



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B Cycle I

12 September 2021



Hope

Here we are still in the midst of crisis that seems to deepen week by week. There are days when the future looks so bleak that many can see no way forward - that fear is real and present.

Do we as Christians have an answer, or even a suggestion, or do we simply “go with the flow” and drop our bundle and surrender. Can I offer this: essentially we are a people of hope, essentially as humans we have a tremendous amount of power and multiple abilities – greater than any other power on earth – yet at times we do need to use both the power of hope, and the need for surrender. Can I explain: Last week we saw a three year old child lost for four days in the bush – 3 years old!! Every human effort was called into play to find him. There was even a suggestion he might have been kidnapped, yet the searchers went on. The anguish of his parents is beyond imagination. The word “desperation” is not far from the word “despair”. Hundred of people searched, his Mum and Dad prayed! They went to the local Monastery (possibly Franciscan?) and THEY ASKED FOR A MIRACLE. AJ, named after St Anthony is home with his Mum and Dad today: HOW? Human effort, forged from Hope, and Prayer, prevailed. How marvelous is the human spirit! We are so thankful to God and the volunteers and experts about this joyous outcome. What a tremendous asset we have in our spiritual familiarity with Jesus. Sadly not shared by some who simply totally depend on human powers. But this prayed for outcome is not always what happens. Essentially, while we have great abilities and powers as human beings, we are not omnipotent. We cannot always achieve what we set out to do – sometimes we fail. But so too does it appear that prayer fails! Jesus said “Ask and you will receive”. Did he lie? Does he not always listen? Does he sometimes seem not even to care? Not every prayer is answered as requested! WHY? I said at the beginning that we are a people of Hope (that is faith in the unseen), but that does not take away Jesus’ right to respond – in his way, not ours. This is where Christian faith in Jesus has to accept that surrendering is part of that faith. To “surrender” is not necessarily defeat. Yes we have powers, and need to use them as God given gifts, but Jesus has the right to ask us to trust him, and sometimes he asks us to SURRENDER to his greater power! A final outcome is not always in the present time. History is littered with examples of great successes coming out of initial failures. Jesus did say “ask”, but he also said “trust” and “be persistent” in prayer. The reality of Faith is a recognition that this is God’s World, God’s Church - not a despotic God, but a loving one. There are times when we need to ask - like right now, and there are times when we need to surrender, not in defeat or despair, but in Hope. Our Faith is a very human experience in a greater than human: our loving God. Is not Mary the living proof of both Trust and Surrender? There is an end to this pandemic, and God knows the what and the where. We have a challenge: use all our natural (God given) powers - but also use our Spiritual Powers of Faith, Trust, and HOPE.

Fr Bill



Catholic Care Can Help

Times are tough! We can help with emergency relief, counselling, housing and much more!
1800 324 924 or
www.catholiccaredbb.org.au

Feast Days

St John Chrysostom
13 September
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
14 September
Our Lady of Sorrows
15 September
Sts Cornelius & Cyprian
16 September.



Broken Bay News September Issue

Available online now at <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/news/broken-bay-news/broken-bay-news-editions>



Confirmation Candidates

Please pray for our Confirmation Candidates as they prepare online for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Probing Questions

The Gospel contains two key questions Jesus asks his disciples in an interesting sequence. First, while at prayer, Jesus asks: "Who do the crowds say that I am?"

A variety of responses follows: 1) John the Baptist [Jesus followed John in his ministry and continued to preach]; 2) Elijah [the way Jesus taught and acted made him a prime candidate for Elijah come-back-to-earth]; and 3) a prophet of old [Jesus preached repentance and conversion]. These responses are plausible, but they reflect a very shallow faith.

Then Jesus puts a direct question to his disciples: "Who do you say that I am?" What is your personal response? Moved by a special God-given grace, Peter replies: "The Christ of God." Then Jesus, after cautioning the disciples not to tell anyone, challenges them to take up their cross daily and follow him.

In Mark's Gospel, Peter objects to Jesus' prediction of his death. Jesus strongly rebukes Peter, saying: "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." (8:33)

The perennial question: "Who do you say that I am?" is addressed to the disciples of Jesus' time - and to us, his modern-day followers. Who do we say Jesus is - not by our words alone, but by our deeds and lifestyle?

The authenticity of our lived example of who Jesus is for us can be enhanced if we challenge ourselves with some additional, probing questions. Ask yourself: Who am I? What kind of a person am I? Am I genuinely compassionate, honest, and self-sacrificing? Ask yourself: Where did I come from? Who knit me together, body and soul, in my mother's womb?

In addition, ask yourself: What am I doing here in this life? What is the very purpose of my existence here on earth? Finally, ask yourself: Where am I going? What, in God's plan, is my final, eternal destination?

Can you grasp the connection between this series of probing questions and Jesus' pivotal question: "Who do you say that I am?" The manner in which we live our lives as Christian disciples is, in fact, our primary answer to Jesus' identity. Concretely, who is Jesus for me? Am I willing to take up my cross daily? Is my answer translated into daily deeds of Christ-like service?

Finally, let us take the very same probing question of the Gospels and turn it around. We may address God our Father in prayer and say: "O Lord, my God, who do you say that I am?" If God were responding, what answer might we expect?

God may probably say: "You are my beloved child, my disciple. Through Baptism, you are united intimately with me. I know your weaknesses and sins. Follow me by carrying the cross with me. I love and forgive you. You are mine."

366 Days with the Lord Fr Gil Alinsangan SSP

Lean on Him

One thing Jesus asks of me: that I lean on him; that in him and only in him I put complete trust; that I surrender myself to him unreservedly. Even when all goes wrong and I feel as if I am a ship without a compass, I must give myself completely to him. I must not attempt to control God's action; I must not count the stages in the journey he would have me make, I must not desire a clear perception of my advance upon the road, must not know precisely where I am upon the way of holiness.

No Greater Love Mother Teresa

Who Am I?

Jesus wanted his disciples to know and believe that he truly was the Messiah, the Son of God. Through their association with him and witnessing his miracles and hearing his talks, they knew who he was. When Jesus asked them who, according to them, he was, Peter in the name of all of them, confessed their faith in his divinity (the Gospel).

The letter to the Hebrews says that whoever comes to God must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who seek him. Without this faith it is impossible to please God (Heb 11:6). The prophet Isaiah was undaunted by the insults and humiliations and injuries that came from his enemies. He faced everything courageously as he was sure that God was with him to help him with his power (First Reading).

In the Second Reading St James says that the proof of our faith in God is our deeds. One may say one has faith while actually one may not have it. On the contrary if one has deeds like those of Isaiah, one need not declare that one has faith. The deeds themselves declare it. Hence it is clear that the proof of our faith is in our deeds and God wants this kind of faith that leads to deeds.

God's Word Fr Anselm Poovathani SSP

Safeguarding Month

As part of Safeguarding Month, we celebrate NAPCAN Child Protection week and this year we also celebrate the Australian Safeguarding Sunday Mass. Bishop Anthony will celebrate Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral Waitara this Sunday 12 September at 9.30am. You can watch the live stream on the Hornsby Cathedral YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/c/HORNSBYCATHEDRALPARISH>

On 22 September Fr David Ranson, Vicar General, will present on Zoom 'Ministering to a Church in Trauma'. Everyone is welcome to join. Registrations are essential: <https://bbcatholic.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJItce2qpjovHtWs7Vymz9XkWWVhVtLq22Px>

Please keep all those who have suffered hurt and abuse in the Catholic Church in your prayers, and participate in the activities on offer throughout September.

Please Note

Australia & Oceania Prays the Divine Mercy Chaplet

In these difficult times of a dangerous epidemic that is the source of enormous suffering for millions of people around the world, let us pray that Merciful Jesus will hear our call. Wherever you are in the world, join us on Monday 13 September in praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3pm, so together we can lift our prayers to God.

For more information go to: www.worldchaplet.org

Bay Connect -The Parenting Children Course

As part of the Bay Connect series of on-line events, the Life, Marriage and Family team will be running The Parenting Children Course, for parents of young children seeking connection and support during lockdown while learning new skills. It's fun, hopeful and designed to inspire confidence in your abilities as a parent. Starts 21 September at 7.30pm on zoom. Go to www.bbcatholic.org.au/our-faith/prayer-resources/bay-connect

Connected in Christ Resource

The weekly Connected in Christ resource is back! Each week the Evangelisation Broken Bay team will provide Gospel readings, prayers, reflections and children's activities for families to worship and pray at home in this extended period of lockdown. Go to <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/our-faith/prayer-resources/bay-connect>



Mass

Livestreamed
Sunday mornings
at 9:30am:

[www.youtube.com/
user/cathnews](http://www.youtube.com/user/cathnews)
or at other times:
[www.youtube.com/c/
MassforYouatHome](http://www.youtube.com/c/MassforYouatHome)



Congratulations

Colin & Judy
Thompson

on the occasion
of your
**61st Wedding
Anniversary**



Church & Parish
Offices Closed

For emergencies
your call will be
forwarded to Fr Bill.



Email Us

We are still checking
our emails if you
would like prayers
for deceased or sick
in the bulletin. Also
if you would like
any information
regarding
donations, etc.

THE ENTRANCE PARISH DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

Serving the Catholic Community of The Entrance and extending the Kingdom of God

PARISH PRIEST & DEAN Fr William Stevens **DEACON** Dcn Paul Simmons

SACRAMENTAL COORDINATOR Br John Verhoeven FSP

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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PRIMARY SCHOOL **Tel** 4332 5594 **ST PETER'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE** **Tel** 4351 2344

Mass & Devotions in Ordinary Time - *when not in lockdown*

Sunday Masses Saturday Vigil 5:00pm Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am

Weekday Masses Monday - Thursday 9:00am Friday 11:45am Saturday 9:00am

Reconciliations Saturdays 9:30-10am & 4-4:30pm

Liturgy of the Hours Saturday 8:40am **Rosary** Monday-Thursday 8:35am Friday 11:20am Saturday 9:30am

Cenacle Wednesday 9:30am

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 50:5-9

James 2:14-18

Mark 8:27-35

Entrance Antiphon: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

Responsorial Psalm: I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! My only glory is the cross of our lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

Keep Us In Your Prayers *There is no gift more precious than prayer - Fr Benedict Groeschel*

Recently Deceased: Tim Parsons.

Anniversaries: Win & Jerry Maher, David Kelly, Mark & Mervyn O'Sullivan, Neville Newton.

Remembrances: Pat Smith, Marie Powell, Jill O'Sullivan, Patricia Costello, Arthur Vella and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Families: Thompson, Newsome.

Sick: Fr Shaju's mother (Covid), Michael Clarke, Fr Kelly, Bonnie Chamberlain, Luna Allen, Helen Garnsey, Rove Varman, Carmel Cramsie, Simone Moffitt, Karen Stone, Leo Lowe, Betty Lamont, Pauline Fowler, Abigail Holt, Leo O'Meara, Peter O'Grady, Linda Read, Antoinette Grech, Tanya Doorn, David Drinan, Kelly Will and all those suffering from Covid-19 and long term illnesses.

Pearly Gates Revisited



Our Lady of the Rosary

GIFT CENTRE

For all your devotional needs...

See You after Lockdown!

The Gift Centre is open each weekend before and after the 5pm Saturday and 9:30am Sunday Masses, in the foyer of the Church.

If you could help in the Gift Centre at any of the Masses please let us know at the parish office.

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