



# The Voice

17th August 2014

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Psalter Week 4

## ORDINARY TIME

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

- Recently deceased:**  
 Luis Canizares, Vic Francisco, Vincent George, Nida Altez, Bishop Edmund (Ted) Collins, m.s.c. (Bishop Emeritus of Darwin). Fr. John Messori, O.S.B. Patricia Smith, Nola Garnett, Christine Boyle, Nollaig Lawne, Pat Robbie, Eileen Clarke, Patrick Bottle, Mary D'Arcy, Joseph Camilleri.
- Anniversaries:**  
 Thomas Carr, Nell and Thomas Molloy, Andrew Flanagan, Lee Ireland, Norman Wise, Noreen Connolly, Asuncion Tiongco, James and Dawn Carr, Sebastian Lee Hee-Chang, Jannette Moroney, Isabella Dwyer, Umiliano & Paulina Menezes.
- Remembrances:**  
 Aileen Carr.
- Sick:**  
 Doris Tancred, Denis Glacken, Ann Lalor, Sr. Leo Taylor, Fr. Bill Meacham, Beryl Allen, Mary Harrison, Wanda Grima, Therese Payne, Irene Beck, Grace Williams, Margaret Woodward.

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## Some practical matters

There are times in our lives as Catholics when our preferences need to be made known, even if they are not respected.

I'd like today to remind you of one of these preferences and to introduce you to another.

A year or so back, I raised the issue of funerals.

I told you that we now have a system in the Parish, where parishioners can record their preferences for their funerals.

You can obtain copies of a form available in the Parish Office, where you can make your wishes known.

It has often puzzled me that a person who has been a daily Mass goer is buried without a Mass of Christian Burial (or "Requiem Mass").

Sometimes this is because members of the generation responsible for the occasion are not practising Catholics, and do not see the point of a Mass.

Often, however, the reason is that—since death has become for many a taboo subject—the issue has not been raised within the family and the mourners simply do not know what the preferences of the deceased are.

So if you would like to have some influence on the character of your obsequies, this is your chance. Call in and get a copy of the form ASAP.

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Now, to a different subject: what to do when you need the sacraments of the sick.

Because of a wide interpretation of the nature of privacy, hospital staff, when you are admitted, may not ask about your religion or whether you wish to see a priest. In such cases you (or your relatives) need to raise the subject.

Don't leave it until the last minute. A dying person should receive those sacraments, if possible, while conscious and able to participate.

And then there is the possibility of needing the sacraments and not being able to make your wishes known. *For this occasion we have available in the Office a card which says, on one side, "I'm a Catholic. Call a Priest," and, on the other, space to write down the contact details of the priest, and the additional words, "or please contact the hospital Chaplain." You keep the card in your wallet or purse. If you would like a copy, call in.*

FR JOHN HILL, P.P.

### 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

**Charitable Works Fund Appeal:** Special collection at all Masses this weekend. Our quota for this financial year is \$53,033. The two other appeals will be held 9 November 2014 & 24 May 2015.

**Parish Mission Event:** This will be our opportunity for reflection, prayer, spiritual growth and a deeper connection with God. September 18, 19, 21 and 22 are the dates set aside for this rich experience. Join us, won't you?

**Catechists** will meet at 9am in the Leo Mahon room, Thursday, 28th August, to finalise their role in the Parish Mission.

**Children's Liturgy Roster 24/8/14:** Leif Spicer (L) Brenda Sweet (L) Rebecca Lalor (H).

**Volunteer Church Cleaning Roster 22/8/14:** Maria Wickens, Jo Salter, Don Anderson.

**Planned Giving Envelopes and Taxation receipts for C.W.F. and Project Compassion** now available in the gathering area for your collection.

**Morning Tea/Coffee Roster 24/8/14:** Parents and Friends.

**Parish Bus Trip: Central Coast Gathering of the Clans.** Saturday, 6th September. Cost \$15. Leaving the church at 8.15am. Please place your name on list on the table in the gathering area. An informative flyer with all details is available.

**Parish Bus Trip: Rose Farm, Warnervale.** Sept 10th, leaving 9.00am. Cost \$25 includes tour and morning tea. Contact Susie Casey 4344 1742 or 0403 417 639.

**St. Vincent de Paul Society:** The Society assists many people on the Peninsula. If you would like to learn more about this work or to join or work as a volunteer, please contact Ken Hall Ph: 4341 2769. If unanswered please leave a message.

**Mary Mac's Garage Sale:** Mary Mac's Place is planning on 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 trying to deal 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 such as electricity, washing powder, maintenance and repairs etc.

The garage sale is one of Mary Mac's major fund raising initiatives for the year.

Remember the old saying—one man's junk is another man's treasure. Mary Mac's thank you in advance for all your efforts to help us with your unneeded treasures.

Christine. Project Administrator  
0417 671 973.

## The Just Word

### Principles of Catholic Social Teaching: Solidarity

*In the light of faith, solidarity seeks to go beyond itself, to take on specifically Christian dimension of total gratuity, forgiveness and reconciliation. One's neighbour is then not only a human being with his or her rights, and a fundamental equality with everyone else, but*

*becomes the living image of God. John Paul II, Sollicitudo Rei Socialis, 1987 #40*

### Solidarity:

- Acknowledges that our responsibilities to each other cross national, racial, cultural, economic and ideological differences
- Respects and promotes per-

sonal, social, economic, cultural and political rights

- Presents a spiritual and material solidarity with all people, especially those who are marginalised, vulnerable or distressed, giving priority to those in greatest need

*Australian Social Justice Council*

## From the Diocese and beyond

**Support for the Vocation of Marriage: - Worldwide Marriage Encounter Day of Growth:** A relationship enrichment seminar based on the book *Men are like Waffles, Women are like Spaghetti*. Sunday 24th August, 11.30am-4.00pm. The Entrance Parish, 241 The Entrance Rd. The Entrance. Flyers are available on table in the gathering area for more details.

### 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 Adoration 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.

**Footsteps of Mary MacKillop** - National Pilgrimage. From 22nd October to 1st November. This pilgrimage offers the opportunity to reflect on your own life as you walk with St. Mary MacKil-

lop the journey of her life. The pilgrimage takes us to Melbourne, Penola, Adelaide, Nth. Sydney and then home. For a brochure and further information contact Sr. Therese Leydon on 8912 4845. Website [www.marymackillop.org.au](http://www.marymackillop.org.au)

**"Life's An Adventure"** World renowned photographer, Ken Duncan, will share his experiences, his work and his faith as he talks about how Life's An Adventure. A 7 metre wide screen will aid his talks displaying some of his beautiful work. St. James Wyong Anglican Church, 25-27 Byron St. Wyong. Sunday, 31st August from 6pm.



# Scripture Readings

Bruce Janiga

## 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 17

Is 56:1, 6-7  
Ps 67:2-3,5,6,8  
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?

## 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 24

Is 22:15, 19-23  
Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8  
Rom 11:33-36  
Mt 16:13-28

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?




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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*

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## 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 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

### "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 Dulkara 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.

## Words in Remembrance

Paul Turner

At Catholic funerals in the United States, "a member or a friend of the family may speak in remembrance of the deceased." This permission is offered both at the vigil for the deceased (the wake service) or after communion at the funeral Mass.

The permission is authorized by the conference of bishops. The Vatican has permitted "words of greeting, offered by the relatives of the deceased," and this permission was interpreted a bit more broadly in the United States. The original intent was probably for someone from the grieving family to express their gratitude to the supportive assembly of friends. However, in practice, some people have been taking the opportunity to say much more than a few words of greeting.

There are advantages and disadvantages to the practice. The funeral is probably the only occasion when a large number of people will gather at a person's death. Hence, it provides a unique opportunity for someone from the family or a close friend to share thoughts of remembrance in public.

However, the context for such a speech is a liturgy, and the sharing should not delay the flow of the service. Sometimes more than one person speaks, or one speaker goes on too long. In some situations, the speaker says inappropriate things that cause embarrassment. (But this can happen in the homily as well.)

If someone speaks, it is probably best to write out the complete text and limit the number of words to a single sheet. The entire message should fit the solemnity of the occasion. This would honor the permission that the bishops grant to the family as well as the flow of the funeral liturgy that ministers to the grief and hope of the people of God.

This bulletin insert originally appeared in *Ministry & Liturgy* magazine, a pastoral planning resource used by the worship leaders in your community as an aid for better liturgy. Copyright © 2014 Resource Publications, Inc., 5369 Camden Ave., #260, San Jose, CA 95124, (408) 286-8505. Paul Turner is pastor of St. Anthony Parish in Kansas City, Missouri. A priest of the diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, he holds a doctorate in sacred theology from Sant' Anselmo in Rome.

We're on the Web!  
[www.woywoycatholic.org.au](http://www.woywoycatholic.org.au)



Diocese of  
Broken Bay