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|  **~ GOSPEL REFLECTION ~*****Immaculate Conception Parish*** P O BOX 600 Tumut Catholic Community Collection amounts for January 2016 ~PARISH NEWS~ ~ PARISH NEWS ~ |

What does a just society or community do with its persistent offenders, with those whose behaviour continually disrupts or even destroys the unity of a group? This is an age old question that has no easy answer. The people of South Africa in the wake of apartheid and Timor Leste after twenty-five years of oppression recognised that a too easy amnesty is no solution for violent and destructive behaviour. Offences need to be named and acknowledged by their perpetrators for the sake of community reconciliation and for building the trust essential to the creation of a new future. The processes followed in South Africa and in Timor Leste were similar to those proposed in today’s gospel for members of the church community. The power to deal with transgression is firmly in the hands of the community members. All care must be taken to allow an offender to acknowledge the offence in private. If that fails, the matter is referred to a group of two or three witnesses, in line with Israel’s ancient legal practice (Deut 19:15). The next step is referral to the assembled community. A person who refuses to listen “to the church” is to be treated as a Gentile or a tax-collector. The meaning here is not at all clear. Some scholars suggest that the Matthean Jesus is proposing exclusion from the community of those who refuse to listen. Others consider that he is advocating the sort of compassionate approach that Jesus has personally shown to outsiders, to those in need of conversion. If our personal efforts to resolve conflict are unsuccessful, we do well to seek the wisdom of others. Jesus, God-with-us, is present in the assembly. We have that assurance. We also have the assurance that our failure to deal with transgression can leave a person unreconciled. We need to “loose” the sins of those who acknowledge their offences. In other words, we are called to forgive them and thus set them free from the burden of their sins against us. This does not mean that we overlook or in any way condone offences. In response to a request from Pope Francis, this Sunday has been named Child Protection Sunday, a Day of Prayer and Penance for Victims and Survivors of Sexual Abuse. While the gospel passage focusses on offenders, our first concern must be with those who suffer at their hands. Forgiveness is needed at every level if we are to be in right relationship in the Earth community. Most global tensions have their origin in the unresolved conflicts of the distant past. Our future on this planet depends on our capacity to “surrender to the sky [our] heart of anger” (James K. Baxter) even as we do all we can to ensure that the mistakes of the past are never repeated.*An excerpt by Sr. Veronica Lawson*

**‘CLERGY’**

* **Fr. Sijo Jose (Parish Priest)**
* **Fr. Luke Verrell (Assistant Priest)**

**‘PARISH SECRETARY’**

 **Anna Quinn**

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**‘WEEKEND MASS TIMES’**

 **Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm**

 **Sunday: 10am (Children’s Liturgy)**

 **Talbingo Sunday: 8.00am**

 **‘THIS WEEKS MASS TIMES’**

**Tuesday: 6pm**

**Wednesday: 10am (School Mass)**

**Thursday & Friday: 8am**

**Saturday: 9am (every fortnight - Thursday: 11am BUPA Liturgy**

**Saturday: 9.40am BLAKENEY LODGE Liturgy)**

 **‘ROSARY’**

**Saturday at 8.45am**

**Exposition at 8.30am (1st Sat of month)**

 **‘RECONCILIATION’**

 **Saturday at 5.15pm**

 **‘LITURGY MEETING’**

 **Tuesday: 2.00pm in Chapel**

 **‘PRAYER GROUP’**

 **(Rosary & Divine Mercy)**

 **Wednesday: 2pm in Chapel**

  **‘CONTACTS’**

 **Care Group: Anne Huebner 0406490415**



 **23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

 **Year A**

 **September 10th 2017**

***Gospel Acclamation***

Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

***Responsorial Psalm***

O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

 ***Entrance Antiphon***

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

 ***Gospel Acclamation***

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Alleluia, alleluia! Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed; the Saviour of the world will be our king. Alleluia!

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| T THIS WEEK Saturday & Sunday 9th & 10th September   |
| Ministry | Saturday Vigil 6pm |  Sunday 10am |
| Acolyte |  Anita Mason |  Dave Shedden |
| Reader |  Dobbie Family |  Cath Purcell |
| Commentator |  Dobbie Family |  Pat Spannagle |
| Children’s Liturgy |  ---------- |  Fran Butler |
| Musicians |  Maureen Norman  |  Patricia & Monica |
| Altar Servers | Jack Stewart & Ella Lindley |  Gabbi & Maggi Dalisay |
| Church Care\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_LINEN Jo Little | Group 2: Cathy, Anna, Pat, Cheryl & Rhonda |
| NEXT WEEK Saturday & Sunday 16th & 17th September  |
| Ministry | Vigil 6pm | 10am |
| Acolyte |  Cath Purcell |  Mark Hogan |
| Reader |  Evelyn Heffernan |  Monica Webb |
| Commentator |  Shirley Kenny  |  John Power |
| Children’s Liturgy |  ---------- |  Caitlin Larter |
| Musicians |  Maureen Norman |  Anna Quinn |
| Altar Servers |  Jessica & Emily Kelly | Chloe Turnbull & Lily Webb |
| Church Care | Group 3: Yvonne, Lee, Mary, Colleen & Kath  |

 Feast Day**Wishing all our wonderful dads a Happy Father’s Day**

 R O S T E R S

 **FEAST DAYS 13th September: Saint John Chrysostom 14th September: Exaltation of the Holy Cross 15th September: Our Lady of Sorrows 16th September: Saints Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian**

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 **~PARISH NEWS~**

**FATHERS DAY APPEAL** due to the Colum ban Missionaries request last weekend we have extended this appeal. There are currently 24 priests supported by the Clergy Retirement Foundation, so it is vital that this appeal is supported to assist with their accommodation and care needs. All donations are tax deductible. Envelopes are available on church pews, please give generously. **CATHOLIC VOICE** September edition is now available, please take your copy. **BAPTISM** we welcome into our community this weekend Jorji Dot Carroll daughter of Dwayne and Jenna. We pray for all baptism families. **FIRST RECONCILIATION** will take place Thursday 14th September, there will a parent/child information evening this Saturday 9th September at 5pm in the church before the Vigil Mass. We have 44 children from our parish receiving this sacrament, we pray for them and their families. Enquiries to Anita.Mason@cg.catholic.edu.au or contact the school on 69472000. **PREVENTING EUTHANASIA & ASSISTED SUICIDE** The NSW Parliament is likely to consider a private members Bill to legalise euthanasia and assisted suicide. If this is accepted, it would radically abandon our deep human commitment not to deliberately take someone’s life. Therefore, we urge all parishioners to reject this Bill and please sign the petition in the church foyer. **MANY THANKS** to our faithful volunteers this weekend **~The Dobbie Family~**

**We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith especially: RECENTLY DECEASED: Madeline Fenn**

 **MASS HAS BEEN REQUESTED FOR:**

Maude Kelly, Hector, Annie & Kevin Turner, Russell & Peter Ritchie, Norma Leyden, Russell Breward, Maria & Hans Van deBrug, Reg Millgate, Joan Liddell, Lois Shallow, Helen Corbett, Frank, Eileen & Marie Malone, Edward, Marcy & Clem Malone, Frank Stanfield, John Callister, Imelda, Bede & Francis McInerney, Teresa Butler, Joan Stockwell, Emmet Donovan, Rudi & Filomena Comai, Hassel McGrath, Noel Cook, Leo & Elvie Holt, Lionel & Tereasa Holt, Hugh Oliver, Pat Malone, Jim Whitaker, Matt & Edith Downing, Con & Ennis Twomey, Pauline Shedden, Bob & Sheila Wortes, Robert & Gertrude Tuncks, Ron & Pauline Hamilton, John Hourigan, Brian Gee, Alan & Angela Guthrie, Artie & Dulcie Piper, Tom, Kevin, Ruben & Harriett Arentz, Kevin Hawthorn, Kevin, Marie & Ray Cowan, Alfred & Bridget Claffey, Anna Do, Stan Kenny, Tom & Dorothy French and James Kelly.

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