

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A Cycle 1

25 June 2023



### **Our Strength**

Do not be afraid is a frequent and consoling saying on the lips of Jesus. He says these words to us because we are often afraid: very afraid. We fear the unknown. We fear what we cannot control. We fear what other people may think, say or do to us. We fear arguments with people. We fear losing their approval or their love. We fear illness and disease. We fear what tomorrow may bring. We fear death. There are so many things in this world to fear.

Simply being told not to be afraid does not sound like a remedy for our fear, but the Lord gives us a great reason not to be afraid. Someone is watching over you. Someone knows you very well and loves you for yourself. Every hair on your head has been counted. You are worth more than hundreds of sparrows. Jesus is telling us that we are not abandoned children. We are greatly loved by God, who is our Father. That is why we say the greatest words possible when we pray the Lord's Prayer. We express our belief in God as a Father who cares completely for us. Our strength is in God our Father, and we are all his children. There is a family of God and we are members of it.

In his own life Jesus attracted opposition and eventually hostility. Because of his confidence in God his Father, he did not fear his opponents. He willingly engaged with them. He felt confident to stand his ground. It was only when his enemies closed in on him, in the garden of Gethsemane, that Jesus felt fear, the fear of the physical torment he was about to meet. His sweat fell like drops of blood. Luke's Gospel tells us that in that moment an angel was sent to comfort him, to strengthen him and to recharge his resolve. John's account of the passion tells us that when the soldiers came, Jesus asked them boldly, "Who are you looking for?" From that moment his fear subsided and his self-awareness returned as, in the greatest test of his life, he stood before Pilate and his court, on trial for his life.

If we are loved in life we have every reason not to be afraid, for love drives out fear. Our attachment to those who love us – parents, husband, wife, children, relatives and friends – gives us the warmth that scatters the cold. In our turn it becomes our vocation to free others from the fears that threaten them. Many of those fears are deeply buried inside people, unseen by us yet robbing them of peace. It is in our power, the power of God's love, to pray for one another and by our kind -heartedness to help people not be afraid.

Sunday Living Word Majellan Media

# DIOCESAN YEAR OF SAFEGUARDING



Feast Days This Week: St Irenaeus 28 June Sts Peter & Paul Apostles 29 June



We are committed to fostering safety and care for all people, especially for children and others who are vulnerable. Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ.



kids 5-12 years (younger must be with a parent) from 3-4:45pm in the Reynolds Room.



**Quote for the Week** Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on your front door forever.

### **Good Advice**

Jesus' advice that we don't let anyone intimidate us was a favourite saying of his, spoken on various occasions. One of Pope John Paul II's favourite sayings was, "Do not be afraid!" And when the United States was in the midst of a great depression and there was misery and want everywhere, President Franklin D Roosevelt coined a phrase that has also rung through time. He said, "The only thing to fear is fear itself."

But fear haunts everyone: fear for one's job, fear for the welfare of one's children, fear about sickness, fear about providing for one's old age, and fear of fear. For the Christian the worst fear is that we would be seduced from our relationship with Jesus, through whom we're united with our heavenly Father.

What we're to fear isn't what hurts superficially, but what could damage the spirit - like becoming careless about truth. We must listen to and learn the message of Christ, and utter it boldly and despite the consequences. *366 Days with the Lord* Fr Harold A Buetow PhD JD

### Always in a Hurry!

aste is our enemy. It puts us under stress, raises our blood pressure, makes us impatient, renders us more vulnerable to accidents and, most seriously of all, blinds us to the needs of others. Haste is normally not a virtue, irrespective of the goodness of what we are hurrying towards.

In 1970, Princeton University did some research with seminary students to determine whether being committed to helping others in fact made a real difference in a practical situation. They set up a scenario with a tight timeline forcing the seminarian to hurry. On the way each seminarian encountered an actor playing a distressed person (akin to the Good Samaritan scene in the gospels). One would guess that, being seminarians committed to service, these individuals might be more likely to stop than most. But that wasn't the case. Being seminarians seemed to have no effect on their behavior in this situation. They were prone to stop and help or to not stop and help mostly on the basis of whether they were in a hurry or not. If they were pressured for time, they didn't stop; if they were not pressured for time, they were more likely to stop. The experiment conclusions: First, that morality becomes a luxury as the speed of our daily lives increases; and, second, that because of time pressures we tend not to see a given situation as a moral one. In essence, the more in a hurry we are, the less likely we are to stop and help someone else in need. Haste and hurry, perhaps more than anything else, prevent us from being good Samaritans.

We know this from our own experience. Our struggle to give proper time to family, prayer, and helping others has mainly to do with time. We're invariably too busy, too pressured, too hurried, too driven, to stop and help. A writer that I know confesses that when she comes to die what she will regret most about her life is not the times she broke a commandment, but the many times she stepped over her own children on her way to her work. We tend to blame secular ideology for so much of the breakdown of the family in our society today when, in fact, perhaps the biggest strain of all is the pressure that comes from the workplace that has us forever in a hurry and daily stepping over our children. I know this from my own experience. Ron Rolheiser

# MONTH OF THE MOST SACRED HEART

### **New Bible Reflection Group**

The focus of the Bible Reflection Group is to create an opportunity for everyone to learn, reflect and deepen their knowledge of the Word of God. Presented by Seminarian Tân Nguyen, the Scripture text to reflect on will be the Gospel of the coming Sunday of the week. Bring your Sunday Missal or we will provide a printed copy of the text for you.

Morning Tea will be held after the Reflection. Wednesdays in the Reynolds Room from 9:30am to 10:20am. Everyone is welcome to join any week. No RSVP required.

### A Special Invitation to Serve in Your Parish

The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers to his harvest.' Parishioners are invited to join any of our many ministries here in our Parish. We are seeking volunteers in the following areas: Senior and Junior Altar Servers, Readers, Choir, Musicians, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Church Cleaners, Catechists, Sacramental Programmes and Visitation. If there is a Ministry that you would like to know more about please talk to Fr Brian or contact the Parish Office.

### St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

The Annual Vinnies Winter Appeal will be held at all Masses on the weekend 8/9 July. Vinnies Winter Appeal is a vital source of funding for the many good works of the Society. Winter is the hardest time of year for all those struggling to keep warm and to put food on the table. Many battlers can't afford heating at all. Your generosity is essential to the continuing help and support offered by St Vinnies volunteers to those most in need. You may like to donate by: phone 13 18 12, online at vinnies.org.au or by envelopes placed in the collection boxes.

### **Please Note**

#### **Classes for Seniors**

CatholicCare's popular Brain Games and Let's Get Moving classes will be returning Mondays 17 July – 18 September in the Lecture Room. Brain Games from 11-12pm and Let's Get Moving from12:15-1:15pm. Fees from \$10.00 per session. You can join anytime and one free trial lesson is available for all parishioners. Bookings are essential - call (02) 9481 2659, email seniors@catholiccaredbb.org.au or visit www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/mic.

#### Magi Pilgrimage

Fr. Brendan Murphy from Our Lady of Rosary Parish St Mary's would like to invite you for an 18-day pilgrimage, departing 9 October, featuring Avila, Fatima, Santiago, Oviedo, Turin, Assisi, Rotondo and Rome for \$8940. Includes Economy Airfares, local transfers in deluxe coaches, premium hotels, all breakfasts and dinners, Catholic Priest and English speaking professional guides. 1300 721 561 or pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au



Welcome Griffin Family We welcome the Griffin Family this weekend for the Reception of their child for Baptism in the near future.



Congratulations First Communicants! This weekend we have several more children making their First Eucharists. Blessings to you children!



This Week's Winners! 1st Prize - 93 2nd Prize - 37 Congratulations!



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## THE ENTRANCE PARISH DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

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

PARISH PRIEST & DEAN OF THE CENTRAL COASTFr Brian MoloneyASSISTANT PRIESTFr Leonse KurianDEACONDcn Paul SimmonsPASTORAL ASSOCIATEColleen SmithSEMINARIANTân NguyenSAFEGUARDING OFFICERLeanneMcGillPROPERTY MAINTENANCE MANAGERKaren GreenOffice HoursMonday-Friday9.30-5.00pmTelephone43322216

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### 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 Wednesday 9:30am Christian Meditation Friday 10:30am-11:30am Reynolds Room

### 12th Sunday

Jeremiah 20:10-13

Romans 5:12-15

Matthew 10:26-33

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Lord is the strength of his people, a saving refuge for the one he has anointed. Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage, ang govern them for ever.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, in your great love, answer me.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

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

Recently Deceased: Barbara Champley, Alice Farrell, Keith Fealy.

Anniversaries: Nora Tabone, Betty O'Neill.

**Remembrances:** Pat Smith, Marie Powell, Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Margaret Pizzuto, Terence & Josephine Smith, John Giutronich, John Tyrrell and all the Holy Souls.

Families: Matthews family and friends.

**Sick:** June Molloy, Susan Simmons, Agnes Burke, Peter Larotić, Oskar Alessandro, Morna Faehrmann, Emma Horton, Trish Knoke, Margaret Foley, Charlie Borg, Marc Sabat, Patrick Cologon, Rita Matthews, Linda Read, Rita Meilak, Peter O'Grady, Tanya Doorn, Kelly Will, and all with serious illness.

Welcome Newly Baptised: Poppy McLachlan.





### **Order God's Word Now!**

If you would like *God's Word 2024* please let Leanne know in the office so she can order you one. 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

