

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time C

First Reading *Sirach 27:4-7*

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 91:2-3, 13-16. R. See v.2

(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night.

2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar.

3. Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God, still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the Lord is just. In him, my rock, there is no wrong.

(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

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

Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Philippians 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

Gospel *Luke 6:39-45*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

A person speaks from what is in his heart.

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye. 'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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EFLECTION by Nick Brodie

'Wars begin from the tongue', says Pope Francis. Reflecting on today's Gospel passage, he draws our attention to the importance of choosing our words carefully, lest they become 'bad fruit'. He also reminds us that words can be destructive. If we are 'grumbling, gossiping, speaking ill of others', he says, then we are engaging in activity that 'destroys the family,

destroys school, destroys the workplace, destroys the neighbourhood.' Commenting on how words can amplify attitudes, the Pope wants us to remember that 'through our tongue we can also feed prejudices, raise barriers.'

This is especially true online. Stressing that these days 'words travel fast', the Pope remarks that 'too many of them convey anger and aggression, feed false news and take advantage of collective fears to propagate distorted ideas.' Christians should 'be reflective, not reactive' when engaging with other people online. We should always 'be mindful of posting and sharing content that can cause misunderstanding, exacerbate division, incite conflict, and deepen prejudices.' We should look for those digital splinters that might be distorting our own perspectives before we jump online to accost others.

Ultimately, the Pope wants us to remember that our words always affect another person.

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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



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



P.O. Box 3220, Batehaven, 2536.
Tel: 4472 4153
E: batemansbay@cg.org.au
Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay
Office Hours: 10am to 2pm
Tuesday-Friday

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Secretary: Roslynn Trompp
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

EIGHTH 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
TUESDAY 11 March
10-11am BB Library

Croatian Mass
Saturday 1st March
11am

Bereavement Team
Meeting Saturday 1st
March 9.30-11.30 Parish
Office

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: Corrigan Cove

IN the Gospel reading from Luke 6:39-45, Jesus speaks to us about the importance of inner vision, integrity, and the power of our words and actions. He begins by urging us not to focus on the faults of others while overlooking our own shortcomings. "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?" Jesus challenges us to examine ourselves first, to recognise our imperfections, and to work diligently on our own growth before offering advice or judgment to others. This requires humility and hard work, as we strive to become better versions of ourselves each day, even as we continue our journey of faith.

Jesus' words remind us that our actions flow from the condition of our hearts.

"For out of the overflow of the heart, the mouth speaks." This powerful statement underscores the importance of cultivating goodness within us. When we nurture love, kindness, patience, and compassion in our hearts, these qualities will naturally radiate through our actions and words. But this is not always easy. It takes effort and persistence to maintain a heart that is pure and filled with the light of Christ. In a world that often encourages selfishness or indifference, we must keep working hard to align our hearts with the will of God, so that our lives reflect His goodness.

This Gospel reading also highlights the role of the teacher or guide in our lives. Jesus uses the image of a blind man leading another blind man to emphasize the need for wisdom and discernment. We are called not only to look after our own growth but also to help others along their journey. As we continue to work hard on improving ourselves, we are also called to be sources of guidance, encouragement, and support for those around us. This means we must constantly strive to be examples of integrity, honesty, and love, showing others what it means to live according to the principles of Christ.

Ultimately, the message of this passage is one of hope and perseverance. Jesus reminds us that our work is never in vain. When we focus on improving ourselves, living with integrity, and doing good for others, we become instruments of God's grace. No act of kindness or hard work goes unnoticed in God's eyes. It is a lifelong journey of growth, but we are not alone in this work.

The Holy Spirit empowers us and strengthens us to continue pressing forward, always seeking to bring more goodness into the world.

Let us be inspired by the words of Jesus today, and continue to work hard, trusting that each step we take toward goodness brings us closer to the kingdom of God.

Brendan Maynard

MASSES THIS WEEK

Monday 3rd—Sunday 9th March

Monday 3rd : NO MASS

Tuesday 4th: Mass 5pm

Wednesday 5th: Ash Wednesday
Mass 9am, 6pm

Thursday 6th: Mass 9am

Friday 7th: Mass 9am

Saturday 8th: Mass 5pm

Reconciliation 3.30-4.30

Sunday 9th: Mass 9am

FUNERALS IN THE PARISH:

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

BAPTISMS AT ST BERNARD'S

Piper Rose Mesrin O'Kelly
Sunday 2nd March 10.30am

ROSTERS

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 Jobes
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

8/9 MARCH

Cleaning
10-14 R & K Ison

5.00PM MASS

Welcomer: J McCarthy
Commentator
M Weatherall:
Reader: J Mackay
Eucharistic Ministers
J Wain
Computer Screen
M O'Neill

9.00 AM MASS:

Welcomer L May
Commentator . J
Whiteford
Reader: B Basevi
Eucharistic Ministers
K Coorbin L Stevens
Computer Screen D
May

MORNING TEA:

J Barroman/G
Berryman

COUNTERS:

M & C Lowe

MINISTRY SUNDAY Saturday 1 & Sunday 2 March
Please consider joining a ministry in our Parish. A fill-in
sheet will be placed in the church foyer and once
nominated we will contact you.

For more information: Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Parishioners are invited to attend the Stations of the Cross
each Friday during Lent.

A soup dinner is served after the short service.
The Stations of the Cross are held at 5.30pm each Friday.

Starts 7th March 2025

LENTEN GROUP

Will be held after Mass on Wednesdays
beginning March 5 Ash Wednesday—April 9
Enquiries: Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057

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!!

50th Reunion - Class of 1975.

A reunion will be held on the weekend of 18 October 2025 for
students from **Catholic Girls High School**

Braddon and Daramalan College, who finished Year 12 in
1975 (including those from that group who finished before
Year 12).

Several activities are planned over the weekend, with the main
event on Saturday evening 18th.

To RSVP, please use on of the event channels:
Email: CGHS.Dara975@gmail.com or

LENT 2025 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY, BRUCE DOWNES

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare
our hearts for the true meaning of Easter. Be inspired. Be
refreshed. Be renewed!

For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring
video in your inbox every morning to help you make this
Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful.

This program is FREE and you can sign up here:

<https://BruceDownes.org/Lent>

Go to BruceDownes.org for more information.



PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project
Compassion. By taking home a Project
Compassion donation box or envelope, you'll
be answering the Gospels' call to care for
our global family and walk alongside the
most vulnerable.

Your generous support this Lenten season
will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-
changing support to communities facing
poverty, food insecurity, lack of education,
and water shortages, while building
resilience against future challenges.

Together, through faith and action, we can
bring compassion and opportunity to those
most in need.

Envelopes available for donations or online
at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

ASH WEDNESDAY

DATE: 5th March, 2025
MASS TIMES: 9AM & 6PM

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days
of abstinence from meat for people aged
18-59.

Ash Wednesday commences the season of
Lent when we seek special growth in our
spiritual life through prayer, almsgiving
and works of mercy

Fr Rex Curry

Remembering the Sick:

Jeanette Clarke, Margaret Priest, Chris Bowditch, Sheree Jackson, Brendan Blyton,
Wendy & Pat Roberts, Mark O'Neill, Karen Nixon, Kevin 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 Odum, 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

BATEMANS BAY & MORUYA DISTRICT FUNERALS
Caring for Eurobodalla shire families for over 50 years
Batemans Bay 44728886
Moruya 4474 3555 Narooma 4476 3888

INDUSTRIAL REPLACEMENTS
1 Sharon Road, Batemans Bay
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Ray and Anne Brown

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