



Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

(This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws)



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B - 16th September 2018

Dear friends

This week I've been reading St Bonaventure's book, *The Journey of the Mind to God*, or more simply, the *Itinerarium*. The original title, *Itinerarium* (Latin) literally means "roadmap". The book is structured very tightly on this theme because the chapters are referred to as "steps", therefore with each chapter one steps closer and closer to God. The book is short (38 pages), but VERY dense. Therefore, even Bonaventure warns the reader against turning his considerations into a sprint saying one, "ought not to run perfunctorily through these considerations but rather take his (sic) time and mull them over". If the *Itinerarium* were a cake it would be the richest Boston Cheesecake you've ever tasted – so savour it, consume it slowly, enjoy each and every mouthful!

Itinerarium was written in 1259, two years after St Bonaventure became the 7th Minister of the Franciscan Order. The book is deeply embrewed in the spirit of St Francis, the "poor Man of Assisi" and therefore St Bonaventure has a keen eye for the beauty of God's creation and the evangelical counsel of poverty. The language is poetic. The language is also richly metaphorical and symbolic.

For instance, on the topic of poverty Bonaventure admires Francis for choosing to be poor. This is different from being born poor. Francis was born rather wealthy but chose to be poor, renouncing his father's business as a cloth merchant. Poverty, for both Bonaventure and Francis is more than material detachment. Fundamentally, being "poor" for them, is a gateway to the understanding of a more basic poverty. A poverty which acknowledges our deep spiritual impoverishment that cannot be overcome by human effort alone but by God's grace, because in comparison to God every person is poor. Bonaventure does not want to downplay material poverty in anyway, rather *Itinerarium* maps out a path that leads us to the greatest treasure - God, who's superabundant love constantly "brims over" for us. *Itinerarium* illuminates Christ's parable of the "pearl of great price"; sell everything and go after it!

As you can probably guess the book comes highly recommended. I will finish with Bonaventure's own words, "Man, (sic) blinded and bent over, sits in darkness and does not see the light of heaven, unless grace comes to his (sic) aid" (*Itinerarium* 1,7).

God bless

Fr Thomas

Parish Diary:

Monday 17th September

2:00pm Activities Group
7:00pm Rosary

Tuesday 18th September

10:30am Mass at Sylvan Wood
7:00pm SVdP Meeting
7:30pm Baptism Preparation Evening

Wednesday 19th September

10:00am Prayer Group
5:00pm Music Practice

Thursday 20th September

St Andrew Kim Tae-gon

5:30pm Reconciliation
6:00pm Mass

Friday 21st September

St Matthew

9:30am Mass
10:40am Mass at Dutch Village

Saturday 22nd September

3:30pm Baptism Celebration
6:15pm Mass

Sunday 23rd September

8:00am Mass

*"Let us always meet each other
with a smile, for the smile is
the beginning of love."
- Mother Theresa*

This Week's Readings:

First Reading: *Isa 50:5-9* – I gave my body to those who struck me.

Psalm Response: I will walk in the presence of God, I will walk with you;
I will walk in the presence of God, in the land of the living.

(Alternative Psalm Response if spoken): I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

Second Reading: *James 2: 14-18* – Faith without good works is dead.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world. Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 8:27-35 – You are the Christ ... The son of Man was destined to suffer much.



Next week's Readings

First: Wis 2:12, 17-20

Second: James 3:16 – 4:3

Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

Mass Times: Saturday 6:15pm & Sunday 8:00am

Reconciliation: Thursday 5:30pm

Parish Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9am to 1pm.
Wednesday Closed.

A VOCATION VIEW:

When Jesus says "Who do people say I am?" We could interpret this as Jesus asking for feedback from His disciples about Himself. If you were to ask Jesus, 'how would you describe today's Christians?'

Pastor: Fr Frank Jones **Associate Pastor:** Fr Epati Tamati

Associate Pastor: Fr Thomas Zaranski

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Emergency Contact: 3207 4566

Safeguarding Officer: Lisa Knight ☎ 3822 2139

Parish Primary School

Principal: Mr John Spillane
10 Hardy Rd, Birkdale Q 4159
☎ 3822 5500 Fax 3822 5690
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Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them: Gilbert Briscoe, Lesley West, Rod Adams, Gemma Paxman, James Thomas, Cindy Cummins, John Bacon, Winifred Linton, Jodie Bromiley, Casey Whitby, Trish Swan, Ian Splatt, Jan Hurst, Steven West, Ava Loda, Joan Thorpe, Denise Hodgson, Patricia Haines, Kathy Stone, Christine Inch, Belinda Wheeler, Jim Gair, Cely Salisbury, Anne Delamere, The Bade Family, Carol Parker, Brian Crimmins, Brian Johnston, Medi Camelli, Hazel Foster, Dan Mullan, Dianne Charlton, Stana Matic, Page Brosnan, Dot Abrahams, John Schoites, Corrie Roser, Amelia Ramsay, Betty Reagan, Mary Chylewski, Jeanette Moore, Nola Murphy, Christiana Becker, Cathy Leane, Pauline McNamee, Pat Crimmins, Gina Mather, Paul McKean, Marina Weightman.

May God embrace all who have recently died: Celsa Obligado, Michael Mossop, Paul Claussen.

Anniversaries & Remembrances September: Gino Bunin, Storgato Carmelo, Thelma Ferris, Grace Longwill, Agnes Sherry, Gianni Tocchetti, Emilia Santarosa, Bertie Perera (father of Lorraine Kumar), Arthur Pitts, Herbert Chiverall, Herbert Chiverall Snr, Patrick Maxwell, Todd Hayes, David Colman, Ann Walsh, James Knight, Tom Lanigan, Theresa Fitzgerald, Iris Morley, Gordon & Ruby Rixon, (baby) Leo Smith, Porferia Balito, Brian Burnheim, Joshua Baulch, Margaret Frost, Ursula Briggs, John Baldacchino, Dolly Kenny, Patrick Crotty, Kath & Bill Buckpitt, Edith Splatt, Terry Britt, Vince Mawn, Clarence Wilcox, Joe & Kit Whittaker, Frances Reason, Teresa Myrda, Shirley Swann, Ron Reily, Katherine Vitali, Mary Murphy, Thomas McNamee, Fabio Ferri, Allan Salisbury, Claire Coulson, Angelo Santarossa, Nessa McGleenon, Tom Curran, Linda Connah, James Hume.

Please record any further names in the Anniversaries & Remembrance Diary at the Welcome Desk

Roster 22nd & 23rd September

Junior Ministers		Readers		Extraordinary Ministers of Communion		Music		
6:15pm	Volunteers needed	6:15pm	(1st) Matty M (2nd) Martin M (POF) Don F	6:15pm	John E, Therese E, Tom M	6:15pm	Gp 3 8:00am Gp 2	
8:00am	Douglas M	8:00am	(1st) Lorraine K (2nd) Peter L (POF) Hilda A	8:00am	Lena B, April M, Brian C, Walter G, Mark C	Powerpoint		
				*** Fewer ministers will be required during flu season*****		6:15pm	Emma M 8:00am Chris M	
						Counters:	Gp 4 Clinton T, Stanis D, Jeff C	
						Cleaning:	Gp 4 Christian P	
Weekend Mass Times			Week Day Mass Times			Sacrament of Reconciliation		
Saturday	Manly - 5:00pm Birkdale - 6:15pm		St John Vianney Manly Ph 3131 2610 Tuesday - 6:00pm and Wednesday - 9:30am			St Mary MacKillop Birkdale Thursday 5.30pm to 6:00pm		
Sunday	Gumdale - 7:00am Birkdale - 8:00am Manly - 9:30am		St Mary MacKillop Birkdale Ph 3822 2139 Thursday - 6:00pm and Friday - 9:30am			St John Vianney Manly Saturday 4.30pm to 5:00pm		
			Carmelite Monastery 7:00am Monday to Saturday			St Jude Gumdale Sunday following 7:00am Mass		

Thank you to everyone who offered prayers and support for Gilbert this week. Gilbert is now doing well. *Patricia Briscoe and family.*

Activities Group – we raised \$365.00 for our parish in Metinaro, East Timor from the sale of knitted scarves and beanies. Thank you to all who supported our fundraising efforts.

St Mary MacKillop School Sport News You will remember that last term we were busy collecting Coles' 'Sports for Schools' dockets. Our school collected **over 22000 dockets** and we were able to use these to purchase more than **\$800 worth of sports equipment**. A big thank you to everyone who helped collect them.

Small Coins for East Timor The collection jar for your SMALL COINS will be at the Welcome Desk each week. Total collected to date is **\$12,268.70**.

Columbarium We are now taking reservations for niches or plaques. If you would like to discuss your requirements or have any questions about the process, please contact the Parish Office on 3822 2139 to arrange a suitable time.

The 2018 Annual Catholic Campaign Thank you for your generous support of the Annual Catholic Campaign! Your donation will be carefully spent on the good works of the Church. Your gift helps educate our future priests, care for elderly priests, ensures children from impoverished families can access Catholic education, and reaches out to our most vulnerable neighbours who live with the heartache of mental illness, domestic violence and social isolation. Your generosity – great and small – is the answer to someone's prayer. There is still time to donate online catholiccampaign.com.au or call 07 3324 3200

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS Couples celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary together with their family and friends are invited to a special Mass which will be celebrated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge at Cathedral of St Stephens on Saturday 6th October 2018 at 10am. Light refreshments in the Hanly Room will follow the Mass. For catering purposes please RSVP by Friday 28th September 2018 email: cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au or Telephone 3324 3030.

Plenary Council 2020 Listen to what the Spirit is saying Why are we having a Plenary Council in 2020?

There are many reasons for having a Plenary Council for the Catholic Church in Australia: Pope Francis has invited the local church to dialogue; the contemporary society of Australia has changed significantly, and the Royal Commission into Institutional Response to Child Sexual Abuse has been a significant and influential event that requires deep consideration and response. When the Australian Catholic Bishops announced the decision to hold a Plenary Council, Archbishop of Brisbane Mark Coleridge said that "the Church is not the presence in our society it once was. We need to take a measure of that and make decisions accordingly. The culture in which we have to proclaim the Gospel is very different to what it was even 20 or 30 years ago." It is being held in 2020 in order to give the Catholic community in Australia time to listen, dialogue and discern with one another and, guided by the Holy Spirit, about the future, the role and relevance of the Catholic Church in Australia. <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au>

NEW PARISHIONER? WELCOME! If you are new to our Parish, you are most welcome. Please fill out the form below and place on one of the collection plates.

NAME(S): Mr / Mrs / Miss _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____