

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary
Time Year B

First Reading *Isaiah 35:4-7*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened and the tongues of the dumb speak.

Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:7-10. R. v.1

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free.

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bound down, the Lord who loves the just, the Lord, who protects the stranger.

3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan, but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age.

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

Second Reading *James 2:1-5*

A reading from the letter of St James
Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom?

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my footrest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that? Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God

chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

cf Matthew 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

Gospel *Mark 7:31-37*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate
Ephphatha

As we began to welcome the Gospel, we made the sign of the Cross on our foreheads, on our lips and over our hearts. It is meant to be accompanied by the thought: 'May the Gospel be in my mind, on my lips, and in my heart.' It wouldn't be enough to mentally recite that little prayer. We have to do something physical. Jesus

could not have been more physical than in the story of today's Gospel. He stuck his fingers in the man's ears and touched the man's tongue with spittle, saying the Aramaic word 'Ephphatha', 'Be opened'. Our Lord could have healed this man with a simple prayer. But he acknowledged the sheer physicality of the person to be cured. We are not angels, but ensouled bodies and that is how our Lord particularly related to this man in need of healing. It is in the sacrament of Baptism that we imitate the Ephphatha incident in today's Gospel. At one stage, the priest lightly touches the ears and then lightly touches the mouth of the person being baptised. This brings the baptised person into a community formed by hearing and speaking the Word in faith.

We could take a moment to recall the Ephphatha dimension of our baptism. Take your thumb and lightly touch your ears (a parent could do this for an infant) making a prayer along the lines of our baptism: 'The Lord Jesus made the deaf hear and the mute speak. May He again touch my ears to receive His Word and my mouth to proclaim His faith to the glory and praise of God the Father. Amen.'

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SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY
8th SEPTEMBER 2024

The Parish of St Bernard's and the Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community.

Mindful of the theme for National Child Protection Week, may we work to create safe spaces where we can have meaningful conversations with children and adults at risk about their safety.

You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at:

<https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Safeguarding-Sunday-2024>



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



P.O. Box 3220, Batehaven, 2536.
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 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 JP
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: Anna Smart

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

Twenty-Third 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
Tuesday 10th September
10am BB Library

Enjoy the Good News
Wednesdays after 9am
Mass

Mass with Anointing of the Sick
Wednesday 11th 9am

Parish Sacramental
Program for First Eucharist
Catch-up afternoon with
pizza
Wednesday 11th
3.30-4.00pm CMR

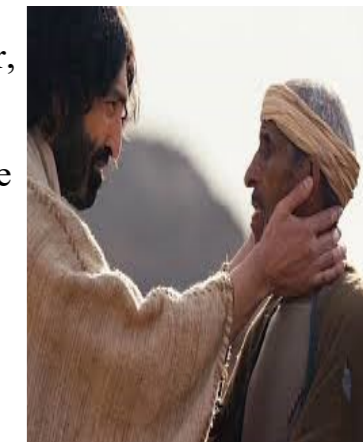
Craft Group 10am Thursdays
Church Meeting Room

ADORATION TUESDAYS
@ 4pm

COFFEE CLUB Thursdays
after Mass
Venue: Corrigans Cove

OPEN THE DOOR OF YOUR HEART.

Selfless love is real in spite of the horrors of war, and other brutal ways humans treat one another, love is possible. **Unselfish people reside everywhere.** They love unconditionally, dedicate themselves to alleviate suffering, are willing to 'give their all' to another, intent on being life givers, transforming the lives of others. They are not 'do-gooders' or 'holier than thou people'. **No, this love is born out of trials faced, purified by personal growth, recommitment and self giving that goes beyond required duty or obligation.**



Each day we witness people who open the door of their hearts and love pours forth. Dorothy Day, Founder of the Catholic Worker Movement, was convinced that *each act of love had a far reaching effect.*

EPHPHATHA : 'BE OPEN!'

Jesus' encounter with the deaf man with an impediment of speech in today's Gospel [Mark 7: 31 – 37] visibly renews life. As Fiona Dyball states: 'The story shows the compassionate power of God at work in surprisingly personal and tender encounters. People's lives open up when they can give and receive, understand and be understood. **The people, who brought their friend to Jesus to be healed, cared enough to do it!**' ['In Her Voice' 2023, pg54] **They were open to walking with and alongside of the person who was struggling, seeking help and support. This is at the heart of compassion and advocacy.**

In this Gospel faith, hope and love come together: the faith of the advocates seeking new life for their friend; the hope of the person who turns to Jesus in his need; and the unconditional love and sensitivity of Jesus while interacting with the man using physical touch in a context where mere words would have meant nothing to him given his impediments.

This week may we reflect on how open our heart is to suffering humanity around us? As Mary MacKillop encourages us to 'Never see a need without doing something about it.'

Marie Weatherall



MASSES THIS WEEK

Monday 9th—Sunday 15th Sep

- Monday 9th:** No Mass
- Tuesday 10th:** Adoration 4pm
Mass 5pm
- Wednesday 11th:** Mass with Anointing of the Sick 9am
- Thursday 12th:** Mass 9am
- Friday 13th:** Mass 9am
- Saturday 14th:** Mass 5pm
Reconciliation 3.30-4.30
- Sunday 15th:** Mass 9am

PLEASE NOTE: Daylight Savings begins Sunday 6th October. Fr Loi would like to know your thoughts on keeping the Saturday Mass at 5pm or changing it to 6pm. Please let him know or call the Parish Office.

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

7/8 SEPTEMBER Cleaning

9-13 B Coffey/M Paine
5.00PM MASS
Welcomer J Anderson
Commentator: M Weatherall:
Reader: P Nolan
Eucharistic Ministers C.Brownlie
Computer Screen M O'Neill

9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer M Britt
Commentator J Whiteford
Reader: D Herring
Eucharistic Ministers K Corbin, L Stevens,
Computer Screen T Jones

MORNING TEA:
M & C Lowe
COUNTERS
T Priest/J Whiteford

14/15 SEPTEMBER Cleaning

11-15 R & K Ison
5.00PM MASS
Welcomer: C Brownlie
Commentator: S Ebejer
Reader: J Mackay
Eucharistic Ministers N Buick
Computer Screen [J O'Sullivan](#)

9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer M deSmet
Commentator B Basevi
Reader: L Page,
Eucharistic Ministers M & C Lowe
Computer Screen T Priest

MORNING TEA:
M & S Beashel

COUNTERS
T & A Jackson

Living in the Divine Will Retreat

Presented by: Fr Hugh Thomas C.Ss.R and Fr Emil Milat

The talks focus on how various saints and mystics draw us to live in the holiness of God.

WHEN: 13 Sept 2024 @ 5:00PM
15 Sept2024 @ after lunch

WHERE: St Clement's Conference Centre, Galong NSW

BOOKING: Contact Galong directly on St Clement's Retreat and Conference Centre, Kalangan Road, Galong NSW 2585
Phone: 02 6380 5222

email: info@stclement.com.au

For more information, contact Fr Emil Milat @ emil.milat@cg.org.au

HELP NEEDED: As per the finance committee's recent report the Parish needs volunteers to help maintain the church grounds. Any help will be greatly appreciated. Please call Bernie Basevi if you can assist. 0428 227 384

" Holy Spirit Retreat " 27th- 29th of September

Join us for a prayerful, camping weekend in the Goobarragandra Valley.

There will be Mass, Adoration, Divine Office, praise, Confessions, swimming and sport, for the whole family.

This retreat is for all families and adults who want to deepen their relationship with God.

For more information, or to book in please contact



YOU ARE INVITED to the ORDINATION of MARK HA

To be held at

ST CHRISTOPHER'S CATHEDRAL,
FORREST ACT @ 5PM ON THURSDAY
17TH OCTOBER .

Followed by refreshments at HAYDON HALL behind the Cathedral. *All are Welcome.*



The 2024 Archdiocesan Assembly is a key gathering for the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn. The Assembly will focus on celebrating the **Year of the Holy**

Spirit and explore new opportunities for evangelisation and synodality in the life and mission of our local Church going forward.

In many ways, the Archdiocese is walking on the same path as the first Apostles. It took time for the early Church to discern and declare: **"It seemed good to us and the Holy Spirit"** (Acts 15:28)

All are invited to join us on our pilgrim journey of discernment.

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*

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

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, Sr Marie McAlister, Peter O'Neill, Beverley Biglia, Fr John Walter, Fr Kevin Murphy, Allan Rogers, Rita Condon, Ben Copland, Vince Burns, Patrick Burns, Carolyn Burns, John Dillon, James Lee, Trish Hamilton, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Allan Odlum, 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: Suzanne Melton, James Quirk, Giovanni Menon, Tony Puconja, Hazel Nolan, Else McGahey, Richard Smart, Patrick Dunn, Laurence Foran, Lynton Ryan, Jacki Harding, Keith Cooke, 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

Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions SEPTEMBER

For The Cry Of The Earth

Let us pray that each of us listens with our hearts to the cry of the Earth and of the victims of environmental disasters and the climate crisis, making a personal commitment to care for the world we inhabit.

BATEMANS BAY & MORUYA DISTRICT FUNERALS

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