### LITURGY OF THE WORD

# Year B

## First Reading Jeremiah 23:1-6 A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

bring them back to their pastures.

take care of you for your misdeeds – it is Spirit our way to come to the Father. the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of The Word of the Lord my flock I myself will gather from all the R. Thanks be to God countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: Gospel Acclamation John 10:27 they shall be fruitful and increase in Alleluia, alleluia! numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look My sheep listen to my voice, says the prelude to the great task. We are to go out after them and pasture them; no fear, no Lord; I know them, and they follow me. terror for them any more; not one shall be Alleluia! lost – it is the Lord who speaks! 'See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who Gospel Mark 6:30-34 speaks - when I will raise a virtuous A reading from the holy Gospel imitate St John Paul II in pressing our Branch for David, who will reign as true according to Mark king and be wise, practising honesty and They were as sheep without a shepherd. integrity in the land. In his days Judah The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him break down dividing walls of enmity will be saved and Israel dwell in all they had done and taught. Then he said within our families, local communities confidence. And this is the name he will to them, 'You must come away to some and even around the world. be called: The Lord-our-integrity.' The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

### **Responsorial Psalm** Ps 22. R. v.2

# nothing I shall want.

nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; the pastures where he gives me repose. and he took pity on them because they Near restful waters he leads me, to revive were like sheep without a shepherd, and my drooping spirit.

2. He guides me along the right path; he length. is true to his name. If I should walk in The Gospel of the Lord the valley of darkness no evil would I R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ fear. You are there with your crook and comfort.

in the sight of my foes. My head you and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. have anointed with oil; my cup is The English translation of the Psalm Responses, overflowing.

and ever.

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

## Second Reading Ephesians 2:13-18

Ephesians

Christ, our peace, has made us one.

the blood of Christ. For he is the peace wall of enmity' to which St Paul refers,

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time one and broken down the barrier which Christ in whom a new humanity is being used to keep them apart, actually created where discrimination or destroying in his own person the hostility segregation is to have no place. It is to the caused by the rules and decrees of the great shame of the Catholic Church that it The remnant of the flock I will gather to me, and Law. This was to create one single New collaborated in putting the Jewish people Man in himself out of the two of them behind dividing walls of enmity in the 'Doom for the shepherds who allow the and by restoring peace through the cross, ghettoes of Europe. It is to the great credit flock of my pasture to be destroyed and to unite them both in a single Body and of St John Paul II that much of this scattered - it is the Lord who speaks! reconcile them with God. In his own enmity was overcome, symbolised when This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God person he killed the hostility. Later he he pressed a prayer into a cleft between of Israel, says about the shepherds in came to bring the good news of peace, stones of the Wailing Wall of the Old charge of my people: You have let my peace to you who were far away and Temple. Every week we come to Mass in flock be scattered and go wandering and peace to those who were near at hand. response to Our Lord's invitation in have not taken care of them. Right, I will Through him, both of us have in the one today's gospel: 'Come away and rest a

lonely place all by yourselves and rest for © Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com a while'; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, (R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place 1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is on foot and reached it before them. So as

he set himself to teach them at some

your staff, with these you give me © The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 3. You have prepared a banquet for me 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd

the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten 4. Surely goodness and kindness shall Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, follow me all the days of my life. In the and Conclusion of the Readings, non-the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

### **REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate Dividing Walls of Enmity**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the In the Temple precinct in Jerusalem there was a stone barrier separating the inner area into which only Jewish people could In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far enter. A non-Jew would cross the barrier from us have been brought very close, by under pain of death. This is the 'dividing

between us, and has made the two into and which has been torn down by Jesus while.' Our Lord is saying 'Come away by yourselves so that I can nourish you with Heavenly Bread and Spiritual Drink which is my Holy Communion with you.' Yes, we do that as a moment celebrating our distinctive identity, but always as a and break down the various 'dividing walls of enmity': racism, caste and class, historical grievances, sexist subjugation. We could take a moment to pray that we prayers and actions into whatever opportunities present themselves so as to



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Priest: Rev. Loi Viovicente Secretary: Roslynne Trompp Finance Admin: Anne Jackson JP PC Co-ord: Marie Weatherall Asst. PC Co-ord: Carolyn Evenden

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** 

Jeremiah's opening statement in the first reading casts a negative pall on the word "shepherd". The psalm which follows, casts a more positive view of a shepherd. The gospel then reveals yet another view of a shepherd when Jesus "took pity on (the people) because they were like sheep without a shepherd." Mark 6:34

In our world we don't give the word shepherd" a lot of attention, apart from when shepherding" occurs on a footy field! In the time of Jesus a shepherd's work was very important. It was the shepherd's job to care for the flock constantly. Jeremiah was very critical of those who did not provide proper care and guidance. He then refers to the shepherds as being in charge of "my people" letting the flock wander and scatter—suggesting that WE the people have replaced the sheep. We too, like the flock are in need of care and guidance. The psalm then tells us that the Lord is my shepherd.

What do we understand a shepherd to do for us as people of God and as we work to spread God's word? Does a shepherd encourage us to stay close, accept guidance, recognise His ongoing love and care as well as asking for help when needed?

Pope Francis tells us that a good shepherd is always **AHEAD** of the flock, leading them/us, has a vision and shows us the way. The shepherd is **WITH** a his people- among us helping us in in our mission of spreading the word. A good shepherd is also **BEHIND** the flock. Some of the flock fall behind, through sickness, being hurt or broken and the shepherd reaches out to them.

The gospel presents us with a Jesus we often ignore. He is an everyday Jesus - a human like us, showing interest and compassion to his disciples and the people. The disciples, as they meet with Him are busy telling Him all they have been doing. He recognises that they need time to rest and concentrate on their own well being. He also recognised that the crowd of people were in need of support.

The focus on Jesus' actions in the gospel shows His deep commitment to " the flock". There is also a suggestion for us. Disciples like us also need to be aware that we need a balance in our life; taking a step back to rest and re- energise. We need to remember that living out the gospel can be overwhelming and even perhaps think everything/ everyone depends on us.

As we look around our Parish we become aware of many shepherds following Jesus' model of a good shepherd. We can read in the Bulletin that there are many groups and gatherings reaching out to show care and support people: Pastoral Care and St Vincent de Paul and many smaller, more informal groups. All these people/ groups follow Jesus in helping every member of the flock find his/ her way physically, spiritually and theologically.

This week we may ponder- What does it mean to me to be a part of God's flock? Mary MacKillop also reminds us : "Never see a need without doing something about it."

If you would like to join the Parish e-platform giving for both the Priest and the Church, the details are as follows:

**SUPPORT** 

Acc Name St Bernard's

Operating **BSB:** 062-786

Bank Acc: 00012939

Ref: Family Name

# SIXTEENTH WEEK in **ORDINARY TIME** Year B



## **CHURCH EVENTS**

**Choir Practice 1PM Every second** and fourth Monday

### Cenacle Prayer 9.30 am Fridays after Mass

**Regional NAIDOC** Mass Friday 26th July 11am

Wrap With Love Wednesday 31st July, 1pm CMR

> **ADORATION** TUESDAYS @ 4pm

**COFFEE CLUB** Thursdays after Mass Venue: Corrigans Cove

PARISH FINANCIAL

**Enjoy the Good News** Wednesdays after 9am Mass

> **Craft Group 10am Thursdays** Church **Meeting Room**



St. Bernard's Primary School, Batehaven R.E.C: Sharon Beashel Principal: Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan **Carroll College, Broulee** R.E.C: Anna Smart

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want... Psalm 22



Ken and Carolyn Evenden





# 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 JULY

For The Pastoral Care of The Sick

Let us pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, bestows the Lord's strength to those who receive it and to their loved ones, and that it may become for everyone an ever more visible sign of compassion and hope.

