



# Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

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



## 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A - 13<sup>th</sup> September 2020

### No limit to granting forgiveness and pardon.....

Once two brothers, who lived in large acreage farms, had a falling out. It was the first serious rift in 40 years of farming side by side, sharing machinery, and trading labour and goods as needed without any problems. Then the long enjoyed harmony fell apart. It began with a small misunderstanding and it grew into a major difference, and finally it exploded into an exchange of bitter words followed by weeks of silence. One morning there was a knock on elder brother's door. He opened it to find a man with a carpenter's tool box. "I'm looking for a few days' work" he said. "Perhaps you would have a few small jobs here and there I could help with? Could I help you?" "Yes," said the older brother. "I do have a job for you." "Look across the creek at that farm. That's my neighbour; in fact, it's my younger brother. Last week there was a field between us and he took his bulldozer to the river level and now there is a creek between us. Well, he may have done this to spite me, but I'll do him one better. I want you to build me a fence so I won't need to see his place or his face anymore." The carpenter said, "I think I understand the situation and I'll be able to do a job that pleases you." The older brother had to go to town, so he helped the carpenter get the materials ready and then he was off for the day. The carpenter worked hard all that day measuring, sawing, nailing. About sunset when the farmer returned, the carpenter had just finished his job. The older brother's eyes opened wide. There was no fence there at all. It was a bridge, a bridge stretching from one side of the creek to the other! A fine piece of work, handrails and all and the neighbour, his younger brother was coming toward them, his hand outstretched. "You are quite a fellow to build this bridge after all I've said and done. "The two brothers stood at each end of the bridge, and then they met in the middle, taking each other's hand. They turned to see the carpenter and said stay a few days I have a lot of other projects for you," said the older brother. "I'd love to stay on," the carpenter said, but I have many more bridges to build.

Forgiving in the full Christian sense is a form of loving and caring. Today we are told to forgive others and our forgiveness should not be just once or twice, but seventy times seven. This means that it is an ongoing decision day after day, week after week, year after year, without counting the cost. When we do not forgive someone, it is because we are passing judgment on that person. Jesus commanded us not to judge others so that we will not be judged. Let us remember St. Francis of Assisi's prayer: "It is in pardoning that we are pardoned." Our failure to offer pardon means that we have forgotten God's goodness or have not fully appreciated the unconditional forgiveness we have received from Him.

Blessings,  
Fr. Dantus Thottathil.

### This Week's Readings:

**First Reading:** Sir 27:30-28:7 – *Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.*

**Psalm Response:** The Lord is kind and merciful; the Lord is kind and merciful.  
(Alternative Psalm Response if spoken): The Lord is kind and merciful;  
slow to anger and rich in compassion.

**Second Reading:** Rom 14:7-9 – *Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.*

### Gospel Acclamation

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

**Gospel:** Matt 18:21-35 – *I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.*



### QUOTE OF THE DAY:

**Forgiveness is a  
strange medicine  
If you give it to  
others,  
it heals the  
wounds in your  
heart.**

**Next week's Readings**    *Isa 55:6-9*    **Second:** *Phil 1:20-24*    **Gospel:** *Matt 20:1-16*

Roster	6:15pm	8:00am	8:00am	6:15pm	8:00am
19 <sup>th</sup> & 20 September	(1st) Tanina D (2nd) Michael L (POF) Michael L	(1st) Lorraine K (2nd) Steven O (POF) Steven O	<b>Readers</b>	Gp 1 <b>Powerpoint</b> Alan B	Gp 3 Clinton T

**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@stoline.com.au

### A VOCATION VIEW:

"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Make a stand for mercy, empathy, forgiveness and selflessness!

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

### Parish Primary School

Principal: Mr John Spillane  
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www.marymackillop.qld.edu.au

**Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them:** Jasmine Webb, Beth Riegler, Henk Hoonhout, Peter Goodbun, Tony Dickinson, Elizabeth Smit, Pat Cochran, 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.

**Anniversaries & Remembrances September:** Gino Bunin, Storgato Carmelo, Thelma Ferris, Grace Longwill, Agnes Sherry, Gianni Tocchetti, Emilia Santarosa, Joshua Baulch, Bertie Perera (father of Lorraine Kumar), Celsa Obligado, 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, Val Fagan, 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, Leonardo Leotta, 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.

**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.

**Good Friday Retiring Collection This Weekend** This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres throughout the Holy Land also rely on assistance from this collection. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. We are facing great challenges due to COVID-19, but your generosity would be greatly appreciated. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Sunday September 13th and please also keep them in your prayers. Thank you.

**2020 Annual Catholic Campaign** Next weekend, our Church will be supporting the Annual Catholic Campaign to help vital works of our Church and the local community. Funds raised will support ministries that directly impact this parish. Envelopes are available in the Church. Our parish is supporting the Annual Catholic Campaign this year because we know how hard it has been for many in our community. Though prayer and action, we can be a blessing to those in real need. If you are able, and would like to make a donation, you can take a Campaign brochure and giving envelope home this weekend and return it next week at Mass. or donate online at: <https://bit.ly/3aQKUXN>

**Parish Diary:**

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

*The Exaltation of the Holy Cross*

1:00pm Rosary Group and Private Prayer

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September**

*Our Lady of Sorrows*

7:00pm SVdP Meeting

7:30pm Baptism

Preparation

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September**

*Sts Cornelius and Cyprian*

7:30am HeartFIT

11:00am Rosary Group and Private Prayer

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September**

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September**

9:30am Mass

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September**

6:15pm Mass

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September**

8:00am Mass

*Bookings for Weekend Masses are essential*

## **23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**First Reading: A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus**

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? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his 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.

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

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.

**Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

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. '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.'