

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

They all ate and were satisfied.

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go; give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. 'Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Reflections on the Gospel

YOU GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO EAT

The disciples function rather like a modern celebrity's 'minders'. When Jesus has finished healing the sick, they urge him to send the crowd away to buy food for themselves before nightfall.

Jesus reacts to the word 'buy'. He will not send people away to buy anything – nor should the disciples. When they point out with astonishment that they barely have enough for themselves (five loaves and two fish), Jesus, acting the part of divine Wisdom who speaks in the First Reading (Isa 55:1-3), *freely* provides more than enough food for the whole multitude.

His gestures in doing so – taking the loaves, blessing, breaking and giving them – clearly foreshadows the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper (Matt 26:26). To participate in the Eucharist is to experience the same divine hospitality: so lavishly provided by Jesus.

The miraculous feeding and the Eucharist which it foreshadows bring out that the essence of what God wants to do for us is simply be a most generous Host at the banquet of eternal life. At the same time, since it depicts people being fed with real food, it bears directly, in a sacramental sense, upon the problem of world hunger. The Lord who took pity on the large crowd, looks with similar eyes upon our world and instructs us, as he instructed his disciples, 'Give them something to eat yourselves'. In the words of the Venerable Pedro Arrupe (former Jesuit General): 'The Eucharist will never be complete so long as people still go hungry in our world'.

Brendan Byrne, SJ



THE SAVING WORD

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

02 AUGUST 2020

FIRST READING

Isa 55:1-3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Listen and eat.

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy; Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PSALM

Ps 144:8-9, 15-18. R. v. 16

R. The hand of the Lord feeds us, he answers all our needs.

1. 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.**
2. 'The eyes of all creatures look to you / and you give them their food in due time. / You open wide your hand, / grant the desires of all who live. **R.**

3. 'The Lord is just in all his ways / and loving in all his deeds. / He is close to all who call him, / call on him from their hearts. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 8:35, 37-39

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

No creature can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ.

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, nor any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4:4

Alleluia, alleluia! / No one lives on bread alone, / but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. / Alleluia!



St Brigid's Parish Catholic Church

9 Thomas St, Quirindi NSW
PO Box 44, Quirindi 2343
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
Willow Tree, NSW

Tel No: 02 6746 1133
Fax No: 02 6746 3172

Email: stbrigid3@bigpond.com or
quirindiparish@armidale.catholic.org.au
St Joseph's School website is -
www.stjosephsquirindi.nsw.edu.au



Parish Priest: Fr Vic Ignacio MS
Secretary: Ms Bern Press

02 6746 1133
Mon & Tues 9.00 - 11.00am
Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm

2nd August 2020 - 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Please Pray For Those Who Have Died

Recently Deceased:
Deceased: Maley O'Donnell

Anniversary: Beryl Meredith, Stella McNamara, Anthony T O'Donnell, Ena O'Donnell, Victoria Ignacio, Jesse Ignacio, Patricia Mason, Joe Giff, Bill Norman Jr, Bill Norman Sr, Ron O'Dwyer, Dominic Bower, Eric Robinson, Lorna Matheson, Alan Reading, Helen Hind, Anne Gae, Elouise Harrison, Bernie Howard, Clare Perkins, Tiny Stockdale, Margaret Health, Sue Schumaker, John Egan, Eleanor Heyman, Maureen Penigley, Roy Smith, Cas Reading.

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God Rest In Peace. Amen.

And for those who are ill:

Rita Looney, Ashley Sparkie, Bobbie Paton, Fr John Willis, Judy Purcell, Fr John McHugh, Molly, Joel & Charlie Ineson, Clare Crane, Bill Gleeson, Billy Godden, Ros Turton, Gavin Sewell, Ian Gallagher, Michael Guyer, Fiona Nolan, Gail Martin, Wendy Brown, Sue Thomson, Lucy Giff, Father Pat O'Neill, Tom Sanderson, Colleen Hyatt, Michael McCormick, Dan O'Donnell, Marie Dalton, David Williams, Jack Dunn, Colin Gallagher, Andrew McNamara, Ivy Taylor, Joan Geentree, Rosalynn Chan, and all the members of the Parish who are ill.

8/8/2020	R: B McNamara
	EM:
	G:
9/8/2020	R: D Ryan
	EM:
	G:
	C: J Daniels & K Sweep

The Sacred Liturgy

Quirindi:
Vigil Mass 5.00pm
Sunday 9.30am

Werris Creek:
Vigil Mass Saturday 6.30pm

Willow Tree:
Mass at Willow Tree 8.00am

Sunday Except the 5th Sunday of the Month where it will be 7.30am

Confessions:
Saturday 4.15pm to 4.45pm and after each Mass except Saturday night

Weekday Mass Times:

St Brigid's: Monday, Tuesday, Friday & Saturday at 9.30am.

Werris Creek: Wednesday & Thursday at 9.30am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction:

Baptisms by arrangement with Parish Priest - any Sunday at 11.30am

Rosary is said prior to Mass only when there is no Benediction

No Anointing on the 3rd Sunday of the Month during Mass

Coming Events

- National Vocations Awareness Week 2nd - 9th August 2020
- St Mary of the Cross - Solemnity - 8th August 2020 - Mass at 9.30am
- Priest Retirement Foundation Appeal and Good Shepherd Appeal For Clergy & Seminarian Education Support - Sunday 9th August 2020
- The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Mass at 9.30am - Holy Day of Obligation
- Catholic Men's Gathering Saturday 15th August 2020
- Chism Mass - Monday 14th September with Mass at 5.00pm, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- Peter's Pence Collection - 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time, 4th October, the Feast of St Francis of Assisi

Coronavirus

The following must be observed at all Masses:

1. Please sign-in on the log-sheets every time you enter the church.
2. Sanitise your hands, observe physical distancing and sit on allocated seats
3. No congregational singing, only Father to sing; no Sign of Peace.
4. Printed bulletins are for single use only and must not be reused by other people
5. One single line during Holy Communion.

Saints to Remember

St Dominic - Memorial - 3rd
St John Vianney - Memorial - 4th

Dedication of Basilica of St Mary Major - Memorial - 5th

The Transfiguration of the Lord - Feast - 6th

St Cajetan & St Sixtus II & Companions - Memorial - 7th
St Mary of the Cross - Solemnity - 8th

Baptism

This weekend we welcome Hamish Bran Cady into our Christian Community and Baptised into the Mystery of Christ and his Church. Please pray for Hamish's parents Bradley Cady & Jenna Wood and his Godparents.

St Mary of the Cross Mackillop - Saturday 8th August 2020.

Something special on the Feast of Mary Mackillop, to pray for our families, friends and the people of our world and the effects on it from the Corona Virus. Mass - 9.30 am, followed by morning breakfast at Sugar Plum Cafe 10.30 - 10.45 Covid19 Safety Rules: At this stage bookings of 10 people are accepted in 1 name, so bookings will be made according to the tables of 10 required. If Government rules change before the 8th, then those who have replied will be advised accordingly. Hope you are able to come. **RSVP Only for morning tea. - Phone Pat 0467 891170**

Catholic Men's Gathering

The ACBC National Catholic Men's Gathering for 2020 is being offered as a free event for registered participants. This modified program will be delivered in four pre-recorded sessions of approximately 1 hour in length, available from **Saturday 15th August 2020**. Each session will offer input from a variety of speakers and musicians, along with a response and questions for group discussion (link to resource) or individual reflection. The program offers flexibility so that you may participate individually or gather with others from your parish/diocese or men's ministry group. As an initiative of the Australian Catholic Bishops, the aim of the ACBC National Men's Gathering is to inspire and encourage men with a vision for personal discipleship, service and mission in the family, parish/diocese and the world. The online program hopes to reinforce that it is important to gather as men in the faith environment of the Church and be challenged to ensure the Gospel is alive in our homes, parishes/dioceses and our communities.

Registration will be free and will be available from **Monday 29th June**

Event Program: Available from **Saturday 15th August, 2020**

Please see **Father Vic for more information**

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.

Memorare

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 reject my prayer, O merciful Virgin, but intercede for my conversion, obtain for me the grace to love Jesus above all things, and to console you by a holy life, that I may one day see you in heaven. Amen.
Our Lady of La Salette reconciler of Sinners

Pray without ceasing for us who have recourse to thee

Planned Giving \$513.00 + \$45.00 = \$558.00

First Collection \$324.20