

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year B
First Reading

Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46
A reading from the book of Leviticus
As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, ‘If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man’s skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons. ‘The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, “Unclean, unclean”. As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.’

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 31:1-2, 5, 11. R. v.7
(R.) I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

1. Happy the man whose offence is forgiven, whose sin is remitted. O happy the man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no guile.

2. But now I have acknowledged my sins; my guilt I did not hide. I said: ‘I will confess my offence to the Lord.’ And you, Lord, have forgiven the guilt of my sin.

3. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, exult, you just! O come, ring out your joy, all you upright of heart.

(R.) I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:31 – 11:1
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.
Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone – to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be

saved. Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 7:16
Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 1:40-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The leprosy left him and he was cured.

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: ‘If you want to’ he said ‘you can cure me.’ Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. ‘Of course I want to!’ he said. ‘Be cured!’ And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, ‘Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.’ The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

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

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate
Jesus outcast for us

Lepers were social outcasts forced to live outside the villages and towns. Jesus heals the leper, allowing him to return to communal living, but, in touching him, Jesus put himself on the outer. The Gospel says that Jesus ‘had to stay outside where nobody lived’. Jesus willingly changed places with the leper! This incident prefigures the deepest mystery and scandal of the Gospel. Because of our deliberate wrongdoing, we are ‘on the outside’ with God. Our Lord and Saviour willingly experienced that alienation on Calvary, *outside* the walls of Jerusa-

lem, in a desolate place where no-body lived. He suffered the dis-locating consequences of sin in his body and mind: ‘My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?’

He took our place outside the human awareness of the loving presence of His Heavenly Father so that we might be located in the right place, *insiders* with God.

We might pause for a moment to lovingly thank our Saviour for leading us into ‘the One in Whom we live and move and have our being’.

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:
00012939Ref: Family Name

ZOOM ROSARY

You are invited to join us to pray the Rosary via Zoom.

TO JOIN:

Meeting No: 697 896 1059
Password: 8Py80J

Every Wednesday & Friday @ 4pm
Every night @ 8.30pm



ST BERNARD’S PARISH
BATEMANS BAY
2 David Avenue, Batehaven NSW 2536



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: 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

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

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B



Touching the ‘Untouchables’

Today’s first reading [Leviticus 13: 1-2,44-46] and the Gospel [Mark 1:4-45] remind me powerfully of the time in the mid 1980s – 1990s when the HIV/ AIDs virus in Australia was devastating the Gay Community, those living with haemophilia and later heterosexuals: men, women and children. **At the time these were the ‘untouchables’ in our community.**



In Sydney Hospitals meals were left outside the doors, cleaners were refusing to go into the rooms of those with the virus. People in the community were genuinely frightened by the disease they didn’t understand. For those living with the disease stigma and isolation grew, while ignorance and prejudice prevailed in the community. **In this darkness a light gradually grew** as different community groups, beginning in the Gay Community, established volunteer groups to go into the homes, hospitals and like to support, in practical ways, those who were suffering. The Sisters of Charity at St Vincent’s responded quickly to the situation in their hospital and through hands on care on the wards, palliative care in the Sacred Heart Hospice, education of Staff, provided wholistic care and spiritual support based on Gospel values to those suffering from the virus. Their example had a very positive ripple effect of other primary care providers, individuals and families. Working in HIV/AIDs ministry for 9 years I witnessed healing taking place at many levels.

‘If you want you can cure me.’

When Jesus lived, leprosy was not just an incurable physical ailment: it amounted to social and religious death. It was viewed as the severest sentence that God passed on the ‘sinner’. The meeting in Mark’s Gospel between Jesus and the Leper is highly significant – the outcast meets the servant, himself a future outcast; leprosy which defiles comes into contact with the One who purifies and heals. **‘If you want you can cure me.’ These are the words, the plea, of a desperate man suffering from leprosy, who comes to Jesus begging for healing.** Jesus is profoundly moved by this man’s plea and does the unthinkable **he stretches out his hand and touches the man saying: ‘Of course I want to! Be cured.’** To touch someone with leprosy was against the law and made the person unclean. Jesus’ compassion for the man went beyond the law. As we reflect on this Gospel are we willing to reach out in compassion to the ‘untouchables’ in our society and welcome them as Jesus did.

Marie Weatherall



MASS THIS WEEK

Monday 12th February
Sunday 18th February

Monday 12th: No Mass
Tuesday 13th: Mass 5pm
Adoration 4pm
Wednesday 14th: Mass 9am
(Anointing of the Sick)
Ash Wednesday Mass 6pm
Thursday 15th: Mass 9am
Friday 16th: Mass 9am
Saturday 17th: Mass 6pm
Reconciliation 4.30-5.30pm
Sunday 18th: 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

10/11 FEBRUARY

Cleaning
12-16 Coffey & Paine

6.00PM MASS

Welcomer B Oerder
Commentator P O'Kelly
Reader J Quigley
Eucharistic Ministers
K Lovering
Computer Screen
K Conway

9.00 AM MASS:

Welcomer D May
Commentator N Beatty
Reader: B Basevi..
Eucharistic Ministers
M & C Lowe
Computer Screen T
Priest.

MORNING TEA:

T van den Broek/J
Barroman

17/18 FEBRUARY

Cleaning
19-23 R & K Ison

6.00PM MASS

Welcomer: K Conway
Commentator: M
Bridges
Reader: P Nolan
Eucharistic Minister
M Weatherall
Computer Screen
J O'Sullivan

9.00 AM MASS:

Welcomer T van den
Broek
Commentator L Page
Reader: A Skinner
Eucharistic Ministers
V & C Burns
Computer Screen D May

MORNING TEA:

Miranda Vidovic &
Zdenka

SCHOOL STAFF COMMISSIONING MASS

We WELCOME our teachers back to school for 2024. Staff will be commissioned on Saturday 10th February @ 6pm.

May this new school year be BLESSED WITH GUIDANCE, WISDOM AND ABUNDANT BLESSINGS AS YOU LEAD AND INSPIRE OUR STUDENTS.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

Beginning on Wednesday
14th February and then
every second Wednesday of each month there will be a 9am
Mass with Anointing of the Sick

MASS FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Mass for Ash Wednesday will be at 6pm Wednesday 14th
February
Please add to your diaries

THE PARISH LENTEN PROGRAM will be run each
Wednesday until Easter beginning on Wednesday 14th February in
the Church Meeting Room @ **9.30 am-11am AFTER MASS**
AND IN THE EVENINGS @ 5PM

WEDNESDAY 14TH FEBRUARY
WEDNESDAY 21ST FEBRUARY
WEDNESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY
WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH
WEDNESDAY 13TH MARCH
WEDNESDAY 20TH MARCH

Enquiries: Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057

Visitation and HC at the Manor

We Urgently need one person to visit and take HC to four
of our Parishioners **once a month** after 9am Mass on a
Sunday.

You would be on a roster with others. Beginning in
February 2024.

All resources and guidance provided. **Enquiries:**
Marie Weatherall [m] 0405 028 057

1ST RECONCILIATION ENROLMENT WILL BE HELD AT THE SCHOOL ON THURSDAY 15TH FEBRUARY @ 5PM

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024

World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian
movement initiated by women. On one day a year it is an
opportunity to set aside time to pray around a designated theme for
the needs identified by the women of a specific county.
This year the focus is on Palestine.

The service will be held @ 10am on Friday 1st March at the
Uniting Church in Batemans Bay. For further information contact
Ruth Grace on 4471 5493



Please take home a Project
Compassion box or set of donation
envelopes to support Caritas
Australia this Lenten season and
help support vulnerable people
around the world, now and for all
future generations.

With your support, Caritas Australia
has been able to support
communities around the world to
tackle poverty, food security,
education, water and sanitation and
disaster risk reduction.

Project Compassion 2024 reminds
us that the good that we do today
will extend and impact the lives of
generations to come. 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 and
envelopes available from your
parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/
project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling
1800 024 413.

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

February: For the Terminally Ill

The Holy Father
encourages prayers
"so that terminally ill
patients and their
families always
receive necessary
medical and human
care and support."

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| <p>BATEMANS BAY & MORUYA DISTRICT FUNERALS</p> <p>Caring for Eurobodalla shire families for over 50 years Batemans Bay 44728886</p> <p>Moruya 4474 3555 Narooma 4476 3888</p> | <p>INDUSTRIAL REPLACEMENTS</p> <p>1 Sharon Road, Batemans Bay</p> <p>Buy fuel any time</p> <p>ESTPOS VISA AMEX MASTERCARD</p> |
| <p>OCEAN BREEZE TAKEAWAY</p> <p>Fish & Chips, Burgers, Sandwiches & Coffee</p> <p>100% BEEF BURGER</p> <p>248 Beach Road Batemans Bay NSW 2536</p> <p>02 4472 1802</p> | <p>MAYDAY Plumbing And Gas</p> <p>Fully licensed Plumber and Gas Fitter</p> <p>Gutter Cleaning General Maintenance</p> <p>RHYS MAY</p> <p>0427 373 826</p> |
| <p>Clinical Psychologist</p> <p>Patrick Fleming</p> <p>Batemans Medical Centre Ph: 0412 295 394</p> <p>Medicare Rebates Available</p> | <p>excell <small>ideaspeople</small> PRINTING GROUP <small>— with a passion for print</small></p> <p>P 4472 1599 E: batemansbay@excellprint.com.au www.excellprint.com.au</p> <p>Shop 1/25, Old Princes Hwy Batemans Bay NSW 2536</p> |
| <p>Ray and Anne Brown</p> <p>COASTAL CONCRETE & QUARRY</p> <p>02 4474 0320</p> | <p>Kate & Tara your vets at Surf Beach</p> <p>EUROCOAST Veterinary Centre</p> <p>0488671118</p> |