



The Voice

31st August 2014 Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A Psalter Week 2

ORDINARY TIME

The Catholic Guy

OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF

- Recently deceased:**
 Joan Harris, Nollag Laun, Mary Allen, Hazel Cahill, Brian John Charlesworth, John Chivers, Anna Di Giorgio, Marjorie Goodacre.
- Anniversaries:**
 Sr. Frances Flint, C.S.B. OAM, Gladys Holmes, Silvina Balce, Wenceslao Balce, Cornelio Balce, Patricia Jehan, John Scahill, Fafaa El-Khatib,
- Remembrances:**
 Gladys Lopez, Reg, Patricia and Paul Hogan, Shirley Job, Holy Souls in Purgatory.
- And the sick:**
 Anne Singleton, Irene Beck, Doris Tancred, Sr. Leo Taylor, Fr. Bill Meacham, Beryl Allen, Wanda Grima, Mary Harrison, Therese Payne, Denis Glacken, Grace Williams, Michael Wheeler, Margaret Woodward.

Some more thoughts on the upcoming parish "mission event":

Another way of thinking about the "Catholic Guy" mission event—that we shall hold from 18th to 22nd September—is in terms of a *retreat*.

I remarked last week that many people would not know what a "mission" was, but at least *some* would know what a *retreat* is. More Catholics make an annual retreat than you perhaps suspect. Perhaps for a weekend, perhaps for a week, perhaps even for a month (the so called Ignatian Exercises), people go away from their normal lives to reflect and pray. They are looking for that longer view for which ordinary living does not give them time.

The term is even used these days for politicians. International statesmen will often take time off together for reflection on their common tactics—there is time and space away from the pressures that demand immediate decisions.

Parish retreats are a good idea, but hard to arrange. It is difficult to free parishioners from the weekend duties that these days are so intrinsic to their lives. The "Catholic Guy" mission event is a way of getting at least some of the benefits of the retreat experience.

You will notice from the leaflet that you have received (or can still obtain in the church) that there are four sessions in the event – each given twice a day. The idea is to attend them all but, if you can't, attend as many as you can. Better half a loaf than none. The sessions are not so closely connected that one cannot follow session 3 after missing session 2.

So it's not just a matter of coming along and having a retreat yourself. *Invite as many people as you can.* Don't be stopped by the excuse, "I can't make it to all the sessions," Even one session might make a difference to a person who has not been to Mass for years and has never had the chance to reflect on what is being missed.

People give up going to Mass for a whole variety of reasons. Sometimes, it is just that they have moved to a new area and miss the old connections that made going to Mass easier; sometimes they have had their whole weekends taken up with children's sport, and never get back into the habit when those engagements cease; sometimes weekend work has stopped the; and so on. It often takes only a simple invitation from someone like you for them to have the chance to being the Mass back into their lives. Over to you.

FR JOHN HILL, P.P.

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Psalm Response

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My soul is thirst - ing for you, O Lord my God.

Gospel Acclamation

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!

Around the Parish

Parish Mission Event: Essentially, it runs Thursday 18/9, Friday 19/9, Sunday 21/9 & Monday 22/9. The morning session is repeated in the evening. Sessions run for 90 minutes and are free. The bus will be available with bookings made through the Parish Office.

Parish Mission Event Billets are required for 4 of the Team within 10 minutes of the Church. Separate rooms and breakfast are all that is required. Please contact Pat Baxter 4339 1037. patriciabaxtr@yahoo.com.au

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

Volunteer Church Cleaning Roster 5/9/14: Pam Hickey, Christine French, Brian Jordan, Veronica Jordan.

Parish Bus Trip: Rose Farm, Warnervale. Wed. Sept 10th, leaving 9.00am. Cost \$25 includes tour & morning tea. Ph:

Susie Casey 4344 1742 or 0403 417 639.

Sympathy: St. John the Baptist family would like to extend its prayerful sympathy to family, friends and friends of Mary D'Arcy, David Tullipan, John Chivers and Hazel Cahill who were buried from our Church the past week.

Cancer Group for those suffering from cancer and those wishing to pray for them meet this Tuesday, 2nd September, 2.30pm in the Leo Mahon room. Enq: Phoebe Glacken 4341 6324.

El Shaddai' Prayer Group meetings for the month of September are 6th, 13th and 20th. Enq: Mary Owen Ph: 4341 7612.

Blood Pressure Check: As part of the parish nurse health promotion program, you will be able to have your Blood Pressure checked next weekend. The parish nurse will be in the Leo Mahon room after each Mass on 6th & 7th September.

Ecumenical Luncheon: The Annual Ecumenical Progressive Luncheon is to be held Saturday 13th September.

1st Course: Soup etc. will be at St. Andrews, Anglican Church,

360 Ocean Beach Rd. commencing 12 noon.

2nd Course: Main to follow at Umina Uniting Church, Cnr. Ocean Beach Rd. and Neptune St. (opposite the small shopping mall.) commencing approx. 2pm.

3rd Course: Sweets. St. John the Baptist, Woy Woy. To be held in the Walter Baker Hall, commencing approximately 2pm. Admission \$5 at the main course and a gold coin donation at the other two venues.

Please advise any dietary requirements. Everyone is welcome! It is only a short walk from St. Andrew's Anglican Church to The Uniting Church. Please put your name on the list in the gathering area if you wish to attend.

Planned Giving Envelopes and Taxation Receipts: Please collect from the gathering area.

Anointing of the Sick will be administered during the 4pm Mass, Friday 5th September.

Happy Father's Day: Our best wishes to all our fathers on their day as we remember them in our prayers.

The Just Word

International Day for Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition:

As we remember this important event, we need to be also aware that other forms of slavery still exist—and they exist in Australia. One form of the modern-day slave trade is human trafficking.

Forms of Human Trafficking: Human trafficking involves moving someone into slavery or slavery-like conditions. Victims

often go willingly with their traffickers because they are being deceived about the nature and conditions of the work. Elements of human trafficking are:

- The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons
- Control of persons by means of threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, or giving payments or benefits

- Exploitation, which includes (at a minimum) exploiting the prostitution of others, other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or similar practices, and the removal of organ s.

To be continued in next week's Newsletter.

UN Office on Drugs and Crime (2006), Trafficking in Persons Global Patterns', p. 52

From the Diocese and beyond

Memorial Mass for the Unborn: Bishop Peter Comensoli will celebrate this annual Mass, Friday, 12th September, 7pm, St. Mary's Cathedral. The Mass will be offered in commemoration of the lives lost to abortion and in solidarity with the women and men who grieve this loss. During the Mass, 82 candles will be brought forward to represent the 82 lives lost to abortion each day in NSW. All invited to attend. Enq: Life, Marriage and Family Centre. Ph: 9390 5290 or LMEvents@sydneycatholic.org

St. Patrick's Parish Retreat—

Facilitated by Fr. Michael Payyapilly VC. 16th-18th September - Theme: 'Called to the Kingdom' John 14:3. 'I prepare a place for you...Where I am there you may also be.' St. Patrick's Church, 76 York St. East Gosford. Daily: Mass 9am, followed by a talk. (Repeated at 7pm). Holy Hour: 2.30pm—3.30pm. Reconciliation available.

Anchor of the Soul—Day Retreat. God binds himself to be faithful to his promise to save sinners and to create in them new hearts. 6th September. 9.30am-4pm. Mt. Carmel Retreat

Centre, 247 St. Andrews Rd. Varroville. (just off the M5) BYO own lunch. Tea/coffee provided. Cost: donation.

Weekend Retreat—26-28 September: The 'rich mine' of weakness. The hidden life of love of St. Therese gives fresh heart to those who feel insignificant in their lives and in their place in the church. Fr. Paul Maunder, OCD. Cost: \$220 (discounts available) Mt. Carmel Retreat Centre, 247 St. Andrews Rd. Varroville. (just off the M5) Enq: 02 8795 3400. Email: retreatscarmelite.com



Scripture Readings

Bruce Janiga

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 31

Jer 20:7-9
Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9
Rom 12:1-2
Mt 16:21-27

The words of the prophet Jeremiah are not words we would expect to hear from a prophet of God. "You duped me, Lord, and I let myself be duped" (v 7), he complains. His call as a prophet has led to "derision and reproach all the day" (v 8) as he announces God's word to the people. Jeremiah learns that our ways are not God's ways and that sometimes the work of a prophet meets resistance and involves suffering — an idea reflected in today's Gospel as well. But still he perseveres because of his faith in God.

Paul encourages the Romans to make the sacrifice required as disciples. "Do not conform yourselves to this age," he writes; we are to strive to "discern what is the will of God" (v 2). Sometimes we face difficulties in doing this. But Paul encourages perseverance, for we know that God will reward our faithfulness. If God's only Son suffered for his faith, then we too may be called to suffer. But as God glorified Christ, so too will we be given a share in that glory.

Messianic expectations in Jesus's day varied. Some expected a royal figure, others a military leader, and still others a religious Messiah. One thing is certain — people's expectations of a Messiah did not include a figure who would suffer and die. This helps us understand Peter's response to Jesus's prediction of his Passion for the first time in Matthew. Peter rejects the idea that Jesus must suffer and die. "God forbid, Lord!" (v 22), he protests. And now Jesus, who in the last episode had just given the disciple the name Peter (Rock), addresses him as "Satan" because he is not thinking "as God does, but as human beings do" (v 23). For in order to follow Christ, we must carry our own crosses.

For reflection: Has my faith brought suffering? How did I respond to it? How does Christ's suffering add to my understanding of God?

Fr 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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, September 7

Ez 33:7-9
Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9
Rom 13:8-10
Mt 18:15-20

God tells Ezekiel that he has been appointed "watchman for the house of Israel" (v 7). It is his task to "warn the wicked" (v 8) in God's name. As a prophet of judgment, Ezekiel is called to speak words of warning to a people who have strayed from God. This warning might lead them to repentance. Many of Israel's prophets "afflicted the comfortable" and so met persecution at the hands of their own people. Legend says Ezekiel was killed by his own people. As a prophet living in Babylon, he preached to his fellow exiles of God's disapproval of their behavior. In today's text, part of a section that promises hope for the repentant sinner, God calls the prophet to speak his words of warning, allowing for the possibility of repentance and reconciliation.

Paul reminds us today that our task as Christians is to "love one another" (v 8). This is "the fulfillment of the law" (v 10), he says. We are called to be concerned with the welfare of our neighbor, and sometimes this means it is our task to speak prophetically as Ezekiel did, afflicting the comfortable.

In today's Gospel Jesus gives advice about dealing with those who sin against us. As the good shepherd goes after the lost sheep, so we too should seek to bring back the lost. He is not talking about correcting a stranger but rather "your brother" (v 15) — in other words, another disciple. This instruction is addressed to the members of the church. In fact, today's text is only one of two in which the word "church" is found on Jesus's lips. In the text connected to the commissioning of Peter (see the Gospel for the 21st Sunday), Jesus said, "Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven" (v 16:19). In that text, Jesus gave Peter alone the authority to bind and loose; in today's text, Jesus repeats those words, this time giving the disciples (plural) the same authority to forgive and to withhold forgiveness.

For reflection: Why should fraternal correction be a part of the Christian lifestyle? When have I been admonished for a wrong I committed? How did I react to it? **ML**.



Jeremiah

In today's second reading, St. Paul exhorts the Romans to total stewardship. Brothers and sisters, he urges, ". . . offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God."

See Romans 12:1



"Get behind me, Satan!"

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.

Do Re Mi

Paul Turner

John the Baptist is ultimately responsible for the names of the notes in the musical scale. In the eighth century, an unknown poet and composer wrote a hymn in Latin to observe the feast of the birth of John the Baptist (June 24). Here are the words of the first verse: *Ut queant laxis / resonare fibris / Mira gestorum / famuli tuorum, / Solve polluti / labii reatum, / Sancte Ioannes*. This verse asks St. John the Baptist to loosen our voices to praise God, just as the voice of his father, Zechariah, was loosened. Zechariah had been mute throughout Elizabeth's pregnancy, only getting his voice back after John was born.

In the 11th century, musician Guido of Arezzo noticed something about the melody of that hymn. The first note of each phrase begins one pitch higher than the preceding one, spelling out the first six notes of the scale. As you can see, the Latin syllables associated with them are *ut-re-mi-fa-sol-la*. Guido gave the pitches those names, basing them on the hymn to John the Baptist.

The first letters of the final two words (*Sancte Ioannes*) eventually gave the name to the seventh pitch, originally called "si." It was later altered to "ti" – just as "ut" was changed to "do" – probably because it was more pleasing to the ear.

The hymn is still part of the official evening prayer of the Roman Catholic Church. Near the shortest day of the year, when the sun starts its ascent, the notes mark their ascent. John the Baptist said of Jesus, "He must increase; I must decrease." As the decreasing light of day recalls the birth of John the Baptist, the ascending notes of the scale point the way toward Jesus Christ.

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.

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www.woywoycatholic.org.au



Diocese of
Broken Bay