

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading Sirach 27:30 – 28:7
A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Forgive your neighbour’s faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 102:1-4, 9-12. R. v.8
(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.
 2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.
 3. His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults
 4. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins.
- (R.) The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Second Reading Romans 14:7-9
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.
The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.
The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation John 13:34
Alleluia, alleluia!
I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 18:21-35
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.
Peter went up to Jesus and said, ‘Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?’ Jesus answered, ‘Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times. ‘And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master’s feet. “Give me time,” he said “and I will pay the whole sum.” And the servant’s master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. “Pay what you owe me”, he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, “Give me time and I will pay you.” But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. “You wicked servant,” he said. “I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have

pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?” And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.’

The Gospel of the Lord
R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ
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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate
Forgiveness
I don’t like the phrase: ‘Forgive and forget’. Remembering can be an important part of healing. Forgiving is about giving up the desire ‘to get even’, making sure that the ‘punishment fits the crime’. It is that sort of forgiveness which we dare to ask of God for ourselves. But here's the catch: it is that sort of forgiveness which we must practise towards others. When we don’t, we are like the principal debtor in Jesus’ story. In harshly dealing with a minor debtor, he refused to share his king’s quality of forgiveness. If we don’t pass on this aspect of God’s life to others, then we are warned that we will end up in a hellish situation unable to share in the fullness of Divine life. It is easy to talk ‘Big Picture’ forgiveness. It is much harder within the family or circle of acquaintances. It seems impossible to simply will it. But we have to ask for the grace to do it. We could pause for a moment to pray: ‘Our Father who art in Heaven forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us..

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TWENTY FOURTH
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
- Wrap With Love
Wednesday 20th
September 1pm CMR
All are welcome
- Carroll College Graduation
Mass Wednesday 20th
September 5 pm
- Craft Group Thursdays
10am
- ADORATION TUESDAYS
@ 4pm
- COFFEE CLUB Thursdays
after Mass
Venue: Corrigan's Cove
All are welcome

“ Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me?”
Matthew 18:21

The question of forgiveness is an interesting even perplexing one, posing other related questions such as - What is forgiveness?

How many times am I expected to forgive?
How does forgiveness affect me?

The three readings this week, whilst each highlighting an aspect of forgiveness, can, on closer reading answer our questions regarding forgiveness and perhaps lead us to a greater understanding and appreciation of the attribute of forgiveness.

Joyce Rupp has a timely and pertinent reminder for us “ The one who follows Jesus and speaks His message may find it not easy to hear or accept - in this case - forgiveness.”

The Gospel is an example of Jesus sharing and showing us His understanding and focus on relationships in the community. There was a variety of backgrounds, political affiliations and personalities. Not much different from our present day! The need for patience, understanding, apologising and saying sorry (forgiveness) is still required.

Forgiveness does not mean “forgetting” or “ pretending” something did not happen. It does not mean we don’t get angry but rather we accept that whatever hurt or offended us may always remain with us but working on forgiveness may/can relieve the negative feelings. We need to focus on the belief that God loves and forgives us beyond measure.

Richard Rohr says “ forgiveness is simply the religious word for letting go”. It involves an intentional decision to let go of resentment and anger as well as being aware that negative energy can have us engaging in petty and unforgiving behaviour towards others. The first readings highlights this and Paul in his letter reminds us this week of our human connectedness and how our thoughts, actions can affect those in our community.

True forgiveness is from the heart. The heart being the core of our being and the centre of one cognition and emotion. To forgive from the heart is to forgive with the whole of one’s being.

Whilst we can find forgiveness difficult we need to be aware of how not being forgiven affects us. What does it do to us and our relationships and then to others and their relationships? Is the future of relationships always going to be encumbered by the past?

However often we pray the Lord’s Prayer do we always understand the significance of “ forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us?”

The readings this week, reinforce the teaching of Jesus about forgiveness being continual and unlimited if we wish to be called disciples of Jesus.

Ken and Carolyn Evenden



MASSES THIS WEEK

Monday 18th September

Sunday 24th September

Monday 18th: No Mass

Tuesday 19th: Mass 5pm
Adoration 4pm

Wednesday 20th: Mass 9am

Thursday 21st: Mass 9am

Friday 22nd: Mass 9.15am

Saturday 23rd: Mass 5pm

Reconciliation 3.30-4.30pm

Sunday 24th: 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

ROSTERS

16/17 SEPTEMBER

Cleaning

18-22 M deSmet/J Maher

5.00PM MASS

Welcomer B Oerder
Commentator B Maynard
Reader P Nolan
Eucharistic Ministers
M Devine, L Rodwell
Computer Screen
K Conway

9.00 AM MASS:

Welcomer M deSmet
Commentator L Page
Reader: T Jackson
Eucharistic Ministers
C Schor, A Scicluna
Computer Screen T Priest.

MORNING TEA:

N & L Page

23/24 SEPTEMBER

Cleaning

25-29 B Coffey/M Paine

5.00PM MASS

Welcomer K Conway
Commentator M Bridges
Reader J Quigley
Eucharistic Ministers
C.Brownlie A Rogers
Computer Screen
M O'Neill

9.00 AM MASS:

Welcomer L Foran
Commentator B Basevi
Reader: A Skinner
Eucharistic Ministers
N & L Page
Computer Screen D May.

MORNING TEA:

N Beatty/M deSmet

NEEDS OF LAY CATHOLICS TODAY

What do adult lay Catholics need today to help them live a committed Catholic life amid the circumstances of modern society? To find out and to help improve their services to our Archdiocese, the Canberra Circle of The Catenians, an international association of lay Catholics, is conducting an Archdiocesan-wide online survey.

Please help by completing this brief, anonymous, tick-box survey via this URL or QR code. Thank you. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CLTZGMW>

Contact: Phil Murray, President, Canberra Catenians 0419 695 927 or phil13murray@gmail.com

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

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

Caritas Australia's Emergency Appeals – Morocco / Libya

Caritas Australia needs your support to respond to the devastating earthquake in Morocco and floods in Libya. Thousands of people have died and others have been injured.

Communities need shelter, food, water and medical assistance. Please support Caritas Australia's emergency appeals.

Donate www.caritas.org.au



EMERGENCY APPEALS

Morocco Earthquake and Libya Floods

www.caritas.org.au



The PPC Meeting scheduled for Thursday 14th September was cancelled and will be held at a later date

TO BE CONFIRMED

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

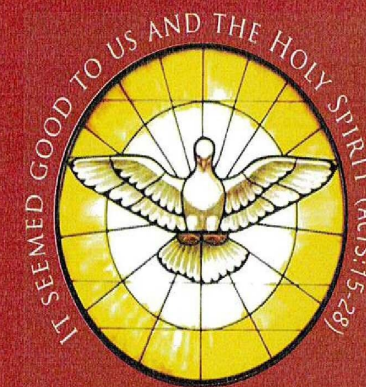
Remembering the Sick:

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 Odium, 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

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



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

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.

BATEMANS BAY & MORUYA DISTRICT FUNERALS

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