

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary
Time B

First Reading *Isaiah 50:5-9*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
I gave my body to those who struck me.

The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed. My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me? Then let us go to court together. Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me. The Lord is coming to my help, who dare condemn me?

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 114:1-6. 8-9. R. v.9

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living

1. I love the Lord for he has heard the cry of my appeal; for he turned his ear to me in the day when I called him. 2. They surrounded me, the snares of death, with anguish of the tomb; they caught me, sorrow and distress. I called on the Lord's name. O Lord my God, deliver me!

3. How gracious is the Lord, and just; our God has compassion. The Lord protects the simple hearts; I was helpless so he saved me.

4. He has kept my soul from death, my eyes from tears and my feet from stumbling. I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living

Second Reading *James 2:14-18*

A reading from the letter of St James
Faith without good works is dead.

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if

good works do not go with it, it is quite dead. This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Galatians 6:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel *Mark 8:27-35*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

You are the Christ ... the Son of Man was destined to suffer much.

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him. And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate Peter: earthquaked and then upside down

Here in our Australian democracy we hardly feel the force of the famous gospel passage in which Jesus forewarns his disciples of the high cost of following him. We trivialise the meaning of taking up the cross to make it refer to bearing a chronic ailment, or putting up with a particularly irritating family member or work colleague: 'It/he/she is the cross I have to bear.' No, our Lord was referring to the terrible reality which could be inflicted on his followers, as even happens today: the beheadings by ISIL in Iraq, the rape and enslavement of women in Nigeria, the displacement from homelands in Syria. The True Cross is not to be found in splinters of wood but in the various means by which suffering is inflicted on those whose allegiance to Jesus Christ does not waiver. Peter could not, would not, grasp this. His head was full of political fantasy, easy sovereignty. Jesus rebuked Peter quite savagely: 'Satan, get behind me.' Only after the resurrection, believing that our Lord had conquered the worst that death could do, did Peter follow Jesus to crucifixion, upside down at the base of the Vatican Hill. We could take a moment to pray for and, where possible, give appropriate political support to, our fellow Christians wherever they are persecuted, forced to bear the true cross of suffering. May God give those Christian martyrs victory in the embrace of the resurrection power of Jesus Christ.

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ST BERNARD'S PARISH
BATEMANS BAY
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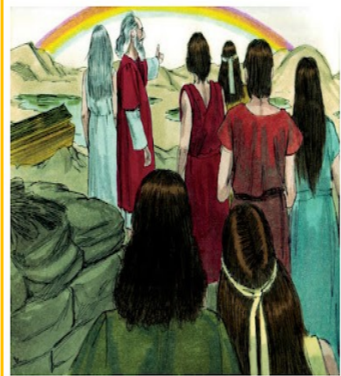
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 Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay
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WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND THE WALBUNJA PEOPLE OF THE YUIN NATION. WE PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THEIR ELDERS, PAST, PRESENT AND EMERGING

Twenty-Fourth 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 25th
 September 1pm CMR

Enjoy the Good News
 Wednesdays after 9am
 Mass

Parish Sacramental
Program for First
Eucharist Celebration
Sunday 22nd September
@ 9am

Craft Group 10am
Thursdays Church
Meeting Room

ADORATION
TUESDAYS @ 4pm

COFFEE CLUB
Thursdays after Mass
Venue: Corrigans Cove

WHO DO THE PEOPLE SAY I AM?
BUT YOU! WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?

The Gospel this week is yet another example of Mark's indefatigable writing style. He opens the door to another episode in the public life of Jesus. As Jesus and His disciples travel, interacting with crowds of sometimes curious bystanders, Mark is exposing the disciples to His role/ purpose in spreading the good news and what is required of them as believers and true followers. The disciples needed to understand that they could face challenges along the way. Do those same challenges apply to us in this, our modern day world and life?

Even though Jesus had been relentlessly talking with the people and His disciples, it was clear that many had not yet realised who He was, hence His asking "Who do people think I am?" The people were hoping for a political, militaristic leader who would free them from Roman occupation rather than the Messiah which means "the anointed" one. Peter had great difficulty accepting a suffering Messiah but once Jesus explains that He was "destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected ... and put to death" Peter and the disciples began to understand that being a follower involves the mystery of suffering- the way of Jesus means understanding that His way leads to the cross.

Richard Rohr and Joseph Marcos suggest that the purpose of Mark's gospel was to remind Christians who acknowledged Jesus as the Messiah that He is also the suffering servant. Is Mark suggesting that the full meaning of Christ is elusive? We need to fully understand that His way can lead to conflict, personal suffering, change of heart and mind as well as a positive belief that God loves us unconditionally.

Just as Jesus was trying to lead the disciples to a deeper level of understanding, living, wisdom and faith, we too can take from Mark a greater understanding of suffering, servanthood and trust in God. What might this mean for us in our world and lives today?

What does it mean to be a Christian? Following Jesus means accepting His path even when it is difficult. We are reminded today of FAITH and what it entails. From St Thomas Aquinas "The truth of Faith includes not only inner belief but outward profession, not only the declaration of Faith but actions that demonstrate that Faith."

We are encouraged to live out our faith in everyday life. It takes courage and hope in the reality of our life. We need to trust, be attentive to God's voice and be ready to support others in their faith journey. Being a disciple, following Jesus means accepting His path even when it is difficult.

This week we can look at and ponder the two questions -

Who do people say that I am? Who do you say that I am?

Veronica Lawson RSM gives us some points to ponder - "Do we simply go along with what the people say about Jesus? Are we like Peter who has the right language but only partial insight. Or do we have the wisdom to seek a deeper understanding of the identity of Jesus?"

Ken and Carolyn Evenden



MASSES THIS WEEK

Monday 16th—Sunday 22nd Sep
Monday 16th: No Mass
Tuesday 17th: Adoration 4pm
 Mass 5pm
Wednesday 18th: Mass 9am
Thursday 19th: Mass 9am
Friday 20th: Mass 9am
Saturday 21st: Mass 5pm
 Reconciliation 3.30-4.30
Sunday 22nd: 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

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

21/22 SEPTEMBER

Cleaning
 18-22 Favetta/O'Neill/
 Nugent

5.00PM MASS
 Welcomer B Oerder
 Commentator P O'Kelly
 Reader J Quigley
 Eucharistic Ministers
 L Rodwell
 Computer Screen
 M O'Neill

9.00 AM MASS:
 Welcomer J Whiteford
 Commentator Matt Lowe
 Reader: Children
 Eucharistic Ministers
 J Wain, S Beashel
 Computer Screen T
 Jackson.

MORNING TEA:
 J Barroman/G
 Berryman

COUNTERS
 M & C Lowe

This week-end
 we welcome Elly Doherty into our
 faith
 community through the waters of
 baptism.

May God's love and
 blessings be upon her on
 this
 baptism day and always.



CUPPA with MARY MACKILLOP will be at the home of Nola and Bernie Beatty. 10-11am on Tuesday October 1st. *All are Welcome.*

For further enquiries:
 Nola 0410 629 416



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



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 18-20 October 2024, 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

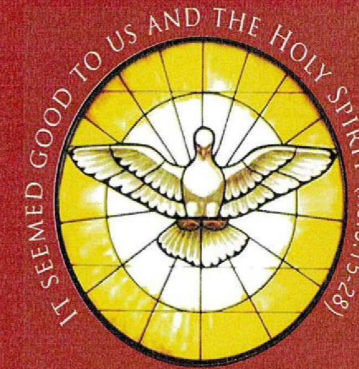
FUNERALS IN THE PARISH: Paul Skinner @ 11.30 am Tuesday 17th September

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: Vicki Lukasik, Paul Skinner, 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 Scieluna, 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 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.

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