

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Command me to come to you over the water.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a headwind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord', he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

09 AUGUST 2020

WALKING ON THE SEA WITH JESUS

Jesus sends his disciples off to cross the lake by boat, while he disperses the crowd. When eventually he rejoins the disciples, now battling with a headwind and heavy seas, he does so by walking on the sea.

In biblical imagery to tread down raging water is something only God can do (Psalm 77:19; Job 9:8; Isaiah 43:16). Jesus' reassurance to the terrified disciples, 'It is I; fear not', echoes the revelation of God to Moses at the Burning Bush (Exodus 3:14).

What prompts Peter's desire to come to Jesus across the sea? Love or bravado? Perhaps a mixture of both—but also, surely, faith. Faith enables him to trample for a time the forces of destruction. But when he looks away from his Lord, to focus instead upon the wind and sea, doubt creeps in, and with doubt the gravest danger.

Peter 'models' the mixture of faith and doubt to which all believers are prone. Jesus' gentle rebuke, 'O you of little faith, why did you doubt?', applies to us all. Sometimes the Lord calls us to leave the security of the boat and come to him across the waves. We begin to falter when we take our eyes off Jesus and focus only on the difficulties that come our way.

Then we can make our own Peter's cry for rescue and feel, as he felt, the Lord's strong hand reaching out to raise us up. The Lord is not absent: he is 'with us' ('Emmanuel': Matthew 1:17; 28:19) to the end of time.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

FIRST READING

1 Kings 19:9, 11-13

A reading from the first book of the Kings

Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 84:9-14. R. v. 8

R. Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say, / a voice that speaks of peace. / His help is near for those who fear him / and his glory will dwell in our land. **R.**

2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; / justice and peace have embraced. / Faithfulness shall spring from the earth / and justice look down from heaven. **R.**

3. The Lord will make us prosper / and our earth shall yield its fruit. / Justice shall march before him / and peace shall follow his steps. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 9:1-5

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ps 129:5

Alleluia, alleluia! / I hope in the Lord, / I trust in his word. / Alleluia!



Sacred Heart Parish Church
 Roman Catholic Diocese of Armidale
 81 Vivian St. Inverell, NSW 2360 (P. O. Box 107)
 Email: inverellparish@armidale.catholic.org.au
 Phone 67221103

PRIESTS: FR JAMES POOVATHINKAL MS. P.P., VF
 PPC Chair: Mrs Sharon Hollis
 Holy Trinity Principal: Mrs Jillian Rainger—67224066
 Parish Secretary: Marion Fitzgerald—67221103. Office Hours
 Mon & Fri 8am—1pm; Thurs 8am—12 noon

PARISH MASS TIMES

Sacred Heart Church Inverell

Saturday 5.30pm
 Sunday 9.00am
 Monday, Tuesday and 1st Saturday 9.30am
 Wednesday and Thursday 12 noon
 1st Friday Mass and Benediction 12 noon
 First Wednesday Anointing Mass (suspended) 12 noon

McLean Village Each Friday except 1st Friday 11am
 (suspended)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 8am - 9am
 Sunday 8am - 8.30am

Tingha St. Francis' Church Saturday 4pm
Ashford St Patrick's Church 1st & 3rd Sunday 11am
Bundarra St Mary of the Angels 2nd & 4th Sun 11am
Yetman St Joseph the Worker 5th Sunday 11.30am

Baptism (Saturday only) 11am;
Marriages and Funerals by Appointment
 For emergencies please phone 0428-126703



PARISH SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

MON 10th Aug	Rosary Mass	9.00am 9.30am
TUE 11th Aug	Rosary Mass	9.00am 9.30am
WED 12th Aug	Rosary Mass	11.30am 12 noon
THUR 13th Aug	Rosary Mass	11.30am 12 noon
FRI 14th Aug	School Mass (Church) The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.15am
SAT 15th Aug	Rosary Mass Feast Day of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.00am 9.30am

NOTE: Attendance at weekday Masses fulfil Sunday obligation during Covid19 restrictions.

OUR VISION AND OUR MISSION
 We as a PARISH, try to live out our
VISION: To continually form a Christ-centred community based on the Gospel Values expressed through SERVICE in peace, justice and love.
MISSION: To know Christ more, His life and His teachings. To imbibe Christ's message of love and service. To try to share generously what graces and blessings we have and to be instruments of the Gospel message.

Mass Intentions for the Week

For the deceased priests of our Diocese in Vocation Week, Bernadette Monaghan, Lucy MacManus, Cedric, Thelma & Maurie Aboud, John & Madgie Casey, Dixie Casey, Thomas Robbins, Margaret Dickins, Mario Migheli.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK
 Ron Hedley (brother of Sr. Coral) Mary Kramer, Leo Germany, Baby Isabel Akhil, All those with the Corona Virus, Terry Hopgood, Joan Hiscox, Paul Saint, Kerrie O'Keeffe, Carmel Hooper, Sr Leo (Josie) Clancy, Alana Goldman, Rhonda Lee Watts (daughter of Phyllis Nichols) John Sanders, David Sanders, Rex Parry, Jeanette Rennie, Danny Dickins, Katrina Newbigin, Bob Kneipp. Brian Barker, Dorothy Ball, Denise Taveira, Joanne Essey, Graham Tom, Fred Boight, Agnes Hannigan **and the sick members of our parish whose names are not listed here.**

We Pray for the Recently Deceased
 Jeremy Norman Campbell, Debrah Brown (sister-in-law of Margaret Jones) Victor Buchanan, Kevin Pay, Rena Valiukas, Paul Vassallo. **We Pray for the Anniversaries of John & Madgie Casey, Dixie Casey, Thomas Robbins, Margaret Dickins, Bill McCormick, Gordon Turner. Eternal life grant unto them Oh Lord May their souls and all the faithful departed rest in peace.**

COVID 19 SAFETY PLAN FOR OUR PARISH
 (authorised by the NSW Government for the State of NSW)
Mass attendance and Weddings: One person per 4 square metre distance. The Sacred Heart Church can accommodate 100 worshippers at a time.
Funerals: up to 50 attendees without the 4 square metre rule, provided 'non-household' contacts can maintain 1.5 metre physical distance. Maximum 100. Please sit in the Allocated Seats to observe Social Distancing regulations.
Contact Sheets: placed at each opened entrance to the Church. Parishioners attending the Church are required to record their full names. Visitors are required to record their name and contact details. This is a health tracing requirement in case of a Corona Virus outbreak. The sheets will be removed after each Mass and kept confidential.
If you are unwell please stay at home.
If you require Home Communion contact the office.

9TH AUGUST 2020 – 19H SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / YEAR A

SPECIAL COLLECTION SATURDAY & SUNDAY
 This weekend ENVELOPES are available for the Special Collection for the Seminarian and Clergy Fund. We are grateful for your support.

Women's Breakfast Friday 14th August at 8:00am
 2nd Friday of the month at the Bridge Coffee Lounge. Please phone Ann Barry on 67222858 or Marj Manuel on 67224772.

ALTER SOCIETY ROSTER FOR AUGUST
 Rosie Michael and Val McMahon

UPCOMING MEETINGS
 Parish Council Monday 7th September 5.00pm

HOME ROSARY THIS WEEK
TINGHA Bernie & Colleen Graham
 11 Diamond Street
 Wednesday 12th Aug at 4.30pm
INVERELL Fred & Jeanette Rennie
 48 A Bennett Street
 Wednesday 12th Aug at 4.00pm



RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION
 Due to Covid19 'Social Distancing' rules, parishioners are asked to **process in a single line** down either of the **two narrow aisles** to receive Communion, then **returning** to their pew via the main centre aisle or far aisles. Please maintain a 1.5metre distance between each other. Thank you.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS
 O loving and gracious God, Father of all, you bless your people in every time and season and provide for their needs through your providential care. Your Church is continuously in need of priests, sisters and brothers to offer themselves in the service of the Gospel by lives of dedicated love.
 Open the hearts of your sons and daughters to listen to your call in their lives. Give them the gift of understanding to discern your invitation to serve you and your Church.
 Give them the gift of courage to follow your call. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. Amen

ANNUAL PLAN GIVING STATEMENTS
 Many of you would have received your Annual Plan Giving Statements by now. Please note that the Plan Giving (2nd Collection) you contribute for the ongoing upkeep of the Church is not tax deductible. However, if you donated to Project Compassion or the Priests Retirement Fund during the year, then the amount donated over \$2 is tax deductible, and is recorded as such separately on the Annual Statement. Contact the office if you have queries.

Due to Covid19 we have suspended some of our Ministries and reduced numbers rostered in others. Thank you for understanding.

	8th AUG — SAT 5.30	9th AUG – SUN 9AM	15th AUG — SAT 5.30	16th AUG – SUN 9AM
ROSTER				
GREETERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS
PROJECTOR	SUE SZUMOWSKI	RHONDA McDONALD	SIMON SMITH	PAULA GIRLE
READERS	FRED RENNIE	DAVID McMAHON	SISTER CORAL	SHARON HOLLIS
COMMENTATOR	NOEL McCOSKER	MARY JANE GUEST	JENNIE MONIE	ROSIE LONG
GIFTS	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>
COMMUNION MINISTER	SISTER CORAL	JUNE SAINT	ANTHONY MICHAEL	ROBERT BENARES
ALTAR SERVERS	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>
MUSIC MINISTRY	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>
CANTOR				
COLLECTION	<i>Collection baskets</i>	<i>are at each of the</i>	<i>entrances to the</i>	<i>Church. Thank you.</i>
MORNING TEA	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>
COUNTERS		R. TUTT and R. WITHERDIN		J. FRATER & D. HANNIGAN