

22 January 2023
THIRD SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME YEAR A



Entrance Antiphon

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

First Reading from the prophet Isaiah 8:23 – 9:3

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 26:1. 4. 13-14. R. v.1

Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second Reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

Holy Gospel according to Matthew 4:12-23

Communion Antiphon

Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

We acknowledge and respect the traditional owners & custodians of the land on which we stand, the elders, past and present and all the Dharawal people. May we too be good stewards of this land.



CATECHIST SUNDAY:

This weekend in our parish we are celebrating Catechist Sunday

Catechists are parishioners from all walks of life that teach Special Religious Education (SRE) to Catholic kids in our State Schools. The children in Catholic SRE learn of God's great love for them, among other essential messages of our Catholic faith.

With more volunteer SRE teachers and helpers, we could reach more children across the Parish.

Can you give an hour of your time a week to teach or help out in a classroom? Please speak to our Parish Catechist Coordinator if you would like to get involved.

The Catechists in our parish go to St Andrews and Robert Townson Public schools each Wednesday to share our Catholic Faith and the love of Jesus with the students in the Catholic Scripture class This is important, life giving work that has a lasting impact on the young people that they teach.

In our parish there are a number of classes that need additional catechists and classroom helpers on Wednesday mornings.

Training is offered in Scripture and classroom management skills. If you feel called to be involved in this ministry please speak to Sr Ninfa after Mass or at the parish office.

Contact us

Parish Priest:
Fr. Shane Kelleher OCD

Assistant Priest:
Fr "Sam" Ransom Rapirap OCD

Parish Associate:
Sr "Jill" Girlie Sudario, CM

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Parish Office Ph:
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Office Hours:
Tuesday—Friday 9.30am-12.30pm
Email: varroville@dow.org.au
Website: varroville.dow.org.au

Mass times

Sunday Mass times	Weekday Mass times
Saturday Vigil: 6pm	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday Mass at 9am
Sunday: 9.30 am & 5pm	Thursday - Mass at 7.30pm

Reconciliation at 11am every Saturday

Healing Mass: First Saturday of each month at 9am

Adoration Prayer every Saturday at 9:30-10:30am after 9am Mass

Divine Mercy Devotion: Third Sunday at 3pm

Alliance of the 2 Hearts: First Friday at 7.30pm

Prayer intentions

For the sick & homebound: Kevin Cloran, Karen Browne, Amanda & John Meredith, Reg Gardner, Phyllis Cooper, Sr Heather Burke, Marie & Barry Atkins, Carol & Gabriel Gonzales, Amelia Jimenez, Elizabeth Moore, Greg Watson, Joe Spinnato, Susan Mella, Sean Finnerty, Rose Levoune, Francisco Carmona, Doris Wahhib, John Kajdrys.
May they experience the saving power of the risen Lord amidst their pain & affliction.

For our recently dearly departed: June Wrightman, Sandra Bastoli, Georg Hauswirth, Marites Sitjar, Ron Allen, Norly Tuyor, Lydia Fajardo, Lily Pereira, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Cardinal George Pell.

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mary Gardner, Hilda Young, John Peter Francis, Lio Feiloakitohi, Resse Mangulabnan, Florentine Menezes,

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.



Bulletin Notices

Lectio Divina Seminar: Come and learn about *Lectio Divina* or divine reading- a method for praying with the Scriptures. During the seminar, the five steps of Lectio Divina will be covered. Even if you have learned about and practiced Lectio Divina before, it is a chance to be refreshed by the Word of God as we pray with Scripture together. There will be a morning and an evening option available.

Tuesday January 31 at 9:45 am or 7:30 pm in the parish meeting room. Please register via the parish office.

Friendship Group will commence on Tuesday 7 February for morning tea after the 9am Mass. All are most welcome to come along at that time.

Parish Pastoral Council is accepting Expressions of Interest for new members.

In our Parish we have 2 Leadership Committees who meet regularly to plan for and give direction to our Ministry Teams. To summarise the different roles:

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) is responsible for creating and shaping and monitoring the overall Parish Vision, Mission and Pastoral Plan.

The Parish Leadership Team (PLT) is responsible for leading the overall implementation of the Pastoral Plan and prioritising delivery.

Ministry Leaders are responsible for leading the implementation of the Parish Vision, Mission and Pastoral Plan within a specific area of parish life.

The PPC members commit to serving on the Council for 2 years .

The current council has just completed the 2 year cycle and so, Fr Shane is inviting interested parishioners to consider joining. Anyone who would like more information should call the parish office and register their interest.

Children's Mass: Sunday 29 January at 9.30am: Our parish has a children's Mass on the 5th Sunday of the month (when there are 5 Sundays in the month). The Children's choir will sing and the children will do the readings and offertory. If you would like your children and grandchildren to take an active part in the Mass, please contact the parish office.

The Family Fun Night that was postponed in October will be held on Saturday 11 February 2023 at 7pm in the parish hall. Tickets will be available for purchase during January and all those who purchased tickets previously will be contacted to confirm they are able to attend the new date.

The Journey, 22 January 2023 – Your Diocese of Wollongong Weekly Podcast: On The Journey This Week: The Gospel reflection by Fr John Littleton on sorrow and repentance. Mother Hilda's story about God's interaction with St Jerome. Plus, we welcome back one of our earlier presenters, Marilyn Rodrigues, with her new segment, the Urban Contemplative. The Journey podcast is available at www.jcr.org.au.

Holy Gospel according to Matthew 4:12-23

He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled.

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali! Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, Galilee of the nations! The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Gospel Reflection by Dianne Bergant

Discipleship is not something that we take upon ourselves. We are called to it. Some people are very conscious of this call. They are aware of it in their aspirations and dreams; they recognise it in the events of their lives. They hear the call as clearly as Simon, Andrew, James and John heard the voice of Jesus. For others, the call to discipleship is not so clear. They may experience an undefined restlessness, a dissatisfaction with their lives. People can respond to the call in one of two ways. They can consider the mere suggestion of discipleship an intrusion into their plans, or they can drop what they are doing, leave their former concerns behind and follow Jesus.

There is a misunderstanding about being called and leaving everything behind. Although the gospel says that the four men left their occupation of fishing in order to follow Jesus, this kind of 'leaving behind' was not, and still is not, required of all, for it is in the ordinary events of life that our salvation unfolds.

For most people, this is precisely where they are to function as disciples. Still, disciples of Jesus are called to leave behind certain ways of living as they follow him. They are called away from lives of pettiness and division. They are called away from the kind of factionalism that seems to have threatened the unity of the Corinthian community. They are called away from narrow-mindedness and mean-spirited competition. It is much easier to leave nets than to leave the web of one's prejudices.