



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH, CRANEBROOK, NSW

The Net

Visit our website: www.corpuschristi.org.au

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

**21ST & 22ND SEPTEMBER,
2024**

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Who are the righteous? This is a question that holds little interest today. We are more concerned with the successful and the famous. We want people to be honest, at least in their dealings with us, but we are more apt to applaud those who are clever. We commend people for making a good deal, for knowing how to get ahead or striking it rich. We extol the beautiful, the strong, the self-assured, those who have made a name for themselves, those who entertain us. We encourage people to be ambitious. Seldom is popularity based on righteousness.



Yet righteousness is a pillar of the reign of God. Those who would enter that reign must be gentle and merciful, faithful and sincere, lovers of peace. They must be willing to take the last place, to be the servant of all. The righteous are not often held in high regard. They are often ridiculed and even persecuted. When they are considered a reproach to the standards of society, they may even be put to death.

There are times when we might be inclined to envy and resentment, not wanting to feel morally inferior, and we might relish the opportunity of putting the virtue of others to the test. We may say that we want to draw forth their strengths, when we really hope their weaknesses will be revealed and they will prove to be no better than we are. Sometimes the righteous have nowhere else to turn but to Jesus, whose life they are following and into whose death they have been plunged.

**We, the people of Corpus Christi,
seek to grow in living
a Christ-centred mission,
sharing our gifts to foster welcome,
justice and community in today's world.**



**A very warm welcome to anyone who
is new to the parish.**

*So that we can get to know who you are,
please introduce yourself to the priest or acolyte after Mass
and fill out a Census Card, which is available in the foyer.*

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGIL 6PM

SUNDAY 7.30AM & 9.30AM

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday & Wednesday at 6pm

Thursday & Friday at 9.10am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday evening from 5.15pm -
5.45pm in the Meeting Room

ADORATION AND DEVOTION

First Friday of each month after
9.10am Mass.

This is also an anointing Mass.

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

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Facebook:
[www.facebook.com/
CorpusChristiParishCranebrook](http://www.facebook.com/CorpusChristiParishCranebrook)

Office Hours: 9am - 3.30pm
(Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri)

PARISH TEAM:

Administrator - Fr Jessie Balorio
- jessie.balorio@parracatholic.org
- 0451 851 610 (*emergencies only*)
- Presbytery: 4729 1675

Mrs Marie Cottee - Parish Secretary/
Sacrament Co-ordinator
- mc@corpuschristi.org.au

Mrs Sue Weekes - Office Support
- sw@corpuschristi.org.au

Mrs Joanne Hocking - Sacrament
Support

SCHOOLS OF THE PARISH:

Corpus Christi Primary - ph 4726 2200
(Principal - Mrs Sarah O'Rourke)

Xavier College - ph 4777 0900
(Principal - Mr Michael Pate)

Parish News

BISHOP'S FATHER'S DAY APPEAL

Thank you to those parishioners who donated to the appeal recently. So far our parish has raised \$1414.25. If you were away and would still like to contribute, please pick up an envelope from the foyer and place it in the collection plate.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Sacrament of First Eucharist Congratulations Sacrament Children...

Over the past two weekends over 90 children received the Sacrament of First Eucharist. We congratulate all our children and their parents and we warmly encourage them to be active in their faith by receiving Jesus often in this most wonderful Sacrament.



Thank to our parishioners who were group facilitators: **Moreno Faccin, Vanessa Sultana, Josie Monteleone & Nony.**

Our parish Sacramental programme works closely with the teachers and staff of Corpus Christi Primary school, and we thank **Mrs Sarah O'Rourke, the Principal, Mrs Sharon Shahoud, Religious Education Coordinator and the class room teachers.**

We would also like to thank our photographers, **Jonathan Dael and Matthew Farrugia** as well as **Marie and Sue** from our Parish Office, our musicians, acolytes and altar servers.

This Weekend The Sacrament of First Eucharist will take place on the following dates:
Saturday 21st September at 11am and Sunday 22nd during the 9.30am Mass

Sacrament of Baptism

Parents wishing to have their children Baptised are asked to contact the Parish Office to book the date of Baptism and to register for the Rite of Welcome and



LET US OFFER GIFTS OF PRAYER

Recently Deceased:

Clayton Briggs (30/08/24)

Anniversaries:

Carmen Attard (26/09/2014) Nenita Mangcucang (12/09/2016), Vanessa Smith (07/09/22), Marie Liliane Ducasse.

For those who are sick:

Max Ducasse, Barbara Kemp, Werner Rauker, Rose Zahra, Eleanor Albertyn, Rosa Pronesti



PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

If you contribute to the Planned Giving Program via the envelope system, new envelopes for **October 2024 – April 2025** are now available for collection from the foyer.

PARISH GIVING

Planned Giving/Parish Donations

Your gift to Planned Giving helps cover the running of the parish and also contributes towards outreach in our parish community and beyond.

If you would like to contribute directly, the parish bank details are:

BSB: 067 950
Acct No: 100000698
Acct Name: Cranebrook Parish



Please ensure you put your details in the reference section (ENVELOPE N# OR SURNAME)

Please contact Marie at the Parish Office if you

- ◇ are contributing to the Planned Giving Program via the envelope system and would like to change to credit card or direct debit;
- ◇ would like to join the Planned Giving Program.

SAVE THE DATES

Parish Morning Tea

Morning tea will take place after 9.30am Sunday Mass on the following dates:

13th October; 10th November; 8th December

Junior Altar Serving Training

Children interested in becoming a junior altar server are invited to attend training on

Wednesdays 23rd & 30th October at 7pm in the Church.

Please note that children must have already received their First Holy Communion before becoming a junior altar server.

CORPUS CHRISTI YOUTH MASS

SUNDAY 20TH OF OCTOBER AT 5.00PM

Mass followed by refreshments.

Please note that parents are welcome to attend the Mass and registration is not necessary.



CORPUS CHRISTI YOUTH MASS DATES

Parish Youth Masses will take place on the following Sundays at 5.00pm:

17th November and 15th December

For more information about our parish Youth Masses please contact Fr Jessie or Kieran Faccin.



Parish News

PARISH OFFICE UPDATE

Over the next two weeks the parish office will be understaffed due to our office staff, Marie and Sue being on leave. If you need to contact the office and it's unattended, please leave a message and it will be returned as soon as possible. We appreciate your patience during this time.

'YOUNG IN SPIRIT' SENIORS GROUP

Our seniors group meets on the last Friday morning of each month after 9.10am Mass in the Parish Office.
Please bring a small plate of food to share for morning tea. New members are always welcome.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Catechist News... Are you able to help?

If you can spare about an hour each week during school terms and would like to find out more about becoming a teacher or a helper, you can call the Parish Office or our Catechist Co Ordinator, Lorrene Gorman on 0414 471 329.

Children's Liturgy Volunteers Needed

Children's Liturgy is on during the school terms at 6pm and 9.30am Masses. We try to keep your rostered times to a maximum of 3 each term. Please contact the Parish Office for more details.

Adopt a Garden

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to adopt a section of the parish gardens. If you are experiencing any problems with the work you are doing in your section, if you have any queries or would like to join this group, please contact the Parish Office, who will put you in touch with Greg Hall, the coordinator.



SAFEGUARDING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The modules are available to complete online at <https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding/training/>

Cycle 1 (New staff/volunteers who have not completed any training within the Diocese)

Cycle 2 (Renewal Training for staff/volunteers who completed Cycle 1 two years ago)

Should you prefer to complete the modules in face-to-face meetings, the following dates are available:

Cycle 1 (Initial)

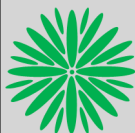
Saturday 28th September (Modules 1-3) 10am-3pm at St Marys Parish

For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Diocesan News

Launch of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church

The Diocese of Parramatta is excited to announce the launch of our **Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church 2024-2028: 'Behold, I am with you'**. This plan marks the culmination of our 16-month Synod journey, a time of listening, discernment, and envisioning the future of our Diocese. Now, we have a shared roadmap to revitalise our local communities and guide our mission in the years ahead. To explore and download the Pastoral Plan, visit <<https://parracatholic.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Behold-I-Am-With-You-Always-Pastoral-Plan-for-a-Synodal-Church-2024-2028-WEBv.pdf>>



Catholic Schools Bishop Manning Support Fund

Would you like your child to receive a Catholic education but are worried that your family cannot afford it? Please consider applying for a bursary that will cover the school fees, the cost of uniform and equipment for primary or secondary school students for up to four years of enrolment. The fund, named in honour of the recently deceased Bishop Kevin Manning, is a Diocesan charity that seeks to ensure all families who want a Catholic education for their child can receive one. Please scan code or visit <https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/affordable-education/bishop-manning-support-fund>. **Applications close 18 October.**



Positions Vacant:

- Lead Facilitator of Diocesan Plan Implementation - Diocese of Parramatta - **Applications close 25 September**
More details at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/
- Marriage Facilitator - Diocese of Parramatta - Applications close 3 October
- Manager, Catholic Youth Parramatta (CYP) - Diocese of Parramatta - Applications close 12 October

MET Natural Fertility Sympto-Thermal Method Instruction Session: 24 September

The Sympto-Thermal Method of Natural Family Planning (NFP) can be used by all couples to space their children. It is suitable for breastfeeding women returning to fertility and helps couples identify the best time to achieve pregnancy!

To book your place in this FREE session on Tuesday 24 September at 7:15pm via Zoom,

contact catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org or call 0400 427 605. Contact Catherine for private and confidential instruction in other methods of NFP offered in the Diocese.



The Living Word

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

22nd September 2024

First Reading

Wis 2:12, 17-20

A reading from the book of Wisdom

Let us condemn him to a most shameful death.

The godless say to themselves, 'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing. Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have.

If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies.

Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof.

Let us condemn him to a shameful death since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 53:3-6. 8. R. v.6

(R.) *The Lord upholds my life.*

O God, save me by your name;
by your power, uphold my cause.

O God, hear my prayers;
listen to the words of my mouth. **(R.)**

For proud men have risen against me,
ruthless men seek my life.

They have no regard for God. **(R.)**

But I have God for my help.

The Lord upholds my life.

I will sacrifice to you with willing heart
and praise your name for it is good. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Jas 3:16 – 4:3

A reading from the letter of St James

Justice is the harvest of peacemakers from seeds sown in a spirit of peace.

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good;

nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

Gospel

Mk 9:30-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of humanity ... All who wish to be first must make themselves the servants of all.

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS

Questions for Adolescents

- * Why do you think the disciples didn't understand what Jesus was saying about his death?
- * Why didn't the disciples want to tell Jesus what they'd been arguing about?
- * Why might Jesus have used a child to make his point to the disciples?
- * What does it mean to make yourself last of all if you want to be first?
- * In what ways do you sometimes put yourself first ahead of the needs of others?
- * How could you better be of service to someone or a group of people?

Questions for Adults

- * Why might Jesus have wanted to go away secretly to instruct his disciples?
- * Have you ever had the disciples' experience of completely missing an important point?
- * What are the attributes of being 'first' in our contemporary society?
- * How is it possible to be first by making yourself last of all?
- * Who do you need to be more welcoming toward?



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REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

You often see them at football or cricket or basketball games – the giant hands with the index finger pointing up, and the rest of the fingers curled together. They usually say ‘number one’.

Jesus says if we focus on being number one, then we certainly are not number one. If we try to say we are the best, or the most important, or the greatest, then we truly are not. If we do our best to not brag but to serve everyone else’s needs and to build up everyone else’s confidence, that is the way to true stardom. How hard is it to be that way when the culture urges us to be number one? How would Jesus handle it if he were a teenager at your school this year? Can you follow his example? How? Why or why not?

Many teenagers report that they have more fun being members of social sporting teams than they do on a school or college team. They play more often, receive less criticism, and are under less pressure that way.

How is that preference related to the message of this Gospel?

If the goal is to always win and be the number one team, then most players fail, because there can only be one number one team in whatever sport, league or district you participate in; only one team can win. Everyone else loses. But if your goal is to learn, to put in the best possible effort, to improve and to have fun, then everyone can succeed; everyone wins. The score doesn’t matter. No one loses.

How is this philosophy of sports related to the Gospel message?

Could this philosophy of sports ever work in the professional area? Why or why not? In the high school area? Why or why not? In the college area? Why or why not?

Where does money enter into the picture? How is money connected to the current philosophy of sports? What would Jesus say about this connection?

© St Mary's Press



Last of all?

Jesus tells his disciples that if anyone wants to be first, they must make themselves last of all and servant of all. This is as challenging to us today as it was to the disciples and early Christians. Our world seems to revolve around position, status and power – whoever has the most toys wins! But what Jesus advocated was a leadership based on being of service to others. Being powerful simply means you are in a position to help even more people. Putting yourself last, instead of first, gives respect, dignity and power to others rather than to yourself.

REFLECTION

by Fr Michael Tate

Marginal people

Jesus was well aware of the constant temptation for the leaders amongst his followers to be conditioned by the surrounding social and political structures. So, when he became aware that his disciples were disputing ‘who is the greatest’, he decided to teach them a lesson by engaging in some counter-cultural street theatre.

Jesus saw a young boy on the edge of the crowd and beckoned him into the middle of his group of disciples. This was not because of some sentimental idea that all kids are little innocents, but because in his society, children were absolutely at the bottom of the social scale. Jesus moved an utter nobody from the margins of society to the centre, challenging his disciples to change their perspective.

This challenge is made to all of us. We must identify those on the margins, some of whom we have quite literally dis-located like indigenous communities or asylum seekers, and bring them into the centre of our concern. There may be pain, personal and social, in changing perspective.

We might pause for a moment to pray for a new way of seeing, for perseverance in re-locating someone in the centre of our concerns, for the graceful insight that in welcoming that person we have welcomed Christ.



Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention for September

For the cry of the Earth

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we



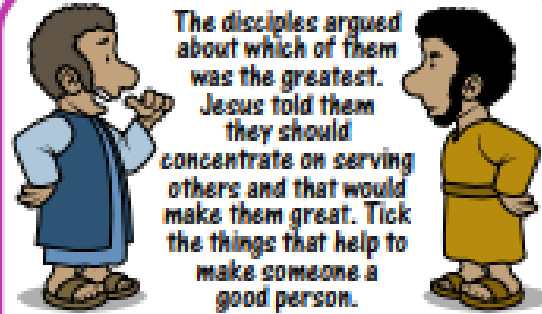
Children's Worksheet

Those who serve others are greatest

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B



The disciples travelled to Jesus' home and they argued along the way. Help them get to Jesus so that he can help them settle their argument.



The disciples argued about which of them was the greatest. Jesus told them they should concentrate on serving others and that would make them great. Tick the things that help to make someone a good person.

- SHARING**
- TELLING LIES**
- BEING NASTY**
- BEING KIND**
- TRYING YOUR BEST**
- LAUGHING AT OTHERS**
- HELPING OTHERS**
- BEING HONEST**
- BEING SELFISH**



How can you be of service to others? Complete the following statements with words or pictures.

I can serve members of my family by...

I can serve my friends by...

I can serve people in my community by...

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who support our parish throughout the year.*

Please consider supporting them when in need of these services...



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Solutions

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

