

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary
Time Year C
First Reading

Deuteronomy 30:10-14
A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Let the instruction of the Lord God be near you. Moses said to the people: ‘Obey the voice of the Lord your God, keeping those commandments and laws of his that are written in the Book of this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul. ‘For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach. It is not in heaven, so that you need to wonder, “Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?” Nor is it beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder, “Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?” No, the Word is very near to you, it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance.’
The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 68:14. 17. 30-31. 33-34. 36-37. R. see v.33
(R.) Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

1. This is my prayer to you, my prayer for your favour In your great love, answer me, O God, with your help that never fails: Lord, answer, for your love is kind; in your compassion, turn towards me.
2. As for me in my poverty and pain let your help, O God, lift me up. I will praise God’s name with a song; I will glorify him with thanksgiving.
3. The poor when they see it will be glad and God-seeking hearts will revive; for the Lord listens to the needy and does not spurn his servants in their chains.
4. For God will bring help to Zion and rebuild the cities of Judah. The sons of his servants shall inherit it; those who love his name shall dwell there.
(R.) Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

Second Reading Colossians 1:15-20
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians
All things were created through him and for him.

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers – all things were created through him and for him. Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity. Now the Church is his body, he is its head. As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation
See John 6:63. 68
Alleluia, alleluia!
Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 10:25-37
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Who is my neighbour?
There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, ‘Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?’ He said to him, ‘What is written in the Law? What do you read there?’ He replied, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.’ ‘You have answered right,’ said Jesus, ‘do this and life is yours.’ But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbour?’ Jesus replied, ‘A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him was moved with

compassion when he saw him. He went up and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him on to his own mount, carried him to the inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper. “Look after him,” he said, “and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have.” Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into the brigands’ hands?’ ‘The one who took pity on him,’ he replied. Jesus said to him, ‘Go and do the same yourself.’
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.
The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

9 August | Archbishop’s St Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage

Join us for the Archbishop’s St Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage on 9th August 2025 at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, Eden. This special church has been designated for the Jubilee Year of Hope.

Location Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, Eden (a designated church for the Jubilee Year of Hope)

- Pilgrimage walk starts at 11.00 am from Eden Sports Ground
 - Reconciliation available during the walk
 - Mass at 12.00 pm
 - Visit Mary MacKillop Hall
 - Please arrange your own transport
- For enquiries:
email woodb4922@gmail.com



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

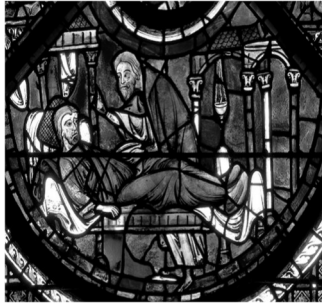


P .O. Box 3220, Batehaven, 2536.
Tel: 4472 4153
E: batemansbay@cg.org.au
Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay
Office Hours: 10am to 2pm
Tuesday-Friday

Parish Priest: Fr Joshy Kurien
E: joshy.kurien@cg.org.au
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

FIFTEENTH
SUNDAY in
ORDINARY TIME
Year C



CHURCH EVENTS

Choir Practice
Second & Fourth
Mondays 1pm

Cenacle Prayer 9.30
am Fridays after Mass

“Good News”
Wednesdays after
Mass to discuss
reading for the
following Sunday. CMR

Wrap with Love
Wednesday 30th 1-3pm
CMR

Craft Group 10am
Thursdays Church
Meeting Room

ADORATION
TUESDAYS @ 4pm

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

Those lying in the ditch!

As we look around our world today we are confronted by dehumanizing suffering in distant places, around the world, within our own nation Australia and our local community. We are constantly invited to embrace compassion or the capacity ‘to suffer with another’ as the definitive characteristic of our discipleship.



Today as we listen to the parable of the Good Samaritan [Luke 10:25-37] let us focus our attention on the incapacitated person in the ditch and ask ourselves the question: Are we able to encounter those who are suffering?

For the first Century Jew living under political occupation, ‘neighbour’ is a term that transcends all boundaries and **loving our neighbour makes significant demands on everyone who can manage a ‘safe passage to Jericho’ while some in our community cannot even climb out of the ditch.** I see this so often when interviewing companions who come to St Vincent de Paul for assistance. Like the woman with 4 children at risk of homelessness, while a man with a child in High School are both living rough. For such people ‘in the ditch’ in our community options are so limited.

As Christians it is our responsibility to name the signs of the time, understand their causes and come up with effective responses. One approach to compassion is the see-judge-act praxis of Catholic Social Teaching. As Margaret O’Connor states: ‘Compassion does not just alleviate suffering – it must transform it.’ [‘Compassion’ 2009, page 2]

“This suffering of those ‘in the ditch’ reduces their ability to exercise freedom, to feel affection to hope, to love God.” [Wendy Farley ‘Tragic Vision, Devine Compassion’, 1990 page 53-54]. Such suffering holds a particular power over people – it strips them of their personal identity, stunts their capabilities to care for themselves and those they love, blinds them to alternative visions of the future. It traps them in a demoralizing and exhausting race against meaningless and death.

The Samaritan heeding only his compassion treats the victim as he would like to be treated himself. It is no longer a question of defining one neighbour in relationship to one self as the centre of everything but to find one’s own position by starting from the ‘other’. This is the way the Gospel turns things around. ‘Go and do the same yourself’ and become a transforming neighbour.

Marie Weatherall

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