



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A Cycle 1

25 June 2023



Congratulations First Communicants!

At the Vigil Mass on Saturday 24 June, 9 children from our parish schools received the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time. It was wonderful to also welcome their families and friends, along with our parish community, and together congratulate these children as they participate more fully in the Mass by receiving the Body of Christ. This completes the Sacraments of Initiation for these children. Once again, the children looked beautiful, and we loved seeing their smiling faces. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.

The new programme for the Sacrament of Confirmation will begin next term, starting with the Information and Enrolment evening on Tuesday 1 August at 7pm in the Parish Centre. Children in Year 3 and above and who are Baptised Catholic are eligible to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please contact the parish office if you would like further information.

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

The Annual Vinnies Winter Appeal will be held at all Masses next 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 through envelopes placed in the collection boxes in the Church, by phoning 131812, or online at vinnies.org.au





**Feast Days
This Week:**
**St Thomas
Apostle**
3 July



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.

**Parish
Morning
Tea**



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



**Quote
for the Week**

"You see, the Lord never said we had to understand his Will or understand his Truths, only obey him."

Mother Angelica

A Scaly Armour

In C.S. Lewis' *Narnia* book, *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*, the rather unlikeable character, Eustace Scrubb, finds himself transformed into a dragon when he wakes up, after falling asleep on a hoard of treasure and dreaming of riches. He soon comes to realise that the worst thing about being a dragon is that he is cut off from the everyday fellowship of his travelling companions. He longs to be turned back into a human again, and, weeping silently alone, he finds himself in the company of Aslan, the Christ-like lion, who tells him he can be cured if he washes in the well and then peels off his dragon scales. After bathing, he scrabbles away at his skin, but only a few bits flake off. Then Aslan comes to the rescue: he sinks his own claws into Eustace's skin and peels it off in great chunks. Telling the story afterwards, Eustace says to his companions that it was a bit like peeling off a scab: "it hurts like Billy-oh, but it's such fun to see it coming away!"

Our attachment to the things of this life can be like that scaly dragon skin. We build up around ourselves an ugly armour of sin – pride, fear, envy, anger – that we hope will protect us from hurt, but in truth only cuts us off from one another. Even the love of things that are good in themselves, whether food or work or money, or even friends and family, if that love is not properly ordered, can become something harmful and destructive. What does it mean to be "properly ordered"? It means loving more those things that are more worthy of love. The first of these, of course, is God, who is pure love, the fountain of love, a love that is stronger than death. So when Christ, in today's Gospel, claims that it is he who must be loved more than anything else, he is making a bold claim indeed: we must love Christ as God. Only by making Christ the focus of our lives will they be well ordered. But the reward promised to us is remarkable too. If we love Christ more than anything, making of our whole lives a sacrifice in imitation of his own sacrifice on the cross, then we ourselves will become the presence of Christ to our fellow human beings: "Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me." Just as bold as Christ's claim to be worthy of the love that belongs only to God is our claim that, by sharing in Christ's mission, in a certain way we share in his very divinity: "and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me". We must be realistic about what this invitation means. As Eustace says, "it hurts like Billy-oh". To let go of everything that separates us from God might well feel like losing our very lives. But our life without Christ is not our real life, it is something fake. As St Paul says in our Second Reading, "you must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus".

To be "dead to sin" requires great courage. Firstly, we need to look hard at our lives and ask ourselves what are the ways in which we have covered ourselves in a hard and scaly skin of sin. What have I allowed to cut me off from true companionship with my brothers and sisters? Is it pride in my own status or achievements? Is it fear, or anger, that stops me from being truly vulnerable? The next stage is to allow Jesus to really get his claws into us. This means becoming vulnerable to his call, and daring to let him rip off that scaly armour. Today is the day to let go of anger, to laugh at our foolish pride, to be happy for, instead of envious of people better off than ourselves, to be open and generous with all those we meet. Then, to bear witness to Christ's love for all the world, whether aloud or in the silence of deeds, we will bring Christ's rewards to everyone we meet.

Sunday Living Word Majellan Media

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Sunday

A *New Life in Christ: Uniting as One People* is the theme for this Sunday. Each year Catholics from all corners of Australia gather to celebrate the unique gifts and contributions of Australia's First Peoples. This year's theme, "A New Life in Christ" reflects the hope and promise of a brighter future, rooted in unity as one people in Christ. As Australians, we are fortunate to share our home with the world's oldest continuing culture. We honour and acknowledge God's presence in the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, who have upheld their rich and diverse cultural traditions for thousands of years. We give thanks for the deep and enduring legacy of these ancient peoples and their contributions to our Continent. Together let us continue to cultivate a spirit of unity and respect for all cultures and traditions within our community.

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

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 Com-munion, 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.

The Pope's Prayer Intentions for July

For a Eucharistic life: We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters

Please Note

Central Coast Chaplaincy

You are invited to an Information Morning Tea to explore new volunteering opportunities in Spiritual Care within the Central Coast Local Health District. Tuesday 1 August at 10 am at Gosford Hospital Chapel, Level 4. RSVP to Eleanor Castle 0414 193 979 or Peter Wakeley 0418 445 289

Christmas in July Invitation

St Andrews Presbyterian Church The Entrance Women's Association invites parishioners to a Christmas in July and Mission Morning Wednesday 19 July at 10:30am. Service and a light luncheon. RSVP by 12 July 0401 302 517.



Welcome Simnett & Whitfield Families

We welcome the Simnett & Whitfield families this weekend for the Reception of their children for Baptism.



Anointing of the Sick

will be celebrated Friday 7 July during 11:45am Mass for those over 65 or with serious or long-term illness.



This Week's Winners!

1st Prize - 97
2nd Prize - 88
Congratulations!

The Catholic Weekly

The Catholic Weekly

Now on sale on the Church tables. \$2 to the poor box please.

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 COAST Fr Brian Moloney **ASSISTANT PRIEST** Fr Leonse Kurian

DEACON Dcn Paul Simmons **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE** Colleen Smith **SEMINARIAN** Tân Nguyen

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

13th Sunday

2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16

Romans 6:3-4, 8-11

Matthew 10:37-42

Entrance Antiphon: All peoples, clap your hands. Cry to God with shouts of joy.

Responsorial Psalm: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all within me, his holy name.

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

Recently Deceased: Peter Larotić, Margaret Foley, Agnes Burke, Colleen Shaw, James Grima, Barbara Champley, Alice Farrell, Keith Fealy.

Funerals: The funeral of Margaret Foley was held during the week. Please pray for Margaret and her family.

Anniversaries: Fr Kevin O'Grady, Norm Allen.

Remembrances: Pat Smith, Marie Powell, Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Margaret Pizzuto, Terence & Josephine Smith, John Giutronich, Betty O'Neill, Sam Marmara, Charlie Borg, Tim Parsons (birthday), Joe Bond and all the Holy Souls.

Sick: Mal Garrington, Paul Smith, Collette O'Grady, June Molloy, Susan Simmons, Oskar Alessandro, Trish Knoke, Morna Faehrmann, Emma Horton, 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: Jack & Matilda Tooher-Matthews.

Pearly Gates Revisited



Our Lady of the Rosary

GIFT CENTRE

For all your devotional needs...

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

4332 2216