



PARISH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION, NORTH WODEN

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Holy Trinity Church, Parish Office and Presbytery, 3 Strangways Street, Curtin
Ss Peter and Paul Church, Boake Place, Garran. <http://cg.org.au/wodennorth>

19-20 August 2023, Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH WEEKDAY AND WEEKEND MASSES, LITURGY and RECONCILIATION TIMES:

Monday	9.30am Curtin
Tuesday	9.30am Curtin
Wednesday	9.30am Curtin (Lit of Word and H Comm)
Thursday	5.30pm Curtin
Friday	9.30am Curtin (including Anointing on First Friday)
Saturday	Reconciliation 5.00-5.30pm; Mass 6.00pm Curtin
Sunday	9.30am and 5.30pm Curtin

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: O God, let all the nations praise you!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

MAY THE DECEASED REST IN PEACE AND RISE IN EASTER GLORY

Recently Deceased: George Hasset, Frank Commisso, Alan Moore, Karen Lloyd, Sr Mary Gerardine Agnew rsj, 4 ADF helicopter personnel, Maui fire victims, Gwen Brown, Fr Laurie Beath, Patricia Roberts, Sinead O'Connor, Fr Rafael Cabezon OP, Fr Brian Sparksman, Tony Bennett, Michael Duffy, Mario Brancella, Sisifo Gisa, Mato Babic, Roland Brannelly, Patricia Crofts, Yook Lin Tan, Fr Anton Bulla SVD, Keith Berks, Charlie Lustri, Lena Meli, Grayham Rundle, Elizabeth O'Keefe, Pam Bishop, Trevor Murphy, Bryan Simpson, Ivka Zarak, Desiree Kilby, Margaret Naylor, Barry O'Neill, Margarita Mecedo, Conchita Munsayac, victims of war in Ukraine and victims of COVID.

Anniversaries of Death: Brian Kain, Felicisima Villafuerte, Carlo Binutti, Winifred Mona Spargo, Jim Woods, Marie Pugh, Daniel Joyce, Pam Dewhurst, Ron and Pauline McLennan, Angela and Maria Pezzimenti, Victor and Fredrick Schinkel, Elizabeth Rapmund, Anne Perkins, Terry and June Freebody, Ron Beath, Joe Gellatly, Milena Ceccarelli, Margaret Perry, Tano Travia, David Jones, Molly Crowe, Barney Crowe, Colleen McCann, Annie Jones, Kathleen Majer, Vincent Huang, Veronica Beath, Raco Vincenzo and victims of COVID.

MAY THE SICK BE COMFORTED BY OUR PRAYERS

Pauline Naylor, Jason Mathie, John Woodward, Maria Gallo, Fr Mick Burke, Tom Story, Maryann Gregson, Libby Roberts, Troy Anderson, Maureen Adam, Bill Grant, Michael Moloney, Tom Brewer, Jacob Iosefa, Fr Bill Kennedy, George Toth, Ben Arcus, Kathleen Belfanti, Hennie Timmerman, Peter Hewitt, Stephanie De Jongh, Jack Kennelly, Susie Menadue, Philomena Fisher, Rajan Fernandez, Ljubica Gotovac, Jose Arquero, Olga Johnson, Patricia Zorzi, Wendy Altimore, David Swan, Iole Cicolini, Carolyn Wightman, Greg Geering and those afflicted with COVID.

PREJUDICE AND PRESUMPTION

The issues at play between the State of Israel and the Palestinian people are many and varied. The outcome is tragic and the tensions are high. Today's Gospel portrays Jesus re-thinking his mission in view of a non-Jew or Gentile woman outwitting him. But first some background to today's gospel. The preceding verses of Matthew 15 have Jesus clarifying that one becomes unclean or unfit for worship not by failing to perform external rituals, like hand-washing, but by *"evil intentions and behaviour that flow from the heart that renders a person unclean"* (Brendan Byrne). Having clarified Jesus' teaching on the barrier of ritual cleanliness, Matthew then has Jesus cross a literal border into the Tyre and Sidon region where 'unclean' Gentiles reside. Here Jesus reflects accepted cultural behaviour and ignores the Gentile woman who approaches him in need. The disciples want to be rid of the insistent woman but Jesus says his mission is to the house of Israel. Not to be deterred, the woman kneels before him and pleads, "Lord, help me". Jesus responds with the heartless comment about not feeding dogs with children's food. The woman turns the image against Jesus, noting that dogs eat the scraps that children drop from the table. *"Outwitted", Jesus gives in, agreeing to her request and praising the greatness of her faith. Many*

readers of the Gospel will doubtless be troubled by the apparent coldness that Jesus initially displays towards this desperate person. By depicting him acting in such a way, however, the narrative intensifies the sense of the barrier between Jews and Gentiles, only to highlight the significance of what is happening when, as a result of the women's faith, the barrier comes crashing down" (ibid). **Our First Reading from Isaiah prefigures the awareness that Jesus came to.** When the people of God returned from exile (538 BC), they were confronted with foreigners and neighbours on the land they once called theirs. Isaiah speaks of foreigners identifying with the Lord being brought to the Temple mount. "The privilege of worshipping God is so central to Israel's identity that it is hard to think of a stronger expression of inclusivity than this" (ibid). **Religion is mediated through culture. We need to critique attitudes and presumptions that undermine the dignity of all. After all, 'religion' means literally to 're-ligament' or to reconnect that which presumption and prejudice (sin, if you will) have divided.**

Fr John

PARISH DEFIBRILLATOR: Prior to having this life-saving device available at Masses and other parish events, we need volunteers to undertake training with St John Ambulance. Register your interest on the foyer clipboard.

CLEAN OUT OF FLOWER ROOM EXCESS VASES ETC AND CHURCH MEETING ROOM CHAIRS, Sat-Sun, 2-3 September in the church foyer. Donation sought for goods taken. An initiative of the Parish Liturgy Committee.

AN INVITATION TO VISIT THE REFURBISHED FORMER SS PETER AND PAUL CATHEDRAL, GOULBURN, Monday, 11 September, departing 10:15am from Holy Trinity church, guided tour on arrival and then lunch at adjacent 'Roses' café before return by 3.30pm. An initiative of our PPC. If interested, contact the Parish Office or Fr John.

PARISH DINNER: The PPC is finalising arrangements for this year's parish dinner which will support the work of St Vincent de Paul. Looking to a Saturday in November. Details to follow.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

(1) Social Justice Sunday, next Sunday, 27 August.

(2) Father's Day Appeal for Retired Clergy of the Archdiocese, Sunday, 3 September.

'INTEGRAL ECOLOGY' ONLINE PILGRIMAGE: In conjunction with ACU, the Archdiocese is conducting six online dialogues on Pope Francis's 'Care for our Common Home', commencing 6.30-8.30pm, Thurs., 31 Aug., and concluding 5 Oct. Info: <https://cgatholic.org.au/services-directory/caring-for-creation/> Register at <http://bit.ly/3rTieKp>.

CANBERRA BACH ENSEMBLE, 2 and 3 September, St Christopher's Cathedral, playing Bach's 'Shepherd' Cantatas (based on Psalm 23) and Mass in F. Book at <https://www.trybooking.com/CJTVA>

HIGH TEA FOR THE FARM, 11.30am-2.00pm, Fri., 8 Sept., St Thomas More School Hall, White Cres., Campbell. RSVP by 1 Sept via <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1091354>

RCIA COMMENCES MON 1 SEPT. If interested as candidate or team member, contact the Parish Office or Fr John.

'LINKED HANDS' FOR YES: An invitation is extended to parishioners voting 'Yes' in the Voice Referendum to gather with like-minded members of other local churches, groups and individuals next Sat., 26 August, 11.55am-2:00pm. The aim is for 27 groups of 50 people in each; the hope is that one of the groups will be of parishioners. Contact Susan and Francis soosully@icloud.com or Vikki and Michael 6282 4778.

MEDITATION GROUP: 6pm, Wednesdays. All welcome. Contact Vikki, 0437 876 487, mulvaney@netspeed.com.au.

PRAYER CIRCLE SUPPORT: Cathy Harris, 6281 2574.

Readings for next Sunday: Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A: Is 22:19-23; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20.

LITURGICAL ROSTERS NEXT WEEK: 26-27 August			
<i>4th Sunday of the month</i>	Curtin Sat. 6 pm	Curtin Sun. 9.30 am	Curtin Sun. 5.30 pm
Acolyte	Anthony De Salis	Stafferd Fernandez	Darryl Kite
Reader	Alex Eyers	Alan Grinsell-Jones	Karen Anderson
Commentator	Loreian Quipot	Denis Howden	
Welcomer	Robert Kennelly	Max Grinsell-Jones	
Ministers of Comm.	Nanette Bonato	Jane Hunt	Marianne Crane
Communion to Sick	St A's: Helen Crain-Welsby	FWG: Julie Bufalo & Ellen Long	Homes: Peter Wynter
Counters	28 Aug.	Rosemary O'Mally, Bryan Stevens	
Wednesday Liturgy	23 Aug.	Prayer Leader: John & Alex Eyers	Eucharistic Minister: Emma Fairfax