

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

First Reading Ezekiel 18:25-28
A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.
The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: ‘You object, “What the Lord does is unjust.” Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.’

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 24:4-9. R. v.6
(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour.
2. Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth.
3. The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor.

(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Second Reading Philippians 2:1-11
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.
If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your

convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people’s interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus: His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation John 10:27
Alleluia, alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 21:28-32
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.
Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, ‘What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, “My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today.” He answered, “I will not go,” but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, “Certainly, sir,” but did not go. Which of the two did the father’s will?’ ‘The first’ they said. Jesus said to them, ‘I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the king-

dom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.’

The Gospel of the Lord
R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

‘No, no, no, no ... Y-yes!’
Jesus tells a little story about two brothers. One said ‘Yes’, but never did anything. The other said ‘No’, but then had a change of heart and did what was required. Jesus loved the brother who came around. He was very hard on the one who said ‘Yes’ but did not ‘walk the talk’. That is why he loved those tax collectors who gathered the revenue for the Roman authorities, and the prostitutes who serviced the Roman occupying army, but who switched allegiance from the Empire of Caesar to the Kingdom of God. This signalled a profound change of heart. We may have said ‘No’ to God at various times with various intensity in our lives. But God is wonderfully patient and prepared to hear ‘No’ many times in the hope of hearing ‘Yes’. God’s patience never runs out. But our time to say ‘Yes’ does run out. We only have a relatively short life span! At the end of Mass, I will say ‘Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.’ As St Francis of Assisi put it, ‘Preach the Gospel, and occasionally use words.’ Walk the talk.

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ST BERNARD'S PARISH
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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
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TWENTY SIXTH
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 Tuesday
10th October 10am BBay
Library
All are welcome

Croatian Mass Saturday
7th October 11am

Craft Group Thursdays
10am—Resumes after school
holidays

ADORATION TUESDAYS
@ 4pm

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

Are you able to embrace change?

Petrea King in her book ‘Your Life Matters’ states: ‘Our society promotes the illusion that life should begin with a joyful childhood and happy teen years, and that we then enter the career of our choice and excel at it, meet the perfect partner, have wonderful children who always love, honour and respect us, find our ideal home, pay it off effortlessly and all go fishing in our old age.’



King notes: ‘Life is more like a roller coaster ride. None of us know what is over the crest or around the corner and the speed at which life travels is rarely up to us ...it is our responsibility to find and fasten our own seat belt, so when the roller coaster unexpectedly swings to the right we could have sworn it was meant to swing to the left, we are more easily able to accept, adjust and respond accordingly. Without the seatbelt is easy to get stuck in: ‘This isn’t fair , it shouldn’t have happened, it was meant to be different from this, I don’t deserve this – why me? Mode. While having such thoughts is understandable, getting stuck in that way of thinking can paralyse and embitter us. ...Ultimately to have peace, we need to move beyond resisting, railing or weeping onto acceptance.’ [Page 36 – 37]

Change of Heart

We can never wonder too much the mysterious attraction Jesus has for characters that have their minds well made up, disinclined to submit straight away to what is asked of them. It is as if Jesus guessed the hidden potential of a rebellious heart and knew that such a questioning heart isn’t necessarily blocked.

In the Gospel today [Matt 21: 28-32] the parable of the two sons is a good example. Here are two sons, who behave so differently towards their father: the first says “No”, then is sorry and does what is requested; the second son says “Yes” but does nothing. The rebellious son seems to have had a change of heart.

As we reflect on this Gospel we see our own lives reflected in the mirror of the parable. We see ourselves agreeing to something but catch ourselves out by looking around for an escape, an excuse for not doing too much, our frequent backing down and lacking courage. Obedience implies attentive listening and responding – it means appropriate action and not simply saying ‘Yes’ or “Amen’. As John Henry Newman states in Parochial Plain Sermon 1,13: ‘Yet many are there who sit still with folded hands, dreaming doing nothing at all, thinking they have done everything, or need do nothing, when they merely have had these good thoughts, which will save no one.’

Marie Weatherall



MASS THIS WEEK

Monday 2nd October

Sunday 8th October

Monday 2nd: No Mass
Tuesday 3rd: Mass 5pm
Adoration 4pm
Wednesday 4th: Mass 9am
Thursday 5th: Mass 9am
Friday 6th: Mass 9am
Saturday 7th: Mass 6pm
Croatian Mass 11am
Reconciliation 4.30-5.30pm
Sunday 8th: Mass 9am

There will be no Adoration on Tuesday 10th October and Fr John will celebrate Mass at 5pm same day

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

30 SEPT/1 OCTOBER
Cleaning
2-6 Oct R & K Ison

5.00PM MASS
Welcomer C.Brownlie
Commentator: D Robinson
Reader : M Weatherall
Eucharistic Ministers
M O'Neill Y Oerder
Computer Screen
K Conway

9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer J McClelland
Commentator N Beatty
Reader: B Basevi
Eucharistic Ministers
A Skinner D Herring
Computer Screen T Priest.

MORNING TEA:
Filipino Community

7/8 OCTOBER

Cleaning
9-13 Favetta/O'Neill/
Nugent

6.00PM MASS
Welcomer J Anderson
Commentator: P O'Kelly
Reader: S Ebejer
Eucharistic Ministers
K Lovering, M
Weatherall
Computer Screen
K Conway

9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer T van den
Broek
Commentator A Skinner
Reader: L Page
Eucharistic Ministers
L Stevens, K Corbin
Computer Screen D May.
MORNING TEA:
M Vidovic & Zdenka

With THANKSGIVING to ALMIGHTY GOD
The ARCHDIOCESE of CANBERRA & GOULBURN
Invite you to THE DIACONATE ORDINATION of
MR MARK HA
By THE MOST REVEREND CHRISTOPHER PROWSE
ARCHBISHOP OF CANBERRA & GOULBURN
On FRIDAY 3RD NOVEMBER @ 5PM
St Christopher's Cathedral
FORREST ACT 2603
Kindly RSVP by 25th OCTOBER
marcokhoithang@gmail.com or 0455288443

The Parish Office will let you know re transport options closer to the date

Journeying Together

Prayer Pilgrimage towards the First Assembly of

The Synod of Bishops, October 2023



October's focus is the Synod and the participants as it progresses.

God of the Lead and Lure, Sharpen the perception of those who will gather for the Synod. May they listen carefully to each other and discern the deep truth of the Spirit's promptings. Lord, hear us.

God of the Vision, lead us past the cramped and crumpled ruin of our personal dreams into a future full of possibilities to not only see more but be more of the future you call your Church to become. Lord, hear us.

God of our Dreaming, be with the Synod delegates when they gather next month.. May they see through the murky cloudiness of sentimentality and convention into the bright daylight of a church made young and new. Lord, hear us.

God of Possibilities, unclench our white-knuckled grasp on what we hold as non-negotiable and lead us into a future redolent with open handed generosity towards all, especially those on the margins of our community. Lord, hear us.

God of the Wilderness, the recent years have been a journey of desert proportions: sexual abuse, Covid-19, floods, fires and international conflict. Remembering this journey, may our synodal delegates set their faces like flint and discern your Wisdom for a world groaning to be born anew. Lord, hear us.
<https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/synod-will-be-an-aussie-affair/>

MARIAN PROCESSION

2023
Sunday—October 22

@ The restored and rededicated STS PETER &
PAUL OLD CATHEDRAL, GOULBURN
10am—2pm
Please see poster in church foyer for further details

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

Sunday 1st October is *Respect Life Sunday* in our Archdiocese.

The Archbishop will highlight current life issues at the 11am Cathedral Mass which will be followed by a luncheon & brief presentations by those working & advocating on life issues including:

Archdiocesan Chancellor, Dr Patrick McArdle, and representatives from [HOPE Australia](#); [ACT Right To Life](#) & [First Steps Pregnancy Support](#)

Archbishop Christopher Prowse will celebrate Respect Life Sunday Mass at 11 AM on October 1st at St Christopher's Cathedral.

Following will be a light luncheon in the Haydon Hall including brief inputs from those working at the coalface in caring and advocating for human life in its most vulnerable stages.

RSVP for luncheon @ www.cgcatholic.org.au/respect-life/ Enquiries: [Lara Kirk la-ra.kirk@cg.org.au](mailto:Lara.Kirk@cg.org.au) 0429 192 869

For more information on Respect Life Sunday follow this link
<https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/event/respect-life-sunday/>

Cuppa with Mary MacKillop
will take place in
St Bernard's Church
Meeting Room on Tuesday Oct 10th
from 10 am – 11 am
All Welcome.
Enquiries: Marie W
0405 028 057

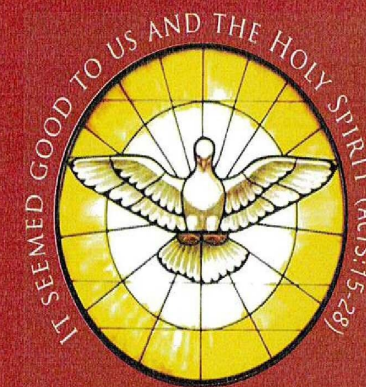
Remembering the Sick:

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: Fr Don Gunn, 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

October

For the Synod

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

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