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

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YR A

**29TH & 30TH AUGUST,
2020**

WEARING OF MASKS FOR MASS

On consideration of the most recent NSW Health advice, the Diocese of Parramatta highly recommends all worshippers at Masses in the Diocese to wear a mask to, during and from Mass and other services.

We understand the inconvenience that masks may pose, but the health of our parishioners and the wider community is our highest concern.

We sincerely thank you for understanding, and for playing your part in keeping our community safe.

WEEKEND MASSES

You are now invited to attend Mass every week at the time you were allocated by Fr Chris.

THERE IS A CAP OF 100 PEOPLE AT ALL RELIGIOUS SERVICES HELD AT PLACES OF WORSHIP.

Online Masses are still available so if you are feeling unwell you are advised not to attend Mass.

WEEKDAY MASSES

TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS AT 6PM (NO ADORATION)

THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS AT 9.10AM

You are welcome to attend any of these Masses without a phone call or email invitation.

Fr Chris will record attendance at these Masses as per government guidelines.

DUE TO COVID-19, THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARISHIONERS PER MASS IN OUR PARISH CHURCH IS

100

PLEASE PRACTISE SOCIAL DISTANCING BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS.



As per government regulations, please observe the 4 square metre rule.

Please note that hand sanitiser is available at the Church entrances for use upon entering and exiting the Church.



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

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Cranebrook, NSW, 2749

Phone: 4730 1249

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Email: parishteam@corpuschristi.org.au

Presbytery: 4730 6258

Office Hours: 9am - 3.30pm (Tues-Fri)

PARISH TEAM:

Fr Christopher Antwi-Boasiako -
Parish Priest

Christopher.Antwi-Boasiako@parracatholic.org
Mobile: 0415 505 594

Deacon Owen Rogers
- owen.rogers7@bigpond.com

Mrs Marie Cottee - Parish Secretary
- 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)

The Living Word

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

30th August, 2020

First Reading

Jer 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah
The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

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.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. **(R.)**

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. **(R.)**

So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. **(R.)**

For you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Rom 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

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 Acclamation

See Eph 1:17-18

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

Mt 16:21-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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.'

Scriptural Context.

Not quite there...

This passage immediately follows the passage of last week's gospel which featured Peter's confession of faith – his inspired revelation that 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God.' The reader might think, 'Aha, the disciples have finally got it!' But in a very clever piece of writing, the author of Matthew's gospel follows this revelation of faith immediately with an example of the lack of clarity that the disciples, including Peter, still possess. This happens throughout the gospels. Whenever the disciples have a bit of an insight, they are almost immediately shown to only have a partial understanding of the truth. The full revelation of Jesus' mission and ministry is not easy to grasp and even the disciples were not quite there until they had seen the 'full story' played out before and within them.



Living the Gospel.

Have you got what it takes?

For some people, to be a Christian is a 'soft option' – they see being Christian as being a bit 'fluffy'. This week's gospel is a reminder of the real challenge of being a Christian. Jesus reminds us that to be one of his followers we must be prepared to pick up our cross – whatever our particular cross might be – and still follow his example. To be a Christian means that we don't fall in a heap when difficulty comes our way; we take up the burden – our cross – and continue to look forward with hope. To live like Jesus is no easy option.

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REFLECTION *by Fr Michael Tate* 'Get behind me, Satan'

We have to get one terrible thought out of our heads, i.e. that the Heavenly Father of Jesus *wanted* him to suffer a tortured, agonising death. Yet we do say: 'It was necessary that Jesus suffer and die.' What can this mean? I believe this refers to the necessity of divine mission and the necessity of divine love.

First, it was the Father's will that Jesus remain true to the mission to preach and embody the gospel of mercy and forgiveness. It was inevitable that powerful elites would find this intolerable and have Jesus eliminated. Secondly, God so loved the world where death ravages human beings, that God determined to absorb the suffering and pangs of death.

The temptation to avoid that dread-ful necessity lead Jesus to rebuke Peter: 'Get *behind* me, Satan', a terrible variation of the initial call: 'Come, *follow* me.'

We could pause for a moment to very consciously make the sign of the Cross, the consequence of Jesus' mission and love for us.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSS

The gospel does not say that Jesus will gallantly step forward, take suffering upon himself, and thus demonstrate his power. Instead, his fate will be a demonstration of his vulnerability. He will be taken forcibly and will suffer at the hands of others. He will do this willingly, but not as a volunteer. Jesus will be a victim. This picture of Jesus carries implications for discipleship. Whoever follows him must follow him to the cross. If we participate in his success, we must also share in his shame. Disciples have a choice to follow or not to follow, but if they choose in his favour they must be ready for suffering and humiliation.

Paul exhorts us to reject the standards of the world. This is a very difficult path to follow, especially when it seems that those who conform to this age prosper. Following Christ can place barriers between ourselves and others. If we no longer share their values and their interests, we may feel alienated. Suffering is bound to invade our ministerial lives as well. We must remember that Jesus' message antagonised many people in his day. Those who proclaim the same message in their own contexts must be prepared for a similar reaction.

After witnessing the marvellous feats that Jesus accomplished, we discover that he is going to suffer and be put to death. How can this be? With Peter we protest. With Jeremiah we wonder: Have we been duped? The realisation that we too will have to suffer becomes a crucial test of our faith.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for August *The Maritime World*



We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.



REFLECTION FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS

Questions for Adolescents

- * If you were Peter in this story, how would you have reacted to Jesus?
- * How might the disciples have reacted to Jesus' prediction of his death?
- * In what ways do people today give up their lives for their beliefs?
- * In what ways has someone you know had to 'take up their cross' – deal with a great difficulty – and still lived in a positive and hopeful way?
- * What makes it difficult at times for you to have faith?

Questions for Adults

- * What part of the gospel passage do you find most interesting / challenging? Why?
- * What are some of the challenges to being a follower of Jesus today?
- * In what ways have you had to 'take up your cross' – deal with a great difficulty – and still tried to live in a positive and hopeful way?
- * Our society today is very self-centred, there are not too many people who 'deny themselves' very much at all. What is one way that you can be more self-less?

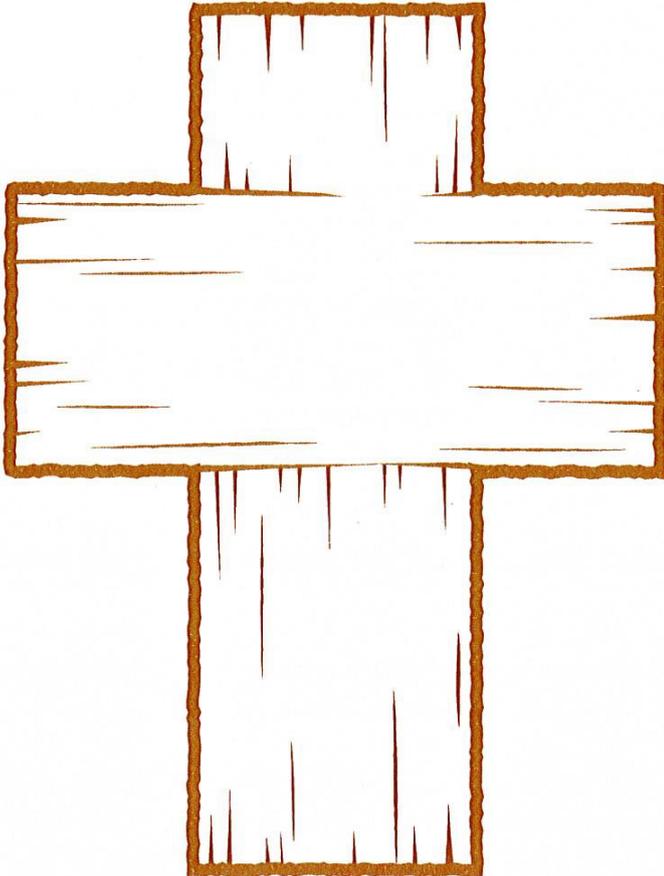
This is an opportunity for parents to discuss today's Gospel with your children. The following questions and worksheet are a beginning point to assist with the discussion.

- * What are some of your favourite games?
- * In which of these games do people have to take turns?
- * What happens if people do not take turns?
- * Jesus tells us in today's gospel that we must forget about ourselves and put others first. What does Jesus mean by this?
- * How can we put others' needs before our own?
- * Why is it sometimes hard to do this?
- * We pray that we will think about others before ourselves this week.

Take up your cross and follow me

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Write on the cross some of the hard things you need to do if you want to follow Jesus.



COMPLETE THE TEXT MAZE

"If you want to be my followers you must take up your cross and follow me."

START **I** F Y O E

Y D W U T

Z N A L W

V T U E R

D F Y M I T X P I A B O K

G O H E B O Y S R U S T U

J L R C A T A O U M H T J

F L O W E R S Y E T Q A W

S D L K O P F G P U E K B

E W S O Y

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A R K Y S

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R I E P M

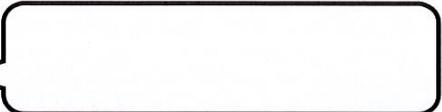
E U W T **E** FINISH

Help Jesus tell his disciples about the coming events in Jerusalem.

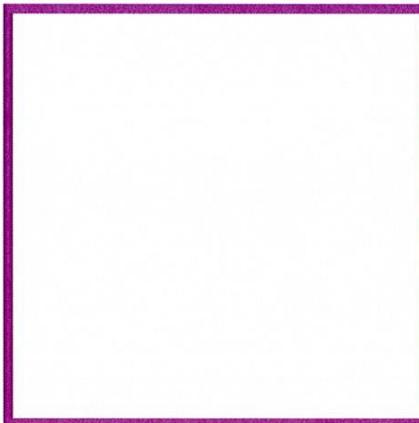


I must go to the city of Jerusalem...

...where people will make me suffer and I will be killed.



Draw Jesus entering the city on the donkey



Draw Jesus suffering on the cross



Write what Jesus tells the disciples next

Social Justice Sunday



Social Justice Sunday is this week, **30th August**, and the Australian Bishops are calling for us to recognise the issues around mental health.

See Bishop Vincent's address and read the Bishops' Statement on www.parracatholic.org/socialjustice

If you are in need of support, contact CatholicCare Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains on (02) 8843 2500 (Mon-Thu 8.30am-8pm, Fri 8.30am-5pm, Sat 9am-1pm), email enquiries@ccss.org.au or visit their website www.ccss.org.au

Join with people from across the Diocese to break down the ACBC Social Justice Statement 2020-21

'To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia.'

THE ONLINE SESSION WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM ON
MONDAY 31 AUGUST FROM 7PM.

Hear from the experts on mental health, learn mental health tools you can use in your life and ministry, what resources are available in the diocese and how we can work together.

To RSVP, please contact Patrice Moriarty, Social Justice Coordinator on patrice.moriarty@parracatholic.org

Parish Office Hours

Parish Office operating hours have not yet returned to normal. If you need to visit the office please call first to ensure that someone is there. Please leave a message if we don't answer and we'll get back to you. You are also welcome to email. In the case of an emergency please contact Fr Chris on his mobile, 0415 505 594.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THAT THERE WILL BE NO WEEKDAY MASSES ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

Tuesday 1st September
Wednesday 2nd September
Tuesday 8th September
Wednesday 9th September

(These are First Communion dates and numbers are restricted)



Please keep in your prayers the children of our parish who are preparing for the Sacrament of First Eucharist. May their families be great models of faith for them during this important time.

Thank You dear parishioners for your ongoing financial support to the parish. Your generosity is helping with the ongoing running expenses of our parish.

Let us Offer Gifts of Prayer:

Anniversaries:

Kevin Hennessey, Margaret & James Vella, Anthony Azopardi (08/08/15),

Recently Deceased:

Renato Rosales Snr, Paul Xiberras

And for those who are sick:

Joan Schneider

If any parishioner would like Fr Chris to offer Mass for someone who is recently deceased, a loved one's anniversary or if someone is sick, please email the Parish Office. We can also include the person in The Net so everyone can pray for them.

PARISHES OF THE DIOCESE WHO ARE STREAMING MASS

| PARISH | LOCATION | LINK TO LIVESTREAM |
|------------------------|----------------------|--|
| PADRE PIO PARISH | Glenmore Park Parish | Streaming through Facebook – https://www.facebook.com/gsk2223 |
| ST JOSEPHS CHURCH | Kingswood Parish | Recording/streaming through YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIjpl5JI6H8TrHkEB6lSdw/featured |
| ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE | Marayong Parish | Streaming through Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/standrewsmarayong/ |
| ST MARGARET MARYS | Merrylands Parish | Recording/streaming through YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6FezbQbHtu-MSyWUSnaAcA |
| ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA | Penrith Parish | Streaming through Facebook Live - https://www.facebook.com/SNOMPenrith/ |
| THE GOOD SHEPHERD | Plumpton Parish | Streaming through Facebook Live - https://www.facebook.com/goodshepherdparishplumpton/ https://www.facebook.com/goodshepherdparishplumpton/videos/163690304720839/ |
| OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY | St Marys Parish | Streamed to Facebook https://www.facebook.com/OLRparishstmarys/ |

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment, receive you sacramentally, please come spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you now as if you were already there and I unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen



Parramatta Diocesan News

Bishop's Annual Appeal for Retired Priests

Father's Day Appeal

Owing to COVID19 pandemic and its social and financial impact on families, communities and Churches, the Clergy Support Foundation of the **Diocese of Parramatta will not be holding its Annual Bishop's Collection for Retired Priests**, i.e. the Father's Day appeal, this September.

Like many other organisations, the CSF will use its own resources to support the retired priests in this financial year.

Donations will always be accepted, however, via our BPOINT portal at www.parracatholic.org/csf or electronic funds transfer to BSB 067950 Account No 00001691 Account Name CSF No 1 with Reference your name.

IF you would like a tax deductible receipt for your donation, please send email to csf@parracatholic.org with your name and address details.

The CSF Committee thanks you for your support of the Clergy Support Foundation over the last 15 years.

May God bless you at this difficult time in all our lives.

Catholic Youth Parramatta

Engaging Young People in New Ways

Catholic Youth Parramatta has established a dynamic schedule of networking opportunities, formation and resources to support ministry and engagement with young people of the Diocese in new ways. From inspiring quotes and scripture references on Mondays, to faith-filled live performances on Wednesday to launching new home-grown resources on Friday. Check out CYP's Facebook and Instagram pages and <https://www.parracatholic.org/cyp/> to download and share the resources.

Institute for Mission - Reflective Ministry Program available online

The Institute for Mission's Reflective Ministry Program (Word and Mission) is going ahead starting from 18 August. Register here to participate ONLINE <https://www.ifm.org.au/reflective-ministry> or contact Sr Grace on grace.roclawska@ifm.org.au.

Pastoral Planning Celebrating and Sharing Our Gifts: 9th - 23rd September

The Pastoral Planning Office are offering an opportunity for prayerful discernment about the spiritual gifts God has given us to bring to life God's mission. Join us for 3 Wednesday evenings of prayer, input and discussions beginning on 9 September from 7.30pm to 9pm. You can register at www.tinyurl.com/celebrate-and-discern.

Office For Worship Resources Available

The Office For Worship has a range of resources available for purchase for individuals and parishes. Resources such as parent material for baptism or a collation of prayers can be purchased by contacting (02) 8838 3457.

Office for Worship

Liturgical Ministry Formation Course

The Office For Worship's Liturgical Ministry Formation course will recommence in August at both the Institute for Mission, Blacktown and St Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith. Two workshops on Liturgical Ministry will also be provided in October at St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook. Note: due to restrictions there are limited places available. For more information, contact the Office for Worship on anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org

Office For Worship RCIA Workshops

The Office For Worship will be running RCIA workshops for RCIA coordinators & teams and anyone who might be interested in understanding the RCIA process. The workshops will run with limited numbers due to social distancing measures on four Monday evenings between 14th September and 19th October at the Institute For Mission, Blacktown. To RSVP by 7 September, or if you would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 02 8838 3456 or anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org.

CatholicCare is Still Open and Operational

CatholicCare Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains services remain open and operational during the current COVID-19 outbreak. Offices have been closed to clients, but the service continues to operate via phone, video conferencing/telehealth and online. To make a referral, call 8843 2500 (Mon-Thu 8.30am-8pm, Fri 8.30am-5pm, Sat 9am-1pm), email - enquiries@ccss.org.au or visit ccss.org.au.

Social Justice COVID-19

Food and Toiletries Drive

Jesuit Refugee Service and House of Welcome are dealing with a 400% increase in emergency assistance calls and are needing to feed over 1,000 people facing destitution each week. You can help by running a food and toiletry drive or donating yourself. For more information, contact Patrice Moriarty 0409 399 505 or, House of Welcome office@houseofwelcome.com.au or JRS amelia.savage@jrs.org.au

CEDP Safeguarding eSafety Commissioner Webinar

Catholic Education and the Office for Safeguarding and Professional Standards are partnering with the eSafety Commissioner for a series of free webinars for parents and carers. The first session, 'Helping Kids Thrive Online' (for children aged 5-12 years) will be held on Thursday 20th August from 12pm to 1pm. To register, please visit bit.ly/30fPU4F. For more information, please contact safeguarding@parra.catholic.edu.au or visit <https://safeguarding.org.au/prevention-education-and-training/>



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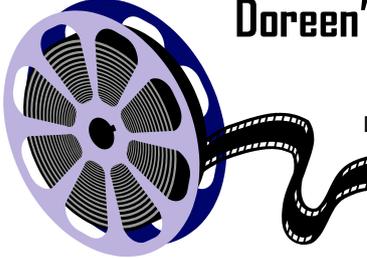
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Solutions

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

COMPLETE THE TEXT MAZE

"If you want to be my followers you must
take up your cross and follow me."

START **I** F Y O E
Y D **W** U T
Z **N** A L W
V T U E R
D **F** Y **M** I T X P I A B O K
G **O** H **E** B O Y S R **U** S T U
J **L** R C A T A **O** U **M** H T J
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