



ORDINARY TIME

20th Sunday in
ORDINARY TIME
Year A
20th August 2017
Psalter Week 4

OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF

- **Recently deceased:**
Hendrina Jorgenson, Laurence Floor,
Colin McCannon, Elizabeth Todd,
Sr. Clare Burgess. r.s.j, Patrick Keegan.
- **Anniversaries:**
Ewen Durrand, Warwick Torrens,
Sebastian Lee Hee-chang,
Teresa Lee Min-Yong, Mary Justic,
Saturnino and Maria Dapar,
Jose Dapar, Mark Bevilacqua,
Isabella Dwyer, Paulina Menezes,
Umiliano Menezes, Wanda Grima,
Saffa El-Khatib, Lily Mortimer.
- **Remembrances:**
Socorro Malaki.
- **And the sick:**
Maryanne Diorio, Pat Burgmann,
Mary Scarf, Margarita Gomez,
June Towson, Therese Corner,
Courtney Willines, Diane Gillett,
Audrey Barsenbach, Margaret Davin,
Patricia Dwyer, Roy Beverage,
Brian Finlayson, Laura Krauss,
Tim McNamara, Janet Dean,
Nola McKeowen, Rene Glase,
Marie Carter, Peter Crookes,
Mary Drinan, Marylou Tafilagi,
Matilda Tawake, Mick Mino,
Kevin Houghton, Betty Fraser.

Catholic Parish of Woy Woy Peninsula

THE VOICE

CELEBRATING THE 450TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES (1567 - 2017)

21st Aug 2017, the Catholic Church celebrates the 450th Birth Anniversary of St. Francis De Sales, the patron saint of the MSFS Congregation.

Three hundred and fifty-four years before the Second Vatican Council, St. Francis de Sales was absorbed with the universal call to holiness.

He devoted much of his life and writings in assisting the lay faithful to fulfil their mission in the church.

Today, Francis de Sales' spirituality continues to play a vital role in assisting the lay faithful to play their rightful role in church and society.

In a culture of death, where there is disregard for the unborn, aging, and disadvantaged, Salesian spirituality offers an optimistic worldview rooted in the dignity of the human person.

In a world that craves for meaningful relationships and nurtures too few, Salesian spirituality provides practical and accessible ways to address the deepest longings of the human heart.

In a world of expedient and shallow

responses to life's questions and problems, Salesian spirituality provides the wisdom and sustenance needed for daily living.

We welcome Fr Abraham Vettuvellil the Superior General of the Congregation of the Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales, known as Fransalians. He is on his canonical visitation to his priests who are working in Australia. He will be with us from 25th Aug to 27th Aug. He will be celebrating weekend Masses.

Fr Timothy



Psalm Response

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Let the peo- ples praise you, O God ____ . Let all the peo- ples praise you.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the Kingdom and healed all who were sick. *Alleluia!*



Around the Parish

Volunteer Parishioners: We are looking for parishioners to assist in the repair and maintenance of our Parish church. If you can assist and are willing to be placed on a roster for continuing garden maintenance and care, or if you have specialized skills or a trade to get some of the much needed repairs to the church done, please take and complete a note on the gathering area table and return to the Parish office or to Father.

Baptism: We welcome into our Faith community and pray for Isabelle Dixon baptized last Sunday.

Children's Liturgy Roster 27/8/17: Brenda Sweet, Michael Dixon, Shadeeqh Quai Hoi.

Charitable Works Fund Appeal held last weekend raised \$6,426. Thank you for your generosity. Our quota for each of the 3 appeals is \$12,049.

St. Vincent de Paul Conference: Members and volunteers monthly Mass, 4th Saturday of the month due this Saturday, 25th August, 9am. The Society assists many people on the Peninsula. If you would like to learn more about this work or to join as a volunteer, please refer to the contacts on the back page of this bulletin.

Volunteer Church Cleaning Roster 25/8/17: Cate O'Connor, Cheryl Sillick, Maria Wickens, Bev Whackett.

Morning Tea Roster 27/8/17 will be the Spanish Speaking Prayer Group.

Cuppa and a Chat : A group of seniors meet every third Monday in the Leo Mahon room due Monday, 21st August. If you would like to join us, phone Bernard on 4341 6343. Transport provided.

Planned Giving Envelopes now available in the gathering area. Please note your envelope number may have changed. The new envelopes start Sunday, 3 September.

Bus trip: Elizabeth Farm, Parramatta. Wednesday, 30 August. Leaving 9am. Cost: Bus \$20, tour \$6. Contact Susie 4344 1742 or 0403 417 639.

The Just Word

Human Trafficking and slavery: Australian and international law - Australia's response:

No country is immune from the crime of trafficking. Australia is considered to be a destination country. As a nation we have a responsibility to work against human trafficking, to protect those who have been trafficked. To bring our legislation into line within the commitment undertaken by signing the Palermo protocol, there has been a number of amendments to the law in Australia. Commonwealth legislation now includes offences such as slavery, servitude, forced labour, trafficking in persons, debt bondage, organ trafficking, forced marriage, harbouring a person and deceptive recruiting. In October 2003 Australia

announced a \$20 million package over four years to address human trafficking. The government has also developed National Action Plans to Combat Human Trafficking and Slavery, the most recent one covering the period of 2015 to 2019.

The Support for Trafficked People Program:

Our early response by the Government was to fund a Support for Trafficked People Program (STPP). The development of this program illustrates the complexity and sensitivities involved in dealing with victims of trafficking. Initially the tender to deliver this program was won by a for-profit organisation, but since the Red Cross won the tender there has been a marked shift to the delivery of a sensitive,

responsive and professional program. Nevertheless, because the program is only available by referral from the Australian Federal Police, there are obstacles for people who have been trafficked into Australia. Some do not know that help is available. Many others, for cultural reasons, are afraid of law enforcement agencies and so do not report what has happened to them here in Australia. Still others are reluctant to report the crime committed against them because of the trauma of having to re-live the events as they tell their story. They may also be afraid that if they speak to the police, their traffickers will carry out reprisals against them or their family back home.

Australian Catholic Social Justice Council.

From the Diocese and beyond

The Eucharist: Nourished + Sent: The Eucharist is the source and summit of faith life. This course demonstrates how the Mass sustains us in our mission as Catholic Christians by providing nourishment and encouragement for the journey in discipleship. It will explore Eucharistic theology, our active participation in the liturgy, our remembering Christ, the building of communion, and being sent to proclaim that which we have received. Presented by Professor Clare

Johnston, the Director of ACU Centre for Liturgy, this short course will allow for a richer understanding of the Mass and how we remember Christ's saving action and make it present in the world today. Wednesday 6th September, 10am-12pm. Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Centre, 165 Serpentine Rd. Terrigal.

My Spirituality: Influence on the Way": Tuesday 5th September, 7.30pm-9pm. Speakers: Fr. Jim McKeon and

Kerry Baldwin. See notice board for detail.

SIP Central Coast is an Ecumenical & Interfaith Speakers Forum with Q's and A's. The focus is on developing understanding and encouraging dialogue about Spirituality through sharing one's journey. We meet 1st Tuesday in the month from March to October and 2nd Tuesday in November.

Enq: Maryke Ph: 4328 2596 or 0498 588 261.

Scripture Readings

Bruce Janiga

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 20

Is 56:1, 6–7
Ps 66:2–3, 5–6, 8. R. v.4
Rom 11:13–15, 29–32
Mt 15:21–28

Today's reading from Isaiah comes from what is traditionally called Trito-Isaiah. Written by an anonymous prophet in the line of Isaiah, it addresses the postexilic community back in their homeland. Written with a universal perspective, the text anticipates "foreigners who join themselves to the Lord" (v 6). Membership within the community of God's people is not about bloodlines as much as it is about keeping the commandments and holding "to my covenant" (v 6). They are the ones who will be gathered on God's "holy mountain" — Jew and gentile alike — for God's house is to be "a house of prayer for all peoples" (v 7).

Paul describes himself as "the apostle to the Gentiles" (v 13) in the letter to the Romans. He sees his mission to them as a way of making "my race jealous" (v 14), which will lead to some of them being saved. The conversion of the gentiles, who have "disobeyed God / but have now received mercy" (v 30), will serve to lead the Jews who have disobeyed to also "receive mercy" (v 31). The disobedience of Jew and gentile results in the mercy of God extended to all.

Jesus's encounter with the Canaanite woman finds him in foreign territory, among gentiles. The woman approaches Jesus pleading for help for her daughter, who "is tormented by a demon" (v 22). She is persistent in her request, even in the face of Jesus's preliminary refusal, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (v 24). But she reminds him that "even the dogs eat the scraps / that fall from the table of their masters" (v 27). She is not looking to take anything away from the Jews; she is merely looking for help for her daughter. Her perseverance pays off, as Jesus heals her daughter in response to her great faith. God's grace and mercy are intended for all who seek them.

For reflection: How does an "us against them" mentality reflect an attitude contrary to Christianity? Who are those who are overlooked today, and how can we as church assist them in experiencing God's grace and mercy?

Fr Bruce Janiga, a priest of the Archdiocese of Newark, N.J., teaches Scripture studies at Seton Hall Prep in West Orange, N.J. From *Ministry & Liturgy*, copyright © Resource Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under licence number 115216.

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 27

Is 22:19–23
Ps 137:1–3, 6, 8. R.. v.8
Rom 11:33–36
Mt 16:13–20

In today's Gospel, we encounter the first use of the word "church" in the Gospels. The Greek word *ekklesia* is only found here and in Matthew 18. While common in Acts and the New Testament letters, it is rare in the Gospels. Jesus usually uses the term "kingdom of heaven" or "kingdom of God" rather than "church."

Caesarea Philippi was the site of a shrine to the Greek god Pan. Previously called Paneas, it was part of the territory of Herod the Great, and a shrine there was dedicated to the emperor Augustus. Herod's son Philip rebuilt the city and named it after Caesar Augustus and himself. It is at this location, where the Roman emperor is venerated as a god, that Jesus's identity as the "Son of the living God" (v 16) is revealed and acknowledged.

In the text of Isaiah, the prophet is sent by God to declare a new "master of the palace" (v 19), replacing Shebna, who has displeased the Lord. He is to be replaced by Eliakim. Like Peter in today's Gospel, Eliakim is to receive authority to rule: "I will place the key of the House of David on Eliakim's shoulder" (v 22). He will be given authority over the people.

Paul reminds the Romans that God's ways are "unsearchable" (v 33), for we cannot know the mind of God. The mysteries of God are beyond our comprehension. Quoting the Hebrew prophets, he reminds us that no one can know "the mind of the Lord" (v 34; see Is 40:13), nor can we give anything to God that would put God in our debt (v 35; see Jb 41:3, Greek translation). It is God who has called and saved us. "To him be glory forever" (v 36).

For reflection: Why do you think Jesus preached "the kingdom" instead of "the church"? Though God's ways are "unsearchable," is there a way that Scripture and prayer can bring us closer to beginning to understand God's mind?



In today's second reading, St. Paul tells the Romans, "God's gifts and his call are irrevocable."

To what is God calling me today? What gifts are mine to share?

See Romans 11:29



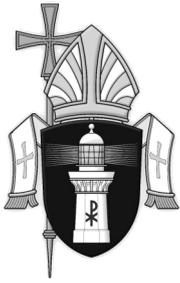
Catholic Parish of Woy Woy Peninsula

Woy Woy,

Woy Woy South, Umina, Umina Beach, Ettalong, Ettalong Beach, Koolewong, Blackwall,

Booker Bay,

St Hubert's Island, Empire Bay, Horsfield Bay, Pearl Beach, Patonga, Woy Woy Bay, Daley's Point, Phegan's Bay and Wondabyne.



St John the Baptist Church,

Cnr Blackwall and Victoria Roads, Woy Woy

Parish Office Ethel Cox Parish Centre
P.O. Box 264 100 Blackwall Road.
54 Victoria Road
WOY WOY N.S.W. 2256

Phone: (02) 4341 1073
Fax: (02) 4341 0214
Email: parish@woywoycatholic.org.au
Website: www.woywoycatholic.org.au
Out of hours **medical emergency**
0438 631 327.

"He must increase, I must decrease"

Administrator: Fr. Timothy Raj. M.S.F.S.

Assistant Priest: Fr. Philip Thottam. M.S.F.S.

Office Staff: Helen Cameron, Raelene Spithill.

Office Hours:

9.30 a.m.—4.00 p.m., Monday to Friday

Deadline for The Voice:

3.30 p.m. Wednesday

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 5pm; Sunday 7.30am, 9.15am, 6pm.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday-Friday 7.45am (Monday & Tuesday with Lauds);
Saturday and Public Holidays 9am; First Friday 4pm (with Anointing of the Sick).

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Friday after morning Mass; First Friday 3.30pm; Saturday 11.30am & 4.30pm; Sunday 7.00am.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

1st & 3rd Sundays, 11am; (5th Sunday during 9.15am Mass by arrangement only).
Godparents are examples of faith to the child. They must be confirmed and practising Catholics, at least sixteen years old. If there is at least one godparent, a non-Catholic may act as a Christian witness. Parents and godparents must attend a pre-baptismal instruction, held on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 9.30am.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Saturday after 9am Mass until 10am; every Monday until 9am (Public Holidays 10.15am). Every Thursday 7.30pm-8.30pm for the needs of the Parish.

MINISTRY OF INTERCESSION . Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Thursday night, 7.30pm-8.30 pm.

PARISH CHOIR - Practice Wednesday nights in the church, 7pm. Enquiries: 4341 3367.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL,

21a Dulkara Rd South Woy Woy 2256. p 024341 0884 www.sjbwoywoy.org.au

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST YOUTH GROUP Held once a fortnight in the Leo Mahon Room. Term 3 dates: 16th July, 30th July, 13th August and 27th August. High school (Years 7-12). For more information, contact Matthew French on 0411 792 587.

CATECHISTS

Teach approved curriculum in 4 Primary State Schools on the Peninsula. Volunteers always needed—to teach and help. Training provided at no cost.

Details: Susie 0411 566 622. "Bring the little children unto me."

CATHOLIC CARE

Counselling and Family Relationships 4356 2600.

MARY MAC'S PLACE Volunteers provide nutritious, freshly cooked meals and information and referrals to appropriate community services. Open Monday to Friday, 11am-1pm, at the Ethel Cox Parish Centre. For more information, please contact Christine on 4341 0584.

ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY on the Peninsula assist and give a hand up to people in need. We have two Conferences with volunteers sharing the visiting or office work. We always welcome new Volunteers to our Conference.

Please ring Peter 0425 358 376 or Joan 0422 272 339.

CASH HOUSIE

every Saturday night at Peninsula Community Centre, Cnr Ocean Beach Rd & McMasters Rd, Woy Woy.

Games start at 7.30pm and finish 10.20pm, cash prizes.

Ticket sales from 6pm. Proceeds benefit Parish. Enquiries Rob: 0427 990 818.

from the perspective of a disciple

As we passed through a little village near Sidon this Canaanite woman suddenly started calling on the master to help her daughter. We all expected the master to help her out as usual but he really put her in her place! He told her that his ministry was not for pagans like her. That should have stopped her, but she kept on and on, even turning the master's words back on him! She was so rude. We were about to push her out of the way so that the master could move on when he suddenly told her that her faith was great and that her daughter was better. Great faith? A Canaanite? He never ceases to surprise us!



MARY MAC'S PLACE
PRESENTS

6 tickets
\$36

CASH HOUSIE

From 8th August

TUESDAY NIGHTS

7.30PM

**AT WOY WOY LEAGUES
CLUB**

30 CASH GAMES

PETS and paper tickets

Think! About your choices, Gambling more enjoying it less? For free and confidential information and advice about problem gambling, please contact gambling help 1800 858 858 www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au