

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary
Time Year B

First Reading *Proverbs 9:1-6*
 A reading from the book of Proverbs
Come and eat my bread; drink the wine I have prepared.

Wisdom has built herself a house, she has erected her seven pillars, she has slaughtered her beasts, prepared her wine, she has laid her table. She has despatched her maidservants and proclaimed from the city's heights: 'Who is ignorant? Let him step this way.' To the fool she says, 'Come and eat my bread, drink the wine I have prepared! Leave your folly and you will live, walk in the ways of perception.'

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 33:2-3, 10-15. R. v.9

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad.
2. Revere the Lord, you his saints. They lack nothing, those who revere him. Strong lions suffer want and go hungry but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.
3. Come children, and hear me that I may teach you the fear of the Lord. Who is he who longs for life and many days, to enjoy his prosperity?
4. Then keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit. Turn aside from evil and do good; seek and strive after peace.

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading *Ephesians 5:15-20*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
Be watchful that you may know the will of God.
 Be very careful about the sort of lives you lead, like intelligent and not like senseless people. This may be a wicked age, but your lives should redeem it. And do not be thoughtless but recognise what is the will of the Lord. Do not drug yourselves with wine, this is simply dissipation; be filled with the Spirit. Sing the words and tunes of the psalms and hymns when you are together, and go on singing and chanting to the Lord in your hearts, so that always and everywhere you are giving thanks to

God who is our Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation *John 6:56*
 Alleluia, alleluia!

All who eat my flesh and drink my blood live in me and I in them, says the Lord.
 Alleluia!

Gospel *John 6:51-58*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.
 Jesus said to the crowd: 'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.' Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied: 'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

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

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate
The Greatest Gift

When I was a boy (is it so long ago?) it was still the rule at Mass that only the priest drank from the chalice. One of the great actions of the Church over the last fifty years has been the recovery of the ancient practice of offering Holy Communion under the

appearance of both bread and wine. The reception of both the consecrated bread and the consecrated wine is in perfect harmony with today's Gospel: 'Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life.' Note the present tense: 'has' – right now! This is because, as St John Paul II put it: 'We digest, as it were, the secret of the Resurrection.'

Of course, Our Risen Lord is really present under the appearance of either the bread or the wine. For a Jew, (unlike the Greeks) the *body* was absolutely core to being the person one is. For a Jew, *blood* was identified as the life-force of any animal. So, for the Jewish Jesus, to say 'This is my body... this is my blood' was to gift us his core identity, his deepest vitality. Either the consecrated bread or consecrated wine gives us His whole life. But to receive both the Heavenly Bread and the Spiritual Drink does enable us to more fully respond to Our Lord at the Last Supper: 'Take, eat ... take, drink'. Then the words of today's Gospel can more physically resonate in our own bodies: 'He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I in him.' We could take a moment to pray in thanksgiving that we are able to join in the tradition starting with the Apostles at the Last Supper and, in doing so, to enter into Holy Communion with the only One who can embody in us the secret of His resurrection.

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Twentieth Week in
ORDINARY TIME
Year B



CHURCH EVENTS

Choir Practice
 1PM Every second and fourth Monday

Cenacle Prayer 9.30 am
 Fridays after Mass

Wrap With Love
 Wednesday 28th August
 1pm CMR

Enjoy the Good News
 Wednesdays after 9am
 Mass

Parish Feast Day BBQ after
 10am Mass Sunday August
 18th

"I hear but do I really listen"
 Morning Session with
 Patrick Fleming Monday
 August 19th 9.30am-12noon
 @Church

Craft Group 10am Thursdays
 Church Meeting Room

ADORATION TUESDAYS @
 4pm

COFFEE CLUB Thursdays
 after Mass
 Venue: Corrigans Cove

"I am the living bread..."

The gospel today, *John 6:51-58* is a strong statement attributed to having been said by Jesus, leaving no doubt that to be a true follower or disciple we need to "eat this bread". This gospel offers us the opportunity to reflect on what it means for us. In Jesus' time, as now, in our time, bread was and remains a staple food. In an earlier verse, *John 6:49*, the people are reminded "Your ancestors ate manna in the desert..." We think of manna as a type of bread or sustenance. We also know that at the Last Supper, Jesus broke bread and shared it. We have been told that for the early Christians and the Jews, meals, especially festive meals were religious acts. The father or whoever presided said a blessing, took the bread and shared it. The act of blessing the bread put it into a "stream or current" which came from God putting those who ate it in that "stream or current" of divine life.



What then does it mean for us today when we read that Jesus said "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread he will live forever." *John 6:51* He is telling us that unlike the manna in the desert which fed the people but they died, if we eat "this bread" we will live forever. Do we think about His words as we attend Mass and receive Holy Communion?

Unlike the early followers of Jesus who had personal contact with Him and hearing His words, how do we experience Jesus' presence and express our faith in Him? Sr Mary Colac PBVM suggests "our encounter must be through sacramental symbols of bread, wine, the Word and the faith community gathered". Through this statement, we, like the early Christians become part of that stream/current of divine life.

Jesus offers Himself as spiritual nourishment for our journey of discipleship. We become united not only with Jesus but with one another. When we receive Holy Communion, we are making a statement of commitment. What impact does the Eucharistic Bread have in my life and how can I share the message of Jesus, the Living Bread with others?

Perhaps the statement of Fr Richard Rohr may help us in our thinking or rethinking our understanding of "the living bread". Fr Richard "emphasises that the Eucharist is not just a doctrine but an experience of becoming one with Christ.

We need not focus on the mechanics of transubstantiation but instead on the teaching of how to be truly present. He explains that in the Eucharist we embody Christ, transforming us at a deep, personal level. The mystery reminds us that we are the Body of Christ, full of dignity and power".

Carolyn & Ken Evendon



Mass Schedule

MASSES THIS WEEK

Monday 19th—Sunday 25th Aug

- Monday 19th: No Mass
- Tuesday 20th: Adoration 4pm
Mass 5pm
- Wednesday 21st: Mass 9am
- Thursday 22nd: Mass 9am
- Friday 23rd: Mass 9am
- Saturday 24th: Mass 5pm
Reconciliation 3.30-4.30
- Sunday 25th: 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

17/18 AUGUST Cleaning
19-23 Favetta/O'Neill/Nugent

5.00PM MASS
Welcomer: C Brownlie
Commentator M Weatherall
Reader J Mackay
Eucharistic Ministers L Rodwell,
Computer Screen K Conway

10.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer L Page
Commentator B Maynard
Reader: A Skinner
Eucharistic Ministers V & C Burns
Computer Screen T Jones
MORNING TEA
N Beatty & M deSmet

COUNTERS
G Norris/J O'Sullivan

24/25 AUGUST Church Cleaning
26-30 D & L May
5.00PM MASS
Welcomer: K Conway
Commentator J Quigley
Reader P Nolan
Eucharistic Ministers J Wain
Computer Screen M O'Neill
9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer T van den Broek
Commentator M Lowe
Reader: C Lowe
Eucharistic Ministers J Whiteford, A Scicluna
Computer Screen T Priest
MORNING TEA
M Vidovic and Zdenka
COUNTERS
B Basevi



**You're invited to
A parish bbq to
celebrate the Annual Parish
Feast Day after Mass on**

SUNDAY 18TH AUGUST

Please bring along a plate to share.
Mass on 18th August will be at 10am

FATHER'S DAY APPEAL – 31st August & 1st September 2024



COLLECTION FOR ARCHDIOCESAN
RETIRED PRIESTS

There are 25 priests in our Archdiocese. We should remember our retired priests as we celebrate the **theme for the Second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly**

"In old age they will still bear fruit" (Psalm 92:15).

Envelopes will be provided on the pews

**YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND—
"SRINGTIME SERENADES"**

Saturday 7th September—2pm

Featuring the U3A Choir, Ukelele Players and several artists

At the Salvation Army
\$10 pp—pay at the door

Includes Afternoon Tea

LUCKY DOOR PRIZE

For further information and to let the organisers know numbers please call Evelyn 0413 044 336 or Katrina 0447 970 361

St Vincent de Paul Volunteers needed:

Our local Conference is looking for volunteers who may be able to give a few hours every month to interview companions who need assistance. You would always be on with an experienced member who will guide you. Why not just turn up to our Conference Meeting on the first Monday of the Month in the Church Meeting Room at 2pm and get to know about this Vincentian Ministry or phone **Gary: 0429 774 101 or Marie 0405 028 057.**

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

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

A/C Name: St Bernard's Operating

BSB: 062-786 A/C No: 00012939 Ref: Family Name

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Lord of the Harvest, help men and women to hear the call and to serve in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

Our needs are great and our people thirst for your presence.

Open the hearts of many, raise up faithful servants of the Gospel, dedicated, holy priests, sisters, brothers and deacons who will spend themselves for your people and their needs.

Bless those who are serving now with courage and perseverance. Grant that many will be inspired by their example and faith.

We ask this through Christ, Our Lord.

Amen

Our Lady, Help of Christians *Pray for us*

St Joseph *Pray for us*

St John Vianney *Pray for us*

St Mary of the Cross *Pray for us*

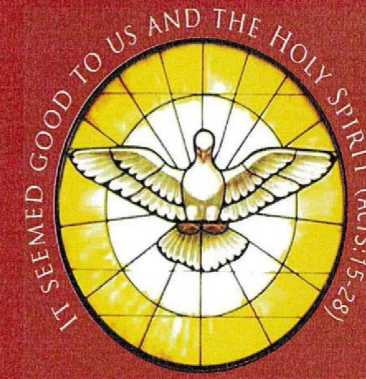
FUNERALS IN THE PARISH: James Quirk late of Denhams Beach - Wednesday 21st August @ 11am.

Remembering the Sick:

Brendan Blyton, Wendy & Pat Roberts, Mark O'Neill, Karen Nixon, John de Smet, Kevin & Pat Totterell, Dawn Robinson, Maria de Rocco, 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, Fr Kevin Murphy, Allan Rogers, Rita Condon, Ben Copland, Vince Burns, John Dillon, James Lee, Trish Hamilton, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, 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: James Quirk, Giovanni Menon, Tony Puconja, Hazel Nolan, Else McGahey, Richard Smart, Patrick Dunn, Claire Dickens, Laurence Foran, Lynton Ryan, Jacki Harding, Keith Cooke, Kathryn King, Sarah Good, Robert Mitchell, Joyce Hurrell, Archbishop Francis Carroll, Ruth O'Malley, Julie Morgan, Suzanne Houssard, Nancy Sykes, Lillian Burkinshaw, Lynette Arundel, Patricia McKeough, Ivan Trojkovic, Brian O'Connor, Annie Scicluna, Francis Bezzina, Paul O'Callaghan, Pam Wilson, Drago Bandur, Vin Taylor, Fr Don Gunn, Krsto Jarnjevic, Tony Plascak, Janet Thornbury, Michele (Mick) Ferrante, Barry O'Neill, Frank Belsa, Del Bateman, John Dunne, Maria Ivelja, Stjepan Matasin, Peter McGann, Filomena Dela Torre



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
AUGUST**

For political leaders

We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.

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