



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A Cycle 1

17 September 2023



Forgive From Your Heart

Today's first reading and Gospel contain wise and important teachings on the need to forgive others. Resentment and anger not dealt with are foul things. We know this but at times we still find it hard, even impossible, to forgive.

Perhaps the best way to begin to address forgiveness is to follow the lead of today's responsorial psalm and focus on the forgiveness and compassion of God. In this much loved hymn, the psalmist marvels that God's mercy is in no way proportionate to the offence: 'God does not treat us according to our faults'. Nor is God's forgiveness partial. No, 'God forgives all our guilt and heals all our wounds'.

Perhaps one reason why God is all forgiving is because God is all knowing. God, who created us, knows our human frailty. In a beautiful verse from this psalm, not included in today's liturgy, we read: 'God knows how we are formed, remembers that we are dust', We, for our part, can forget human frailty and demand from one another and from ourselves a perfection of which only God is capable.

If we remember the abiding mercy of God towards us, and if we can be forgiving of our own failings, we will be more able to forgive wholeheartedly the brother or sister, husband or wife, parent or child, friend or enemy who wrongs us.

God's Word Fr Dominic Vellaiparambil SSP

Forgiveness Repairs

Friends, Jesus teaches the necessity of constant forgiveness. Forgiveness is an act and not an attitude. It is the active repairing of a broken relationship, even in the face of opposition, violence, or indifference. When a relationship is severed, each party should, in justice, do his part to reestablish the bond.

Forgiveness is the bearing of the other person's burden, moving toward him even when he refuses to move an inch toward you. There is something relentless, even aggressive, about forgiveness, since it amounts to a refusal ever to give up on a relationship. Simon Peter asks Jesus, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus replies: "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times." Christians should never cease in our efforts to establish love.

Jesus' own startling practice of forgiving the sins of others emerges as one of the distinctive and most controversial elements in his ministry. And both rhetoric and practice reach their fullest expression when the crucified Jesus asks the Father to forgive those who are torturing him to death. We speak the truth because Jesus is the Truth; we forgive because he forgave.

wordonfire.org Bishop Robert Barron



**Feast Days
This Week:**
**Sts Andrew Kim
Tae-gon, Paul
Chong Ha-sang
& Companions**
 20 September
**St Matthew
Apostle &
Evangelist**
 21 September
Padre Pio
 23 September



**Our Lady of
Sorrows**
 September is
 dedicated to our
 Sorrowful Mother.
 See pamphlets on
 the tables for
 more information.



Found!
 Rosary Bracelet in
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**Low Gluten
Hosts**
 Please see one of
 the Priests before
 Mass if you are
 a coeliac.

We Do Not Know How to Pray as We Ought

Perhaps you may still ask why St Paul said *when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly*, since it is impossible that he or those to whom he wrote should not have known the Lord's Prayer.

Yet Paul himself was not exempt from such ignorance. When, to prevent him from becoming swollen-headed over the greatness of the revelations that had been given to him, he was given in addition a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet him, he asked the Lord three times to take it away from him. Surely that was not knowing to pray as he ought? For in the end he heard the Lord's reply, telling him why even such a great saint's prayer had to be refused: *My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness.*

So when we are suffering afflictions that might be doing us either good or harm, we do not know how to pray as we ought. But because they are hard to endure and painful, because they are contrary to our nature (which is weak) we, like all mankind, pray to have our afflictions taken from us. At least, though, we owe this much respect to the Lord our God, that if he does not take our afflictions away we should not consider ourselves ignored and neglected, but should hope to gain some greater good through the patient acceptance of suffering. *For my power is at its best in weakness.*

When we ask for something it would be better for us not to get; and so that we should not become utterly dejected if we are not given what we ask for, despairing of God's mercy towards us: it might be that what we have been asking for could have brought us some still greater affliction, or it could have brought us the kind of good fortune that brings corruption and ruin. In such cases, it is clear that we cannot know how to pray as we ought.

Hence if anything happens contrary to our prayer, we ought to bear the disappointment patiently, give thanks to God, and be sure that it was better for God's will to be done than our own. The Mediator himself has given us an example of this. When he had prayed, *My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass me by. Nevertheless, let it be as you, not I, would have it.* Thus, truly, *By the obedience of one man many have been made righteous.*

A letter to Proba St Augustine

Only the Violent Carry It Away

You will know in greater depth as you see the Lord's Passion and the humiliations he suffered day after day by people who didn't believe, by his own apostles—what violence he did to his purity as God. And yet he did all that violence. *'The kingdom of Heaven has been subjected to violence and the violent are taking it by storm'* (Matt 11:12). What does that mean? It doesn't mean violence. It means I have to crush my own weaknesses to be like Jesus. I have to die to myself and that sometimes takes violence. Have you ever been on the verge of losing your temper and tried to hold it? It takes violence to do that. It's a violent thing sometimes to be meek when you want to sock somebody in the chops. It's a violent thing I do to my nature when I feel so bad and don't want anybody around me and I'm sweet and I talk to somebody and I'm loving to them. It takes violence. When I give in to myself, I'm not being violent; I'm being careless with my own soul.

Mother Angelica's Private and Pithy Lessons from the Scriptures

Out of Her Poverty ...

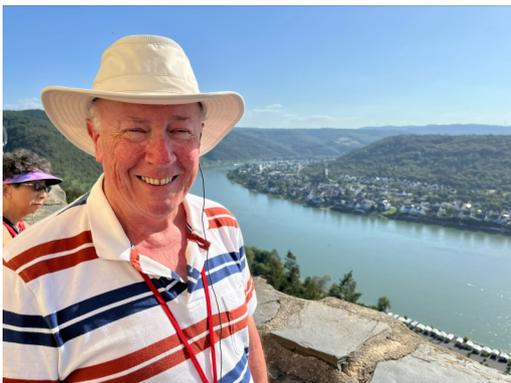
Truly I tell you, this poor widow had put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had. (Mk 12:43-44).

I will tell you a story. One night a man came to our house and told me, 'There is a family with eight children. They have not eaten for days.'

I took some food with me and went. When I came to the family, I saw the faces of those little children disfigured by hunger. There was no sorrow or sadness in their faces, just the deep pain of hunger. I gave the rice to the mother. She divided the rice in two, and went out, carrying half the rice. When she came back, I asked her, 'Where did you go?' She gave me this simple answer, 'To my neighbours; they are hungry also!' I was not surprised that she gave—poor people are really very generous. I was surprised that she knew they were hungry. As a rule, when we are suffering, we are so focused on ourselves, we have no time for others.

No Greater Love Mother Teresa

Postcard from our Parish Priest



Dear Parishioners,
I have been away now for over 3 weeks, and I have just finished my river cruise of Eastern then Western Europe. I will now spend a month in Ireland and in the U.K.

In the many, many churches of Europe I will remember you all in prayer.

Regards
Fr Brian

Doll Painting Day for OLR School

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers who have done some great doll painting for the Religious education curriculum at OLR School. A lovely morning tea and get-together was enjoyed by our crafty friends on two occasions. The teachers and children will greatly appreciate your artistry and an enhanced learning experience! Watch this space for more painting dates next term!

In other School news, all the students and teachers will be celebrating their Feast Day with Mass at 12pm here in the Church next Wednesday 20 September. All parishioners are most welcome to join them. (There will also be our regular 9am Mass.)



Bible Reflection

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



Welcome

to the Wallis & Levesque families for the Reception of their children for the Sacrament of Baptism.



Men's Group

Join us for lunch and a yarn. Wednesday 20 Sept 12 noon at Diggers @ the entrance Club. We look forward to seeing you.



Nursing Home Mass

and Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated Tuesday at 10:30am Nareen Gardens and 11am at Opal.

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
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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

24th Sunday **Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7 Romans 14:7-9 Matthew 18:21-35**

Entrance Antiphon: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. 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: Audrey Gumbleton, Noel Maclean, Michelle Azzi, Trevor James.

Anniversaries: Mark O'Sullivan, David Kelly, Mervyn O'Sullivan, Ann O'Neill, Dorothy Manning, Charlie Vella.

Remembrances: Pat Smith, Marie Powell, Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Margaret Pizzuto, Terence & Josephine Smith, John Giutronich, Patricia O'Hara, Charles Magri, Mary Vella, Simon Butcher and all the Holy Souls.

Families: Clarke, Moore, Langley.

Sick: Lyall 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: Ameliah Tamayo, Isabella De Salvo, Saskia Cameron, Gracie Sharpe.

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