

The Voice

3rd August 2014

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Psalter Week 2



ORDINARY TIME

OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF

- **Recently deceased:**
Frank Ryan, Vincent George, Pam Kennedy, Ken Dunne, John Downes, Lilia Mendoza, Fr. Frank Vaughan.
- **Anniversaries:**
Noel Palmer, Fae Casey, Edna Tighe. Irma Carberry, Enrico and Caterina Zappavigna, Pasquale and Guiseppina Sergi, Teresa Lee Min-Yong, Duncan Wagner, Amy and Veronica Moloney, Emily Rudd, Fr. Allan Curry.
- **Remembrances:**
Mary and George Hilliard, Hilliard Brothers, Kevin Mills, Mills Family, Bernie Hanna, Leslie Denning, Valerie Price, All Souls in Purgatory, Paz, Renato and Constancio Soriano, Marion and Alfred Johnston, Toni Townsend, Kai Tai, Sook Bee, Juliet Hutton.
- **And the sick:**
Mary Harrison, Therese Payne, Vince Ashley, Fr. Bill Meacham, Beryl Allen, Silvana Anzalone, Therese Payne, Grace Williams, Wanda Grima, Grace McNeaney, Irene Beck, Cissy Tuilekutu, Ann Lawler.

A Word of Thanks

Now that I am returned from holidays and long service leave—and back at work—I would like to thank all those who by their work and presence joined me in celebrating the golden jubilee of my ordination to the priesthood.

Thank you also for the gifts you gave me, both from the Parish as a whole and from individual parishioners.

I am especially grateful to those who have promised to keep me in their prayers.

A friend of mine once wondered aloud what all the fuss about jubilees of ordination was about. After all, he said, it's only a matter of getting out of bed every morning for fifty years.

I was half inclined to agree, but I doubted if that was how married couples saw their golden jubilee celebrations.

Anyway, there are days on which one is not inclined to get out of bed, and if it is God's grace that makes one rise and shine, then that grace

should be celebrated.

If I managed to keep it reasonably low key, I am very grateful to those who worked so hard to make it happen—particularly to our office staff (Helen, Margaret and Raelene), but also to many other parishioners who volunteered their services and made the lunch last Sunday week such a great occasion. And I really appreciated the kind words from Patrick Donnellan and Jenny Dempsey.

We shouldn't need an excuse for gathering as a parish family, but this was as good an excuse as any other. What I particularly enjoyed at the lunch was the obvious delight parishioners and visitors took in meeting up again. We need to do this more often.

Thank you again.

FR JOHN HILL, P.P.

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Psalm Response

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The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. *Alleluia!*

Around the Parish

Tax Receipts for CWF and Project Compassion are available for your collection in the gathering area.

Cancer Group for those suffering from cancer or those who wish to pray for them meeting this Tuesday, 5th August, 2.30pm in the Leo Mahon room. Enq: Phoebe Glacken 4341 6324.

“Grand-parents are a treasure” (Pope Francis): The role of grandparents/grandparent figures is becoming increasingly significant today and each year on or close to the Feast we are invited to raise awareness and celebrate the important role grandparents and grandparent figures play in family life. Please collect a copy of the handout ‘Grandparents Great Presence’ available in the gathering area.

Mary Mac’s Garage Sale: Mary Mac’s Place is holding a Garage Sale on October 11th. We are putting a call out for quality and interesting items for sale.

Please no junk as we have to pay to get rid of it. You can assist by saving goods for the garage sale and drop them off *when a drop off date is announced.*

Regrettably Mary Macs does not have room to store items for the sale. We would love to hear from anyone who has an area we could store items.

As you would be aware Mary Mac’s is continually struggling to meet the ever increasing demand for assisting people in the community who are ‘doing it tough’ and dealing with the many difficulties in their lives.

Raising funds is essential for the ongoing support we offer to those less fortunate so we can not only supply a hot mid day meal but pay for our operational costs - electricity, maintenance and repairs etc.

The garage sale is one of Mary Mac’s major fund raising initiatives for the year. Mary Mac’s thank you in advance for all your efforts to help us with your

unnneeded treasures.

Christine, Project Administrator 0417 671 973.

Save the Date: September 18-22 Parish Mission 2014! A mission like you’ve never attended before. Inspiring, renewing, exciting. Watch for details.

Bus Trip to Morpeth Wednesday 13th August. Leaving 9am. Cost \$15. Contact Susie Casey 4344 1742 or 0403 417 639.

Children’s Liturgy Roster 10/8/14: Marianne Bowyer (L) Geraldine Baxter (L) Carol Yates (H).

Volunteer Church Cleaning Roster 8/8/14: Melissa Krall. Elena Egan. Christine French. Michael French.

Morning Tea/Coffee Roster 10/8/14 will be our Catechists.

Charitable Works Fund Collection 16/17 August. Envelopes are in the church for your convenience.

Social Justice

Adding Human to G20 agenda: The Catholic Justice and Peace Commission of the Archdiocese of Brisbane (CJPC Brisbane) has produced an information and prayer source to promote discussion of equity and human dignity issues as a basis for a “civil society” submission to the G20 Leaders Summit in Brisbane in November.

The clear focus of the leaders of the G20 nations will be to boost economic growth and jobs in the post-GFC period and to manage economic and financial risks in order to immunise the global economy against future shocks. In promoting those aims, the Australian Government has stressed its belief that preference must be given to the private sector over government to create

jobs and stimulate growth.

Working groups focused on key elements of the G20’s strategy for growth are working on issues from trade and employment to taxation and corruption, but it is difficult to find any reference to equity and human dignity in the volumes of preparation for this significant summit.

However, CJPC Brisbane is working to put a greater focus on these concerns.

Its information and prayer resource, *Working for the Common Good*, produced to coincide with the canonisation of Pope John XXIII and Pope John Paul II, draws attention to the teachings on economic justice of the two canonised popes and of

Pope Francis.

In line with his predecessors, Pope Francis’ Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*, urges Christians to challenge the structural injustices that oppress people and produce inequity in the global economic order.

The Pope encourages us to reject an economic order that excludes and marginalises people – what he calls “the new idolatry of money”, a financial system which rules rather than serves people and an economic system which leads to inequity and violence.

The CJPC Brisbane resource, *Working for the Common Good*, is available at:

<http://cjcpcbristane.wordpress.com/>

From the Diocese and beyond

Spirituality Series for Young Adults: St. Francis de Sales.

Bishop David Walker, Bishop Emeritus of Broken Bay will be delivering a four-part series of talks for young adults of the Diocese focusing on the spirituality of St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church. The talks will be held at Holy Name Parish, Wahroonga, 35 Billyard Ave. Wahroonga. with first week series teaming with UNSA’s (Upper North Shore Adoration) monthly Ado-

ration evening, *Keep Calm and Adore.*

Week 1 Tuesday 26 August. 7pm -9.30pm. Program Adoration 7pm-8pm. Catechesis and Supper: 8pm-9.30pm. Weeks 2, 3, 4 in September. Details later.

A Long Look at the Mass – Fr. Paul Turner of the Diocese of Kansas City, international reputation as a learned speaker on the Sacred Liturgy. This day long workshop with Fr. Paul will begin with a detailed look at the

Lectionary for Mass, exploring the structure choices and rubrics.

The day will conclude with a session entitled “My Sacrifice and Yours,” which will look at the link between offering and communion of the Mass. Saturday 16th August. 9.30am-4pm. Caroline Chisholm Centre Building 2, 423 Pennant Hills Rd. Pennant Hills. RSVP Friday, 15th August. (vehicle access via City View Rd.) To register ph: 9847 0448 or 4332 9825 or email registrations@dbb.org.au



Scripture Readings

Bruce Janiga

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 3

Is 55:1-3
Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18
Rom 8:35, 37-39
Mt 14:13-21

In Isaiah, the Lord invites the hungry and the thirsty to eat and drink, even “you who have no money” (v 1). God is inviting them to a banquet, anticipating the messianic banquet at the end of time. This concern for the people is an aspect of the “everlasting covenant” (v 3) God made with David. This covenant extends God’s love and mercy to all peoples. Isaiah calls his people to be the means through which others will come to share in the covenant of God’s blessings.

Paul tells the Romans that nothing “will be able to separate us / from the love of God in Christ Jesus” (v 39). Because of this he is able to experience all sorts of trials, including imprisonment, knowing that “in all these things we conquer ... / through him who loved us” (v 37). Even the spiritual powers – angels and principalities (v 38) – are powerless over us because God is with us.

The story of the multiplication of loaves, found in all four Gospels, foreshadows the Eucharist. Matthew tells us that Jesus “withdrew in a boat to a deserted place” (v 13), but even then he cannot avoid the crowds. This undefined deserted place is reminiscent of the wilderness in Exodus, where Moses and the people received the gift of manna. The disciples’ concern for the crowd’s hunger is illustrated in their request that Jesus “dismiss the crowds so that they can go ... / and buy food” (v 15). But Jesus has other ideas: “give them some food yourselves” (v 16). He intends to involve them in the miraculous feeding of the crowd. And so after blessing and breaking the loaves and fish, he gives them to the disciples, “who in turn gave them to the crowds” (v 19). This is a reminder that sometimes God’s work requires our hands and feet to reach others.

For reflection: How is God calling me to share in the work of feeding those who hunger for God’s presence? How can I use my hands and feet to advance God’s work in the world?

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

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 10

1 Kgs 19:9, 11-13
Ps 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14
Rom 9:1-5
Mt 14:22-33

Mount Horeb is another name for Mount Sinai, the Mountain of God. Elijah’s experience of the presence of God on this mountain recalls Moses’ encounter with God in the same place. But they are very different experiences. While Moses’ meetings with God involve storms, earthquakes and fire, Elijah experiences the Lord in “a tiny whispering sound” (v 12). Elijah’s experience teaches us that sometimes God’s self-manifestation is not what we would expect.

Paul tells the Romans that the Jews, “my kindred according to the flesh” (v 3), are the recipients of God’s continuing grace. “From them, / according to the flesh, is the Christ” (v 5). God’s promise to Abraham – that God would bless the nations through Abraham’s descendants – is realized in Jesus.

Matthew’s telling of Jesus walking on water has the added episode of Peter attempting to walk on water. This is unique to Matthew, who emphasizes the role of Peter in his Gospel. Jesus walking on water serves as a theophany, revealing his identity as God. Matthew tells us that after Jesus got into the boat and the sea calmed down, the disciples “did him homage, saying, / ‘Truly, you are the Son of God’” (v 33). The fact that some of the disciples were fishermen and even they were frightened by the storm heightens the storm’s intensity, which in turn heightens the sense of Jesus’s power. But the episode of Peter walking on water adds another dimension to the story: the importance of faith. Peter begins to walk on the sea, but then, becoming frightened, he starts to sink. Jesus calls him “you of little faith” (v 31) and asks why he doubted. In this text God is revealed not in the wind and sea but as the one who, more powerful than the forces of nature, can save us.

For reflection: Is my experience of God more like that of Moses or Elijah? When has God enabled me to walk on water?



“The hand of the Lord feeds us,” sings the psalmist; “He answers all our needs.” Often, though, it is with the open hands of generous stewards willing to share His many gifts that God’s people are fed and their needs met.

See Psalm 145



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, corner of Blackwall and Victoria Roads, Woy Woy

Parish Office
P.O. Box 264
54 Victoria Road
WOY WOY N.S.W. 2256

Ethel Cox Parish Centre
100 Blackwall Road.

Phone: (02) 4341 1073
Fax: (02) 4341 0214
Email: parish@woywoycatholic.org.au

"He must increase, I must decrease"

Dr John Hill, *Parish Priest*

Fr Stephen Wayoyi, A.J. *Assistant Priest*

Office Staff: Helen Cameron, Raelene McLenaghan & Margaret Cooper

Parish Nurse: Ellen Bevan

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, 3.30 p.m.; Saturday 11.30am; & 4.30pm; Sunday 7.00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

1st & 3rd Sundays, 11am; 5th Sunday, during 9.15 a.m. Mass. 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 9.30 a.m.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Saturday after 9am Mass until 10am; every Monday until 9am (Public Holidays 10.15am).

PARISH CHOIR – Practice Wednesday nights in the church, 7 p.m. Enquiries: 4341 3367.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, 21a Dul-kara Rd South Woy Woy 2256. p 024341 0884 f 0243 445049.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST YOUTH GROUP For information and events contact Sam French 042 244 9539.

CATHOLICCARE 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.

CASH HOUSIE every Saturday night at Peninsula Community Centre, Cnr Ocean Beach Rd & McMasters Rd, Woy Woy. Games start at 7.30 p.m. and finish 10.20 p.m., cash prizes. Ticket sales from 6.00 p.m. Proceeds benefit Parish. Enquiries Rob: 0427 990818.

Developing Prayerfulness

Donna M. Cole

What is prayerfulness?

"Prayerfulness is the capacity to live intensely involved in the world and intensely immersed with the God who made it at the same time. It is a way of life that is aware of all of it in all its forms – both spiritual and material – at once" (Joan Chittister, *The Breath of the Soul: Reflections on Prayer*, 47).

Being prayerful means developing the "habit" of praying all the time and in many different ways. This does not substitute for time specifically devoted to prayer; rather, prayer is also an essential part of our living and working in the world. This habit can begin with a single word, a phrase, a melody, an object, an image, or anything that calls our focus toward God. When we direct the heart and mind while walking the dog, gardening, shovelling snow, waiting on hold on the phone, or waiting in line at the bank, that new habit begins to be a way of life.

Donna M. Cole is associate editor of *M.L.* She holds a master's degree in pastoral liturgy from Caldwell College, Caldwell, N.J., and has a passion for liturgy celebrated and lived to the fullest. With degree in microbiology and biology, she spends her "spare" time in biomedical research, marvelling at the wonder of God revealed in the complexity of science. From *Ministry & Liturgy*, copyright © Resource Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under licence number 115216.

"Prayerfulness ... is the capacity to walk in touch with God through everything in life. It is the internal awareness that God is with me – now, here, in this, always. It is an awareness of the continuing presence of God. It is my dialogue with the living God who inhabits my world in Spirit and in Mind" (Chittister, 46).

Why be prayerful?

We are all called to serve the people of God in every time and place of need; it is vital, then, that we provide those who serve with the prayer tools to sustain them in their good work. Leading others to experience a deeper prayer life helps to heal divisions and strengthen community. We can encourage everyone to discover the variety of paths toward prayerfulness – keeping in mind that the first way we serve God's people is to be examples of prayerfulness ourselves.

We're on the Web!
www.woywoycatholic.org.au



Diocese of
Broken Bay