

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

3 SEPTEMBER 2023

'YOU HAVE SEDUCED ME, LORD!' The prophet Jeremiah was captivated by God. His attachment meant that he suffered greatly at the hands of God's enemies but he also experienced a fire within, lit by God's love, that urged him on. We too can follow Jesus wholeheartedly only if we are captivated by him. Like Peter, we may remonstrate with Jesus as we struggle to understand his ways, but we will follow him faithfully along the way of the cross to the fullness of life.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 85:3, 5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. Lord Jesus, you are the image of the unseen God: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the first born of all creation: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the head of the body, the Church: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

COLLECT

P. God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Jer 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah
The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock,
everybody's butt.
Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'
The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long.
I used to say, 'I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.'

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,
imprisoned in my bones.
The effort to restrain it wearied me,
I could not bear it.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM

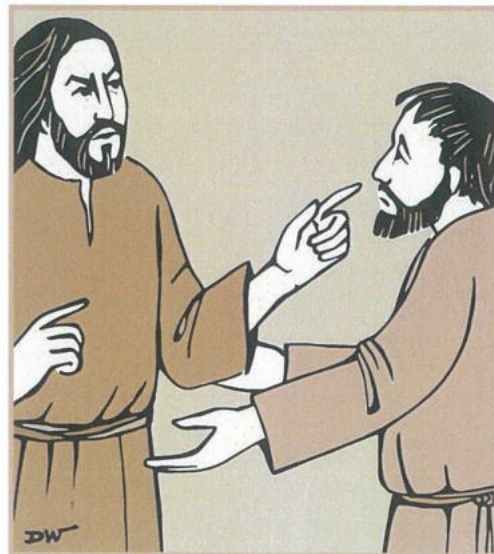
Ps 62:2-6, 8-9. R. v. 2

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; / for you my soul is thirsting. / My body pines for you / like a dry, weary land without water. R.

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary / to see your strength and your glory. / For your love is better than life, / my lips will speak your praise. R.

3. So I will bless you all my life, / in your name I will lift up my hands. / My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, / my mouth shall praise you with joy. R.



4. For you have been my help; / in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. / My soul clings to you; / your right hand holds me fast. R.

SECOND READING

Rom 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf. Eph 1:17, 18

Alleluia, alleluia! / May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ / enlighten the eyes of our heart, / that we might see how great is the hope / to which we are called. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 16:21-27

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day.



ST MARTHA'S PARISH STRATHFIELD

Parish Priest: Father John Hayes

Assistant Priest: Father Liem Duong

Administration Coordinator: Nicolle Mazzaferro (Mon, Tues & Thurs) admin@stmarthas.org.au

Administration Support: Larissa Argiro (Friday) office@stmarthas.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator: Linda Praum sc@stmarthas.org.au

Safeguarding Officer: Dianne Dawson & Helen Williamson safeguarding@stmarthas.org.au

Parish Ministries Coordinator: Helen Williamson

Music Ministry: Marcella Ayoub

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Alannah Hickry

Plenary Council Ambassador: Helena O'Neil



'Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself' ... Matthew 16

70 Homebush Rd Strathfield NSW 2135

Phone: 9746 6131 Fax: 9764 3040

Email: office@stmarthas.org.au

Website: www.stmarthas.org.au

Parish Office Hours:

Mon, Tues & Thurs 9am-5pm & Fridays 9am-3pm



St Martha's School: 9764 1184

Email: info@stmstrathfield.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Carolyn Parsell

Assist Principal: Steven Belcastro

Acting REC: Cindy Ronzini

THE PARISH OF ST MARTHA'S ACKNOWLEDGES THE WANGUL PEOPLE AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND ON WHICH THE CHURCH IS BUILT

Vision:

**Welcoming
Eucharistic
Transformed by the Word
Full of Grace
Proclaiming Good News**



*Please
continue
to support the
St Vincent De Paul Society
through the Church
Poor Boxes.*

Mission:

**Alive with the Spirit
Inspired by St Martha
We Celebrate & Witness
God's love
Using our Gifts & Talents**



MASS TIMES

Tuesday: 7.30am

Wednesday: 9.10am

Thursday: 9.10am

Friday: 9.10am

Saturday: 9.10am, 5pm Vigil Mass

Sunday: 8.00am; 10.00am & 6.00pm



1st Saturday of every month:

8.30am Adoration followed by Mass

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday after 9.10am Mass or by appointment.

SYDNEY MALAYALEE ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Rosary, Mass & Adoration from 6.30pm to 8.00pm on the 2nd Saturday of each month.

BAPTISM:

2nd & 4th Sundays of the month at 11.00am
(One months' notice is required).

Baptism Preparation by appointment only.
Contact the Parish office for more information.

MARRIAGES: By appointment only.
(6 months' notice is required).

ROSARY:

Tuesday & Saturday after morning Mass
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8.30am

7.30pm on Fridays in conjunction with Marian Movement of Priests
Cenacle and Divine Mercy Chaplet.

PRAYER GROUP / ADORATION AT ST MARTHA'S CHURCH:

Mondays 10.30am – 11.30am (school term only)



**Please support our Catholic Press
Copies of the Catholic Weekly \$2
& Catholic Leader \$2.50 are available
at the Church Entrance.**

SAFE GUARDING

A reminder to parents that the Notice-Board located at the side entrance contains various resources for children regarding Safeguarding.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY.

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance.

The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Please be aware that if you "TAG" St Martha's in photos on your Facebook page, the images also appear on an "unofficial" St Martha's Facebook page. This "unofficial" page was created automatically by Facebook and is not controlled by St Martha's. We kindly remind you to take care when uploading photos of any children without parent consent.



IMPORTANT NOTICE:

IF YOU PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING MINISTRIES YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN IN - ACOLYTES; READERS; EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS; CHOIR; CHILDREN'S LITURGY (LEADERS & CHILDREN) & SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM (LEADERS & CHILDREN). SIGN IN FOLDERS ARE KEPT IN THE SACRISTY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION.

ALTAR SERVERS ARE NOT PERMITTED IN THE SACRISTY WITHOUT A PARENT/TEACHER. THE SIGN IN FOLDER IS LOCATED IN THE CORRIDOR OUTSIDE THE SACRISTY.



GLUTEN FREE HOSTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ANY CELIAC PARISHIONERS. IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION PLEASE TELL THE CHURCH WARDEN OR SEE AN ACOLYTE IN THE SACRISTY PRIOR TO MASS.



Important Notice: Extraordinary Ministers of Communion Visitation Ministry
Please return any PYX's to the Sacristy that are not currently being used. Thank you!

Father's Day Blessings

*The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face shine on you
... and give you peace.*

- Numbers 6:24-26

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO ALL THE FATHERS, GRANDFATHERS & FATHER LIKE FIGURES IN OUR LIVES WHO CONTINUE TO GIVE LOVE AND LIFE TO THEIR FAMILIES AND OUR PARISH COMMUNITY! MAY THE PEACE AND JOY OF THE LORD BE YOURS IN A SPECIAL WAY TODAY AND MAY HE BLESS YOU IN EVERY WAY. MAY WE ALWAYS BE THANKFUL FOR THE GIFT OF FATHERS.

We also remember our Parish Priests, Fr John Hayes & Fr Liem Duong and thank them for their spiritual guidance and pastoral ministry to our St Martha's community.

A Reflection for Father's Day

This celebration gives us reason to pause, to pray for, and to reflect on our Fathers whom we honour. On this Father's Day, we celebrate, congratulate, and pray for the men who continue to reflect the Divine qualities of fatherhood as they lovingly establish, nourish, and maintain their families. Fathers are a blessing, and we thank them for blessing us with lives of dedication, endurance, and love. The historical, traditional observance most like Father's Day was the ancient Roman Parentalia, which lasted from the 13th to the 22nd of February. This festival was a time of remembrance, commemorating departed parents and kinsfolk. The ceremonies were held to 'appease the souls of fathers.' The annual observance became a family reunion. Members gathered to offer wine, milk, honey, oil, and water at flower-decorated graves. At the concluding ceremony, the Caristia, much celebrating went on, as the living relatives feasted together. The originator of a specific 'Father's Day' celebration was Mrs. Sonora Dodd in the United States. The idea of a Father's Day celebration came to her while listening to a sermon on Mother's Day in 1909. Her own father, William Jackson Smart, had raised his six children (Mrs. Dodd and her five brothers), alone and with great love — after his young wife had died. The sacrifices her father made called to mind the unsung feats of fathers everywhere. Mrs. Dodd's idea was approved by her Church and publicized by the YMCA. Internationally, Father's Day is often associated with International Men's Day. Germany has one of the most unique celebrations. It takes place on Ascension Day, which is forty days after Easter. Many countries with a large Catholic community honour godfathers and saints who were father figures. Brazil's Father's Day honours Saint Joachim, patriarch of the holy family, as well as Saint Joseph, in order to celebrate the Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker on the same day. Honouring St. Joseph on Father's Day is common within the Catholic religion, as he is the stepfather of Jesus Christ, his legacy. So, as we reflect on the many traditions and celebrations from around the world, that have led to Father's Day for us, we honour all the fathers and significant men in our lives who have passed away. We give thanks for those who have made sacrifices for our families. We celebrate the godfathers, saints, and father figures in our lives. And we express our gratitude for the workers and the stepfathers making a difference every day. We pray for all our fathers:

God our Father,

We give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers newly embracing their vocation;

May they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family, and faith in joy and sacrifice.

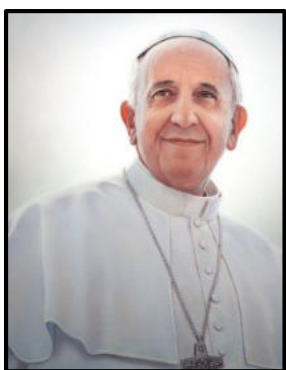
We pray for fathers around the world whose children are lost and suffering;

May they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice.

We remember fathers, grandfathers, and great grandfathers who are no longer with us

but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen.



A Father's Day Message from Pope Francis

St Joseph is the model of the educator and the dad, the father.

I, therefore, entrust to his protection those who are fathers.

Best wishes to you on your day!

I ask for you the grace to be ever closer to your children, allow them to grow, but be close, close!

They need you, your presence, your closeness, your love.

May you be for them as St Joseph was: guardians of their growth in age, wisdom and grace.

May you guard them on their journey: be educators and walk with them.

Thank you for all you do for your children: thank you.

May St Joseph bless you and accompany you.

**PRIESTS'
RETIREMENT
FOUNDATION**

The Priests' Retirement Foundation is being held this **weekend, 2nd & 3rd September**.

Also known as the Father's Day Appeal, each year our Archdiocese hosts this annually to support retired priests and thank our Fathers for their wonderful service to our community. Your gift is a 'thank you' to our priests who've contributed in many ways

in your life. They are friends who've counselled, comforted and provided spiritual nourishment through their wisdom and willingness to teach. Give generously. Your tax-deductible gift will make a big difference to our retired Fathers who need our care. The Archdiocese will match every donation two-for-one. For example, if you give \$100, the Archdiocese will add another \$200, making your contribution worth \$300. Thank you. Donate at www.ourfaithourworks/prf or complete the parish envelope.





May God bless the children coming forward this Sunday to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. On this special day, we congratulate you on taking this big step in your faith journey and we hope that you experience the joy of God's presence in your lives always. Thank you to Linda Praum, our Sacramental Coordinator.

PRAYER

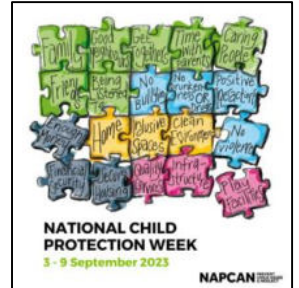
**Angel of God, my guardian dear,
To whom God's love commits me here,
Ever this day, be at my side,
To light and guard,
rule and guide.
Amen.**



Prayer **After Holy Communion**

**May the Body
of Our Lord Jesus Christ
keep my soul unto life everlasting.
Amen.**

In 2023, the message that 'Every child in every community needs a fair go' will be complemented with the theme 'Where we start matters'. Where we start our lives in terms of where we live, the resources available to us, and the opportunities presented to us make a significant difference to our life outcomes. Where we start as a service sector in offering children and their families support and assistance makes a significant difference to life outcomes. Where we start as decision makers in addressing large complex policy problems such as child abuse and neglect, also has a significant personal, social and economic outcome. We invite you to use this theme to explore and talk about the many ways that 'where we start matters' for children, young people and their families. Of course where we start isn't where we finish. The aim of Child Protection Week is to bring together partners to focus on addressing the significant harms being experienced by children in Australia. By working collectively to change the trajectory of these children and families, we can reduce the number of children who may come in contact with the child protection system. The time to act is now.



CANA COMMUNITY APPEAL **16th & 17th September**

This appeal assists in the support of those people who are truly living on the margins in Sydney. The Cana Communities are not government funded and rely on the generosity of people who want to contribute to their ministry of compassion and care. Some parishioners from our parish volunteer their time and love at Cana to assist those who are in such great need for the practical care of others.



Background on the Gospel Reading (Loyola Press)

Today we move ahead in our reading of Matthew's Gospel. Last week we read about Jesus walking on the water and the disciples' confession of faith that Today's Gospel continues the story that began in last week's Gospel. Simon Peter was called the "rock" upon which Jesus would build his Church, and yet Peter continues to show the limitations of his understanding of Jesus' identity. Now that the disciples have acknowledged that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus confides in them the outcome of his ministry: he must suffer and die in Jerusalem to be raised on the third day. Peter rejects this prediction, and Jesus rebukes him severely, calling him "Satan." In opposing this aspect of Jesus' mission, Peter shows that he is no longer speaking based on the revelation from God but as a human being. Jesus then teaches all of the disciples about the difficult path of discipleship: to be Christ's disciple is to follow in his way of the cross. Peter could not yet understand what it meant to call Jesus the Messiah. It is unlikely that the other disciples understood any better. Messianic expectations were a common aspect of first-century Judaism. Under Roman occupation, many in Israel hoped and prayed that God would send a Messiah to free the Jews from Roman oppression. The common view was that the Messiah would be a political figure, a king that would free Israel from Roman rule. This is perhaps what Peter envisioned when he was led to recognize Jesus as the Messiah. In this passage, however, Jesus is beginning to teach his disciples that he would be the Messiah in a different way. Jesus would be more like the suffering servant described by the prophet Isaiah than the political liberator. Those who would be Jesus' disciples would be called to a similar life of service. Perhaps this is what Peter feared most in Jesus' prediction of his Passion. He whom Jesus had called "rock" would also be called upon to offer himself in sacrifice and service to others. Christian leaders today are still called to sacrifice and serve others as Jesus did.

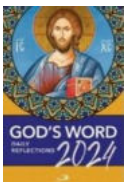


Family Connection: Peter was expecting a Messiah that would carry out a different plan than the one Jesus had explained. Jesus was indeed the Messiah, but his life and death would show a different understanding of what it means to be the Messiah. We too have expectations of God and our own ideas about what we think God ought to be doing in our world. Like Peter we may risk limiting our image of God by thinking only in human ways. God's plan is always more than we can ever imagine. As you gather as a family, talk about what we expect God to be doing in our world and in our family life. Then read today's Gospel, Matthew 16:21-27. Why do you think Peter was so upset by what Jesus was saying? Notice how Jesus reprimands Peter. Do we sometimes forget to let God be God for us? That is, do we sometimes get discouraged because God doesn't act in our world

in the ways that we expect? Pray together that your family will remember that God is always working for the world's salvation in ways that are beyond our human imaginings. Conclude by praying together today's Psalm, Psalm 63.

2024 Bible Diaries are now available to purchase in the Church Foyer (limited stock). They are designed to help you to keep the Word of God close to your heart in your daily life. A companion on the journey to pray, to share, to grow in God's love and be nourished by the Word of God make these an ideal gift.

\$20 each (rrp \$21.95) Cash payments only. Please do not use the tap' n' go machines.



FREE TO LOVING HOME

Calling all Cat Lovers – these gorgeous, placid & playful sisters need to find a new home together as soon as possible. 2 year old Millie (with blue eyes) and Gigi (all white) are house trained and come with some accessories. If you feel that you can provide a safe and loving home for them together, please call Vanessa directly on 0419 268 341.

Located in Belfield.

Please note that they cannot be separated.



TAX RECEIPTS ARE AVAILABLE TO COLLECT IN THE CHURCH FOYER We encourage all Parishioners to join the giving system by either Weekly Envelope or Monthly Credit Card as this is the main income of the parish, by means of which we run everyday expenses, funds projects and plan for the future. If you would like to join, please contact the Parish Office.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM FATHER JOHN REGARDING WWC SAFEGUARDING COMPLIANCE



Our parish greatly values the work of volunteers, and we thank you for your willingness to love and serve our community so generously. We are all committed to providing the safest possible environment for children and vulnerable persons. To maintain this, we need all volunteers to follow the requirements for safeguarding set out by the NSW Office of the Children's Guardian (OCG) which were passed into law in January 2023 and are now mandatory. In keeping with the legislation the OCG will conduct audits to ensure that organisations, including Parishes, are compliant and child safe. Every non-compliance potentially carries a fine of \$18,000 per offence. Dianne Dawson & Helen Williamson are our Parish Safeguarding Officers and I would ask you to respond as generously and quickly as possible to any of their requests of you, so that our community is the safest place possible. The new legislation requires everyone who volunteers in our churches to comply. Failure to do so, means that you will no longer be permitted to continue the wonderful work you have undertaken for many years at St Martha's. We want and need people to remain volunteering across all ministries. The initial process to become fully compliant is a minor inconvenience and staff are on hand to assist you at any stage if you require assistance. Please contact our Safeguarding Officers by email: safeguarding@stmarthas.org.au or contact the Parish Office on 9746 6131 (option 2). Thank you for your cooperation.

9th & 10th September

Special Ministers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Vince Blefari	Gina Surjadinata	Rachel Suriano	Mary L'Estrange
	Beatrice Bonette	Andri Surjadinata	Maria Soares	Andrew Bova
Readers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Donald Bonett	Maria Yu	Helen Williamson	Owen Loney
	Helen Blefari	Leontia Jo	Merlyn D'Souza	Volunteer Needed
Altar Servers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Grace T.	Mary Louise I.	Beatrice L.	Oliver B.
	Peter T.	Ryan W.	Jay L.	Marina B.
	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Jarvis L.	Volunteer Needed
Wardens	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Joy Li	Peter Yamin	Trudie Rogers	Phil Robinson

MASS OFFERINGS

Recently Deceased:

Sister Collette Holz, Francesco Campanale, Dejan Radulovic, Francis Tai Ta, Micky & Paul McGoldrick, Peter Vidovic, Lorenzo Tati, Luke McCarthy.

Repose of The Soul:

Fr Adrian Horgan, Fr Paul Ryan, Br Ray Dowding, Betty Warbrick, Gerald Wilson, Francis Doumit, Frederick McDowell, Dorothy Harris, Daniel Lucich, James Brady, Ken Fraser, Elizabeth Keating, John McManus, Aldo Amarino, Salvatore Puglisi, William (Bill) & Dorothy Starr, Roger O'Reilly, Bruce & Estelle Thurn, Anne Cecilia Glass, Reginald & Agnes Glass, Gerald & Frances Gleeson, Faado & Alice Herro, Patrick & Janet Reynolds, Jim Reynolds, Ken Rich, Monica & Patrick Ryan, Francesco & Mary Sorbello, Stephen Maxwell Stewart & Christopher John Stewart, Dr Stephanie Winfield, Philip Winfield, Mary Trefle', Anne Trefle', Elie Sahyoun, Giuseppina Tati, Alan & Peg Bailey, Matteo & Caterina Genova, Francesco & Maria Colagiuri, Lisa Cooke, Michael & Mary Cassar, Giuseppe & Romilda Reginato & Katherine Murphy.

Anniversaries:

Joy Quinlan, Kevin Quinlan, Marie Leahy, Samir Mannaa, Netta O'Hara, Padre Nilo, Maria Santana Almeida, Bernard & Mark Kelly, Raymond Castelino, Mary Therese Cooper, Gladstone Jebanasam, Duncan Maclean Snr, Daher Daher, Doreen & John McNamara, Rex Fernandes, Seliome Seseikiene, Carmelina Truscillo, Francis & Roslyn Sinnadurai.

Sick Intentions:

Baby Oscar McNamara, John Quinlan, Sylvia Watson, Sheree Mouawad, Ann Cincotta-Teangney, Virgilio Lim, George Jabbour, Dr Maher Ishak Morian, Graham Byrnes, Stephanie Harrington, Phil Harriss, Sophie O'Donnell, Ken South, Ajith Antony, Pat Fraser, Siena Fabrie, Giuseppe Faraone, Joanna Jo, Simon Alam, Rosanne Sukkar, Henry D'Souza, Kevin O'Connor.

Special Intentions:

Members of the Argiro, Campanale & Araullo Families. Deceased friends, relatives & Benefactors of the Dominican Order. Dave (exams), Antonia, Giuseppe, Teresa, Matteo, Filomena & Maria Pagano.



Remembering someone with a Mass Intention honours them in a unique way – surrounding them with the warmth of God's love. A Mass may be offered for the living or deceased, for a Birthday, Anniversary, for somebody who is ill, or for a special intention. Mass Intention envelopes are available at the Church Entrances. If you would like a Mass offered on a particular date, please contact the parish office to arrange this.

Call 13 11 14 >
24/7 Crisis Support

CCareline
131819
8am - 6pm, Mon - Fri

Need Help?

1300 22 4636

Lifeline
Saving Lives

CatholicCare

Beyond Blue

kidshelpline
Anytime | Any Reason
1800 55 1800

Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, '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 will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. May this sacred offering, O Lord, confer on us always the blessing of salvation, that what it celebrates in mystery it may accomplish in power.

Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he

who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray...

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said...

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 30:20

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,

we beseech you, Lord,

that, being the food of charity,

it may confirm our hearts

and stir us to serve you in our neighbour.

Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

CHALLENGES OF DISCIPLESHIP

As we listen to Jeremiah pouring his heart out to the Lord, it is not unusual for us to be somewhat embarrassed by his candour. It is as though we are eavesdropping on a very personal and private conversation between the suffering prophet and the God who has commissioned him. There is an enormous battle in the heart of Jeremiah as he wrestles with the message he must proclaim and the impact his preaching has on his own life.

Last week Peter was praised because he had come to understand that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God. Now he must learn what the consequences mean for Jesus and then for those who follow in his footsteps as disciples. His well-meaning attempt to protect Jesus is misguided and like Jeremiah, he must struggle to accept the paradoxical and costly ways of God.

The Christians of Rome are encouraged by Paul to continue with the struggle to live a life of faith in a world that did not share their values and vision. In a world where there were many temples, gods and sacrificial banquets, Paul goes to the heart of the matter when he calls for an offering of one's life as a living sacrifice to God.

All the readings for today converge in laying the challenge before us of not losing heart, even though at times the difficulties might seem beyond our strength. Making our own the mind of Christ is not easy, but then again, it never was.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

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