



St Patrick's Parish Gosford

The Communities of St Patrick's East Gosford,
St Francis of Assisi Somersby & Holy Trinity Spencer

Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.



SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESAN ADMINISTRATOR.

It is not surprising that for Jesus, the child is the image of the Gospel's invitation.

The Divine intervention set before us is forever to become like a child so that, no matter our circumstances, life might be born again and begin afresh.

Every child is a sign of last hope of ever-new beginnings. Their children teach us to let go of the frenzy and anxiety of our life, the pressures and expectations that at times seem to overwhelm us. In their wonder, our concern gives way; in their excitement, our pressure is relieved; in their play, our compulsive illness is disarmed. Our children retrieve our own child, the child within us, the child that has become overloaded with such adult expectation, but which has never really disappeared altogether and lives somewhere in the recesses of our being.

The children are intrinsically precious. It is profoundly incumbent upon us to protect the dignity and the innocence so that their potential can be realised without disfigurement. Sadly, we know only too well the damage and distress that is occasioned when such innocence is thwarted or destroyed. We have learned this lesson too late in too many instances. Our diocese of Broken Bay is committed at every level of the life of our community to honour and to protect our children and our young people. We express this commitment in a diversity of ways, not least by continuing to develop a culture of safety and care throughout our community. May this Resource be an important way in the formation of such a context so that children and young people may realise their God-given dignity and sacredness with freedom and possibility.

The Rev David Ranson.



FR FRANCIS JORDAN SDS

"As a lasting inheritance foster trust in Divine Providence.

It will always care for you like a loving mother."

From Fr Jordan's Last Will and testament.



POPE FRANCIS' SEPTEMBER 2019 INTENTION

Universal – Politicians, Scientists and Economists:

"That politicians, scientists and economists work together to protect the world's seas and oceans."

LUKE 14:25 – 33



Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

The resource Rev David Ranson refers to is a series of brochures, leaflets, frig magnets, discission papers and especially standards, that are available in the foyer on the tables and available from the Parish Office. In addition I encourage all of you with computers and internet access to go to <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/our-faith/safeguarding> where you will find all of these resources pieces available to read and download. (Tom Croll)

OUR DIOCESAN COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING.

We the people of the Catholic diocese of Broken Bay are committed to fostering communities of safety and care for all people, especially for children and others in the community who are vulnerable.

Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ it teaches the fundamentals sent today of each human person, and by her dedication to sustained education, practice, and conversation about our moral, legal and spiritual obligation to safeguard all those within our community.

[St Patrick's on Facebook](#)

Go to our Facebook page and "Like" St Patrick's, to get the very latest on news and events.



Trust in Jesus Christ



A warm welcome to our parishioners and visitors who are celebrating the Eucharist with us this weekend at St Patrick's Parish.



ST PATRICK'S PARISH GOSFORD

PASTORAL CARE

Fr Grzegorz [Greg] Skulski SDS

Parish Priest

Email: greg@sds.org.au

Paul Tan

Deacon:

SALVATORIANI

Society of the Divine Saviour

<http://www.sds.org.au>

PARISH OFFICE

Secretary:

Colleen Kirk Mon – Thurs:

8:30am – 4:30pm

Friday

8:30am – 1:00pm

Bursar:

Darren Fitzgibbon

Sacramental Programme

Coordinator:

Frances Mathey

Email: franceshanna@yahoo.com Ph: 0427 773 317

Catechists' Coordinator:

Alain Corne

Email: saintpatsccd@acs.net.au

Wed:

9:00am – 1:00pm

Thurs:

9:30am – 1:30pm

Youth Ministry:

Matthew French
Ph: 0411 792 587

Media Coordinator: Tom Croll

Thursday:

9:00am – 2:00pm

Email:

tcroll@photom.com.au

VOLUNTEER ROLES

Office Admin:

Denise Jay

Judith Myers

Maria Andrzejewska

9:00am – 3:30pm

Friday:

AV Presentation:

Peter McLean

Greg McBride

Caretakers:

Ron Begg

John Malicki

Gardeners:

Trevor Byrne

Joyce Byrne

Victor Camilleri

Seniors' Ministry:

Barbara McCarthy

Ph: 4322 0250

School Principals

St Patrick's Primary: Mrs Cheryl Walsh 4325 1159

St Joseph's College: Mr Tony McCudden 4324 4022

St Edwards College: Mr Mark Bonnici 4321 6400

St Peter's College: Mr Tim Hilderbrandt 43512344

Christian Brothers' Community

Frederick Street, East Gosford

Br Peter Hester cfc [Community Leader]

Br Rod Shoebridge cfc

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 - LECTIO DIVINA

In the Jordan Room after 9:00 am Mass.
Why not come into the Jordan Room after Mass
this Monday and experience the spirituality of
Lectio Divina?

Meaningful prayer is a way to open the door in
your heart and soul for the Lord to enter and
dwell within you.

CHURCH OPEN DAILY 8:30AM – 4:30PM.

STANDARD WEEKDAY MASSES

Gosford:

Monday: 9:00am Wednesday: 11:30am Friday: 12 noon

Tuesday: 9:00am Thursday: 9:00am Saturday: 9:00am

WEEKEND MASSES

Gosford:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm Sunday: 7:30am Children's Liturgy:
9:00am During 9:00am Mass
6:00pm Each Sunday of School
Term.

Somersby, 30 Lutana Road: Saturday Vigil: 6:30pm

Spencer, Wiseman's Ferry Rd: 2nd Sunday Monthly: 4:00pm

OTHER MASSES

Filipino Mass 2nd

Korean Mass Monthly:

Sunday Monthly:

[Enq: Peter 0409-

12 noon

508-123] 6:00pm

ADORATION IN OUR CHURCH

Before the Blessed Sacrament

Mon: 8:30am – 9:00am Wed: 11:00am – 11:30am Fri: 12:30pm – 3:00pm

Tues: 8:30am – 9:00am Thur: 8:30am – 9:00am Sat: 8:00am

RECONCILIATION – 1ST RITE

Gosford:

Mon-Thur:

during Adoration - see above.

1st Friday of Month

Prior to Mass 11:30am

Other Fridays

After Mass 12:30pm

Saturday:

8:30am and 4:30pm.

Sunday:

7:00am and 5:30pm

St Francis of Assisi 30 Lutana Road, Somersby:

Saturday after Vigil: 7:30pm

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

After weekday Masses to 3:00pm and to 1:00pm Fridays.

ROSARIES

Weekday

Monday, Tuesday Thursday

8:05am

Wednesday

10:35am

Friday

11:35am

Saturdays Monthly

8:05am: 1st – For Priests & Religious.

8:05am 3rd Saturday – For Mothers & Abortion.

8:05am 4th Saturday – For Persecuted
Christians and their Persecutors.

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

Last Wednesday of each Month at 12 noon

ADORATION AT BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL

Located on Chapel Lane at the Admin Centre

Monday to Thursday

8:30am – 3:30pm

Friday

9:00am – 3:30pm

GROUP MEETINGS

Bible Study Lectio Divina / Christian Unity / Christian DVD:

Mondays at 9:30am twice monthly,

Wednesday at 10:00am in the Jordan Room.

Bible Study Monday Night

7:00pm in the Jordan Room.

RCIA: in Admin Centre 7:30pm Tuesdays.

Contact the Parish Office to register interest.

menALIVE:

7:30pm commencing with Mass

1st Tuesday of Month

Cancer Prayers:

9:00am 4th Tuesday Monthly

in Jordan Room

Grief & Loss, Prayer & Support:

1st Thursday Monthly

2pm in Jordan Room

Craft Group - Friday each week of School Term

9:30am – 12:00pm

Movie Night 4th Sat Night Monthly after 5:00pm Mass.

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE SHOP

After 9:00am Mass in
the Jordan Room.

All proceeds to
Charities



IN YOUR PARISH OF ST PATRICK'S THIS WEEK

Sunday Sept 8	7:30am 9:00am 12:00pm 6:00pm	Mass Mass Morning Tea in Jordan Room after Mass. Filipino Mass Mass followed by Youth Group meeting in Jordan Room
Monday Sept 9	8:30am 9:00am 9:30am 7:00pm	Adoration. Mass. Lectio Divina in the Jordan Room. Bible Study Meeting in the Jordan Room.
Tuesday Sept 10	8:30am 9:00am 9:30am 2:00pm 3:30pm	Adoration. Mass. Cancer Prayer Meeting in the Jordan Room Mass at Orana Mass at ELC CS.
Wednesday Sept 11	11:00am 11:30am	Adoration. Mass
Thursday Sept 12	8:30am 9:00am 9:30am 2:00pm 7:00pm	Adoration. Mass Salvatorian Colaborators Meeting in Jordan Room Grief and Loss Meeting in Jordan Room The Father Factor - Talk by Robert Falzon in Parish Hall
Friday Sept 13	9:30am 12:00am 12:30pm	Craft Group in Jordan Room. Mass Adoration in St Patrick's from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm.
Saturday Sept 14	8:30am 9:00am 10:15am 5:00pm 6:00pm 6:30pm	Adoration. Mass. Choir Practise in Church. Mass THE BUSH DANCE in the Parish Hall Mass at Somersby

THANK YOU TO OUR CARETAKERS!

As many are aware we are on the precipice of signing the lease with CatholicCare for the use of spaces at our premises at Ground Floor, 58 Victoria Street and rear of 76 York Street which will do much to increase our future parish income. Solid preparation was needed as these spaces had not had any improvements made since their original build and whilst we have engaged tradesmen where needed, we have relied heavily on the skills of John Malicki and Ron Begg, both of whom are our caretakers. We would like to express our thanks to them both for their industry and care, and may God bless them both

THANK YOU TOM

Fr Greg would like to thank Tom for organising our new sign located in the York Street facing garden, replacing the original from 1965, and installing it. The new sign is much larger, more detailed and more noticeable.

PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

KIDS CORNER

PINT SIZED PADDIES

NEXT EVENT IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.

In the School Hall 7:00 pm on 2nd and 4th Friday of each Month. **On Friday September 20, there will be a Movie night – Cost \$5:00.**

Parents of Primary School Children contact Melissa Monaghan and book your youngsters in for a few hours of fun in a spiritual environment.

Enquiries to Melissa 0434 251 481

ST PATRICK'S PARISH YOUTH GROUP

YOUTH GROUP MEETING

Tonight, August 25 after 6:00 pm Mass in the Jordan Room. Pizza, food, games, memes and more. Exploring the Catholic faith through talks, small groups, prayer and bible study, all as part of a stable community of young people. Good Music. Quality Banter.

CAN YOU HELP

YOUTH BAND

The Youth Band is welcoming new members, so if you are musically inclined, why not join the band. If you are interested, make contact with one of the existing band members or Parish Office.

CHORISTERS DESPERATELY NEEDED

Our choir which now sings at the Vigil Masses twice monthly and the 9am Masses at least twice monthly, is in desperate need of new members - but especially male members as they are currently down to only a few men in the group. Don't be shy, it's a great supportive group and you'll have a joyous time singing for the Lord! If you are interested, please call Avril on 0414 092 883.

SENIORS MINISTRY

HELP IS DESPERATELY NEEDED!

We need a lady to join our team who visit seniors once a month at Orana Retirement village. You will be matched with another lady and together to visit old folk at Orana.

MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY GROUP

7:00pm in the Jordan Room, all are welcome.

BLESSING OF NEW ITEMS FOR ST PATRICK'S

THURIBLE AND STAND PLUS ACCESSORIES.

In loving memory of her beloved husband Ian, Josie McGuinness has kindly donated new items.

At 9:00 am Mass today Fr Greg will bless these items, which include Thurible, Stand, Blessing Bucket and Water Brush.

NEW SIGN

A new Street Sign has been install to reflect the changes in Mass Times and also to indicate our entrustment to the Salvatorian Order.

After 9:00am Fr Greg will bless the new sign.



SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES, SEPT 28.

While at the Movie Enjoy a Pot Luck Dinner.

Simply bring something of the quantity you would normally prepare for yourself, to share with all, for either the Main Meal, the Dessert, or towards tea, coffee, hot chocolate after dinner while we watch the movie with biscuits or nibbles.

SAFEGUARDING MONTH

IN THE DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY BEGINS THIS WEEKEND AND CONTINUES THROUGHOUT SEPTEMBER

To find out how you can get involved refer to the following link; <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/our-faith/safeguarding/education-and-awareness> or speak with your Parish Priest.

This year the Diocese of Broken Bay is celebrating the theme: A safe community is one in which all experience a sense of belonging

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

NATIONAL CATHOLIC SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

Creating Communities of Safety and Care

STANDARD 1: Child safeguarding is embedded in the leadership, governance and culture

- Leaders in St Patrick's, model attitudes and behaviour that are committed to child safeguarding
- Staff and volunteers understand their responsibilities for child safe practices and use this to inform their actions

STANDARD 2: Children are informed about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously

- Children and young people share their views and participate in decision making
- St Patrick's values children's views

STANDARD 3: Families, carers and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safeguarding

- St Patrick's communicates with families, carers and communities about how they ensure child safeguarding
- St Patrick's involves families, carers and communities in conversations about child safeguarding

STANDARD 4: Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice

- All children and young people are able to participate in St Patrick's regardless of circumstances and backgrounds
- Staff and volunteers effectively support children and young people with diverse needs

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY
Safeguarding Awareness Month!

SEPTEMBER 2019

A SAFE COMMUNITY IS ONE IN WHICH ALL EXPERIENCE A SENSE OF BELONGING

AN INITIATIVE OF
THE DIOCESAN OFFICE FOR SAFEGUARDING
IN CONJUNCTION WITH NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

TO FIND OUT MORE VISIT:
[bbcatholic.org.au/our-faith/safeguarding](https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/our-faith/safeguarding)
or CALL: 02 8379 1605

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

STANDARD 5: People working with children are suitable and supported to reflect child safeguarding values in practice

- Staff and volunteers are carefully selected
- St Patrick's continuously supports and supervises staff and volunteers to meet their child safeguarding responsibilities

Next week we will print the remaining 5 standards.

FEELING WORRIED ABOUT THE SAFETY OF A CHILD?

You have a responsibility to do something...

TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT THAT CAN HELP YOU



PHONE: THE OFFICE FOR SAFEGUARDING [CHANCERY]
02 8379 1605



EMAIL: THE OFFICE FOR SAFEGUARDING [CHANCERY] ON
[SAFEGUARDING@BBCATHOLIC.ORG.AU](mailto:safeguarding@bbcatholic.org.au)



IF THE CHILD IS IN IMMEDIATE DANGER
CALL THE POLICE ON "000"

THE ABOVE CONTACT CAN SUPPORT YOU WITH THE NEXT STEPS IN THE PROCESS TO ENSURING THE SAFETY OF THE CHILD

BUSH DANCE - NEXT SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.

A meal, fellowship and generally a great time to be had. All while fundraising. Ticket sales from the foyer and the Parish Office.

Please buy your tickets today.

The number needs to be given to the caterers on Monday.

THE AV TEAM NEEDS NEW PRESENTERS.

Did you know, running the Mass presentations is quite easy! If you know the order of the Mass, you can work the AV Mass presentations; however, full training is given.

Please contact the Parish Office 4325-1042.

SHERRY WEDDELL AT THE DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY.

"Making Disciples in the Catholic Parish: Discerning Our Mission"

International speaker Sherry Weddell is the author of 'Forming Intentional Disciples' and co-founder of the Catherine of Siena Institute.

All are most welcome to be part of this important conversation about parish renewal.

Date: Saturday 14 September 2019

Time: 9:30am - 4:00pm

Venue: Caroline Chisholm Centre, Bldg 2, 423

Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills

Lunch and morning / afternoon teas are provided

RSVP and enquiries: Pina Bernard faith.formation@bbcatholic.org.au or 8379 1627.

MORNING TEA AFTER 9:00 AM MASS TODAY

Join us for Tea and Cake after 9:00am Mass.



Bush Dance

WITH DANCING LED BY A BUSH BAND!

JOIN US ON

SATURDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER

FOR A GOOD OLE' BUSH DANCE

6PM ST PATRICK'S HALL

ADULTS \$35

CHILDREN 6-16YRS \$10

<5YRS FREE

DINNER INCLUDED

BYO DRINKS

SOFT DRINKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM PARISH OFFICE AND AFTER SOME MASSES [SEE BULLETIN]

Please note: tickets will NOT be available on the night due to catering requirements

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

MASS INTENTIONS

Date	Mass	Intention
Sat 7/9	9:00a Gosford	+ Remembrance KEEVERS, KNIGHT & MERCHANT FAMILIES
	5:00p Gosford	+ Remembrances JOSEPH VAZ
	6:30p Somersby	Recently Deceased FRANK & CARMEN SAID
Sun 8/9	7:30a Gosford	'+ Remembrance LLOYD WOODS'
	9:00a Gosford	Recently Deceased ARA DUABAN
	4:00p Spencer	Return to Health MEGAN MCGOWAN
	6:00p Gosford	PARISH INTENTIONS
Mon 9/9	9:00a Gosford	+ Remembrance LEO FRY
Tues 10/9	9:00a Gosford	+ Remembrance LIONEL & PHYLLIS OWENS
Wed 11/9	11:30a Gosford	+ Remembrance MOORE & MAHER FAMILIES
Thu 12/9	9:00a Gosford	Recently Deceased STEVEN KIM
Fri 13/9	12:00n Gosford	+ Anniversaries RIUS GALEA, MARIA GALEA, JOAN STEVENSON SAM GALEA
Sat 14/9	9:00a Gosford	+ Anniversaries MARIA & PAUL BIGENI
	6:30p Somersby	+ Anniversary MARY-JANE BUHAGIAR
Sun 15/9	7:30a Gosford	1ST Anniversary GWEN FITZPATRICK
	9:00a Gosford	Parish Intentions

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Megan McGown, Kellie Nevin, Charlie Sammut, Rachael Lees, Brian Graham, Arlene Peters, Kath Ryan, John Burg, Peter & Lena O'Donovan, Tina Learwood, Allan Francis, Brian Loo, Bev Meehan, Michael Graham, Glenn Mills, Frank McGuinness, Angela Cunningham, Simon Low, Christopher Graham, Frances Cannon, Margaret Gunnison, Sonia Cummings, Anna-Marie Rowan, Melita Waters, Judy Wennerbom, Helen Bligh, Scott McKinnon.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Frank & Carmen Said, Ara Duaban.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Maria & Paul Bigeni, Mary Jane Buhagiar, Patrick Smith, Heinz Muentner.

REMEMBRANCES:

Steven Kim, Lionel & Phyllis Owens, Moore & Maher Families, Leo Fry, Marguerite & Alexander Morrison, William Adams, Ross Rodgers, Lloyd Woods, Carmelo Vella, Muscat Family, Ric McGuire, Rene Hannequin, Michael Kokegei.



Matthew 5:4
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

PS 118:137,124

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

FIRST READING

WIS 9:13-18

A reading from the book of Wisdom

Who can comprehend the will of God?

What man can know the intentions of God?

Who can divine the will of the Lord?

The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind.

It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens?

As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above?

Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. V.1

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'

To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night.

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning.

In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades.

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?

Show pity to your servants.

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days.

Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands.

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

SECOND READING

PHLM 9-10, 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul

to Philemon

Receive him, not as a slave anymore, but as a very dear brother.

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

PS 118:135

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

LK 14:25-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

All who do not renounce their possessions cannot be my disciples.

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

CF. PS 41:2-3

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the

living God.

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY

BY BRENDAN BYRNE SJ

Luke 14:25-33, contains some of the most demanding utterances attributed to Jesus in the New Testament. Certainly, the concluding statement, 'None of you can be my disciple unless he or she gives up all possessions', is the most extreme statement on renunciation of wealth in the Gospel of Luke. By prefacing the Gospel sequence and the warnings it contains with the passage from Wisdom the Lectionary seems to want to assert: 'These extreme utterances of Jesus are nonsense to reason alone. They can only be grasped and accepted by those imbued with divine Wisdom, the gift of God.' As Paul says concerning the 'word of the cross' in 1 Cor 1:21-25; 2:14-15, such things are foolishness to the person operating purely on the rational level.

In a sense, what Jesus is doing in the Gospel is simply being honest with his disciples. He foresees that those who follow him will inevitably become caught up in the suffering and death he now sees to lie ahead of him. It is no kindness to followers to keep them in ignorance of this. He must prick any illusions they have about where following him might lead.

He does so, initially, in the strong language about 'hating' one's 'father, mother, wife, children, etc'. In this kind of language we must see a Semitic idiom operative. It is not a matter of literally coming to 'hate' one's family members in the way the English expression might suggest. Semitic languages, by and large, do not have a word for 'prefer'. When a person prefers one thing over another, he or she is said to 'love' one (the thing 'preferred') and 'hate' the other. 'Hate', then, is simply an expression of rejecting something (possibly something quite good in itself) in favour of something considered more desirable. While it would be wrong to water down the strength of Jesus' prophetic utterance, what he is saying, then, is that family allegiances – so strong in the Palestinian culture of Jesus – have to take second place as far as following him is concerned. Those who adopt his mission, his commitments, and his way of life will inevitably cause some pain and sacrifice to their loved ones, who perhaps have other plans for them.

Hence the need to count the cost – a process Jesus illustrates with the two parables that follow. The force of the one about the builder of the tower derives very much from the sense of societal shame that was so strong in the Palestinian culture of Jesus' day. The one about the king marching out to war draws on a mathematical calculation valid in the strategy of any age. The early Church may have particularly related these parables to the situation of persecution in which it so often found itself.

Christianity would hardly have survived beyond the first couple of generations if everyone had adopted the very radical concluding challenge about the need for a would-be disciple to give up 'all possessions'. The challenge has to be heard in the context of the invitation to the Kingdom central to Jesus' message. In comparison with this supreme good the losses entailed in the present conditions

Your Roster – September 15, 24th Sunday Ordinary Time Year [C]					
MASS	VIGIL 5:00	7:30am	9:00am	6:00pm	Somersby - 6:30
DATE	14.09.19	15.09.19	15.09.19	15.09.19	14.09.19
Audio/Visual	Cheryl Parry	Glad Williams	Roy Kim	Joe Tropiano	Melissa Monaghan
Acolytes	Gerard Nicholls Anna Jung	Eunice Dal Busco Sheila Evans	Peter Julius Katrina Pratt	Angela Stitt Kevin O'Donnell	Altar Society: Vicki Muscat
Lectors	Sean Pearson Diana Ball	Gerard Price Regina Fong	Robyn McBride Neil Murphy	Cheryl Walsh Anna Llige	Sarah Xuereb Dakota Xuereb
Commentator	Jan Blanch	Gerard Price	John Miller	Chris Golden	Michael Monaghan
Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist	Rosemary Lee Terry Cooke Nicole Murphy Diana Ball Jan Blanch	Ron Burgess Cecilia Coughlin Margaret Eadie Regina Fong Pam McCrae	Kaitlyn Crawford Anne Lovett Liz Malik Frances Mathey	Paul Russotti Aimee Sands Tom Sands Sherree Sullivan Rosa Tropiano	Nina Lentini Jane Azzopardi
Altar Servers	Taz Parry Lachlan Murphy		Scott Shedden Cormac Brady Philip Yoon Derik Sind	Alex Golden Gabby Golden Natasha Golden Joey Stitt	Dakota Xuereb Matthew Xuereb Flowers: Carmel Xuereb
COUNTERS September 9 David Slingsby Ron Begg September 16/9 Joyce Byrne Neryl Tyrrell	ALTAR LINEN P/up Sept 9. Josie McGuinness Ret'n Sept 13.	ALTAR SOCIETY Sept 14 Maree Nolan Margaret Pratt Carmel Hinkley Anna Neale Pauline Nesbitt	CHILDRENS LITURGY September 15 Viola Kim Milen Shuu	PARISH BUS September 15 Driver: Brian Jay Helper: Ellen McNally	HOSPITAL VISITATION September 15 Neryl Tyrrell Sheila Evans

of discipleship find some proportion. It was consciousness of such divine generosity that led saints such as Francis of Assisi to embrace radical poverty so wholeheartedly.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6

St John Chrysostom, bishop, doctor

NEXT SUNDAY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER, 8

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

1st – Ex 32:7-11, 13-14
2nd – Tim 1:12-17
Gospel – Lk 15:1-32

ABORTION LAWS

The NSW Parliament is about to legislate for abortion on demand till birth, one of the most extreme abortion laws in the world. The Bill was pushed through the Legislative Assembly and will be debated in the Legislative Council from Tuesday, 20 August.

Join us in peaceful protest against this radical proposed legislation.

Sunday, 15 September 2019 from 14:30-17:00

Archibald Fountain

Sydney, Australia

UNDER THIS BILL:

- Children can be aborted for any reason right up till the final moments of a pregnancy;
- Amendments to protect children who survive botched abortions attempts were defeated;
- There are no safeguards to prevent targeted abortion based on gender or disability;
- Doctors and medical staff are compelled to participate (by referral) in the taking of an innocent life.

This Bill was ambushed on Parliament, with no consultation, in an attempt to curb community backlash. This is our last opportunity to fight against this extremist Bill.

A Facebook event group has also been set up: <https://www.facebook.com/events/366561844245465>

The event is being supported by our Archdiocese, a number of Maronite organisations and Right to Life NSW.

If there's enough interest, we will take the bus. Place your name and number on the 'expression of interest' form in the foyer.

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