

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**  
**Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Year C**

**First Reading**  
*1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23*

A reading from the first book of Samuel  
*The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.*

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them. David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

*The Word of the Lord*  
**R. Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Acclamation**  
*John 13:34*

Alleluia, alleluia!  
 I give you a new commandment; love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

**Gospel** *Luke 6:27-38*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke  
*Be merciful as your Father is merciful.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. 'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; be-

*The Word of the Lord*  
**R. Thanks be to God**

**Responsorial Psalm**  
*Ps 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13, R. v.8*

**(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.**

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.

3. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults.

4. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him.

**(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.**

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**Second Reading**

*1 Corinthians 15:45-49*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.*

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

*The Word of the Lord*

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cause the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

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**REFLECTION by Nick Brodie**

'To go beyond instinct, to go beyond hatred,' Pope Francis suggests, is fundamental. However bad it gets, Jesus calls on us to see those who wrong us as God sees them: as creatures loved into existence, still capable of good. Understandably, we find this challenging. But, as the Pope points out, Jesus faced such situations himself and shows us what turning the cheek really means. By not trading strike for strike, Jesus avoids becoming like those who struck him in the first place. Jesus does not give in to injustice. Rather, he reveals it. During his Passion, as the Pope explains, Jesus 'asks for an account of the wrong done to him.' He calls it out, gently but firmly. 'With his question,' the Pope affirms, 'Jesus denounces what is unjust. But he does so without anger, without violence, indeed *with kindness.*' In any conflict, whether personal or international, we are therefore called to unmask the absurdity of hatred by being the 'one who has a greater inner strength,' to use our voice rather than fists, or gestures rather than words. Ultimately, as the Pope declares: 'Turning the other cheek does not have to mean suffering in silence, giving in to injustice.' It means transforming the moment to bring light to the darkness.

© Nick Brodie

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

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



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



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 E: batemansbay@cg.org.au  
 Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay  
 Office Hours: 10am to 2pm  
 Tuesday-Friday

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**Finance Admin:** Anne Jackson JP  
**PC Co-ord:** Marie Weatherall  
**Asst. PC Co-ord:** Carolyn Evenden

**Principal:** Karen Hadley  
**St. Bernard's Primary School, Batehaven**  
**R.E.C.:** Rebecca Keough  
**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**

**SEVENTH SUNDAY**  
**in**  
**ORDINARY TIME**  
**YEAR C**



**CHURCH EVENTS**

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

**Cenacle Prayer 9.30 am**  
**Fridays after Mass**

**Wrap with Love**  
**Wednesday 26th February**  
**1-3pm CMR**

**Croatian Mass**  
**Saturday 1st March 11am**

**Cuppa with Mary**  
**MacKillop Tuesday March**  
**4th 10-11am at the home**  
**of Ken and Carolyn**  
**Evenden**

**Parish Sacramental**  
**Program—TERM 1**  
**Sacrament of**  
**Reconciliation**  
**Commitment Masses**  
**Saturday 22nd @ 5pm,**  
**Sunday 23rd @ 9am**

**Lenten Program**  
**Wednesdays after Mass**  
**5 March—9 April**

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

**ADORATION TUESDAYS**  
**@ 4pm**

**COFFEE CLUB Thursdays**  
**after 9am Mass**  
**Venue: Corrigans Cove**

**The Game Plan**

"We dug deep. We stuck to the game plan." Those of us who watch the football will hear a lot of such comments in the coming months. This summer there's been a lot of sporting thrills - the cricket and tennis invited the couch potato status. Attention is often given to the coaches who have an important job: developing skills, building confidence in individuals, creating teamwork, organising strategies etc - a job that has limited security these days it seems.

The modern internet I believe even offers *Life Coaches*. Too late for me now. And yet haven't we had a "Life Coach" to beat all life coaches since the day we were baptised - welcomed and enrolled into team Jesus, with guidance from the Holy Spirit and patronage by a whole community of saints. Now there's a support team to be grateful for!! However, to rank Jesus as a coach, or even one of our modern day 'super coaches', is to vastly undersell the God-man.

Today's gospel scene, follows on from last week: Jesus is surrounded by people from near and far, and included "a large gathering of his disciples" (not just his apostles).

Luke tells us it was these disciples he addressed in his sermon on the plain. ***We are these disciples.*** He's fixing his eyes on us, he's speaking to us. Jesus gives us a number of rules for living. We may feel comfortable with the *Golden Rule*: "Do unto others as you would have others do to you." OK, fair enough Lord. But the other stuff: ***Love your enemies...Do good to those who hate you...Pray for those who persecute you...Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who robs you, do not ask for your property back...Be compassionate as God is compassionate...Do not judge and you will not be judged... Forgive and you will be forgiven.....*** Whoa Lord, whoa!

*After what he did to me, I have to love him, do good to him? And I can't judge that person who lied about me? But she's so awful.* In the sport analogy it's the player telling the coach, "You gotta be joking." And the coach: "It's up to you." And in the survival of the fittest world of current society - impossible.

Today's first reading tells of David sparing his enemy Saul, pre-empting what Jesus meant, showing love for his enemy. Paul to the Corinthians speaks of modelling on the "heavenly man" (Christ). So maybe not so impossible when we have the Lord with us. And Jesus is with us more than any coach can be - not just in word, but in sacraments, the Eucharist, the Spirit, and the other. We can respond to Pope Francis' Jubilee year call to be Pilgrims of Hope because Jesus is "God-with-Us", not just a coach overseeing us with a stats sheet. Close enough to have a yarn with about the game plan (and our struggles with it) that he presented to us disciples in today's liturgy.

John Mackay

**MASSES THIS WEEK**

**Monday 24th—Sunday 2nd March**

**Monday 24th :** NO MASS  
**Tuesday 25th:** Mass 5pm  
**Wednesday 26th:** Mass 9am  
**Thursday 27th:** Mass 9am  
**Friday 28th:** Mass 9am  
**Saturday 1st:** Mass 5pm  
 Reconciliation 3.30-4.30  
**Sunday 2nd:** Mass 9am

**FUNERALS IN THE PARISH:**

Ms Margaret Silversides  
 Friday February 28th 11am  
 St Bernard's Church

Mr Joe Quigley  
 Tuesday 4th March 10.30am  
 St Bernard's Church

**ROSTERS**

**22/23 FEBRUARY**

**Cleaning**  
 24-28 M DeSmet J  
 Maher

**5.00PM MASS**

Welcomer K Conway  
 Commentator: M  
 Weatherall  
 Reader: B Maynard  
 Eucharistic Ministers  
 N Buick  
 Computer Screen  
 M O'Neill

**9.00 AM MASS:**

Welcomer M deSmet  
 Commentator B Basevi  
 Reader: N Beatty. ...  
 Eucharistic Ministers  
 A Scicluna, J Whiteford  
 Computer Screen D May

**MORNING TEA:**

M Vidovic/Zdenka

**COUNTERS:**

T Priest/J Whiteford

**1/2 MARCH**

**Cleaning**  
 3-7 B Coffey/M Paine

**5.00PM MASS**

Welcomer J Anderson  
 Commentator: P O'Kelly  
 Reader: M O'Neill  
 Eucharistic Ministers  
 E Butt,  
 Computer Screen  
 K Conway

**9.00 AM MASS:**

Welcomer P Jobs  
 Commentator  
 C Lowe  
 Reader: M Lowe  
 Eucharistic Ministers  
 V & C Burns  
 Computer Screen T Priest

**MORNING TEA:**

Filipino community

**COUNTERS T & A**

Jackson, K Evenden

**GATHERING:**

**'We are Called to Minister to Others'**

Facilitated by Sr Virginia Bourke rsj. Tuesday February 25th, 9.15am registration for 9.30am start—3pm in the Church meeting Room.

Sister Virginia specialises in Adult Faith Education & Spirituality and is travelling from North Sydney to be with us.

Recommended by Sr Marie McAlister.

**Morning tea provided.**

BYO Pot Luck Lunch. **COST = Free**

**BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL** by Monday February 17. For further information call: Marie Weatherall, 0405 028 057  
**Email.** marieweatherall87@gmail.com

**LENTEN GROUP**

Will be held after Mass on Wednesdays beginning March 5 Ash Wednesday—April 9  
 Booklets ordered.

Enquiries: Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057

**Bereavement Team Meeting Saturday March 1st in the Parish Office.**

**BAPTISMS IN THE PARISH**



Miss Josephine Mahon  
 Sunday 23rd February, 2025  
 This weekend we welcome Josephine into our faith community through the waters of baptism. May God's love and blessings be upon her on this baptism day and always.

**Wrap with Love** members would love to welcome newcomers who may be interested in knitting crocheting, or sewing together squares to create blankets for people in need in Australia and abroad.

An afternoon meeting 1pm-3pm will be held on Wednesday 26/2 in the church meeting room.  
 Information and instruction sheets available.

**Enquiries:** Jenny 0414 664 077

**CUPPA WITH MARY MACKILLOP**

*Will be held on Tuesday March 4th at the home of Carolyn and Ken Evenden.*

*Enquires: Carolyn 0400 021 119  
 ALL ARE WELCOME*

**EASTER MUSIC PREPARATION**

In addition to our regular Monday practices, extra choir practice to prepare for Easter will take place at 1pm on Monday 17th March, Monday 31 March and Monday 7 April.  
**New and previous singers....All welcome!!**

**MINISTRY SUNDAY 2025**

*Ministry Sunday is held every year in the Parish.*

*This year there will be week-end masses on Saturday March 1 & Sunday March 2.*

*Please consider joining a ministry in our Parish .*

**WE NEED YOU !!**

*Support and guidance will be provided.*

*A fill-in sheet will be placed in the church foyer and once you have nominated yourself, we will be in contact with you.*

*For further enquires please contact Marie Weatherall on 0405 028 057*

**LITURGY MEETING**

**DATE:** Tuesday 25th February

**TIME:** 6-7PM

**VENUE:** Parish Office

If you would like to assist in preparation for Easter, you are most welcome to attend our LITURGY MEETING

**Remembering the Sick:**

Jeanette Clarke, Margaret Priest, Chris Bowditch, Sheree Jackson, Brendan Blyton, Wendy & Pat Roberts, Mark O'Neill, Karen Nixon, 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, Sr Marie McAlister, Peter O'Neill, 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, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Allan Odlum, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, 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:** Joe Quigley, Margaret Silversides, Patricia Totterdell, David Cowley, Joanne Rogers, Gerald Lewis, Josephine Beckhaus, Cyril Noyeaux, Frank Simic, Sr Paulinus Croker, Marion O'Grady, Patricia Suhl, Neil Leonard, Letitia Baz, Trent Fisk, Kevin Carew, Margaret Kelly, Arthur Hurrell, 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 Scicluna, Francis Bezzina, Pam Wilson, Drago Bandur, Vin Taylor

**The Jubilee Prayer**

Father in heaven,  
 may the faith you have given us  
 in your son, Jesus Christ, our  
 brother, and the flame  
 of charity enkindled  
 in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
 reawaken in us the blessed hope  
 for the coming of your  
 Kingdom.

May your grace transform us  
 into tireless cultivators of the seeds of  
 the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within  
 both humanity and the whole cosmos, in  
 the sure expectation  
 of a new heaven and a new earth, when,  
 with the powers of Evil  
 vanquished, your glory will shine  
 eternally.

May the grace of the  
 Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of  
 Hope,  
 a yearning for the treasures of  
 heaven.

May that same grace spread  
 the joy and peace of our  
 Redeemer  
 throughout the earth.  
 To you our God, eternally blessed,  
 be glory and praise for ever.

**Amen**

**Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions**

**MARCH**

For families in crisis  
 Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences

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Ray and Anne Brown

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