

MANLY FRESHWATER PARISH

Mary Immaculate, Manly and St John the Baptist, Freshwater

Diocese of Broken Bay

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 17/02/2019

Administration Office:

Monday – Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm

6 Raglan St, Manly NSW 2095

Telephone: 9977 5822 / 8379 1720

After Hours Urgent Sick Calls:

0499 910 010

Email:

manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Website: bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater

Parish Priest: Fr David Taylor

Assistant Priest: Fr Paul Kim

Presbytery: 9977 2100

50 Whistler St, Manly NSW 2095

Mary Immaculate Church

6 Raglan St, Manly NSW 2095

St John the Baptist Church

cnr Johnson & Oliver St,

Freshwater NSW 2096

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

Liturgy of the Word and

Holy Communion

Manly: Monday 9:15am

Freshwater: Monday 9:15am

Baptisms: by appointment only

Manly 4th Sunday of the month

Freshwater 2nd Sunday of month

Reconciliation:

Manly Sat 10am – 11am

Freshwater Sat 4:30pm



Today's readings teach us that true happiness, or beatitude, lies in the awareness that we are all children of a loving Heavenly Father and that we will be happy only when we share our blessings with our brothers and sisters in need, and when we work to uplift them, thus declaring our "option for the poor," as Jesus did.

Contrary to the popular belief, wealth, power and influence are not the source of true happiness. Luke's version of the Beatitudes challenges our consumer-oriented society today. While wealth, power and fame are the sought-after prizes of our world, the treasures of God's reign are love, selflessness, compassion and generosity.

In freeing ourselves from the pursuit of the things of this world, we liberate ourselves to seek the lasting things of God.

Jesus is speaking to the economically poor who were reduced to begging. The richer members of the community failed in their covenant with God by not coming to the rescue of the poor. When this happened, God sided with the poor and spoke on their behalf.

Blessed are the poor... and woe to the rich: The poor are not blest because they are materially destitute. Rather, they are blest because they are able to place their trust in God in the midst of poverty. The rich are not cursed simply because they are materially well off, but because of their failure to come to the rescue of the poor by generously sharing with them. *Blessed are the hungry, . . . woe to the full:* Jesus says we are blessed if we can keep trusting in God in empty/hungry times.

It is also a blessing if we are hungry for God's love. It is a curse if our "plenty times" lead us to ignore God. *Blessed are you if weeping, . . . woe if laughing:* It is a blessing if we mourn for the injustices in our world. It is not a curse to be happy. But it is a curse if our laughter is at the expense of others; or to become rich at the expense of others. *Blessed are you if people hate you... woe if people speak well of you:* We are blessed if society reject us because of our love for Jesus. Poverty, hunger, tears and rejection are not to be sought after. But if they come to us as a result of our following Jesus, then they are blessings because we turn to God and follow his ways. Jesus challenges us to embrace his new life vision: to seek the common good, to bring compassion and forgiveness to others, to seek the lasting things of God. We are called to respond to the challenges of the beatitudes in our daily life. *Fr Tony Kadavil 2019*

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for February:

Human Trafficking For a generous welcome of the victims of human trafficking, of enforced prostitution, and of violence.

WEEKEND MASS COLLECTIONS

Thank You for your financial support of our Priests and Parish Community.

The 1st Collection is for the financial support of our priests.

The 2nd Collection is for the maintenance & running costs of our Parish Community.

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.

Parish Priest: Fr David Taylor
(manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au)

Assistant Priest: Fr Paul Kim
(manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au)

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

Parish Pastoral Coordinator: Michelle Ellis
(michelle.ellis@bbcatholic.org.au)

St Mary's Primary School 9977 2225
Principal: Paul McGuire

St John the Baptist Primary School 9939 6699
Principal: Judy Slattery

St Paul's Catholic College 9977 5111
Principal: Chris Browne

Stella Maris College 9977 5144
Principal: Elizabeth Carnegie

Parish Pastoral Council: Vuna Tuifua (Chair); Laurie de Ambrosio; Joanne Druery; Richard Heasman; Michael Larkin; Robert Marshall; Ian Press; Silvia Zambrano; Freya Zemek

DATES TO REMEMBER...

- **CCD Meeting Manly** Tues 19th Feb @ 10am
- **SMM Yr 4 Class Mass** Thurs 21st Feb @ 9:15am
- **Meditation Group** Mondays @ 6pm
- **Book Club Group** Tuesdays @ 10am
- **Craft Group** Tuesdays @ 10am
- **RCIA** Tue 12th Feb @ 7pm
- **Lectio Divina** Wednesdays @ 10am

SUNDAY MORNING TEAS

FRESHWATER: following the Sunday 9am Mass each weekend



MANLY: following the Sunday 8:30am Mass each weekend, with the Filipino Family Group hosting a morning tea on the 2nd Sunday following the 10:30am Mass and the Tongan Community hosting a morning tea on the 3rd Sunday following the 10:30am Mass.



There is NO parking in the fenced in area next to the Church from 10:30am – 3:30pm weekdays. The Churchyard parking along Raglan St is only for visitors to the Parish Centre or the Church. Please be aware that the Churchyard is also used by the School and the safety of the students is our priority.

PLEASE NOTE PARKING IS ONLY PERMITTED IN THE MARKED BAYS – NO STACK PARKING!!!!



If you are a new parishioner to Manly Freshwater Parish, we invite you to complete a Parish census form. This will assist us in updating our records to include you and your family in our parish community activities. The census form can be found on the back wall of the Church or at the side door entrance and may be left in the collection plate.

February

Yr C 2019

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|--|--|
| Mon 18/2 – 6th week in Ordinary Time | Gen 4:1-15,25; Mk 8:11-13 |
| Tue 19/2 – 6th week in Ordinary Time | Gen 6:5-8,7:1-5,10; Mk 8:14-21 |
| Wed 20/2 – 6th week in Ordinary Time | Gen 8:6-13,20-22; Mk 8:22-26 |
| Thurs 21/2 – 6th week in Ordinary Time | Gen 9:1-13; Mk 8:27-33 |
| Fri 22/2 – The Chair of St Peter | 1 Pet 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19 |
| Sat 23/2 – St Polycarp | Heb 11:1-7; Mk 9:2-13 |
| Sun 24/2 – 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time | 1 Sam 26:2,7-9,12-13,22-23; 1 Cor 15:45-49; Lk 6:27-38 |

LET US PRAY FOR

17th February 2019

Recently Deceased: Hazel Healy

Anniversary: James Hugh Bowring; Margarita (Rita) Bowring; Maria Martinic; Nicola Filacuridi; Mary Connery

Prayers for the sick in our parish: Jonathan Keil, Robina Dwyer, Betty Borg; Ann Irvin; Prionsias Kearney; Brian Davies; Kay Flenady; Paul Miller; Majella McLoughlin; Anita Lo Casio; Stephen Taylor; Debbie Vernon; Desmond Connors; Cate Flint; Norman Cummins

Mass Intention Publications: All Mass Intentions may be left at the Parish Office or on the collection plates on the weekend. Names for Mass Intentions for Recently Deceased, Anniversaries and for those who are sick (permission of the person is required) will be included in the weekly bulletin. All other Mass Intentions (including yearly offerings) will be given directly to the Priests who will offer the Masses.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION is held at Manly Church on Wednesdays from 2pm with Divine Mercy Hour held from 7:00pm – 8:30pm. To assist us on Wednesdays and present before the Blessed Sacrament, a Guard of Honour Roster has been placed on the notice board. We invite you to place your name in a time slot which suits you.

Visiting sick at home - If you, or if you know of anyone who is unable to attend Mass because they are unwell and would like a home visit please contact the parish office 9977 5822 to organise for Communion or Anointing



Parish website
bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater

Parish facebook:
facebook.com/manlyfreshwaterparish



Pope Francis Thousands of children, forced to fight in armed conflicts, are robbed of their childhood. Let us stop this abominable crime. #ChildrenNotSoldiers



St Mary's Church at Manly is fitted with an audio loop for hearing impaired.



Please TURN OFF your mobile phones during all Church services; that includes sending/receiving text messages



The St Vincent de Paul Clothing Bin next to the Church has been taken away because of the large amount of rubbish that was being dumped in and around the bin. This rubbish has to be taken to the tip at considerable expense to SVDP. There will be SVDP clothing bags available for you in the Piety Store and you can return your clean clothing donations either to the Piety Store or the Church Foyer. There will also be SVDP Clothing Appeals from time to time.

Kind regards Fr David Taylor and SVDP Manly



Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Parents Information evening

- Manly on Tuesday 26th February at 7pm
- Freshwater on Wednesday 27th February at 7pm

The preparation Program for the young people in the Parish who will be making their First Reconciliation will commence with our Parent Information Evening. If you wish your child to be a part of this program, **registrations can be downloaded from the parish website and are available at the Parish Office.** For further information please contact the Parish Office on email bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater



Playgroup Helper Required

The Parish Playgroup which is held on Monday mornings at Manly will be recommencing in a few weeks. We are seeking the assistance of someone who will oversee the group together with parents from the Parish and the School. If you would like to know more about what is involved, please contact the Parish Office on 9977 5822.

PLENARY COUNCIL PARISH DIALOGUE - FAITH STORIES

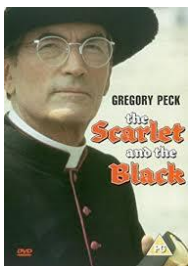
Come and join in prayer and dialogue for our final input to the Plenary Council agenda:

- When: This Sunday 17th February, 9.30am (after 8.30am mass and before 10.30am mass)
- Where: St Mary's Manly Parish Meeting Room
- What: Listening and Dialogue
 - Why: To share stories of our experiences of faith and the Church



**What do you think God is asking
of us in Australia at this time?**

MANLY PIETY STORE



Movie of the Month "The Scarlet and the Black" This is a classic film. Did you know the claims around the "Nazi Pope" are entirely false? Pope Pius XXII saved at least 860,000 Jews during the war and is highly respected by the Jewish people. This film explores the true story of an Irish Monsignor who alongside the Pope evaded dangerous Nazi intimidation and

surveillance to keep over 4000 refugees hidden around Rome during the war. Available from the Piety store for only \$10 - Limited stock!!!

CD of the month "The hidden power of forgiveness" – Jeff Cavins. Do you want to learn one of life's biggest secrets which keeps us from finding true happiness? One of the biggest causes of pain and suffering in our lives is caused by "unforgiveness!". The good news is, through Jesus Christ the Catholic Church has the solutions. We have the rivers of grace freely available to remove the walls which hold us back from finding true happiness in this life and the next. This is priceless wisdom for only \$5 in the Piety store.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

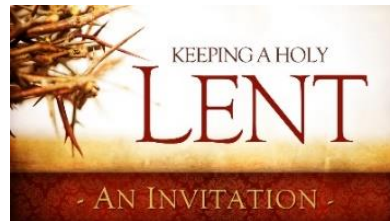
Friday 1st March 2019 ~ 10.00 am
Morning tea will follow the prayer service

Each year World Day of Prayer holds a prayer service, based on a Gospel passage, with the focus on a country chosen at the International Conference. For 2019 the program was written by Christian women in **Slovenia**, one of the smallest countries in Europe. At the core of the theme is an invitation - "Come; everything is ready" Lk14:15-24. Come to praise, thank, and proclaim the kingdom of love

Manly Catholic Parish is the host for the Manly Balgowlah area in 2019. Would there be a parishioner of Manly who is from Slovenia or of Slovenian descent who might like to contribute? If anyone is keen to join an ecumenical gathering please contact the Parish Office or Elizabeth Clarke 9907 0549.

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.

www.worlddayofprayer.net
www.worlddayofprayeraustralia.org



ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

9:15am, 12noon &
7pm at both
Churches

During Lent...

Tuesday evenings at Manly commencing 12th March at 7.30pm – "Rejoice and Be Glad" – small group discussion program looking at Pope Francis Apostolic Exhortation Gaudete et Exsultate.

Discerning the Way of Jesus – Lectio Divina Program prepared by the Diocese of Broken Bay will be held on...

- **Wednesday mornings** at Manly at 10am commencing 13th March.
- **Thursday evenings** at Manly at 7pm commencing 14th March will be led by Fr David
- Booklets will be available for those who wish to run a group or for personal use at home.
- **Thursday Mornings** 10am commencing on 14th March Freshwater
- **Please register** at the Parish Office on 9977 5822 or manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Stations of the Cross – Fridays at 7pm at Manly commencing Friday 8th March

The Light is On for You – Reconciliation will be held on Friday evenings from 7pm to 8pm at Manly commencing Friday 8th March



The Parish Playgroup is held on Monday morning in the School Undercroft at Manly from 8.30am to 10am.

Plenary Council Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.

Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.

O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.

Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.

Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth.

Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.

Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age.

Amen.

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.

St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.

Lectio Divina Read his story in the Gospels. Spend time with him. Listen to what he says. Lectio Divina group meets in the Parish Centre on Wednesday mornings at 10am. All Welcome



Craft Group meets each week on Tuesday mornings from 10am to 12noon in the Parish Center. We invite you to come along for a cuppa and a chat in a friendly relaxed environment. Bring along your knitting or other craft if you wish. Visitors to the area are more than welcome.

TAP TO DONATE TO HELP WITH REPAIRS OF OUR BEAUTIFUL CHURCH

If you would like to make a donation to assist with our ongoing **Church Repairs** you can do so by a direct deposit into the Parish Account using the following ...

Account Name: Manly Freshwater Parish **Bank Name:** Commonwealth Bank

Account# 13958001 **BSB #** 062 784 (Please include the following reference – BM/your surname)

If you would like to use one of our tap units at **Manly** there is a unit in the front foyer of the Church and at the side exit into the Carpark.

We thank you for your generosity & commitment to our parish

Fitness Sessions Manly

Saturday Mornings at 9am & Wednesday Mornings at 8am Strength, Tone and Balance Training for over 50's both female and male. The trainer is Paul Pervan who is a fully qualified Cert 4 Fitness Professional. Specialist in training Older Adults, fully insured with First Aid Certificate. Come along and Try!

PARISH WEEKLY EVENTS

- Christian Meditation: Mon 6pm – 6:45pm in the Parish Centre
- Craft Group: Tues 10:00am in the Parish Centre
- Divine Will Prayer Group: Mon 11:00am in the Parish Centre
- Eucharistic Adoration: Manly Monday to Friday from 9:45am -11:00am Adoration on Wed continues from 2pm with Divine Mercy Hour from 7:00pm – 8:30pm
- Holy Hour: Freshwater Tues after morning Mass
- Lectio Divina: Wed 10am in the Parish Centre
- Parish Playgroup: Manly on Mon 9am – 10:30am
- Piety Store: Open 15mins before & after Mass
- Reconciliation:
Manly: Sat 10am – 11am
Freshwater: Sat 4:30pm
- RCIA: Contact the Parish Office 9977 5822
- Rosary: Manly: Mon – Fri at 9.45am
Freshwater: Tues – Fri before 9.15am Mass

PARISH MONTHLY EVENTS

- Anointing Mass at Manly and Freshwater 1st Friday of each month at 9:15am Mass
- Baptisms: By appointment enquires to Parish Office
- Crazy Whist Morning: last Tues of each month at 10:00am
- Eco-operate: 3rd Thursday of each month at 7.30pm
- Parish Pastoral Council: contact Parish Office
- St Vincent de Paul: Manly & Freshwater Conferences 2nd Mon each month at 5:30pm

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION Anyone interested in this form of silent prayer is most welcome to attend. We meet each Monday at 6pm in the Parish Centre. Enquiries: Hazel Cottee 0402 052 088

"Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46: vs 10)

Children's Liturgy is held each weekend at Manly during the 8.30am mass and at Freshwater during the 9am Mass.



St Paul's Catholic College - Manly

EDUCATING BOYS IN YEARS 7 TO 12

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 7th March 2019
4pm – 7pm

Guided tours | The College in Action | Meet the College Leadership Team | Complimentary BBQ

Come and visit our College and learn more about St Paul's

- A quality education with a focus on excellence
- Small enough to care for our students' wellbeing
- Innovative learning
- A College on the move

ENROLLING NOW

Enrolment enquiries: enrolments@dbb.catholic.edu.au

PRIMA PRIMUM : First things first

A systemic education in the Diocese of Broken Bay

ATTENTION ALL CATECHISTS & HELPERS

Dates for your Diary

Catechist, Helpers and anyone interested in seeing what's involved are invited to a Meeting on Tuesday **19th February at 10am** in the Parish Meeting Room. Catechists are invited to collect the Students Books, their green card (please bring along your old card and lanyard) and to discuss teacher enrichment programs.

Manly West

- **Teachers and Helpers Orientation Day** with Morning Tea Provided at **21st February** in the School Hall at 10am.
- **Class Rooms and lists** will be allocated at this Meeting.
- **Classes start 28th February 2019**

Manly Village

- **Classes start Wednesday 13th March 2019**

We are currently 4 teachers short at Manly School. Come and join our wonderful team

Join our wonderful team of Catechists and Helpers.



Sharing and educating our faith is bringing Christ's love to life. It's teaching the Catholic faith, belief and joy that Christ is alive and active in our lives.

Catechists are recognized for the valuable and very practical teaching contribution they make to the life and mission of the Church. Catechists and class helpers are required for classes in primary government state schools (Kindergarten – Year 6) in Manly & Freshwater.

Qualities of a Catechist Have a love for children, the desire to grow in faith and share that journey with young people, a sense of humour and flexibility, and a willingness to be of service.

Requirements of a Catechist...

- Give approximately 1 hour each week to share Catholic faith in a local government school.
- Prepare weekly lessons using a teacher's manual provided for students and the catechist.
- All training and support is provided.
- Many Catechists start as a classroom helper.

Class Times

 Classes are held

- Tuesday Mornings at Harbord Public School. (2 sessions)
- Wednesdays: Morning - Midday at Manly Village Public School (2 sessions)
- Thursdays: Morning - Midday at Manly West Public School. (3 sessions)

There are classes in these schools that currently do not have a Teacher or Helper. *If you would like to know more about what is involved, please contact Laurie: 9949 7750 (Manly) or Toni: 9905 2894 (Freshwater)*

Outside the Parish

MAKE A DIFFERENCE THROUGH FRIENDSHIP

Compeer is a special work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Compeer's mission is to improve the quality of life and self-esteem of adults experiencing mental health challenges through one-to-one friendship with a caring volunteer. A friendship can help to overcome the stigma and social isolation associated with mental illness.

Being a Compeer volunteer is a simple, meaningful way of making a difference in a person's life. Compeer offers a safe, flexible volunteering opportunity that fits into your current lifestyle. If you are friendly, accepting and looking for an enjoyable volunteer opportunity you can learn more and apply on www.compeer.org.au or call us directly on (02) 9564 2097

Choir members needed! Singers and Musicians from across the Diocese are warmly invited to lead the congregation in prayerful song at **Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Cathedral 23 Yardley Ave WAITARA**, for the following diocesan events:

Rite of Election 10 March 2019 (Sunday) Rehearsal on the day in the Cathedral from 12:45 PM for 2:00 PM ceremony start.

Chrism Mass 2019 16 April 2019 (Tuesday) Rehearsal on the day in the Cathedral from 6:00 PM for 7:30 PM Mass start. (Supper provided)

RSVP: To ensure we have enough seats and music/hymn books for everyone please RSVP ASAP to cathedral@bbccatholic.org.au -type "CHOIR RSVP"

Sacred Concert with Irish singer

DAVID PARKES at St. Agatha's Church Hall 20 Boundary Rd, Pennant Hills NSW

David Parkes is a renowned international singer and witness to the great mercy of our Lord through the intercession of Our Lady. David has performed in front of more than a million people over the past 25 years. A great believer in the message of Divine Mercy and the spiritual healing that often takes place through the Sacraments of the Church. He will tell his amazing story of his miraculous healing of Crohns Disease after he was prayed over by Fr. Peter Mary Rookey in 1989 in Medjugorje Listen to David's incredible witness through a world-wide singing ministry. Enquiries: Therese (02) 9651 3028 or 0452 101 773

SERRA VOCATIONS MASS & DINNER MEETING

Father Shaju John OSH, Parish Priest of Ku-ring-gai Chase Parish will be celebrating Mass for Serra at Sacred Heart Church, 2 Richard Porter Way Pymble on Thursday 28th February 2019.

The evening will commence with Mass at 6.30pm followed by a light meal and a short meeting. After the meal Father Shaju will be our guest speaker. He will speak to us about his faith and vocation journey. Everyone is welcome. Please "come and see".

Please remember to pray every day for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, the consecrated life, ecclesial women, all seminarians and novices and for the perseverance of existing vocations.

Please telephone: Terry Scanlan on 0438 887 295 or email terry_scanlan@bigpond.com if you would like to attend.

St Augustin's College Open Day will be held Friday 1st March from 3:45pm to 7pm. Meet Principal Jonathan Byrne along with staff. Register your interest and for more details <https://www.saintaug.nsw.edu.au/2019-open-day>

Manly and Freshwater Roster 23rd – 24th February 2018

| Ministry | Manly 6pm Vigil | Manly 8.30am | Manly 10.30am | Manly 6pm | Freshwater 5pm Vigil | Freshwater 9am |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Acolytes | Freya Zemek | Louise Wareham | Ron Gravalin | Ivica Covic | Lou Maruca | Mick O'Farrell |
| Servers | | | Bernie Lawler | Ivana Covic | | |
| Readers | John Stapleton Bill Tango | Ed Copeman Jan Van Den Broek | Carmel Lawler Rita Bruzzese | Family Mass | Amanda Whitfield | Toni Walsh Josh Wright |
| Ministers of Communion | John & Merle Zemek John Bigeni | Trish McGregor Robina Dwyer Tiere Morgan | Anne Keating | Val Buono Ali Hassanein | Amanda Whitfield | Toni Walsh |
| Music | Bianca Zatz | Parish Choir | Kath Papallo Gina Marshall | Family Mass | CD's | Pat Brown |
| AV Screens | Avis Fontaine | Rory Lynsky | Robert Marshall | Family Mass | Bill Kelly | Margie Gruca |
| Warden | John Zemek | Dom Ferragina | Peter Bartolotta | Family Mass | | |
| Piety Shop | Louise Wareham | Jan Dorsen | Anne Gaughan | Lynette & Eliza Duffy | | |
| Flowers/ Altar Society | Liz de Ambrosis | | | | Lyn Hillard | |
| Morning Tea | | Lynn Parkes | | | | Markwart family |
| Children's Lit | | Fiona C | | | | Leanne Ippolito |

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2019 by Ivica Covic

"My dear young people. We adults often have a habit of telling you: 'you are the future.' But here I am going to say something different. You are not the future, but the now of God!"

How special are these words that Pope Francis spoke during his homily at the Final Mass in Panama to conclude our World Youth Day pilgrimage. Empowered by God's love, the Holy Father gave us this encouragement: ***"Go back to your parishes and communities, to your families and your friends, and share this experience, so that others can resonate with the strength and enthusiasm that is yours."***

World Youth Day 2019, I can openly say, has been one of the best experiences of my life, and one that I will remember forever. What helped make it so special was feeling so close to God and the Church, and seeing others transform and feel the same.

There were 65 pilgrims from the Diocese of Broken Bay, including our own Fr Paul and Simon Hyland. We left Sydney on January 16th headed for Mexico.

There we started our pilgrimage to prepare ourselves for World Youth Day week in Panama. Highlights in Mexico included visiting Our Lady of Guadalupe as well as many other Cathedrals and Churches. We also had various cultural experiences such as visiting the Temple of the Sun and Moon of the Aztecs. We then travelled to Panama for the start of the World Youth

Day festivities, beginning with the Opening Mass. For the next few days, Broken Bay, were given the opportunity to be 'animators' which involved organising three days of catechesis. Catechesis involved listening to testimonies from Bishops and pilgrims, singing, dancing and reflecting. Reconciliation was available, and we were also able to participate in Adoration. A huge thank you to Simon who not only helped coordinate catechesis sessions, but also helped with singing and many other tasks throughout World Youth Day to make sure that this Pilgrimage was as fruitful as it was. We went to Mass every day on our Pilgrimage, whether at a Church, Houston Airport Chapel or at our accommodation. Other events throughout World Youth Day week included the Pope's welcome, the Stations of the Cross, and my highlight: The Vigil and Final Mass. After World Youth Day week was over, we travelled to Gamboa Rainforest for our retreat, which was a much-needed time for reflection, prayer and thanksgiving.

What made the whole journey so special was seeing all these young people from around the world in Panama for the same reason – to be witnesses to the

Gospel and to share in God's love. It gave me goosebumps, seeing around a million people at the Vigil and Final Mass, each praying and talking in their own languages – yet it felt like we were all speaking the same language. Everyone was so joyful throughout our whole pilgrimage and being able to share in this joy and love for God was incredible!



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time – YEAR C

First Reading

Jeremiah 17:5-8

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

A curse on those who trust in humanity; a blessing on those who trust in the Lord.

The Lord says this: 'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man, who relies on things of flesh, whose heart turns from the Lord. He is like dry scrub in the wastelands: if good comes, he has no eyes for it, he settles in the parched places of the wilderness, a salt land, uninhabited. 'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord, with the Lord for his hope. He is like a tree by the waterside that thrusts its roots to the stream: when the heat comes it feels no alarm, its foliage stays green; it has no worries in a year of drought, and never ceases to bear fruit.'

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 1:1-4

R. Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked; nor lingers in the way of sinners nor sits in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the Lord and who ponders his law day and night. R.

He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper. R.

Not so are the wicked, not so! For they like winnowed chaff shall be driven away by the wind. For the Lord guards the way of the just but the way of the wicked leads to doom. R.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

If Christ is not raised from the dead, your faith is in vain.

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people.

But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 6:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad; your reward is great in heaven.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 6:17, 20-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Happy are the poor. Woe to the rich!

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases.

Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said:

'How happy are you who are poor; yours is the kingdom of God.

Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.

Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh.

'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.

'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now.

Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry.

Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.

'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



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