

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Fifth Sunday of Lent Year C

First Reading *Isaiah 43:16-21*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick: No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it? Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds. The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink. The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 125. R. v.3*

(R.) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs.

2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap.

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves.

(R.) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Second Reading *Philippians 3:8-14*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him.

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if

only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation *Joel 2:12-13*

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel *John 8:1-11*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to

throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

The story told in today's Gospel, Pope Francis says, shows us 'two contrasting attitudes'. One seeks condemnation, the other salvation. Surrounding this distasteful episode is an unhealthy inclination to condemn. Yes, the accusers obviously want to punish the woman. But besides judging this woman, her accusers are also using her. Their real target is Jesus. He is the one they are testing. As the Pope says, these accusatory people are 'confined to narrow legalism and want to oblige the Son of God to conform to their perspective of judgment and condemnation.' But Jesus saves the woman. As the Pope puts it, Jesus 'redeems by forgiving and renews by reconciling.' With silence and a pointed question, he turns the event upside down! This was surely not what the Scribes and Pharisees anticipated. Moreover, as the Pope points out, Jesus shows us something very important. 'Jesus is the only one without fault, the only one who could throw a stone at her, but he does not do so.' Reflecting on this, we might try to let go of those stones in our hearts that we long to fling at others. Each Lent we are 'called to recognise ourselves as sinners and to ask God for forgiveness,' the Pope affirms. But he reminds us that, like Jesus, we are also called to become forgivers.

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Principal: Karen Hadley
St. Bernard's Primary School, Batehaven
R.E.C: Rebecca Keough
Principal: Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan
Carroll College, Broulee
R.E.C: Anna Smart

FIFTH SUNDAY of LENT Year C



CHURCH EVENTS

Choir Practice
1PM Every second and fourth Monday

Cenacle Prayer 9.30 am
Fridays after Mass

Wrap with Love
TUESDAY 8TH April
10-11am BB Library

Lenten Program
Wednesdays after Mass
5 March—9 April

Parish Sacramental Program
First Reconciliation 2025
Celebration Mass
Tuesday 8th April 5pm St Bernard's Church

Cuppa with Mary MacKillop Tuesday April 8th 10-11am @ Nola & Bernie Beatty's home
Ph: 0410 629 416

Craft Group 10am
Thursdays Church Meeting Room

ADORATION TUESDAYS
@ 4pm

COFFEE CLUB
Thursdays after 9am Mass
Venue: Corrigans Cove

NOTE FOR DIARY!!!

RECONCILIATION FOR THE WHOLE PARISH FOR EASTER

PLACE: St Bernard's Church

DATE: TUESDAY 8TH April, 2025

TIME: 5.30PM (AFTER FIRST RECONCILIATION CELEBRATION)

UNTIL AS LONG AS NEEDED

CONFESSORS: FR REX CURRY

FR EDEN LANGLANDS

ALL ARE WELCOME



Please Note Mass on Tuesday will be at 9am

MASSES THIS WEEK

Monday 7th:—Sunday 14th April
Monday 7th: NO MASS
Tuesday 8th: Note: Mass 9am
 Celebration of First Reconciliation 5pm
 Parish Reconciliation 5.30pm
Wednesday 9th: Mass with Anointing of the Sick 9am
Thursday 10th: Mass 9am
Friday 11th: Mass 9am
Saturday 12th: Mass 5pm
 Reconciliation 3.30-4.30
Sunday 13th: Mass 9am

ROSTERS

5/6 APRIL
Cleaning
 7-11 B Coffey/M Paine

5.00PM MASS
 Welcomer J Anderson
 Commentator S Ebejer
 Reader P Nolan
 Eucharistic Ministers L Rodwell
 Computer Screen J O'Sullivan

9.00 AM MASS:
 Welcomer L May
 Commentator J Whiteford
 Reader: N Beatty
 Eucharistic Ministers M & C Lowe
 Computer Screen D May

MORNING TEA:
 Filipino Community

COUNTERS:
 T Priest/J Whiteford

12/13 APRIL PALM SUNDAY
Cleaning
 14-18 R & K Ison

5.00PM MASS
 Welcomer P Jobes
 Commentator: J O'Sullivan
 Reader: J Mackay
 Eucharistic Ministers K Lovering
 Computer Screen K Conway
Passion Narrator: P O'Kelly
Others: S Ebejer

9.00 AM MASS:
 Welcomer M deSmet
 Commentator . L Page
 Reader: D Herring
 Eucharistic Ministers K Corbin, J Whiteford
 Computer Screen T Priest

Passion Narrator: M Lowe
Others: C Lowe

MORNING TEA:
 M Vidovic/Zdenka

COUNTERS:
 Jackson/Evenden

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

A/C Name: St Bernard's
 Operating
 BSB: 062-786
 A/C No: 00012939
 Ref: Family Name

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Parishioners are invited to attend the Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent.
 A soup dinner is served after the short service.
 The Stations of the Cross are held at 5.30pm each Friday.

LENTEN GROUP

Will be held after Mass on Wednesdays beginning March 5 Ash Wednesday—April 9
 Enquiries: Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057

EASTER MUSIC CHOIR PRACTICE

We continue our Easter Music preparation every Monday at 1.00pm from now until Easter:
 Monday 7 April and Monday 14 April
 All welcome!

CHRISM MASS – Join the Archbishop and the Clergy of the Archdiocese on Monday 14 April at 5.00pm in St Christopher's Cathedral, Forrest for this most beautiful Holy Week Mass. It is in this Mass that the **Holy Oils** used in the various Sacramental Rites of the Church are blessed and consecrated. Everyone is most welcome.

Parish Sacramental Program 2025 FIRST RECONCILIATION

Congratulation to the children who will be celebrating their First Reconciliation this week. Many thanks to the parents and teachers for their support during the preparation and may this sacrament bring you peace, renewal and a deeper connection with God.

The Celebration Mass for First Reconciliation will be held on Tuesday 8th April @ 5pm at St Bernard's Church



Our next BBECET prayer meeting will be held on Monday 7 April at 5 pm in the Anglican Church hall. Everyone welcome.

Holy Week Ceremonies

Holy Thursday 17th April 6.00pm
 Good Friday Stations of the Cross 18th April 10.00am
 Celebration of the Lord's Passion 18th April 3.00pm
 Easter Vigil 19th April 6.00pm
 Easter Sunday 20th April 9.00am



The transformative work of Caritas Australia is only possible thanks to supporters like you and the dedication, passion, and resilience of our local partners, who tirelessly work to empower communities and create brighter futures.

In Vietnam, Caritas Australia's partner programs, like I-SHINE, helped Lam, a young man with a disability, gain graphic design skills and start a successful freelance business, inspiring others to pursue their dreams.

In Samoa, Caritas Australia works with Caritas Samoa to improve access to clean water and sanitation through initiatives like water tank installations, transforming health and well-being for families like Toefuata'iga's.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Caritas Australia partners with Caritas Kongolo on the Youth Capacity Strengthening Program. This initiative equipped Irene, a single mother, with sewing and farming skills, enabling her to support her family and empower others in her community.

Through partnerships like these, Caritas Australia creates lasting change in communities across the globe.



Envelopes available for donations or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
 may the faith you have given us
 in your son, Jesus Christ, our
 brother, and the flame
 of charity enkindled
 in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
 reawaken in us the blessed hope
 for the coming of your
 Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
 into tireless cultivators of the seeds of
 the Gospel.
 May those seeds transform from within
 both humanity and the whole cosmos, in
 the sure expectation
 of a new heaven and a new earth, when,
 with the powers of Evil
 vanquished, your glory will shine
 eternally.

May the grace of the
 Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of
 Hope,
 a yearning for the treasures of
 heaven.
 May that same grace spread
 the joy and peace of our
 Redeemer
 throughout the earth.
 To you our God, eternally blessed,
 be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

Remembering the Sick:

Kristy Crosby, Jeanette Clarke, Margaret Priest, Chris Bowditch, Sheree Jackson, Brendan Blyton, Wendy & Pat Roberts, Mark O'Neill, Karen Nixon, Kevin Totterell, Dawn Robinson, Maria de Rocco, Myrna Glenn, Norma Dean, Ann Marie McLoughlin, Antonette Doyle, Christine Norman, Anne Gatehouse, Tony Vogel, Suzanne Hughes, Sr Marie McAlister, Peter O'Neill, Fr John Walter, Fr Kevin Murphy, Allan Rogers, Rita Condon, Ben Copland, Vince Burns, Patrick Burns, Carolyn Burns, John Dillon, James Lee, Trish Hamilton, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, Diane Lanzon, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Allan Odium, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, those in hospital and nursing homes.

Death Anniversaries: are listed in the Memorial Book at the front of the Church and names can be added to it if dates are provided.

We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community: Geoffrey Bopping, Ivan Backo, Jean McSmith, David Wick, Joe Quigley, Margaret Silversides, Patricia Totterdell, David Cowley, Joanne Rogers, Gerald Lewis, Josephine Beckhaus, Cyril Noyeaux, Frank Simic, Sr Paulinus Croker, Marion O'Grady, Patricia Suhl, Neil Leonard, Letitia Baz, Trent Fisk, Kevin Carew, Margaret Kelly, Arthur Hurrell, Vicki Lukasik, Paul Skinner, Suzanne Melton, James Quirk, Giovanni Menon, Tony Puconja, Hazel Nolan, Else McGahey, Richard Smart, Patrick Dunn, Laurence Foran, Lynton Ryan, Jacki Harding, Keith Cooke, Sarah Good, Robert Mitchell, Joyce Hurrell, Archbishop Francis Carroll, Ruth O'Malley, Julie Morgan, Suzanne Houssard, Nancy Sykes, Lillian Burkinshaw, Lynette Arundel

Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions

APRIL

For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

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