PAST, PRESENT AND EMERGING



THE AUSTRALIAN BISHOPS **CONFERENCE HAVE RELEASED THE 2023** -2024 SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT: "LISTEN, LEARN, LOVE - A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples" last weekend on Social Justice Sunday. Copies are in the Church Foyer. Online link is: Social Justice Statement 2023-24 - Office For Justice, Ecology and Peace (catholic.org.au)

Prior to the call for a Voice referendum, the decision was made to address how the Church might initiate further engagement with our Indigenous brothers and sisters. In releasing the Statement, Bishop Vincent Long, Parramatta Diocese, noted "Whatever the outcome of this year's referendum, we ask the Church in Australia to make efforts to lead the way for our fellow Australians. Our attitudes and actions towards First Nations Peoples need to be grounded in justice, love, and humility. 'Doing justice, loving kindness and walking in humility as the prophet long ago urges us.

For people wishing to know more about the Referendum on The Voice, NATSICC (the peak Advisory Body to the Australian Bishops) & Caritas Australia have launched One Journey Together (indigenousvoice.church) - a hub for Catholic support of the Voice to Parliament which empowers Catholics to make an informed decision at the Referendum. The site contains a collation of statements from Bishops, Religious Orders and agencies, Catholic Social Services Australia, Catholic Religious Australia, Caritas Australia, and other communities and agencies.



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

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 Odlum, 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: Krsto Jarnjevic, 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

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NDUSTRIAL REPLACEMENTS

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Pope Francis

Monthly Prayer

Intentions

September

For people living on

the margins

We pray for those persons

living on the margins of

society, in inhumane life

conditions; may they not

be overlooked by

institutions and never

considered of lesser

importance.

OCEAN BREEZE TAKEAWAY Fish & Chips, Burgers

Sandwiches & Coffee 100% BEEF BURGER 248 Beach Road

Batehaven NSW 2536 02 4472 1802 Maintenance RHYS MAY

0427 373 826

Clinical

Psychologist Patrick

Batehaven Medical Centre Ph: 0412 295 394

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Ray and Anne Brown





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