



**St John
Vianney**
Parish Morisset



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B 04 AUGUST 2024

The Word of God this Sunday encourages us to respond to a way of living that is often required of pilgrims in faith.

It's easy to be like the people in today's readings. The values of our culture have little or no sense that the world isn't about me alone, but about all of us, who are God's children.

As we listen today to Jesus' referring to himself as the Bread of Life, is he really asking us, "What do we want?"

As Catholics, do we ever ask ourselves the question? Do we ever question our life style, our attitudes, and the quality of our relationships?

We may well ask, are our values really all that much different from those of our surrounding culture?



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Awabakal People who, long before us lived, loved, educated and raised their children on this Country. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and we recognise the young people who are our future. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in our communities. We respect their deep physical and spiritual connections to Country through their stories, traditions and living cultures.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM: Uta France
John France

PRIEST SUPERVISOR: Fr Joseph Figuardo
SACRAMENTAL PRIESTS: Fr Greg Barker VG
Fr Darryl Mackie
Fr Raphael Madukwe
Fr John Purnell

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Juliet Hutchins
Mal Melvey
Pam Melvey
Kerry Lendon
Rod Hay

PARISH SECRETARY: Rosanna Suckling

PARISH OFFICE: 60 Yambo Street, Morisset, PO Box 87, Ph: 02 4973.6859
Office Hours: 9.00 am to 2.00pm—Monday to Friday (except public holidays)
(We ask that you make an appointment to come to the office)
Morisset Parish Office email: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au
Morisset Parish Web site: www.vianneymorisset.org
Morisset Parish Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>

UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :

Saturday	3rd August 5pm Family Mass—Morisset
Sunday	4th August 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Tuesday	6th August 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset
Friday	9th August 10.30am Mass—Morisset
Saturday	10th August 5pm Mass—Cooranbong
Sunday	11th August 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Tuesday	13th August 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset
Friday	16th August 10.30am Mass—Morisset
Saturday	17th August 5pm Family Mass—Morisset
Sunday	18th August 9.30am Mass—Morisset
Tuesday	20th August 9.30am Liturgy—Morisset
Friday	23rd August 10.30am Mass—Morisset
Saturday	24th August 5pm Mass—Cooranbong
Sunday	25th August 9.30am Mass—Morisset

DISCLAIMER: Unless otherwise stated, the advertisements placed in this bulletin are placed by independent third parties who have no legal relationship with the Diocese. The activities or services of the advertisers are not supervised or controlled in any way by the Diocese. The Diocese is not in a position to endorse the advertisers or the services provided and makes no representation about those matters. Accordingly, the Diocese cannot accept any responsibility for the advertisers or the activities or services that are the subject of these advertisements.

Reflection for the 18th Sunday.

In 2024, we live in changing and challenging times!

In a world that is threatened with pollution, the depletion of resources, and of healthy conditions for life, can we go on living the way we used to? The temptation to go back to the good old days, is as real for us today, as it was for God's people wandering in the desert.

In the first reading, we hear the story of God's people succumbing to the temptation of nostalgia. They prefer the predictable past, to the unknown and uncertain future. All the readings have one goal, which is, to give up the old way of living.

Though conditions in 2024 have changed, Jesus' instructions are still as relevant today, and the basic principles remain the same. It is a great challenge to all of us to be active, not passive followers of Christ, and to be not only receivers, but also givers. God works through us. Christian discipleship demands our moral courage, integrity and fidelity. We do so by our willingness to confront situations of injustice and conflict without compromising the Gospel

In the 1950s when the Korean War was raging, a little village came under heavy artillery fire. In the village stood a Catholic church. Outside the church, mounted on a pedestal, was a statue of Christ. When the smoke of the battle cleared away, the statue had disappeared. It had been blown off its pedestal and lay in fragments on the ground.

A group of American soldiers helped the priest to collect up the fragments. Carefully they put the statue together again. They found all the pieces except the hands. They offered to fly back to America and have hands made for it. But the priest refused.

'I have a better idea' he said. 'Let us leave it without hands. And we will write on the pedestal the words: Friend Lend Me Your Hands. In that way passers-by will come to see that Christ has no hands but ours to raise up the fallen.'

The God revealed in Jesus, calls us to rise to the challenge of a new way of thinking and acting that brings forth the Kingdom of justice, peace and life for all. This new way of living can open up new possibilities.

Let us pray that we have the courage to respond to God's call at this time. May we use our hands and gifts in such a way that others will know your goodness and give thanks as we do..

-John France

aMeN Camino-2024

Once again Diocesan pilgrims will be visiting the Church of St Patrick & St Bridget Cooranbong, this Monday 5th August, as a part of the aMeN Camino 2024. Their visit will include celebrated prayer liturgy and afternoon tea, as well as stories about the history of the church. The expected arrival is around 3pm

If anyone could help with hospitality to the pilgrims, we would be happy to hear from you. Contact John or Uta

Paris Games: press release from the French Bishops' Conference

I share with you the statement from the Catholic Bishops of France following the opening ceremony of the Paris Olympics. I share the sentiments of their statement which remains peaceful and respectful whilst defending the dignity of Jesus Christ and of Christians.

I note that the organisers of the Paris Olympics have given a brief apology.

Yours in Christ

Bishop Michael

In the run-up to the Paris Games, the Holy Games project, inspired by the Roman Catholic Church, has been mobilizing a large number of Catholics for almost three years, to share the sporting and popular fervor surrounding the Paris Games, this magnificent event organized by our country. Last week, we were delighted to host the opening mass of the Olympic truce, in the presence of numerous religious, political and sporting figures.

We believe that the values and principles expressed and disseminated by sport and Olympism contribute to the need for unity and fraternity that our world so desperately needs, while respecting everyone's convictions, around the sport that brings us together and promotes peace among nations and hearts. Last night's opening ceremony, organized by the French COJOP, offered the world a marvelous display of beauty and joy, rich in emotion and universally acclaimed.

This ceremony unfortunately included scenes of mockery and derision of Christianity, which we deeply regret. We would like to thank the members of other religious denominations who have expressed their solidarity with us. This morning, we are thinking of all the Christians on every continent who have been hurt by the outrageousness and provocation of certain scenes. We want them to understand that the Olympic celebration goes far beyond the ideological biases of a few artists. Sport is a wonderful human activity that deeply delights the hearts of athletes and spectators alike. Olympism is a movement at the service of this reality of human unity and fraternity. Now it's time to take to the field, and may it bring truth, consolation and joy to all!

Parish Office

The Parish Secretary is on leave this week. The Parish Office will be closed until 9am Monday 12th August. If you need assistance please call the Parish Office and a member of the PLT will answer the Call.

Points to Ponder

Traditions have always been an important dimension of celebrating faith. Each age is a time of special grace, including our age of high technology.

Did You Know? Until the 19th century priests wore no distinguishing clothes. The black suit and Roman collar is a more recent custom. Today it is in a transition phase as clergy wear clerical shirts of different colours or lay clothes. Ironically, the traditional 'turned around' collar was first worn by Protestant clergy in Europe.

St John Vianney

This Sunday 4th August is the Feast of St John Vianney patron Saint of our Parish, and Primary School. John Vianney was a French Catholic priest often referred to as the Curé d'Ars. He is known for his priestly and pastoral work in his parish in Ars, France, resulting in the radical spiritual transformation of the community and its surroundings

In 1818, when Vianney's was first assigned to Ars, Vianney got lost trying to find the town. Two young men tending flocks in the fields pointed him in the right direction. There are statues of Vianney in many French churches and in Catholic churches throughout the world. Also, many parishes founded in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries are named after him.

St Mary Mackillop

This Thursday 8th August we celebrate the Feast Day of St Mary Mackillop

Mary Mackillop was born 15 January 1842 in Victoria and died 8th August 1909 at North Sydney.

She was the first Australian to be canonized a Saint in October 2010.

When Mary saw families living on the margins without access to education, she set out right away to open a school in an old stable and teach children herself — regardless of their gender, race, faith, or wealth.

Mary's faith and determination inspired the hearts of those around her with many other young women joining her ministry as Sisters of St Joseph. She and her Sisters went wherever the need was greatest. They gave up everything to live amongst the people they served and teach with love and compassion.

Although Mary and her Sisters found themselves up against enormous challenges, they continued to walk with people every step of the way from dire need to becoming a flourishing community. They saw injustice and were fierce to act, so children wouldn't miss out on fair access to education.

It is documented that Saint Mary McKillop visited Coorabong where she had a convent school.

Baptism Preparation Program

Baptism is a happy event and a time to ponder God's loving gifts in our lives. For those seeking baptism for their children our baptism preparation programs will usually run in the evenings on the second Tuesday of the Month starting at 7pm, bookings are essential. Our next Program will be held on **Tuesday 13th August 2024**. Bookings can be made online at the link at: <https://forms.office.com/r/wZtatkt01V> or by contacting our Parish Office.

Men's Group

The 'men's group' will meet this Tuesday evening in the Callinan Centre at 7pm. All men welcome.

Moving Forward- St John Vianney Parish-2024

At the last PPC meeting discussion was held around the outcomes from the Parish Assembly, and what it means for the parish moving forward in 2024. From discussion it became clear, that before we move forward, and a questionnaire presented to the parish, more clarity and explanation is required around governance for a Synodal Parish.

Whatever model of Synodal Parish is preferred, there is an expectation that the various Councils and Teams will be operative.

So what is?

A Parish Pastoral Plan

A Pastoral Plan is a set of goals and objectives, freely embraced by a community through a process of shared decision-making, which directs a community in its pastoral activities and decisions. It is the guiding light for all bodies and teams in a parish.

So what is?

A Pastoral Council

A Pastoral Council is a group that is representative of an entire parish. Its function according to the Code of Canon Law is "to investigate and weigh matters which bear on pastoral activity and formulate practical conclusions regarding them". (Canon 511)

Its responsibilities, therefore, include the preparation and evaluation stages of decision-making

To be continued.....

Hunter Community Alliance

Leaders from the Morisset Catholic Church, the Morisset Uniting Church, the Morisset Anglican Church, and the HCA, are planning a 'listening session' with Local council candidates and the Federal Member Daniel Repacholi, to be hosted by **Morisset Uniting Church, 10 Stockton St, Morisset Monday 26th August, 3:30pm-5:30pm**

'Booing and heckling' not permitted.

(All ages encouraged – children under 18 will need to be accompanied by a responsible adult).

With A Light Heart

After being away on a two-week business trip, Tim thought it would be good to buy his wife of fifteen years a present, so he went to a local gift shop. He asked the woman at the counter for some assistance.

"How about some perfume?" he asked the woman. She showed him a bottle costing \$60.

"No, that's a bit much," he said.

The woman then said, "We do have this smaller bottle for \$40."

"Nah! That's still a fair bit," said Tim.

The girl showed him a much smaller \$15 bottle, but he shook his head. He said that was also too much.

"What I mean is," he added, "I'd like to see something really cheap."

The woman handed him a mirror.

SUPPORTING THE CLERGY / 1st Collection

If you would like to make contributions to support the Clergy / 1st Collection please do so at Mass in the BLUE bucket or electronically using the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page, Diocese App, Electronic Funds Transfer Only Bank Account Name: Morisset Parish Presbytery BSB: 066739 No: 100004062 Ref: 1st Collection, SURNAME or Donation or contact the parish office to set up a direct debit.

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH / 2nd Collection

If you would like to make contributions to support our Parish please do so at Mass via the RED bucket or our Parish Electronic Funds Transfer Only Account the details are: Account Name: Morisset Parish Church BSB:066739 Account Number: 100004064 please use one of the following Payment References PG + your giver number or PG + SURNAME or SURNAME you can also use the Online Payments or Planned Giving button on the Parish Website Home page or the Diocese App. If you are considering taking up **planned giving** you may like to know that **a percentage of the contributions are tax deductible**. If you would like to know more or set up planned giving please contact the Parish Office.

WEEKEND ROSTERS			
		<u>THIS WEEK</u>	<u>NEXT WEEK</u>
<u>PRESIDERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	Mass Mass	Mass Mass
<u>PROCLAIMERS:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	F Pascoe P Melvey	H White K Lendon
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	M Lawrence L McRae	J Vipan M Foo
<u>GIFTS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	P Melvey K Tonkin TBA	P Melvey B Cox L Hutchinson G Hutchinson
<u>SERVERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	C Lawandos V Paulo	M Melvey M Melvey
<u>AV</u>	5PM 9.30AM	J Vipan J France	J France T Alexander
<u>WELCOMERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	H White TBA	J France H White
<u>CHURCH CLEANING</u>	COOR MOR	XXXX B Hutcheson D Whitten	J Scully C Lawandos K Lendon

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults.

Our Parish supports The Diocese in its zero-tolerance approach to abuse. Every one of us must each day commit ourselves individually and collectively to safeguard each child and every vulnerable person to whom we interact with.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable person please contact the Office of Safeguarding Phone: 02 4979 1390

Email: childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au,

or visit their website for further information:

www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMINITIES

- SAINT DOMINIC (M) - 3RD AUGUST
- SAINT JOHN VIANNEY (M) - 4TH AUGUST
- THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD (F) - 6TH AUGUST
- ST JOHN VIANNEY— 6TH AUGUST
- SAINT MARY OF THE CROSS (S) (MARY MACKILLOP) - 8TH AUG
- SAINT LAWRENCE (F) - 10TH AUGUST
- SAINT MAXIMILIAN MARY KOLBE (M) - 14 AUGUST
- THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY VIGIL— 14 AUG
- THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (S) - 15 AUG
- SAINT BERNARD (M) - 20 AUG
- SAINT PIUS X (M) - 21 AUG

Please pray for all those who are sick: in hospital or at home, especially those living with a life threatening disease:

Anna Dussin, Mary Carapiet, Monica Gray, Koby Smith, Annette Boyd, Mary Monaghan, Clare Wallington, Donna Hazzard, Pam Mullaly, Tintumol Thomas, Peter Martyn, Bernadette Martin, Bruce Gillett. Matthew Thomson

Please pray for those who have been called to eternal life

Recently Deceased: Beryle Wilkinson



Prayer Requests for the Bulletin

If you would like the parish to pray for a family member who is sick, recently deceased or you would like remembered please call or email the parish office or complete a prayer card for each person and place in the mail box near the parish office door. Cards are available at the back of the church and at the Parish Office.

All prayer requests require permission from a family member or the person. Due to Australian privacy laws.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

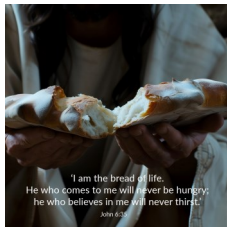
My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite
myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.



Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream



We are committed to the
**NATIONAL CATHOLIC
SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS**



SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE
Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year B
Sunday 04 Aug 2024

The Introductory Rites

Acknowledgement of Country

We Acknowledge the Awabakal and Darkinjung nations as the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land our parish encompasses for thousands of years, and honour and pay respect to, Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

Gathering

The Lectionary/Roman Missal or a Bible may be placed on a table together with a candle and a cross.

Sign of the Cross

Leader:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All:

Amen.

Greeting

Leader:

Blessed be Jesus who makes us one,
and strengthens us by the power of his Spirit.

All:

Blessed be God forever.

Introductory Remarks

Leader (in these or similar words):

Friends in Christ,
although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist this day,
we gather in God's name
for when two or more come together
God is always with us.

We worship in union with the whole Church
keeping this day of the Lord holy.

Opening Rite

LITANY OF PRAISE

Leader:

Before listening to the Word of God let us praise the Lord Jesus
Christ who has raised us to new life.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, you ask us to put aside our old selves: Lord, have
mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you are the true Bread from Heaven: Christ, have
mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, all who come to you will never be hungry: Lord, have
mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

God of all goodness,
your creation fills the earth
and you answer the prayers of all who trust in you.
Turn us away from storing earthly riches
and help us to seek heavenly treasures that last forever.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Exodus 16:2-4. 12-15

A reading from the book of Exodus

I will rain bread from heaven upon you.

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain
against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them,
'Why did we not die at the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt,
when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat
bread to our hearts content! As it is, you have brought us to this
wilderness to starve this whole company to death!'
Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Now I will rain down bread for you
from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather
the day's portion; I propose to test them this way to see whether
they will follow my law or not.'

'I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to
them, "Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the
morning you shall have bread to your hearts content. Then you
will learn that I, the Lord, am your God.'" And so it came about:
quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the
morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When
the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was
a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground.
When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, 'What
is that?' not knowing what it was. 'That' said Moses to them 'is
the bread the Lord gives you to eat.'

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 77:3-4. 23-25. 54. R. v.24

(R.) The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

1. The things we have heard and understood,
the things our fathers have told us,
we will tell to the next generation:
the glories of the Lord and his might. **(R.)**
2. He commanded the clouds above
and opened the gates of heaven.
He rained down manna for their food,
and gave them bread from heaven. **(R.)**
3. Mere men ate the bread of angels.
He sent them abundance of food.
He brought them to his holy land,
to the mountain which his right hand had won. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:17, 20-24

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Put on the new person that has been created in God's image.

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaim:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to **John**

All:

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 6:24-35

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never thirst.

When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they found him on the other side, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly,
you are not looking for me
because you have seen the signs
but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat.
Do not work for food that cannot last,
but work for food that endures to eternal life,
the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you,
for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.'

Then they said to him, 'What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?' Jesus gave them this answer, 'This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.' So they said, 'What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'

Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly,
it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven,
it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven,
the true bread;
for the bread of God
is that which comes down from heaven
and gives life to the world.'

'Sir,' they said 'give us that bread always.' Jesus answered:

'I am the bread of life.
He who comes to me will never be hungry;
he who believes in me will never thirst.'

Reader:

The Gospel of the Lord.

All:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All are seated.

Reflection on the Word

A short period of reflection may be observed.

Q. When Jesus answers the crowd's question of what they must do, why do they then ask for a sign?

Q. Why would the production of manna from heaven have been prophesied as a sign of the Messiah?

Q. What is your understanding of Jesus describing himself as the Bread of Life?

Q. How does this image assist your understanding of and engagement with Eucharist?

Profession of Faith

Leader:

In union with the whole Church
let us profess our faith.

All:

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Faithful

Leader: Brothers and sisters, nourished by the Word, we turn to God with our prayers.

Reader: That our Holy Father, Pope Francis, may draw strength from the Bread of Life to share God's providence with all. In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That warring nations will set aside their differences and build peaceful relationships with each other. In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That young people will respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in their Christian lives. In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That our parish community who feed on the bread from heaven may live and believe in Christ's living gospel. In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all the sick will be healed through God's merciful love. In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all those who have died will dwell forever in the house of God. In your kindness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God our Father, you satisfy our need through the bread of life. Hear our prayers and help us to live lives of holiness and truth. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader:

At the Saviour's command
and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:

All:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.**

The Concluding Rite Blessing

Leader:

May the Lord be with us and protect us
now and for ever.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All:

Amen.

Dismissal

Leader:

Let us go in the peace to love and serve the Lord.

All:

Thanks be to God.

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.

Short course enriches our faith for the long-haul

There is something romantic about a foreign language such as French, Spanish or Italian. For instance, I recently completed a local 'short course' on Christian spirituality; in Spain, where the course was founded, it has the exotic title 'Cursillo'.

DAVID MCGOVERN PUBLISHED JULY 01, 2024

Beginning on Thursday night and concluding on a Sunday evening, a Cursillo weekend involves a series of talks presented by different members of the hosting team, small group discussions, meals, prayer and some of the Catholic sacraments, such as Mass and reconciliation.

As it was my first experience on a Cursillo weekend, I was among the seven participants known as 'candidates'.

Surrounded by others, including Team Leaders Mike and Linda Norris and people from a range of parishes across our diocese

(including Cessnock, Taree and Old Bar, Maitland and Newcastle) the group converged on the old Catalina hospital facility at Rathmines to take part in the weekend.

As a newcomer, I understand that the Cursillo Movement proposes no new type of spirituality, but offers a method through which one's spirituality may be developed, lived and shared in any area of human life where Christians are willing to dedicate their lives to God in an ongoing manner.

Some of the questions that it asked us to consider included: In today's world, can Christianity penetrate the many areas of secular life?

Can it live and grow there?

Can it transform the world in a more fruitful way than in the past and in keeping with the times?

Topics explored across the weekend, as part of the daily presentations by team members, included Ideal, Grace, The Lay Person in the Church, Faith, Piety, Study, The Sacraments, Action (Lay Evangelization), Obstacles to a life of Grace, Leaders, Study of the Environment, Life in Grace, Christianity in Action, The Cursillista beyond the Cursillo and Total Security (in Jesus).

Each talk offered something precious and invaluable insights that helped deepen my faith and reminded me that when it comes to my place in the world, 'I am enough'.

There were many "a-ha moments". Those glimpses into the reality and beauty of a relationship with God, His Son Jesus and the power and joy of the Christian faith, especially when it is shared with others.

The first stirrings of what was to become the Cursillo Movement began on the island of Majorca, Spain during the 1940s. The Spanish Civil War had ended in 1939, and the years after the Civil War were a time of ferment and growth in the Spanish Catholic Church.

Cursillo, as we recognise it today, grew out of a series of preparatory courses on living one's life for Christ, given to those who would lead the young Christian Catholic men of Spain on a pilgrimage to the shrine of St James at Compostela in 1948.

It was a sign of the significance of Cursillo, as a lay movement in the contemporary Catholic Church that more than 100 messages of support and prayer were received from around the world, dedicated to the team and candidates on the Cursillo weekend in the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese. At the same time as our weekend was unfolding, 55 similar weekend experiences were taking place in various dioceses in other parts of the world.

For more information about Cursillo and future weekends, please get in touch with the President of the Cursillo Secretariat in the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese, Greg Standing via gregstanding@gmail.com

Family Mass
5pm
Saturday
3rd August

St John Vianney
Parish Morisset

Join us in our Morisset Church 60 Yambo St
Children who are completing their sacraments are expected to stay for this mass after their sessions.

Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle
Library

BOOK CLUB

First Meeting Saturday 17th of August 2024
11:00am



12 Tudor Street, Newcastle West, 2302
0409033449

Register now
Scan QR Code





SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE

Sunday 04 Aug 2024

*Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year B*

The Introductory Rites

Acknowledgement of Country

We Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation. We especially acknowledge the Awabakal and Darkinjung peoples who were the original custodians of the land this parish sits on.

Gathering

The Lectionary/Roman Missal or a Bible may be placed on a table together with a candle and a cross.

Sign of the Cross

Leader:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All:

Amen.

Greeting

Leader:

Blessed be Jesus who makes us one,
and strengthens us
by the power of his Spirit.

All:

Blessed be God forever.

Introductory Remarks

Leader (in these or similar words):

Friends in Christ,
although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist this day,
we gather in God's name
for when two or more come together
God is always with us.

We worship in union with the whole Church
keeping this day of the Lord holy.

Opening Rite

LITANY OF PRAISE

Leader:

God's kindness brings hope to the world.
To prepare ourselves to hear his Word
let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, you show compassion to those in need: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you suffered for our sake: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you came to preach the good news to all: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader:

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

All:

Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

Draw near to your servants, O Lord,
and answer their prayers with unceasing kindness,
that, for those who glory in you as their Creator and guide,
you may restore what you have created
and keep safe what you have restored.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Exodus 16:2-4. 12-15

A reading from the book of Exodus

I will rain bread from heaven upon you.

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, 'Why did we not die at the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our hearts content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day's portion; I propose to test them this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.'

'I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, "Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your hearts content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God.'" And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, 'What is that?' not knowing what it was. 'That' said Moses to them 'is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.'

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 77:3-4. 23-25. 54. R. v.24

(R.) The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

1. The things we have heard and understood,
the things our fathers have told us,
we will tell to the next generation:
the glories of the Lord and his might. **(R.)**

2. He commanded the clouds above and opened the gates of heaven. He rained down manna for their food, and gave them bread from heaven. (R.)
3. Mere men ate the bread of angels. He sent them abundance of food. He brought them to his holy land, to the mountain which his right hand had won. (R.)

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:17, 20-24

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Put on the new person that has been created in God's image.

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to John.

All:

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 6:24-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never thirst.

When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they found him on the other side, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat. Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life, the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you, for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.'

Then they said to him, 'What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?' Jesus gave them this answer, 'This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.' So they said, 'What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'

Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven, it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven, the true bread; for the bread of God

is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.'

'Sir,' they said 'give us that bread always.' Jesus answered:

'I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.'

Reader:

The Gospel of the Lord.

All:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All are seated.

Reflection on the Word

A short period of reflection may be observed.

Profession of Faith

Leader:

In union with the whole Church let us profess our faith.

All:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful

Prayer of the Faithful

Leader: With steadfast hearts let us turn to the Lord, trusting in God's mercy and power.

Reader: That church leaders everywhere will guide their people with wisdom and faith. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That messengers and prophets will remain safe as they seek to expose corruption and injustice. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That cultural and ethnic diversity be appreciated as a source of strength and harmony. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That solutions can be found and implemented to assist people struggling with the cost of living. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That we will honour and respect the culture and heritage of all Australians, particularly that of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That students, teachers and school communities will be ready to meet the challenges and joys of the new school year. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all the sick and housebound will experience the love and support of our community, including those who are members of our community and families. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all who have died will enter God's heavenly kingdom, including those who were members of our community and families. In your goodness:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God of all goodness, you sent Jesus to be our teacher and saviour. Hear our prayers and help us prepare for the coming of your kingdom.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader:

At the Saviour's command
and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:

All:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The Concluding Rite Blessing

Leader:

May the God of glory fill our hearts with peace and joy,
now and for ever.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All:

Amen.

Dismissal

Leader:

Let us go in peace.

All:

Thanks be to God.

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.

10 Questions about Ordinary Time

Worship and Prayer Officer Fiona Duque answers some questions about Ordinary Time below!

 **FIONA DUQUE**  PUBLISHED JUNE 24, 2024

What is Ordinary Time?

Ordinary Time is really a time that is quite extraordinary. What is extraordinary is that God is present with us in the ordinary, mundane, ups and downs, joys and sorrows, of everyday life. It is a time that focuses on Jesus' public ministry. It is sometimes seen as a time of opportunity for people to reflect on the richness of Jesus' life, his healing, his mission and his teaching.

When is Ordinary Time?

Ordinary Time is divided into two parts; however, it is still considered a single liturgical season of 33-34 weeks. The first part begins after the Christmas liturgical season and continues until Lent starts. The second part begins on the Monday after Pentecost and ends on the Saturday before the first Sunday of Advent.

Why is it called Ordinary?

The word ordinary, in this context, comes from the Latin *ordo* which means *order*, as in following a particular sequence. In this instance it is numerical (Second Sunday, Third Sunday...) and they take us through the life of Christ.

What colour is Ordinary Time?

Green is the colour given for Ordinary Time. There are many perspectives around the colour green, and it depends on which theologian you read. We often associate green with new life, growth and hope. If we think about Ordinary Time as a time to nurture our faith by liturgical life of the Church through the Table of the Word at Sunday Mass, then we will find ourselves grounded, watered and in green pastures.

How can I deepen my connection to God and God's creation?

So, if Ordinary Time is a time of hope, growth and new understandings, what might this liturgical season bring to our day-to-day lives? Apart from attending Mass on Sundays and being immersed in the Word of God and the life of Jesus, you could find time to reflect, spend time in nature, read books such as *Laudato Si* by Pope Francis, and take part in the Seasons of Creation held during September. This is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment with each other.

I went to Mass during Ordinary Time but the priest wasn't wearing Green. Why?

Typically, the priest will be wearing green at Mass on Sundays during this time. However, some Sundays and weekday Masses are special days and white may be worn (or the occasional red). They may be in order of importance: Solemnities, Feasts, Obligatory Memorials, Optional Memorials. Some examples are: The Most Holy Trinity, *Corpus Christi*, Christ the King.

Where does the term Ordinary come from historically?

Before the liturgical reforms of the Second Vatican Council (this happened from 11 October 1962 to 8 December 1965), these periods of Ordinary Time were referred to as "the season after Epiphany" and "the season after Pentecost." In 1969, when the liturgical calendar was revised, the Latin name for this season was "Tempus per Annum" or in English, "Time during the Year."

What is the Communion of Saints?

Without the intense focus that we have during Lent and Advent, Ordinary Time can be a good time to explore and reflect also on the lives of the saints on their feast days. As we follow the saints feast days there is much to be learnt and to ponder for our lives - what significance can we find and relate to our own season. Some saints you might like to check out are St. Thomas Aquinas - January 28, Our Lady of Fatima - May 13, St. Kateri Tekakwitha - July 14, St. Ignatius of Loyola - July 31, St. Augustine - August 28, St. Francis of Assisi - October 4, and St. John Paul II - October 22.

Other liturgical seasons have 'things to do' such as fasting, social justice... so how can you make Ordinary Time special too?

What a great time to focus on the day-to-day life of Jesus. Find time to learn about the Saints. Find new ways to pray - this might come out of your study of the Saints. Create or rejuvenate your home prayer space. Spend time in nature and gain an even deeper appreciation for the wonderful creation that God has gifted us with. As we learn through the humanity of Jesus in this time so too can we learn to be more like Christ in our human world.

I'm not Catholic, how can I experience ordinary time? What can it mean to me?

With the hustle and bustle of our busy world it can be difficult to find order in the chaos. Ordinary Time comes to us after two of those very busy times in the religious, and secular, world - Christmas and Easter. Finding time to get reorganised, to breathe and to refocus on the importance of relationship, being in nature and reflecting on our lives cannot be understated. What a great time to find Christ in the small moments of a day.

Follow [mnnews.today](#) on [Facebook](#).