

September 3 2023
**Twenty-Second Sunday in
Ordinary Time Year A**



Entrance Antiphon

Have mercy on me, O Lord,
for I cry to you all the day
long. O Lord, you are good
and forgiving, full of mercy
to all who call to you.

First Reading the prophet
Jeremiah 20:7-9

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2
(R.) My soul is thirsting for
you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading from the
letter of St Paul to the
Romans 12:1-2

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 Matthew 16:21-27

Communion Antiphon

How great is the goodness,
Lord,
that you keep for those who
fear you.

NEXT WEEK
10 SEPTEMBER 2023
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

First: Ezekiel 33:7-9

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2.6-9. R. v.8

Second : Romans 13:8-10

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

We acknowledge and respect the traditional owners and 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.

God bless all our Fathers

Robert Falzon speaks to men at the Raising Fathers evenings conducted in Sydney last year.

Gone are the days of fathers being expected to “provide, protect and punish,” today’s dads just need to be present, says author and co-founder of menALIVE, Robert Falzon.

He said we are in an age where there is a training manual to do almost everything apart from the most important and impactful role most men play in life: fatherhood.

“Today’s men are ill-equipped and possibly damaged by five generations of fatherlessness,” he said. “The only ‘training’ that is really available is from our own parents and some of that to be honest isn’t great.

“Coming to one of my talks has the capacity to change a dad’s life, to make him stop, and think about what he’s doing now—but just as importantly, how he can do it better.

“Basically, today’s dads need to be more hands-on and involved with their kids, which sadly isn’t what goes on in most households. “Men need to be the best they can be for their families and there are small things they can start to do, which will have huge rewards.

“With Father’s Day coming up, families can also play their part, and really love dad with words. “Rather than give him a gift he doesn’t need, sit around the table and tell him how wonderful he is, affirm him and love him. It honestly will be the best gift he will get and give him something to aspire to. “Children look at their dad and learn more by looking than hearing, the greatest parenting is children seeing their dads and mums and becoming like them.

“There are many saints in homes that don’t get recognised by the church but they have done the work on themselves and love those they have been given to love. Sydney Centre for Evangelisation director Daniel Ang said the series will “illumine for fathers, who remain ever sons, that the gift of fatherhood is a daily decision.”

“We receive our life from others, from those who love us, but we also actively shape our families and children by our participation in this gift,” he said. “It’s my hope that fathers are encouraged in their vocation by these gatherings, enriched by the witness of others on this path of self-giving and in sharing their own experiences of challenge and grace.”

Happy Fathers Day to all our Dad’s today.




Happy Father’s Day!

Worship: Mass and Devotions

Sunday Mass	Weekday Mass	Devotions
Saturday Vigil: 6pm	Mon, Tues, Wed Mass at 9am	Adoration with the Rosary: Saturday 9.30am
Sunday: 9.30 am & 5pm	Thursday - Mass at 7.30pm	Divine Mercy Devotion: Third Sunday at 3pm
Filipino Mass: Third Sunday at 11.15am	Fri & Sat Mass at 9am	Alliance of the 2 Hearts Mass and Devotion: First Friday of each month from 7.30pm
Samoan Mass: First Sunday of even months at 12 noon		
Maori Mass: First Sunday at 2pm		Reconciliation: Saturday 11 am—12

Contact us

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9.30am-12.30pm

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Parish Priest: Fr. Shane Kelleher OCD

Assistant Priest: Fr “Sam” Ransom Rapirap OCD

Parish Associate: Sr “Jill” Girlie Sudario, CM

Prayer intentions

For the sick & homebound: Baby Matthew , Terry Maroun, Myka Mangos, Kevin Cloran, Karen Browne, Amanda & John Meredith, Reg Gardner, Sr Heather Burke, Marie & Barry Atkins, Carol & Gabriel Gonzales, Amelia Jimenez, 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: Rufino Baying Yanga, Diana Antilla, Gladys Bergicourt, Dolores Doyle, Petar Petrinovic, Catherine Crawford, Shirley Chitty,

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Richard McGuinness, Sanjaey Pillay.

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



Our Community: Rosters

10 September	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 5pm
Welcomers	Suzanne, Russell & Berna	Sarah, Violetti & Martin	Patricia & volunteer
Altar Servers	Maria, Cassandra, Eliana, Abigail	Orly, Luisa & Carlos	Vu & Nathan
Readers	Loretta & Gerard	Gabriel & Ofa	Evangeline & Kavya
Refreshments	Suzanne & Myra	Karen, Katalina & Tess	
CLOTW		Sarah & Fev	
Flowers	Maria & Estela	Church Vacuuming	Feiloakitohi Family
Counters	Christine & Ciria	Foyer Cleaning	Feiloakitohi Family

Our Community Notices

Pastoral Care in our Parish Our parish is blessed with a Pastoral Care Team who seek to spiritually support those in our parish who may not be able to attend Mass for a number of reasons; eg, illness, bereaved, living in a nursing home, grieving or lonely. We aspire to be visible signs of God’s loving and caring presence in the life of a person who feels they need or will benefit from prayer and spiritual support. Prayer and a kind listening ear is often balm that promotes healing.

This ministry is able to celebrate the Eucharist on such visits if requested. If you or anyone you know would like more information please contact the parish office.

Friendship Group will meet on Tuesday morning after 9am Mass. Please join us for morning tea, catch up with friends and hear the latest upcoming events around the parish. Invite a friend to come along for a cuppa too.



Bulletin Notices

Fundraising event; Save the date: 23 September at 7pm. Campfire and Open Mike Night. Come along for a relaxed family evening with a campfire and entertainment. The cost will be \$20 pp or \$50 per family. For more information contact the parish office.

Pilgrimage to Mary MacKillop Place in North Sydney on Wednesday 27 September by train. The day will include a visit to the museum, Mass in the chapel, and lunch. For more info and to register please call the parish office by 22 Sept.

The Journey, 3 Weekly Podcast On The Journey This Week Christopher del Rosario says that there is no mediocre path of Christianity. Mother Hilda has been using AI and Siri to check out where God is. Plus, Fr Tony Percy, Trish McCarthy, and Deacon Josh Clayton. The Journey podcast available at www.jcr.org.au.

Become a CatholicCare foster carer! The CatholicCare foster care team are urgently looking for a forever home for Ollie* who is 8 years old. Ollie is a very engaging, outgoing, polite and active boy. Ollie enjoys swimming, going to the park, playing Nintendo, watching movies, colouring in, and trying new foods. Ollie would love to learn to ride a bike and play soccer or Oz Tag. Ollie is looking for a forever home with carers who are kind, caring, calm, and patient who can give him a sense of security and belonging. You can find out more by calling 0418 783 956, email fosteringfutures@catholiccare.dow.org.au or go to <http://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au> for more information. CatholicCare will support you every step of the way. *name has been changed for privacy

MenALIVE Macarthur Regional Weekend, 9-10 September, Micah House, Campbelltown. Cost \$70 per person (\$50 concession). Come along to our menALIVE weekend and be impacted by an encounter with the Gospel in the presence of other good men seeking to be renewed in faith and life. So many men have had their faith transformed and renewed by the experience of menALIVE, and this is an opportunity for men who have attended a menALIVE regional weekend in the past, and men who haven't, to come together to affirm the words of St Irenaeus all over again: "God is glorified when men are fully alive!" Register: dow.sh/MACampbelltown2023

Mary in Scripture: You are invited to discover the unique role of Our Lady, as the Ark of the Covenant, New Eve, and Queen Mother in this eye opening in-service presented with Mr Daniel Saliba (CCD Wollongong) revealing the deep theological connections between Mary and her ancient biblical types. Whether you are a catechist, or someone seeking to deepen their understanding of Mary's role in salvation history, this short in-service will provide invaluable insights into the profound symbolism and theological depth of Catholic teaching on Mary. Campbelltown - Monday 18th September: 9:30am - 12:00pm; Level 1, Micah House; 35a Cordeaux Street, Campbelltown; To register for the Campbelltown seminar, please visit <https://dow.sh/marybiblectown>

A women's opportunity to experience a Cursillo three-day weekend; A Cursillo weekend will be held at Carmel House, Varroville from Thursday evening 5 October to Sunday

afternoon 8 October 2023. To view brochure and find out more, please email cursillo3dayweekend@hotmail.com or ring Geraldine Dayball on 0421 329 365.

Growing Good Men Father and Teenage Son Weekend Experience 20–22 October 2023 Cataract Scout Camp Appin. One of the most important influences in the lives of men is the relationship they had with their father or significant father figure. The encouragement and affirmation that this relationship could, and should, provide, is a key ingredient for how young men view themselves and embrace their faith and gifts as they take their place in the world. Don't miss this life-changing father and son weekend! Spots are limited to just 25 fathers with their sons aged between 12–and 16 years. This is a unique opportunity for dads and their sons to embark on a quest of discovery with Robert Falzon and the team from menALIVE. Register online <https://www.dow.org.au/events/menalive-growing-good-men-weekend/> or contact Jude Hennessy on 42222407 jude.hennessy@dow.org.au

Marriage Enrichment Weekend An opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Come and join us on 27-29 October 2023 at a Marriage Encounter Weekend in a Covid safe environment at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, a stunning & tranquil oasis on the edge of Sydney.



Season of Creation 2022 We are in the Season of Creation and there are some wonderful activities and resources for families delve into at <https://seasonofcreation.org>. Take the time as we move into Spring to pray, to plant, to recycle

and enter into the awe and wonder we find in dwelling on and being in God's creation.

Men's Rosary Group – an Invitation to all Men Men from the Parish of Rosemeadow invite other men from around the Diocese to join with them on the last Tuesday of the Month to pray the Rosary, commencing at 7pm in Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church, Rosemeadow. Such men's groups are, at this time, springing up around the world to honour Our Lady and to pray for the Church and the World. Mass is celebrated at 6:30pm on Tuesday evening's and you are welcome to also attend this prior to the Rosary if you wish. For more information, please contact David at djbarrett85@gmail.com or phone: 0410 487 630.

Go Deeper in your Faith with FREE Catholic Podcasts

- ◆ **Bible in a Year** Last year, Ascension Press ran the Catholic Bible in a Year Podcast featuring Fr Mike Schmitz and Jeff Cavins. It was the world's number 1 Religious Podcast with over 250 million downloads. It will run again throughout 2023 – and while a new podcast is released daily, you can do it at your own pace signing up at www.ascensionpress.com/biy and it's not too late to catch up or simply work through at your own pace.
- ◆ **Catechism in a Year** This year, Ascension Press have commenced the Catechism in a Year podcast which will slowly and prayerfully read through and break open the Catechism over 365 days. It's not too late to catch up, and the daily podcasts can be listened to at your own pace. It is available at www.ascensionpress.com/ciy

Holy Gospel according to Matthew 16:21-27

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

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.'



SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY by Pope Francis 30 August 2020

Today's Gospel passage (cf. Mt 16:21-27) is linked to that of last Sunday (cf. Mt 16:13-20). After Peter, on behalf of the other disciples as well, has professed his faith in Jesus as Messiah and Son of God, Jesus himself begins to speak to them about his Passion. Along the path to Jerusalem, he openly explains to his friends what awaits him at the end in the Holy City: he foretells the mystery of his death and Resurrection, of his humiliation and glory. He says that he will have to "suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised" (Mt 16:21). But his words are not understood, because the disciples have a faith that is still immature and too closely tied to the mentality of this world (cf. Rom 12:2). They think of too earthly a victory, and therefore they do not understand the language of the cross.

At the prospect that Jesus may fail and die on the cross, Peter himself rebels and says to Him: "God forbid, Lord! This shall never happen to you!" (v. 22). He believes in Jesus — Peter is like this — he has faith, he believes in Jesus; he believes; he wants to follow him, but does not accept that his glory will pass through the Passion. For Peter and the other disciples — but for us too! — the cross is an uncomfortable thing, the cross is a "hindrance", whereas Jesus considers the "hindrance" escaping the cross, which would mean avoiding the Father's will, the mission that the Father has entrusted to him for our salvation. For this reason Jesus responds to Peter: "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me; for you are not on the side of God, but of men" (v. 23). Ten minutes earlier, Jesus had praised Peter. He had promised him he would be the base of his Church, its foundation; ten minutes later he says to him, "Satan". How can this be understood? It happens to us all! In moments of devotion, of fervour, of good will, of closeness to our neighbour, we look to Jesus and we go forward; but in moments in which we approach the cross, we flee. The devil, Satan — as Jesus says to Peter — tempts us. It is typical of the evil spirit, it is typical of the devil to make us stray from the cross, from the cross of Jesus.

Addressing everyone then, Jesus adds: "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me" (v. 24). In this way he indicates the way of the true disciple, showing two attitudes. The first is "to renounce oneself", which does not mean a superficial change, but a conversion, a reversal of mentality and of values. The other attitude is that of taking up one's own cross. It is not just a matter of patiently enduring daily tribulations, but of bearing with faith and responsibility that part of toil, and that part of suffering that the struggle against evil entails. The life of Christians is always a struggle. The Bible says that the life of Christians is a military undertaking: fighting against the evil spirit, fighting against Evil.

Thus the task of "taking up the cross" becomes participating with Christ in the salvation of the world. Considering this, let us make sure that the cross hanging on the wall at home, or that little one that we wear around our neck, is a sign of our wish to be united with Christ in lovingly serving our brothers and sisters, especially the littlest and most fragile. The cross is the holy sign of God's Love, it is a sign of Jesus' Sacrifice, and is not to be reduced to a superstitious object or an ornamental necklace. Each time we fix our gaze on the image of Christ crucified, let us contemplate that he, as the true Servant of the Lord, has accomplished his mission, giving life, spilling his blood for the pardoning of sins. And let us not allow ourselves to be drawn to the other side by the temptation of the Evil One. Therefore, if we want to be his disciples, we are called to imitate him, expending our life unreservedly out of love of God and neighbour.

May the Virgin Mary, united to her Son unto Calvary, help us not to retreat in the face of the trials and suffering that witnessing to the Gospel entails.