



THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

24-25 AUGUST 2019

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR C

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

How often do you come to Mass and ignore the Responsorial Psalm? I suspect the answer that many of you might give is that you would ignore the Responsorial Psalm most of the time. The Responsorial Psalm for today, however, is worth spending some time on. At least I think so.

*O Praise the Lord all you nations.
Acclaim him all you peoples.*

This first verse of the psalm is an invitation to praise God. The invitation is not directed exclusively to Israel, but rather is universal in its extension. All nations and peoples are invited to praise God. Now this invitation makes a claim about God. The God who is to be praised is not only the God of Israel or of Judah or of the Christians or of some other exclusive group. The God who is to be praised is indeed Lord of all nations and all peoples.

This claim is also found in other psalms which proclaim the reign of God. They too are addressed to all the earth.

*Strong is His love for us.
He is faithful for ever.*

The second verse of this shortest psalm gives the reason for this universal call to praise. Given the stories that we read in the opening chapters of the Book of Genesis, we might expect this universal call to praise to be grounded in the creative acts of God at the beginning of creation. However, a different reason is given for this call to praise God. Using language that reminds us of the time when God was revealed to Moses, the psalmist gives as the reason for this call to praise God. We praise God precisely because of God's steadfast and faithful love.

In the Book of Exodus, the Chosen People had turned away from the Lord and worshipped a golden calf. Following this apostasy of the golden calf, Moses pleads with the Lord to be shown the glory of the Lord. The Lord grants this request, and in the revelation of God to Moses which follows, God is described as abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. Again and again, these two qualities of God are repeated together throughout the Psalter.

The psalmist's use of the same sort of language which is used in the Book of Exodus is important. For, by the time of the golden calf episode and the renewal of the covenant which follows, the fundamental identity of both humanity and of God is laid bare. Humanity – even the Chosen People – will turn away from the Covenant. They will turn away from God. God, on the other hand, abounds in steadfast love for sinful humanity and is supremely faithful. This is who God is. Faithful and loving. God cannot but love all nations and peoples, sinful as they may be.

By using the language of the Book of Exodus, the psalmist proclaims that the reason all nations and peoples should praise God is because God is faithfulness and love. Praising God for this faithfulness and love is the true vocation of humanity. Turning away from the covenant and asserting independence from God is not what humanity is called to do. All peoples and all nations are called to praise God precisely because God is faithfulness and love.

Strong is his love for us... In verse two of the Psalm, the Hebrew adjective used to describe the steadfast love of God – *gabar* – is translated as great. In Hebrew, this word is the word usually used to describe the strength of a military conqueror. But, its use in the context of this Psalm is not out of context. The sovereignty of God does indeed conquer all nations and peoples. But rather than military might, faithfulness and love are the weapons used by God in this new conquest of all nations and peoples.

The steadfast love and faithfulness of God reaches its highpoint in the person of Jesus Christ. And who is Jesus Christ for us? With the answer to this question, the whole enterprise of Christianity stands or falls.

In the Incarnation – the taking on of human flesh by the eternal Word of God – we “see our God made visible and so are caught up in love of the God we cannot see”. But Jesus Christ, the incarnate Son of God is more than just the Son of God.

He is also Saviour. In Jesus Christ, Christians dare to profess that evil and betrayal have no more power. Sin and death are overcome. Forever. In Jesus Christ, we are able to proclaim the everlasting victory of God's steadfast and faithful love.

Psalm 117 also points us very readily to the end of all time. The psalmist's invitation for all nations and peoples to praise God points to a time when the boundaries of race and nation shall fade away and a single people will, with one voice, join in praising God. (cont)

HEALING FOR THE SICK

Fr Ray O'Leary

(Kathy Humphrey's brother)

Parishioners:

Glynis Grosskopf **Bob Triggs**

Neville Preece **Len Pauli**

Leo Ryan **Eric Howe**

Moya Schaefer

Rosemary & Brian Carter

Friends and Family

Anna Sellar (Trish & Terry Sheely's daughter)

Bernadette Welch

(friend of Bette Flamstead)

Kathleen le Gras (Sister of Sr Una)

Nicole Sheridan (Nick & Carmel

Sheridan's daughter in law)

Shona Kraayvanger

(Gabrielle Adam's daughter)

Joe Short (Powell family group)

Indiana Harman

(Ray & Madeline Taylor's Granddaughter)

Louis Gandini (Lina Pervan's brother)

Connie Bamgart (Lina Pervan's friend)

Peter & Elaine Dillon

(Vivienne Price's father & mother)

Patricia Jenkins (Thel Jelley's cousin)

Roslyn Morton (Patrick's sister)

Simon Riethmuller (Shirley's son)

Max Shearer (Grandson - Judy Shearer)

John Mullen (Helen McNaught's nephew)

Archie Mullen (Helen McNaught's brother)

Rev. Brian Sparksman

Fr Peter McGrath .CP

Vince Austin (Wendy Shine's Father)

John Morgan (Kathy Sternes Uncle)

Veronica Griinke (Friend &

neighbour of Kathryn & Paul Marangelli)

Lesley Moyes (Aileen Collins' friend)

Molly Schmidt (Aileen Collins' friend)

ANNIVERSARIES

Heather Ruming

Sid Preece

Elizabeth Webb

Jim Pigott

John Ah See

Frank Hicks

Paul Sturgeon

Fr Pat Doyle

Mary McAuliffe

Josephine Erbacher

Sr Frances Flint CSB

Wonder Mudzudzu

Bernard Gralow

Fr Charles McDonald

MASSSES

MON	NO MASS
TUE	NO MASS
WED	9.00AM MASS
THU	NO MASS
FRI	9.00AM MASS
SAT	6PM MASS
SUN	9.30 AM MASS
RECONCILIATION IS AVAILABLE BEFORE MASS OR BY APPOINTMENT	

If you require a Gluten Free host, please advise the coordinator

READINGS

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

First Reading: *Isaiah 66: 18-21*
They will gather all of your people from all nations.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 116*
Go out to the world and tell the Good News.

Second Reading: *Hebrews 12: 5-7, 11-13*

The Lord disciplines those he loves.

Gospel Acclamation: *John 14:6*
Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.
Alleluia!

Gospel: *Luke 13: 22-30*
From East and West they will come to take their place in the kingdom of God.

Next week's readings.

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Sirach 3: 17-20, 28-29
Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24
Luke 14: 1, 7-14

BAPTISM

Baptisms are celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month either during Mass at 9.30am or after Mass at 11.00am



Congratulations

To the 45 children who celebrated their First Reconciliation on Thursday night. May you always experience the love and forgiveness of God and our parish community



This is the understanding of St Paul when he quotes psalm 117. God's purpose, in Jesus Christ, is for all peoples to be gathered into one, when Christ will be, all in all. And when Christ is all in all, we will be caught up into the overflowing love of God. We will be enmeshed in it, enwrapped in it and enveloped by it and overcome by the love of God. Then with the psalmist, we will join in the eternal hymn of praise of our God who is steadfast and faithful love.

*By Fr. Anthony Doran (Archdiocese of Melbourne, PP of Ringwood.)
President of the Australian Academy of Liturgy*

Plenary Council 2020; next phase brings an invitation to meet (again?)

The Listening and Dialogue phase (finished Ash Wednesday 2019) led to the establishment of an overarching question and six "themes for discernment" as the Church in Australia prepares for the Plenary Council 2020. Here they are. Reports on all six and an overall report on Phase 1: Listening and Dialogue are available at

<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au>

How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is

- *missionary and evangelising?*
- *inclusive, participatory and synodal?*
- *prayerful and eucharistic?*
- *humble, healing and merciful?*
- *a joyful, hope-filled and servant community?*
- *open to conversion, renewal and reform*

The national organising group tells us,

"Now that we are in the Discernment Phase, we continue to seek the wisdom of the Holy Spirit. We invite the groups who participated in Listening and Dialogue to now reconvene in communal Discernment on any **one** of the six themes. Each discernment session is expected to result in a submission that can be summarised in 1000 characters and that can be submitted through a form on the Discernment page (to be opened September 1). Our national Writing and Discernment Groups will then meet and discern on these submissions, with prayer and from their own theological knowledge, towards publishing thematic papers and fleshing out the agenda for the first session of the Plenary Council in October 2020. This period for group discernment and submissions will be open until the first few months of 2020."

If you wish to take part in the discernment process, please send (email or hard copy, "attn Gerard Hore") your name, phone number and which **one of the themes** you would like to focus on to the Parish Office (office@sttheresas.org.au). Please do this by **Wednesday 4 September**. There is no guarantee that every theme will see a group established in our parish but the more interest there is in a theme, the more chance of a group being established. Looking forward to hearing from many of you.

Gerard Hore

Parish Coordinator, Plenary Council Activities



NOTICES

WHAT'S NEWS

PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FUND

The Annual Appeal for the Priests' Retirement Fund will be held next weekend. There will be a special collection after Communion during Mass at both Masses. The funds raised support our 17 Retired Priests and provides a salary for Mrs Julie See the co-ordinator of our Diocesan Clergy Health Services. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

CANDLES FOR CHARITY - CAN YOU HELP

Molly Boyd is making candles for charity as part of a school project. If you have any small drinking glasses or tea cups that you no longer need and would like to donate for the purpose of making candles in them. All shapes would be gratefully appreciated. (small sizes would be great). There will be a box in the foyer where you can leave them. If you have any further questions please contact Matt on 0427 058 655

CENT SALE:

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver are holding their CENT SALE on WEDNESDAY AUGUST 28. It will be held at ALL SEASONS FUNCTION HALL, cnr North and Tor Sts TOOWOOMBA. Doors will open at 8.30am for a 9.30 start. Entry fee is \$5. All Proceeds go to Charity. For further information contact the Sisters on 46321818.

GOSPEL REFLECTION GROUPS

Are you interested in being part of a St Theresa's Gospel Reflection group either on Friday morning at 10am or a weekday evening. There are forms available in the foyer for you to fill in your details.

COMPUTER NEEDED CAN YOU HELP?

The Migrant and Refugee Conference at Saint Vincent De Paul, has a refugee client from Syria who needs a reliable, second hand computer or lap top to help him with his studies. If you have a pre-loved computer that you would like to donate, please contact the church office.

AGED CARE VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Ozcare are looking for volunteers to support their Diversional Therapy Team in Toowoomba. You can help make a difference in someone's life by assisting clients with a variety of activities. For more information contact Jeramy Hope, Facility Manager on 4591 5900 or jeramy.hope@ozcare.org.au. There is also a flyer in the foyer.



STATEMENT FROM ARCHBISHOP MARK COLERIDGE, PRESIDENT OF THE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

August 21, 2019



The Victorian Court of Appeal has today announced that, in a 2-1 decision, Cardinal George Pell's appeal against his convictions for child sexual abuse offences has been dismissed.

The Catholic Bishops of Australia believe all Australians must be equal under the law and accept today's judgement accordingly.

Cardinal Pell's legal team has said it will examine the judgement in order to determine a special leave application to the High Court.

The Bishops realise that this has been and remains a most difficult time for survivors of child sexual abuse and those who support them. We acknowledge the pain that those abused by clergy have experienced through the long process of the trials and appeal of Cardinal Pell. We also acknowledge that this judgement will be distressing to many people.

We remain committed to doing everything we can to bring healing to those who have suffered greatly and to ensuring that Catholic settings are the safest possible places for all people, but especially for children and vulnerable adults.

NEW GUIDELINES FOR CHURCH RESPONSE TO ABUSE

The ACBC has released a statement about the development of new national guidelines that will inform the way Church authorities, including dioceses, respond to contemporary and historical allegations about the abuse of children or vulnerable adults.

The new guidelines will make the way Church entities respond to such concerns consistent, and will help create a more transparent and accountable culture in the way the Church responds. As the release explains, the new guidelines will be developed with reference to the new National Catholic Safeguarding Standards, which were launched in May. A copy of the full media release is available in the foyer.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL 2019

The Archdiocese of Perth is hosting the next event from December 8th-10th 2019 on behalf of the ACBC. *Approximately 9.30am – 8.30pm each day.*

The Toowoomba Diocese are taking a group. Young people from year 9 up to 30 years of age are invited to the event.

NB: Young people under the age of 18 must travel as part of a group (with supervision)

Those interested may contact Fr. Tom Duncan or **visit: youthfestival.catholic.org.au**

St Theresa's Parish

CONTACTS

Parish Priest:

Fr Brian Noonan ph:4696 7094
e-mail: brian.noonan@sttheresas.org.au

Pastoral Associate

Monica Brennan
Ph.: 4639 4688 Fax 4639 6538
e-mail: monica@sttheresas.org.au

Parish Secretary:

Janet Weier
Ph.: 4639 4688 Fax: 4639 6538
e-mail: office@sttheresas.org.au

Church: Cnr Campbell & Curzon Sts, Toowoomba

Office: 55 Curzon Street, Toowoomba

Parish Website www.sttheresas.org.au

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr Brian Noonan, Michael Murtagh, Francis Njoroge, Tim Burgess, Gay Jorgensen, Vanessa Horton, Bernadette Zimbwa, Gailene Jurgs, Matt Boyd, David Wilson, Monica Brennan.

Finance Committee

Fr. Brian Noonan, Pat Morton, Warren Dredge, Ray Taylor, Shane Blakeley, Brian Wilson, Pat Richardson, Alfia Ginardi.

Liturgy Team

Fr. Brian Noonan, Jan Mayo, Peter Kenny, Carole Rogan, Libby Rosentreter, Monica Brennan, Suzanne Cavanagh.

Musicians

Norma Kenny, Kathy Sternes, Elizabeth Stewart, Libby Rosentreter.

Baptism Team:

Cath Kelly, Jenny Ryan, Tracy George, Bernadette Hede, Alison Daniel, Anne Anderson, Jan Watkins, Maureen Burke, Angela Irvine, Mary Otto, Jane Burgess, Catherine Cooper.

Sacramental Team:

Monica Brennan, Vanessa Horton, David Wilson, Gay Jorgensen.

Consolation Team:

Fr Brian Noonan, Lyn McRae, Peter Kenny, Bette Flamsted, Pam Merritt, Alf Mason, Moya Schaefer, Josephine Nolan, Liz Phelan., Monica Brennan

Welcome & Hospitality Team:

Paul & Kathryn Marangelli,
Carole Rogan, Maureen Burke.

Family Groups:

Contact Parish Office 4639 4688

Care & Concern Team

Coordinator: Pamela Merritt



NOTICE

DATES TO REMEMBER AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

Sunday: **25 August** World Day of Migrant and Refugees
Friday: **30 August** Father's Day Mass 9am
Mater Dei Prep - Year 6 attending
Sunday: **1 Sept** Diocesan Feast Day,
Our Lady of the Southern Cross
Sunday: **1 Sept** Annual Appeal
Priests' Retirement Fund.
Special Collection
Sunday: **1 Sept** - Father's Day
Wednesday: **4 Sept** - PPC Meeting 6pm
Guest speaker Ryan Baines
Friday: **6 Sept** Mater Dei Feast Day
Liturgy 10am
William Morris Centre
Tue/Wed **10-11 Sept** Diocesan In-service
James Byrne Centre
Friday **20 Sept** Mater Dei school holidays
commence

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S MENTORING

Catholic Women's Mentoring Program is a national initiative aimed at building the skills, confidence and networks of Australian Catholic women and encouraging them in their faith. The program aims to empower women to use their gifts and talents to make meaningful and significant contributions to the Australian Church and increase their positive impact on Australian society.

Visit the Catholic Women's Mentoring website to find out more about the program and how to become a mentee or mentor.

Second & Fourth Tuesdays /month

St Vincent de Paul St Theresa's
Conference, 4pm, Contact 0408 808 437

First Tuesday/month

Care and Concern Meeting, 9.30am Parish Office.

First Wednesday /month

Parish morning tea at 9.45am, Cobb & Co Museum

Second Sunday

Mad Toowoomba Group from 7.00pm at St Anthony's.
Parish Centre.

(Grade 7-12 people) PH: 4636 0461

