



Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

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



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A - 30th August 2020

Losing all to gain all with Jesus Christ....

Each of us has some problems, worry, concern and cross to bear. At times the cross may be rather insignificant; for others, the cross seems to have unbearable weight. When we face these worries, problems, fears ... these crosses, we often find our faith challenged and perhaps hope fades. But it is precisely at these times that our faith teaches us that God holds us in the palm of His hands and that life is not a game of chance.

One morning, a wealthy man sat on his balcony enjoying sunshine and his coffee, when he noticed a little ant which was going from one side to the other side of the balcony carrying a big leaf several times more than its size. The man watched it for more than an hour. He saw that the ant faced many obstacles during its journey, paused, took a diversion and then continued towards its so destination.

At one point the tiny creature came across a crack in the floor. It paused for a little while, analysed and then laid the huge leaf over the crack, walked over the leaf, picked the leaf on the other side then continued its journey.

The man was captivated by the cleverness of the ant, one of God's tiniest creatures. The incident left him in awe and lead him to contemplate the miracle of creation. It showed the greatness of the creator. In front of his eyes there was this tiny creature of God, lacking in size yet equipped with the ability to analyse, contemplate, reason, explore, discover and overcome.

About an hour later, the man saw that the creature had reached its destination, a tiny hole in the floor which was the entrance to its underground dwelling. And it was at this point that the ant's shortcoming was revealed. How could it carry into the tiny hole the large leaf that it had managed to carefully bring to the destination? It simply couldn't!

So the tiny ant, after all the painstaking and hard work and exercising great skills, overcoming all the difficulties along the way, just left behind the large leaf and went home empty-handed.

The ant had not thought about the end before it began its challenging journey and in the end the large leaf was nothing more than a burden to it. The ant had no option, but to leave it behind to reach its destination. The man learned a great lesson that day.

Isn't that the truth about our lives?

We worry about our family, our job, how to earn more money, and __where we should live, what kind of vehicle to buy, clothes to wear, all sorts of unimportant things, only to abandon all these when we reach our destination - the grave.

We don't realize in our earthly journey that these are just burdens that we carry with utmost care and fear of losing them, only to find that at the end they are useless and we can't take them with us....

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? (Mt 16: 25-26).

Blessings,

Fr. Dantus Thottathil.

This Week's Readings:

First Reading: Jer 20:7-9 - *The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.*

Psalms Response: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading: Rom 12:1-2 - *May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.*

Gospel Acclamation

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.

Gospel: Matt 16:21-27 - *Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.*



QUOTE OF THE DAY:

We learn something from everyone who passes through our lives Some lessons are painful, some are painless, but all are priceless.

Next week's Readings

Ezek 33:7-9

Second: Rom 13:8-10

Gospel: Matt 18:15-20

Mass Times: Saturday 6:15pm & Sunday 8:00am (limited to 80 people)

Reconciliation: By appointment only

Parish Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Parish Council Members: Chris Mahoney, Therese Evans, Cathy McGrath, Lorraine Kumar, John Spillane

Pastor: Fr Dantus Thottathil thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au

Associate Pastor: Fr Prem Rethnamony

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Emergency Contact: 3207 4566

Safeguarding Officer: Lisa Knight ☎ 3822 2139

STOPLINE Contact: AOb@stopline.com.au

A VOCATION VIEW:

Don't run away from what you are called to be.
Christians take the less travelled road.

"What does it profit us if we gain the whole world but ruin ourselves in the process?"

Vocation Brisbane. P: (07) 3336 9392 E: vocation@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Primary School

Principal: Mr John Spillane

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Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them: Beth Riegler, David Ward, Henk Hoonhout, Peter Goodbun, Tony Dickinson, Elizabeth Smit, Pat Cochrane, Kevin Kranz, Patricia Briscoe, Alicia Black, Tessa Gorogo, Paul McKean, Geoffrey Whall, Kevin Harrop, Judy Mullan, Charles Lilley, Ann Brown, Sally Legarda, 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, Patricia Haines, Belinda Wheeler, Cely Salisbury, The Bade Family, Carol Parker, Brian Crimmins, Brian Johnston, Medi Camelli, Hazel Foster, Dan Mullan, Stana Matic, Page Brosnan, Dot Abrahams, Amelia Ramsay, Jeanette Moore, Nola Murphy, Christiana Becker, Cathy Leane, Pauline McNamee, Pat Crimmins, Gina Mather.

May God embrace all who have recently died: Mick Gauci, Eric Thompson, Ann Duran, Mona Quantock, Angelina Grasso.

Anniversaries & Remembrances August: Ernesto Zanatta, Peg Devlin, Maureen Garty, Joel Casley, Greg Dwyer, Steve Toon, Mitchell Montgomery, Martin Walsh, Neil Bryson, Helena Sz wajczak, Patrick O'Connor, Giuseffina Garbuio, Valda Montgomery, Robert Peters, Lorenza Fenech, George Hayes, Ernie Mullan, Tom Power, Patricia Thomsen, Roxanne Allam, Peter Quinn, Christine McQuillan, Hugh Magee, Doreen Webb, Max Ferris, Ragagnin Antonio, Ellen Hume, Michael Wellington, Rosa Rominelli, Kathy MacLellan, Margaret Ansell-Vosti, Robert Squires, Mary Ward, Thomas McNamee, Helen McNamee, Modesta Santarossa, Raniero Citeroni, Angela Citeroni, Hazel Padget, Eileen Doherty, John Howard, Basilio Poloniato, Doris and Ray Sharp, Michael Czapkowski.

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

Roster 5 th & 6 th September	Readers		Music	
	6:15pm (1st) Siobhan E (2nd) John E (POF) John E	8:00am (1st) Maeghan N (2nd) Rob B (POF) Rob B	6:15pm Gp 1 Powerpoint 6:15pm Alan B	8:00am Gp 3 8:00am Chris M

Mass Celebrations Please visit the following website to register for the Mass you wish to attend.

If you are unable to utilise this online system please call the parish office to register.

Mass-Saturdays at 6:15pm - Your event URL is <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parish-mass-saturday-tickets-109262537190>

Mass-Sundays at 8:00am - Your event URL is <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parish-mass-sunday-tickets-109263853126>

People who attend will need to adhere to the following guidelines:-

You must NOT

- have been in contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 or have a fever or symptoms of a respiratory infection such as a cough, sore throat or shortness of breath

When you arrive at Mass you must

- maintain a distance of 1.5 metres between people and refrain from handshaking and hugging
- clean your hands with the alcohol-based hand rub provided when you enter and leave the Church.
- Follow instructions given by the designated Marshal at the entrance to the Church
- Sit with at least 3 vacant chairs between non-family members (family groups may sit next to each other)

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation adhering to the restrictions that are currently in place to keep our parishioners safe and keep our Church open.

Expression of Interest a position has become available on the Parish Finance Committee and we are seeking expressions of interest from anyone who would like to be involved. Meetings are approximately bi-monthly for one hour. Please email birkmmack@bne.catholic.net.au if you would like to be considered or speak directly to Fr Dantus.

Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass COVID restrictions are preventing the celebration of the Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass, held each year at the Cathedral of St Stephen, in the usual way. However, on **Saturday 26th September at the 11.30am Mass**, Archbishop Mark will celebrate Mass for the special intentions of all couples celebrating 50 years or more of marriage. Attendance of Mass at the Cathedral is restricted to 132, if however, any couple celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary are in good health and wish to attend the Mass in person, please contact the Cathedral office on 3324 3030 or register on-line via the Cathedral website: <https://www.cathedralofstephen.org.au/mass--reconciliation-times.html> The Mass will be live-streamed via the Cathedral website for those who are unable to attend in person.

Parish Diary:

Monday 31st August

1:00pm Rosary Group and Private Prayer

Tuesday 1st September

7:00pm SVdP Meeting

Wednesday 2nd September

7:30am HeartFIT
11:00am Rosary Group and Private Prayer

Thursday 3rd September

St Gregory the Great

Friday 4th September

9:30am Mass

Saturday 5th September

3:30pm Baptism Celebration
6:15pm Mass

Sunday 6th September

8:00am Mass

Bookings for Weekend Masses are essential

22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

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.

Second Reading: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

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.

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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.'