

**GOSPEL**

Mt 16:21-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.*

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

✠ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

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# Reflections on the Gospel



# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

30 AUGUST 2020

## THE COST OF FOLLOWING JESUS

In last week's Gospel, Peter expressed his God-given insight concerning Jesus' identity as 'the Christ, the Son of the living God'. He received a blessing in response and appointment as the 'rock foundation' of the future Church.

But when, in today's Gospel, Jesus goes on to tell his disciples that he is destined to go to Jerusalem to suffer and die, Peter, who had so conspicuously got it right, equally conspicuously stumbles at the truth Jesus now goes on to reveal: the more closely, as '(beloved) Son' he is related to God, the more closely he is aligned to the divine will that he enter into the pain and suffering of the world.

Peter's protest is subtle. The suggestion, 'Lord, this sort of thing is not for you!' recalls Satan's earlier attempt (4:8-9) to lure Jesus away from his God-given path by proposing an easy route to rulership of the world. Hence the sharpness of Jesus' rebuke: 'Get behind me, Satan!'

Peter's understandable human desire to preserve the Master from suffering aligns him with the demonic in a way that would thwart Jesus' God-given mission to save the world.

Jesus goes on to speak more generally to all the disciples, describing the conditions for any who want to follow him. It is human to want to avoid suffering and preserve those we love from it. But evil cannot be defeated without cost. Joining Jesus in his mission will mean taking up one's own cross and, in various ways, losing life, in order to find it.

**Brendan Byrne, SJ**

## FIRST READING

Jer 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

*The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.*

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'

The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, 'I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.'

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,

imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

✠ **The word of the Lord.**

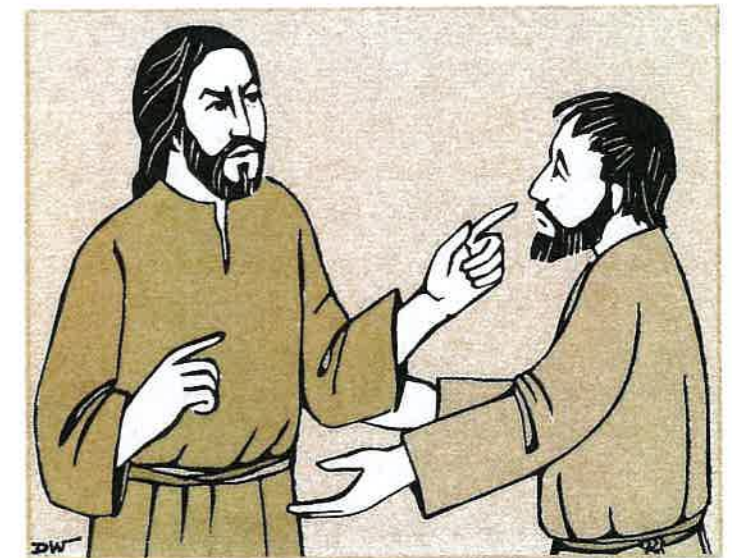
**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 62:2-6, 8-9. R. v. 2

**R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; / for you my soul is thirsting. / My body pines for you / like a dry, weary land without water. **R.**

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary / to see your strength and your glory. / For your love is better than life, / my lips will speak your praise. **R.**

3. So I will bless you all my life, / in your name I will lift up my hands. / My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, / my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R.**



4. For you have been my help; / in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. / My soul clings to you: / your right hand holds me fast. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Rom 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.*

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

✠ **The word of the Lord.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Eph 1:17, 18

**Alleluia, alleluia! / May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ / enlighten the eyes of our heart, / that we might see how great is the hope / to which we are called. / 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 31st Aug	Rosary Mass	9.00am <b>9.30am</b>
TUE 1st Sept	Rosary Communion Service	9.00am <b>9.30am</b>
WED 2nd Sept	Rosary Mass	11.30am <b>12 noon</b>
THUR 3rd Sept	Rosary Mass	11.30am <b>12 noon</b>
FRI 4th Sept	<b>School Mass</b> (Church)	<b>9.15am</b>
	Rosary Mass & Benediction	11.30am <b>12 noon</b>
SAT 5th Sept	Rosary Mass	9.00am <b>9.30am</b>

**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.**



**Hannah Harris, Theresa Fitzpatrick (niece of Eileen Hanna), John Thomas O'Brien, Joseph Michael Stephen, Maurice John Moses, Bernadette Monaghan, Lucy MacManus, Cedric, Thelma & Maurie Aboud.**  
**Mass of Thanksgiving for answered prayers.**

**WE PRAY FOR THE SICK**  
 Emma Donaldson, Wayne Lackey, Tony Starr, Ron Hedley (brother of Sr. Coral) Mary Kramer, Leo Germany, Baby Isabel Akhil, All those with the Corona Virus, Terry Hoppood, Joan Hiscox, Paul Saint, Kerrie O'Keefe, 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 Newbiggin, 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**  
 Malcolm John Lane, Sr. Kathleen Price RSJ, Theresa Fitzpatrick (niece of Eileen Hanna) Jeremy Norman Campbell, Debrah Brown (sister-in-law of Margaret Jones).  
**We Pray for the Anniversaries of**  
 Hannah Harris, John & Madgie Casey, Dixie Casey, Thomas Robbins, Margaret Dickins, Bill McCormick.  
**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.**

**30TH AUGUST 2020 – 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / YEAR A**  
**SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY**

**SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY**  
 "Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today". Faith communities and governments are encouraged to make mental health a priority. Please go to the ACBC Online Shop for a free download of the Statement and Prayer Card.

**Women's Breakfast Friday 11th September 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 SEPTEMBER**  
 Pat Mather, Judy Harris and Yvonne Campbell

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Parish Council	Monday 7th September	5.00pm
Finance Committee	Thursday 24th September	5.30pm

**HOME ROSARY THIS WEEK**

**TINGHA** Bernie & Colleen Graham  
 11 Diamond Street  
 Wednesday 2nd Sept at 4.30pm  
 (every Wednesday)

**INVERELL** No Home Rosary this week



**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.

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

ROSTER	29th AUG — SAT 5.30	30th AUG – SUN 9AM	5th SEPT — SAT 5.30	6th SEPT– SUN 9AM
GREETERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS
PROJECTOR	SR CORAL	MARY JANE GUEST	JO KELLY	RHONDA MCGREGOR
READERS	JENNY MONIE	SUZETTE DIZON	MIKE CASEY-RANSOM	DAN HANNIGAN
COMMENTATOR	PAT MATHER	JUDY HARRIS	MARIE WARD	JENNIE MONIE
GIFTS	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
COMMUNION MINISTER	ROD TRAVES	SHARON HOLLIS	TRISH TRAVES	MAUREEN NEWBIGGIN
ALTAR SERVERS	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
MUSIC MINISTRY	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
CANTOR				
COLLECTION	Collection baskets	are at each of the	entrances to the	Church. Thank you.
MORNING TEA	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
COUNTERS		L. MacDONALD & P. GIRLE		R & G JOHNSON

**PRAYER TO GOD FOR HELP**  
 God our Father, Creator of the world, almighty and merciful, out of love for us your sent your Son into the world as the doctor of our souls and bodies. Look upon your children who, in this difficult time of confusion and dismay, turn to you seeking strength, salvation and relief. Deliver us from illness and fear, heal our sick, comfort their families, give wisdom to our rulers, energy and reward to our doctors, nurses and volunteers, eternal life to the dead. Do not abandon us in the moment of trial but deliver us from all evil.  
 We ask this through the intercession of our Blessed Mother, and Saint Joseph, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**CONFIRMATION**  
 Parents who have their children enrolled in the Public School (from Year 6 on) and wish to have them Confirmed this year, please contact the Parish on phone number 67221103 or on email: inverellparish@armidale.catholic.org.au

**GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION – SUNDAY 13th SEPTEMBER**  
 Due to the pandemic it was not possible to take up the Good Friday Collection dedicated to supporting Christians living in the Holy Land. Pope Francis has accepted the request to move the collection to 13th September because it is the Sunday closest to the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, a solemn day in Jerusalem.