

‘And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master’s feet. “Give me time,” he said, “and I will pay the whole sum.” And the servant’s master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. “Pay what you owe me,” he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, “Give me time and I will pay you.” But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. “You wicked servant,” he said, “I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?” And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.’

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-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

13 SEPTEMBER 2020

FORGIVENESS BEYOND CALCULATION

In the parable of the Unforgiving Debtor that Jesus tells in response to Peter’s question about forgiveness, the debt of ‘ten thousand talents’ is an utterly fantastic sum: in today’s terms, ‘billions of dollars’—something that the servant, despite his plea for time, could never hope to repay. He stands to lose absolutely everything—freedom, family, possessions—for his whole life long. The master’s generosity in cancelling the debt in effect restores his life.

In comparison, the debt that the servant himself is owed by a fellow servant and which he is violently unwilling to remit, is paltry. The equivalent of a few hundred days’ wages. Given time, it could easily be paid off. Hence the wickedness of the servant in not passing on to his fellow even a tiny portion of the immense generosity he had himself received.

The Lord would have Peter and all members of the community understand that they live as people who, through Christ’s costly love, have received remission of a debt (the debt of sin) that they could never repay. How inappropriate then an unwillingness to forgive fellow members of the community the ‘debts’ set up by injury on a much smaller scale.

That said, we know that forgiveness is not something to speak of lightly. For people who have been deeply wronged finding the capacity to forgive may be the task of a lifetime. It cannot simply be willed—still less prescribed, urged or imposed by others who have not shared the loss. It is a grace, an entrance into the mystery of God’s own generosity.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

FIRST READING

Sir 27:30–28:7

A reading from the Book of Sirach.

Forgive your neighbour’s faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins?

Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.

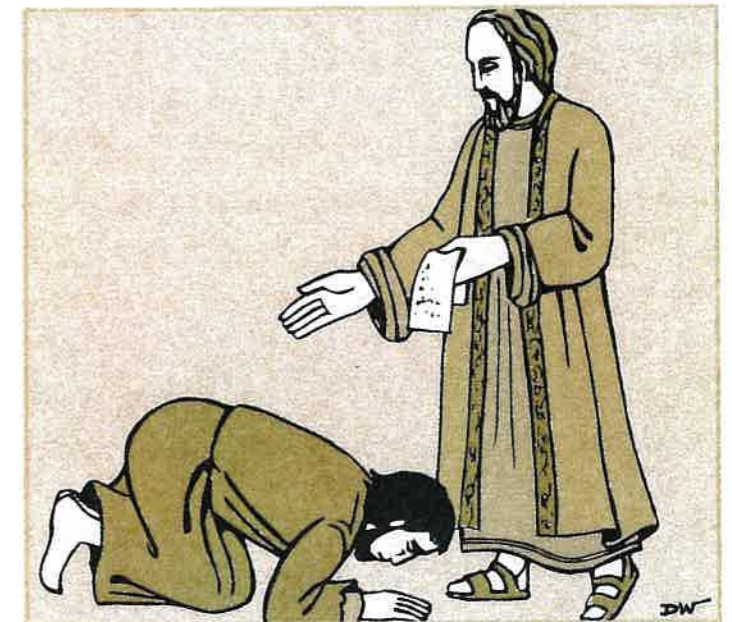
Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 102: 1-4, 9-12, R. v. 8

R. The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, / all my being, bless his holy name. / My soul, give thanks to the Lord / and never forget all his blessings. **R.**
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, / who heals every one of your ills, / who redeems your life from the grave, / who crowns you with love and compassion. **R.**
3. His wrath will come to an end; / he will not be angry for ever. / He does not treat us according to our sins / nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth / so strong is his love for those who fear him. / As far as the east is from the west / so far does he remove our sins. **R.**



SECOND READING

14: 7-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 13: 34

Alleluia, alleluia! / I give you a new commandment: / love one another as I have loved you. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 18: 21-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, ‘Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?’ Jesus answered, ‘Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.’



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 6.00pm
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 (suspended) 11.00am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 8.15am - 9.15am
Sunday 8.00am - 8.30am

Tingha St. Francis' Church Saturday 4.00pm
Ashford St Patrick's Church 1st & 3rd Sunday 11.00am

Bundarra St Mary of the Angels 2nd & 4th Sun 11.00am

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 14th Sept Rosary 9.00am
Mass 9.30am
(Feast of Exaltation of the Holy Cross)
(Chrism Mass at Armidale 5.00pm)

TUE 15th Sept Rosary 9.00am
Communion Service 9.30am
(Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows)

WED 16th Sept Rosary 11.30am
Communion Service 12 noon

THU 17th Sept Rosary 9.00am
Mass 9.30am
Funeral Mass-Ashford 11.00am

FRI 18th Sept **School Mass** 9.15am
(Our Lady of La Salette)

SAT 19th Sept Rosary 9.00am
Mass 9.30am
(Feast of Our Lady of La Salette)

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
Anne Migheli, Paul McCosker, David Watson and
Edna Watson, Patricia Durkin, Bob Mather, Jim Noble,
The Kelleher family, Cathy Matthews, Hannah Harris.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK
Emma Donaldson, Wayne Lackey, Tony Starr, Ron
Hedley (brother of Sr. Coral) Mary Kramer, Leo Germany,
Baby Isabel Akhil, 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
Valerie Beveridge, Malcolm John Lane, Sr. Kathleen
Price RSJ, Theresa Fitzpatrick (niece of Eileen Hanna)
Jeremy Norman Campbell.
**Eternal life grant unto them Oh Lord May their
souls and all the faithful departed rest in peace.**

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.

COVID 19 SAFETY PLAN FOR OUR PARISH
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 me-
tre rule, provided 'non-household' contacts can main-
tain 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 re-
quired to record their name and contact details. This is
a health tracing requirement in case of a Corona Vi-
rus 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.

**13TH SEPTEMBER 2020 – 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / YEAR A
CHILD PROTECTION SUNDAY**

CHILD PROTECTION SUNDAY
The Sacred Heart Parish of Inverell is committed to the care,
wellbeing and protection of children, young people and peo-
ple at risk in our community. We pray to help us hear their
cries of pain and to take responsibility for those whose lives
have been broken. Help us to recognise the hurt felt by those
wounded by abuse, and the failure to be heard. We ask this
through our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

GOOD FRIDAY HOLY LAND 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.

ALTER SOCIETY ROSTER FOR SEPTEMBER
Pat Mather, Judy Harris and Yvonne Campbell

UPCOMING MEETINGS
Finance Committee Thursday 24th September 5.30pm

HOME ROSARY
TINGHA Bernie & Colleen Graham
11 Diamond Street
Wednesday 16th Sept at 4.30pm
(every Wednesday)
INVERELL Fred & Jeanette Rennie
48 A Bennett Street
Wednesday 23rd Sept at 4.00pm



MEMORARE—OUR LADY OF LA SALETTE
Remember, Our Lady of La Salette, true Mother
of Sorrows, the tears you shed for me on
Calvary. Remember also the care you have
always taken to keep me faithful to Christ your
Son. After having done so much for your child,
you will not now abandon me. Inspired by this
consoling thought, I come to cast myself at your
feet in spite of my infidelities and ingratitude.
Do not reflect my prayer, O merciful Virgin, but
intercede for my conversion, obtain for me the
grace to love Jesus above all things, and to con-
sole you by a holy life, that I
may one day see you in heaven.
Amen.



INVOCATION
Our Lady of La Salette, Reconciler
of sinners, pray without ceasing
for us who have recourse to you.

CONFIRMATION DATES
Sunday 20th September 2020
Group 1 Confirmation Mass 2.00pm
Group 2 Confirmation Mass 3.30pm
Sunday 27th September 2020
Group 3 Confirmation Mass 2.30pm
*All Masses are restricted to the children and
their families due to Covid 19 regulations.*

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

	12th SEPT—SAT 6PM	13th SEPT— SUN 9AM	19th SEPT—SAT 6PM	20th SEPT— SUN 9AM
ROSTER				
GREETERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS
PROJECTOR	S. SZUMOWSKI	PAULA GIRLE	SIMON SMITH	DIANE BRYANT
READERS	ANN CASEY- RANSOM	GEOFF JOHNSON	SHAYNE O' BRIEN	ROSIE LONG
COMMENTATOR	NOELA TURNER	GERRY TAVEIRA	JO KELLY	MARGARET ROBINSON
GIFTS	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>
COMMUNION MINISTER	JUNE TURNER	ROBYN JOHNSON	JENNY MONIE	BRETT PISCHKE
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		A & H McARDLE		G. HENRY & T. NEWBERRY