



MANLY FRESHWATER CATHOLIC PARISH

Mary Immaculate and St John the Baptist Churches

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 9th July 2023



Gospel Reflection

Rarely outside of John's Gospel is Jesus' intimacy with the Father so clearly portrayed as in today's Gospel from Matthew. Jesus offers a hymn of praise to his Father, the holy Creator of all who deeply loves his creation as a father loves his children. The great love of God for all of humanity is revealed in the love of his Son, the Messiah.

Religion as a "yoke" was exactly how Jesus' Jewish listeners saw the Law. They saw their faith as a burden, a submission to a set of endless rules and regulations dictating every dimension of their lives. But Jesus describes **his** "yoke" as "easy." The Greek word used here that we translate as "easy" more accurately means "fitting well." In Palestine, ox yokes were custom-made of wood, cut and measured to fit a particular animal. Jesus is proposing here a radical change in attitude regarding faith: Our relationship with God is not based on how meticulously we keep a certain set of rules and regulations (a direct challenge to the long-held view of the scribes and Pharisees) but in the depth of our love of God, reflected in our love of others. Our relationship with God is not based on subjugation and weariness but on hope and joy.

There is also an important political dimension to these verses. Matthew's Gospel was written a short time after the destruction of Jerusalem in the year 70 A.D. by the soldier-emperor Vespasian. For both the Jewish and the new Christian communities, it was a time of painful introspection: Would Israel's hope for the political restoration of the Jewish state ever be realized? While orthodox Jews maintained unwavering fidelity to their people, language and sense of nationalism, the Christian "cult" saw their ultimate destiny not in the political restoration of Israel but in the coming of the reign of God – a reign that embraces not just Jews but all men and women, even Israel's most despised enemies. Jewish suspicion of the Christian community was growing as the new group became more and more disaffected by the Jewish political agenda. Jesus' words on gentleness and humility set off sparks between loyal Jews and Christians who were abandoning the cause.

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VINNIES WINTER APPEAL

We would like to thank everyone for their continuing support of Vinnies. Just a few facts about how your kind donation helps those in need.

Broken Bay Central Council which we belong to for the winter period between June and August 2022 provided \$232,000 worth of assistance to people experiencing disadvantage including \$90,000 worth of assistance for food. There are 10 Central Councils in NSW and combined they provided \$2,600,000 worth of assistance including \$1,371,000 in food. As you can see there is an enormous need for our help.

This year's appeal is high lighting "Older women experiencing homelessness".

At the heart of homelessness is poverty. In 2016 40% of women over 55 lived under the poverty line



Through our specialist homelessness and domestic violence services we are continuing to support these women as well as carrying on with our work helping all those in need. Please keep everyone in your prayers. Envelopes are on the pews or you can use

the Vinnies QR code. Cheers Bruce and Mick

Manly Freshwater Parish promotes SAFEGUARDING which involves the implementation of proactive, common sense and practical ideas that ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults in our community.

We of Manly Freshwater Parish acknowledge the Kay-ee-my people, on whose ancestral lands we gather to worship today.

Livestreaming on Facebook Sunday 8:30am
Mass [manlyfreshwaterparishfacebook/videos](https://www.facebook.com/manlyfreshwaterparish/videos)

PARISH GIVING – thank you for your generous support. We encourage you to use the tap machines at the Church entrances. If you prefer to use cash there will be **ONE** collection during Mass at the offertory at Manly and **TWO** at Freshwater.



CAN'T GET TO MASS ON SUNDAY AND WANT TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION?

Many of you have not been able to come back to Mass on Sunday for different reasons. If you would like one of the Priest to visit you at home, please ring the parish office on 9977 5822.

**LET US PRAY FOR
Recently Deceased:**

9th July 2023

Anniversary:

Prayers for the sick in our parish: "Lord, grant them and their carers strength and courage" Margaret Burridge; Stephen Robertson; Maureen Williams; Gerry Wybrandt; Amy Farrow; Patricia Duffy; Florencia Lira; Ken Waller; Mary Helen Fogarty; Belinda Nicholls; Jacqui Dawson; Gerry Ring; Zacchaeus Ratnam; Pat Smith; John Connors; Don Hews; Joan Jacobs; Sheila Lee; Donnacha Donnelly; Paul Donnelly; Julie & Rodney Wallis; Lyn Hillard; Ian Flynn; Jake Usher; Wayne Smedley; Shirley Ford; Apolinar Anasarias; Kay Flenady; Annette Frances O'Leary

Dates to remember...

- **Cenacle of Our Lady** Manly Tues 9:45am
- **Lectio Divina** Tues 7:30pm and Wed 10am
- **Eucharistic Adoration in Manly** Wed 6pm – 7:30pm



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION IN MANLY ON WEDNESDAYS

Quiet Prayer & Adoration 6:00pm
– 7pm

Scripture Reflection on the Eucharist & Benediction 7pm – 7:30pm

Divine Mercy Chaplet will be said starting at 6pm



SUPPORT OUR PARISH & PRIESTS FINANCIALLY by using one of the following...

1. **Planned Giving:** through a monthly direct debit or credit card. Please contact the parish office for more information 9977 5822.
2. **Collection plates during Mass**
3. **Tap and Go machines** using your credit/debit card or **EFTPOS Terminals**.
4. **Scan to Donate** using the QR code to access our BPoint Donation page.
5. **Directly into Parish Bank Accounts**
6. **2nd collection Parish Bank Account**
Funds the running of the Parish
Account Name: Manly Freshwater Parish
Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank
Account # 100002025 BSB: 062 784
7. **1st collection** Supports our Priests
Account: Manly Freshwater Parish Pastoral
Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank
Account# 13958002 BSB: 062 784



Bequests – Remembering your faith community in your Will!

After providing for family members in your Will, have you ever considered leaving a bequest directly to your local parish or the Diocese of Broken Bay? This is called a legacy or bequest. Over the years, many people who have felt a special connection with their local parish and church have left part of their Estate to their Parish or the Diocese of Broken Bay. Like a gift to a charity, a bequest of any amount to the Church is a way of saying "thank you" for the spiritual nurturing provided to you and your family over the years.

If you would like further information on bequests including how we can acknowledge your generosity in your lifetime, please speak with your Parish Priest or the Broken Bay Diocese Office for Communications on 8379 1664.



Ignite 2023

The Diocese of Broken Bay is proud to be hosting one of Australia's most powerful Catholic Conferences - Ignite - from 28 September to 1 October 2023.

Registrations for this year's conference are now open. Evangelisation Broken Bay has a number of subsidies available to support Young Adults and members of the Diocesan community to attend this year's conference. Subsidies will provide a 50% discount on the ticket price for the conference. Please consider members of your community who you feel may benefit from the support of financial subsidy.

To request a discount code, please email Evangelisationea@bbcatholic.org.au

For all enquiries, please email Evangelisationea@bbcatholic.org.au

PARISH WEEKLY EVENTS

- Bible Study via Zoom: 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 7pm
- Cenacle of Our Lady: Tues 9:45am Manly Church
- Christian Meditation Group: Tues 12pm Parish Centre
- Craft Group: Tues 10:00am Parish Centre
- Eucharistic Adoration: Weds 6:00pm – 7:30pm Manly
- Lectio Divina: Tues 7.30pm & Weds 10am Parish Centre
- Piety Store: open on weekends or call the Parish Office
- Reconciliation: Manly: Sat 10am – 11am
- RCIA: Contact the Parish Office 9977 5822
- Rosary via Zoom: 1st Thurs 6pm, every other Thurs 7pm
- Rosary: Freshwater Tues – Fri 8.45am in Church.

PARISH MONTHLY EVENTS

- Anointing Mass: Manly & Freshwater 1st Friday 9:15am
- Parish Pastoral Council: contact Parish Office
- St Joseph Men's Group: 1st Thurs of the month 7pm
- St Vincent de Paul: Manly & Freshwater Conferences 2nd Mon each month 5:30pm

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

First Reading *Zechariah 9:9-10 (JB)*

A reading from the prophet Zechariah

See how humbly your king comes to you!

The Lord says this: 'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion! Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem! See now, your king comes to you; he is victorious, he is triumphant, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will banish chariots from Ephraim and horses from Jerusalem; the bow of war will be banished. He will proclaim peace for the nations. His empire shall stretch from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.'

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:1-2, 8-11, 13-14 (JB)

R. I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

I will give you glory, O God my King, I will bless your name for ever. I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. R.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. R.

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God. R.

The Lord is faithful in all his words and loving in all his deeds. The Lord supports all who fall and raises all who are bowed down. R.

Second Reading *Romans 8:9, 11-13 (JB)*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live. The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *cf Matthew 11:25 (JB)*

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

Gospel *Matthew 11:25-30 (JB)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew


I am gentle and humble of heart.

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.


Come to me,
all you who are
weary *and*
burdened,
and I will give you rest.



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manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr John Puliparambil
john.puliparambil@bbcatholic.org.au

Parish Secretary: Jenny Beninati
manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Mary Immaculate Church (Parish Office)

6 Raglan St, Manly 2095

Parish Office: Mon to Thurs 8:30am – 4:30pm

Phone: 9977 5822

manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

www.bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater

St John the Baptist Church

cnr Johnson & Oliver St, Freshwater 2096

Presbytery: 9977 2100

After Hours Sick Calls: 0499 910 010

Parish Pastoral Council: Paul Pervan (Chair);

Michael McGrath (Deputy Chair); Margaret Dent

(Secretary); Patricia Carroll; Joanne Druery;

Val Buono; Ivica Covic; Robert Marshall;

Peter Nacard, Ian Press, Katalina Taefotu

Weekend Masses:

Manly: Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am, 6:00pm

Freshwater: Saturday Vigil 5:00pm & Sunday 9am

Weekday Masses:

Manly: Tuesday – Friday 9:15am

Freshwater: Tuesday – Friday 9:15am

Baptisms: please contact the parish office

Manly: 4th Sunday of the month

Freshwater: 2nd Sunday of month

Reconciliation: *Manly* Sat 10am – 11am

St Mary's Primary School 9977 2225

Principal: Paul McGuire

St John the Baptist Primary School 9939 6699

Principal: Alicia van der Merwe

St Paul's Catholic College 9977 5111

Principal: Michael Reid

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