



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A Cycle 1

1 October 2023



A Change of Heart

One of the saddest statements we sometimes hear is that 'people cannot change'. 'Can a leopard change its spots?' some people ask derisively.

The Judeo-Christian tradition has always firmly rejected such deterministic views of the human person. Our Scriptures constantly affirm that it is possible for the wicked to renounce their evil ways and live. It is possible for a rebellious son to have a change of heart and do what his father asks of him, as Jesus notes in today's Gospel.

For this change to happen, two things are required. Firstly, the individual must recognise and accept that there is something in his or her life that needs to be changed. The efforts of others to help will be of no avail until the individual acknowledges that he or she has a problem, or has done wrong, and needs help. The author of today's responsorial psalm acknowledges that he is a sinner. He admits the sins of his youth.

Secondly, and most importantly, the grace of God is needed for positive change to happen. People battling with addictions of various kinds speak of the need to surrender to a higher power. The psalmist makes such a surrender to God in today's psalm. He extols none of his own virtues but puts all his hope in God who is good and upright and shows the path to those who stray.

If we humbly recognise areas where we need to change, and desire that change to happen, we can be sure that the grace of God will never be lacking.

God's Word Fr Dominic Vellaiparambil SSP

Jesus Will Forgive

This is probably a parable told by Jesus just after his triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The crowd from all over the world, including many Jews, had just acclaimed Jesus as King, the Son of David, and sung *Hosanna* to him. However, just a few days later, the same people, with a few exceptions, would cry for his crucifixion. So, in telling this parable, Jesus certainly knew that these same people would betray him in the days following. They resemble the son who said, "I go, sir," but did not go. They, perhaps, had the intention to do the will of the Father, but out of fear they betrayed their Lord and Saviour. The second son who said, "I will not," but then repented and went to do the will of the father resembles those who repented of their wrongdoings like the tax collectors and sinners and converted to become Jesus' disciples during his earthly life and the time thereafter. The Prophet Ezekiel, in the First Reading, calls forth the people to turn to the Lord with a repentant heart. Jesus will forgive all who repent. Even his crucifiers.

God's Word for Each Day Fr Toms Mangam



**Feast Days
This Week:**

**The Holy
Guardian Angels**
2 October

**St Francis of
Assisi**
4 October

**Our Lady of
the Rosary**
7 October



Anointing of the Sick

will be celebrated
Friday 6 October
during 11:45am
Mass for those
over 65 or with
serious or long-
term illness.

Parish Morning Tea



The Simply the
Best Family Group
is hosting our
Morning Tea next
Sunday 8 October
in the Parish
Centre after
9:30am Mass.
All Welcome!



CatholicCare Thanks

Our parish raised
\$2,040.00 for the
Homelessness
Fundraiser.
CatholicCare
is much
appreciative.

Appearances

How often are we misled by talk or appearances? We have many proverbs that caution us against such susceptibility. "The proof of the pudding is in the eating." "Handsome is as handsome does." Nevertheless, we are still easily hoodwinked by glossy presentations or weasel words. Sometimes the position of a person impresses us. Perhaps it is the need in us to be reassured, that uncertainty which asks a professional for honest advice when their main concern may be selling us something. There will always be someone only too willing to take advantage of our vulnerability, in any field. The difficulty today is that the skills of advertising have leapt from the marketplace to nearly every aspect of life. We are all asked to sell ourselves in some way, by which is usually meant that we are required to spend our energies more on the appearance of what we are offering than on its real content.

Too often there is a gap between the glossy presentation and the reality within. As we spend so much time on the appearance of what we are offering, we can lose sight of the actual content. We have a lovely brochure or website saying what sort of school, church, community we are. We may even convince ourselves of the truth of what we say. But the detached observer sees only too easily that the emperor is not wearing any clothes.

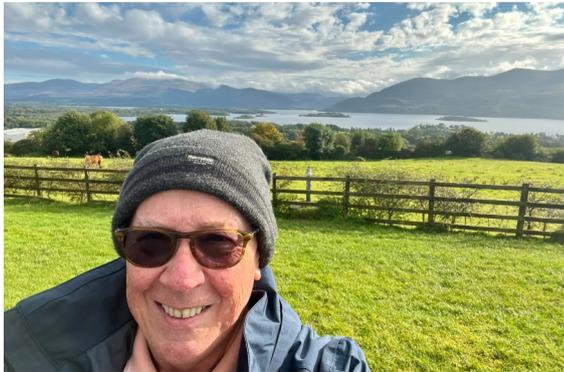
It is this sort of contradiction between word and action that Jesus identifies in the chief priests and elders. After arriving in Jerusalem he enters into debate with them about the genuine fulfilment of the Law and the Prophets. There is always a temptation for leaders to believe too much in their own authority. They tend to think that, because they have such an important position in society, what they say must be true. Jesus challenges such an assumption. There must always be a coherence between what we preach to others and what we do ourselves. John the Baptist had come, a pattern of righteousness, but the people who listened to him and accepted his message, changing their lives accordingly, had been the public sinners in society. The leaders and supposedly righteous people had refused to believe him, just as now they refused to believe Jesus and his message.

How do we prevent ourselves being drawn into a world of false appearances? How do we ensure that we always practise what we preach? It is easy to start out with the best of intentions, but, as we have noted, the nature of our world is so shot through with the idea of selling ourselves that it can be difficult to pursue an alternative path.

It is as though Jesus recognises this difficulty by being so uncompromising in his own words and practice. His way of ensuring an integrity of word and deed is to empty himself of any claim to power or position. Elsewhere he will address the question of fancy titles. The only title he uses for himself is that of "Son of Man", and the only way of life he follows is that of a wandering preacher, with nowhere to lay his head. If we examine honestly our own positions in life we will acknowledge just how much we are tempted to say one thing and do another, to use our own power or status to achieve our ends. When we empty ourselves of such trappings of power, we have no means of pretence any more. And, perhaps ironically, we now have a greater freedom to adhere to the truth, for we are no longer bound by the complex world of expectations that come from the world of propaganda. We are free to do what we say we will do.

Sunday Living Word Majellan Family Media

Postcard from the Emerald Isle



Dear Parishioners
Just leaving Ireland after a 12 day stay. We have had plenty of gentle rain but mostly like a winter's day at home. This photo is at Killarney with its lovely Lake.

Regards
Fr Brian



Bible Reflection
Deepen your knowledge of the Scriptures with our Seminarian Tân. Wednesdays in the Reynolds Room 9:30am

Annual Public Square Rosary

Join us in this nation-wide crusade. Religion is being banished from public life. Let people see that prayer is happening in public! This year our Public Square Rosary will be held on Saturday 14 October at 4pm at the Bayview Avenue Fountain (next to the old cinema site). Note that we finish well in time for 5pm Mass. Enquiries: Pauline Fowler 4332 9888.

Bishop Robert Barron on a Holy Hour

The Holy Hour - a sustained, uninterrupted hour of prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament - is a life-changing spiritual discipline. It has become a key part of my own spiritual life: when I'm home, I begin every day going to my chapel and spending an hour in prayer. And while the Holy Hour often requires sacrifice, the spiritual fruits are bountiful - most especially in cultivating your personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

The Pope's Prayer Intentions for October

For the Synod: We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

Please Note

Liturgy of Lament

Join us at our annual gathering in acknowledging the suffering caused to our most vulnerable, to pray to God, and to give public expression to sorrow. Thursday 12 October at 4.30pm at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral Waitara.

The Feast Day of St John Paul II Celebrations

Everyone is warmly invited to join us at St Patrick's Parish, 76 York Street East Gosford. We are celebrating the first anniversary of the St John Paul II Shrine on his feast day Sunday 22 October, with Mass at 9.30am, praise, worship, Rosary and reflections, BBQ, live music and market stalls.

Family Connect & Support Service

Family Connect and Support (FCS) is a statewide voluntary service for children, young people and families who need support to maintain a safe and positive family environment. Call 1800 066 757 or visit www.catholiccarebb.org.au.



Adoration
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held on each first Saturday (7 October) following 9am Mass for one hour, closing with Benediction.



Nursing Home Mass
and Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated Tuesday 9 October at Killarney Court Nursing Home at 11am.



Low Gluten Hosts
Please see one of the Priests before Mass if you are a coeliac.

THE ENTRANCE PARISH DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

A beacon of Faith, Hope and Love

PARISH PRIEST & DEAN OF THE CENTRAL COAST Fr Brian Moloney **ADMINISTRATOR** Fr Leonse Kurian
AP Fr Joshi Naduppura **DEACON** Paul Simmons **SEMINARIAN** Tân Nguyen **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE** Colleen Smith
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Leanne McGill **PROPERTY MAINTENANCE MANAGER** Karen Green
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Email info@ourladyoftherosary.org.au **Facebook** Our Lady of the Rosary Parish The Entrance
OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PRIMARY SCHOOL Tel 7256 2115 **ST PETER'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE** Tel 4351 2344

Mass & Devotions

Sunday Masses Saturday Vigil 5:00pm Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am (11am at Reynolds Court, Bias Ave Bateau Bay)
Weekday Masses Monday - Thursday 9:00am Friday 11:45am Saturday 9:00am
Reconciliations Saturdays 9:30-10am and 4-4:30pm
Liturgy of the Hours Saturday 8:40am **Rosary** Monday-Thursday 8:35am Friday 11:20am Saturday 9:30am
Cenacle Prayer Group Wednesday 9:30am **Christian Meditation** Friday 10:30am-11:30am Reynolds Room

26th Sunday

Ezekiel 18:25-28

Philippians 2:1-11

Matthew 21:28-32

Entrance Antiphon: All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgment, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

Responsorial Psalm: Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

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

Recently Deceased: Margaret Danswan.

Anniversaries: Stanley Fletcher, Kevin Hughes.

Remembrances: Pat Smith, Marie Powell, Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Margaret Pizzuto, Terence & Josephine Smith, Terry Howard, Charles Magri, Charlie and Mary Vella, Dorothy Manning, Marea Mann, Tim Parsons, John Giutronich, Joe Bond and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Sick: Lyle Dunn, Anne O'Rourke, Dallas McDonald, Susan Simmons, June Molloy, Paul Smith, Collette O'Grady, Oskar Alessandro, Trish Knoke, Emma Horton, Marc Sabat, Patrick Cologon, Linda Read, Peter O'Grady, Tanya Doorn, Kelly Will, and all with serious illness.

Confirmation Candidates: Please pray for the children and their families who are preparing for Confirmation.

Welcome newly Baptised: Luka Burcul, Remi Levesque, Athena, Freyja and Vidarr Williams.

Pearly Gates Revisited



Our Lady of the Rosary

GIFT CENTRE

For all your devotional needs...

Gift Centre

New stock coming in all the time - come and see! We are open before and after the 5pm Saturday Vigil Mass and before and after the 9:30am Sunday Mass in the Church foyer. EFTPOS is available. For any enquiries call

4332 2216