



# GOSFORD PARISH

*The Communities of St Patrick's East Gosford,  
St Francis of Assisi Somersby & Holy Trinity Spencer  
Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the  
care of the Salvatorians.*



Put your *Hope* in God! 

Psalm 42 : 5

## HOPE IN GOD'S WAY

MY WAY OR GOD'S?

James 2:14-18; Mark 8:27-35

'Get behind me Satan. The way you think is not God's way.'

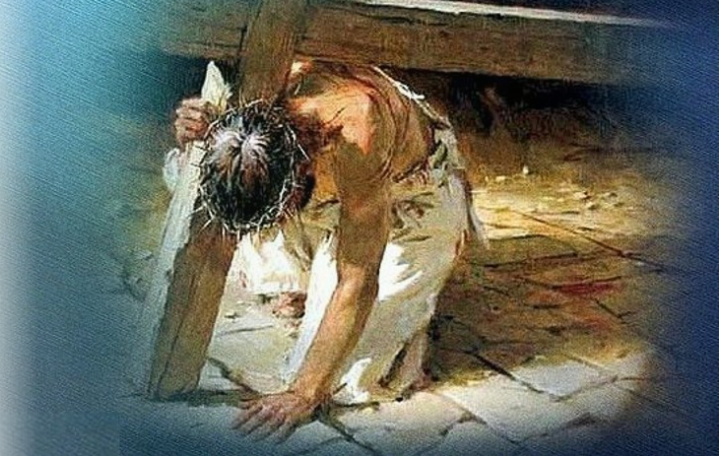
This scene marks a turning point in the Gospel of Mark. When Peter speaks up and identifies Jesus as 'the Christ', it is the first time that any person has correctly known who Jesus is. The Jews at this time were waiting for a saviour they called the Messiah, which in Greek is the Christ. Peter recognises that Jesus is this saviour but he is not aware yet how Jesus will be a saviour. Peter's idea is probably for a political figure like King David who could free the people from the power of the Roman Empire. This is not Jesus' vision of his role! Even by this stage in his ministry, Jesus has met significant opposition to his teaching and his behaviour towards the sick, Gentiles and sinners. His teaching challenges the authority of the religious leaders of his time and he must know that if he goes to Jerusalem, which is the centre of their power and religious authority, he will be in trouble. In this, I liken Jesus to people like Oscar Romero, Aung San Suu Kyi, or Martin Luther King. These people challenged authority and knew the danger and likely consequences. Before his death, Oscar Romero said:

'I have often been threatened with death. I must tell you, as a Christian, I do not believe in a death without resurrection. If am killed, I shall arise again in the Salvadoran people... You may say, if they succeed in killing me, that I pardon and bless those who do it. Would, indeed, that they might be convinced that they will waste their time. A bishop will die, but God's church, which is the people, will never perish.'

So when Jesus speaks about his future suffering and death, it is not a case of having special power to see into the future – it is just common sense!

Jesus' teaching on what awaits him in Jerusalem is not understood by his disciples and Peter opposes him. Peter prefers a saviour who will be a glorious heroic figure, and of course, the disciples would then be famous and important friends of this saviour. But Jesus' ways are not the ways of Peter. Jesus puts Peter in his place as a disciple. 'Get behind me!' Peter is a follower; his place is behind Jesus, not in front as a leader. He is named 'Satan' – the Tempter. This is worth considering. Any person facing torture and death could well be tempted to avoid this path. In his humanity, Jesus must have wrestled with this question. Should he go to Jerusalem or remain in Galilee? In Galilee, he is well received and he is away from the authority of the High Priest and the Temple. Would it be better to stay in Galilee and spend more years in preaching and healing? Perhaps in time the Jerusalem authorities might even come around to accepting him? Remember the reading from Philippians during last week that spoke of Jesus becoming one with us in taking on our humanity. Jesus needed to think through his own vocation and what might God be wanting. Peter voices an alternative vision and even though this might be attractive, Jesus is focused on God's vision.

**You are the Christ...  
the Son of Man was destined to suffer  
much.**



I feel for Peter in this scene – confused, not liking Jesus' words, and having his own idea of Jesus' future. Sometimes I try to tell God what I want done, and how it would be best for God to act. Then, like Peter, I have to learn that my role is disciple, not leader. Peter has to learn, as I have to learn, that the disciple needs to listen attentively and remain always as follower – even when the path is difficult and seems crazy by our standards. I pray that I can continue to listen and learn to be follower, even in those times when the way is confusing.

The letter of James continues the theme of the past few weeks that it is not just listening to God's word that counts but acting on it. His words I think are still appropriate today. If you say you are a Christian, prove it to me by what you do, how you live, the choices you make, the political policies you support. This section of James' letter finishes with the statement:

'For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead.' (James 2:26)

© Mary Coloe; Dr Mary Coloe PBVM is a Presentation sister and teaches in the field of New Testament studies at the Yarra Theological Union. She was Associate Professor in New Testament at the Australian Catholic University and has taught at Boston College, the Jesuit School of Theology Berkeley, and at the Ecce Homo Biblical Institute Jerusalem. Her specialist research areas include the Gospel of John and early Jewish Christian relationships.



## POPE FRANCIS' SEPTEMBER 2021 INTENTION

### An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle

We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.



## BLESSED FRANCIS JORDAN SDS

"True humility is the key to heaven's treasury of grace. Oh pilgrim, get up bravely, if you stumble along the rugged path to life."

SD I/5



## ST PATRICK'S PARISH GOSFORD

### PASTORAL CARE

**Fr Grzegorz [Greg] Skulski SDS**

Parish Priest

Email: [greg@sds.org.au](mailto:greg@sds.org.au)

**Fr Paul Tran SDS**

Assistant Priest

email: [paulduongsds@gmail.com](mailto:paulduongsds@gmail.com)

### SALVATORIANS

### Society of the Divine Saviour

<http://www.sds.org.au>

### PARISH OFFICE

Secretary:

Colleen Kirk Mon – Thur: 8:30am – 4:30pm

Friday 8:30am – 1:00pm

Bursar: Darren Fitzgibbon

Sacramental Programme

Coordinator: Frances Mathey

Email: [franceshanna@yahoo.com](mailto:franceshanna@yahoo.com)

Catechists' Coordinator: Raelene O'Connor

Email: [saintpatsccd@acs.net.au](mailto:saintpatsccd@acs.net.au)

Wed: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Thur: 9:30am – 1:30pm

Youth Ministry: Jaimi-Lea Andrews

Ph: 0452 480 112 Email: [jaimilea.andrews@gmail.com](mailto:jaimilea.andrews@gmail.com)

Media Coordinator: Tom Croll

Thursday: 9:00am – 2:00pm

Email: [tomcroll@photom.com.au](mailto:tomcroll@photom.com.au)

Phone: 0411- 962 122.

### VOLUNTEER ROLES

Office Admin:

Denise Jay

Friday: 9:00am – 3:30pm

AV Presentation: Peter McLean

Greg McBride

Caretakers: Ron Begg, Chris Galea

Tim Mara

Baptism Co-ordinator: Maisie Tenev

Ph: 0416 803 334

Gardeners: Trevor Byrne

Joyce Byrne

Victor Camilleri

Seniors' Ministry: Barbara McCarthy

Ph: 4322 0250

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Hilary Pope

[hilary.p1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:hilary.p1@optusnet.com.au)

### School Principals

St Patrick's Primary: Mrs Cheryl Walsh 4325 1159

St Joseph's College: Mr Tony McCudden 4324 4022

St Edwards College: Mr Mark Bonnici 4321 6400

St Peter's College: Mr Tim Hilderbrandt 43512344

## MASSES LIVE STREAMED

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC44NSRmeB1mg\\_EKIJUFJpvg/live](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC44NSRmeB1mg_EKIJUFJpvg/live)

### GOSFORD, 76 YORK STREET EAST GOSFORD

<b>Mon:</b>	9:00am	<b>Wed:</b>	11:30am	<b>Fri:</b>	12:00pm
<b>Tue:</b>	9:00am	<b>Thu:</b>	9:00am	<b>Sat:</b>	9:00am

## WEEKEND MASSES

### GOSFORD, 76 YORK STREET EAST GOSFORD

**Sun: 9:30 am**



YEAR OF THANKSGIVING FOR  
**BLESSED FRANCIS JORDAN**

21st July 2021 - 21st July 2022

SALVATORIANS AUSTRALIA

## ROSARY EVERY NIGHT AT 9:00 PM

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC44NSRmeB1mg\\_EKIJUFJpvg/live](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC44NSRmeB1mg_EKIJUFJpvg/live)

## BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL, IS CLOSED DUE TO COVID LOCKDOWN

### ST PATRICK'S GROUPS MEETINGS

Cancer Prayer Group

Craft Group

Grief & Loss Support

MenAlive

Prayers for Christian Unity

Prayer Group DVDs

Prayer Group & Bible Discussion

Bible Study - Monday night

Youth Group

Salvatorian Collaborators

Women's Faith Circle

Children, Yrs 5 & 6

Family Group



### NOTE:

**ALL ADVERTISED ACTIVITIES ARE SUBJECT TO ANY GOVERNMENT COVID RULINGS AND THEREFORE WILL BE POSTPONED OR CANCELLED IF "STAY AT HOME" OR "LOCKDOWN" RULES ARE IN PLACE.**

## NATIONAL CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP STANDARDS LEADERSHIP, MONITORING & IMPROVEMENT

STANDARD 1 – COMMITTED LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE & CULTURE

Key Elements of Standard 1:

- † A Commitment to Safeguarding
- † Promoting a Safeguarding Culture
- † Safeguarding Policies
- † Code of Conduct

## SAFEGUARDING OFFICER HILARY POPE



IF YOU SEE ANY ACTIVITIES INVOLVING CHILDREN OR VULNERABLE ADULTS THAT CONCERNS YOU, PLEASE EMAIL HILARY POPE, OUR SAFEGUARDING OFFICER AT [HILARY.P1@OPTUSNET.COM.AU](mailto:HILARY.P1@OPTUSNET.COM.AU).

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW OR DOWNLOAD](#)

[OUR DIOCESAN COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING](#)

## FR PAUL'S MESSAGE



[Click here to view on YouTube](#)

## VALE FR JAMES DUCK

We at St Patrick's express our sadness at the loss of a friend of St Patrick's during his two tenures as Parish Priest, and for many years after.



Fr James Duck at this years Clergy Conference, giving Seminarian, Matthew French, some advice on being a Priest.

Fr James' first appointment as a Parish Priest was to Gosford Parish on 8 February 1977, a position he held when the Diocese of Broken Bay was established in 1986 until 29 February 1988. He then became the Chaplain to the Military Ordinariate being posted to Moorebank, Kapooka and Puckapunyal between April 1988 to December 1993. Upon Fr James' return to the Diocese he was appointed the Parish Priest of Narrabeen Parish on 1 February 1994 and remained there until his retirement from active ministry on 3 November 1999. In retirement, Fr James lived independently at his home in North Ryde.

Fr James celebrated his 87th Birthday in December 2020 and on the 20 July 2021 celebrated his 64th Anniversary of Ordination to Catholic priesthood.

We give God thanks for Fr James Duck's long and fruitful ministry as a priest, and now commend him to Almighty God, "Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him."

## UP COMING EVENTS

We all wait to see what easing mid-October will bring, but in the meantime will continue to try and service the needs of the people with on-line Masses, rosaries, adult faith education, youth meetings and general fun times.

If you are in need of pastoral care or assistance in any way please contact the office.

## SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY TODAY



# SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY 2021

SEPTEMBER 12, 2021



The Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday (formerly Child Protection Sunday) on the second Sunday of September -- at the conclusion of National Child Protection Week. Safeguarding Sunday seeks to acknowledge the immense damage caused by the sexual abuse of children and adults at risk, including by priests, religious and lay people within Catholic contexts. It makes a commitment to practices and protocols that create and maintain safe environments for all people. It invites people to pray for those harmed by abuse directly and indirectly.



## FAITHFUL COUNSELLING



**Free, confidential faith based counselling available for parishioners of St Patrick's.**

Available for adolescents, adults, couples and families by a trained, experienced Clinical Psychologist.

*Supported by CatholicCare.*

**TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE**

## NEW RCIA PROGRAM

Anybody interested in, or know someone who is interested in becoming a Catholic please contact the Parish Office to register your interest in joining the RCIA program.

Office Phone # 4325-1042.

## WOULD YOU LIKE A PRINTED COPY OF THE BULLETIN?

You can pick up a copy of the Bulletin from the front door of the church when you are passing on your exercise walk.

## SECURE DROP OFF FOR DONATIONS

We would like to especially thank those who have been contributing to the financial support of the parish and its clergy via direct deposit or calling to donate over the phone, or depositing their envelopes into our mailbox.

However - Donations have dropped 40 %, when we compare June 2021 before the lockdown to July 2021 following the lockdown.

We now have a secure letterbox in the fence near our gate into the office area, which people may place their donations - again while they are on their walk.

Certainly, it should be acknowledged that many people and businesses are suffering, and we are grateful for the support we are getting. However, we do have to ask for everyone to keep us in their prayers and remember to give their financial support.

Please also remember that whilst the office isn't open to all, we are taking calls and can assist you should you need help, book future sacraments or appointments, or collect your donations.

## CATHOLIC YOUTH BROKEN BAY

Dear friends,

September means Spring time. Spring time means new beginnings, warmer weather, sweeter air and a plethora of Sainly feast days! Feast days are dedicated to people who



are now in Heaven, interceding for us - so, be sure to ask them for some prayers and make sure you celebrate the joy of them being in Heaven! From St Padre Pio (on 23 Sept), to Our Lady's birthday (8 Sept). From St Michael the Archangel ( 29 Sept), to St Joseph of Cupertino (18 Sept).

In fact, St Joseph of Cupertino is a GREAT saint for these times. A patron of exam students and someone who also understands the difficulty of a lockdown too. Here is his life:

St Joseph of Cupertino was born in 1603, poor and humbly in a stable (sound familiar?). While he did start receiving mystical visions as early as the age of seven and was deeply attune with the spiritual life, he was, however, not the brightest of students. In fact, he was often teased for his poor learning skills and was thought to be dumb!

Not only was Joseph a poor student, but he struggled to stay present to his surroundings as he was continuously being drawn into mystical ecstasy at even the thought of Jesus and Mary. As Joseph grew in holiness and love for God, and became familiar with the Franciscans while working for them in a nearby stable, it became apparent to the friars that he would make an excellent priest.

Joseph wanted terribly to become a priest but he would have to undergo lengthy study and a detailed examination. However, during the final examination, the examiner asked

about one topic that Joseph knew well. The examiner was so impressed with the Saint's answer, that he did not ask anymore questions and passed Joseph right straight away!

As a priest, St Joseph experienced many 'flights' or levitations when contemplating Jesus and Mary, even during the Mass. His heart was so elevated to God that his feet would physically leave the ground and he would be taken up several feet from the floor. These flights became so frequent that it disrupted others and made them envious of Joseph's gift. Because of this, Joseph was moved from friary to friary a lot, before - towards the end of his life - he was locked in his cell, forced to stay there because he could not control when these flights would take place.

Perhaps you're struggling with the lockdown too? Or maybe you know a HSC student who could use some prayer. Ask St Joseph of Cupertino to intercede for you now and on his feast day on the 18 September!

From, Alex and the CYBB Team

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

During the financial battle of COVID which we too have felt, we would like to take the time to thank those who have continued to support the parish and its clergy though they haven't been able to be in the church for Mass. It has been very touching.

We would like to thank a family who would like to remain anonymous, but who are also friends of Fr Greg's, for their very generous donation, a good portion of which they wanted to be used for presbytery/monastery improvements for our clergy. Fr Greg & Fr Paul have been hard at work during this lockdown period to make this happen and feel very deep gratitude to them for their generosity.

## HELP FROM CATHOLIC CARE

CatholicCare can help with Coles or Woolworths vouchers.

Times are tough. You might have lost work due to the lockdown, or you might be finding it hard to pay the bills or to put food on the table. Please call CatholicCare on (02) 9481 2600 or email them at [info@catholiccareddb.org.au](mailto:info@catholiccareddb.org.au).

They are here to help our parish families.

## PLEASE CONSIDER FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

*If you wish to donate to our Parish, you can donate direct to our Bank Account. When you do so please indicate in the "Reference" the purpose for the donation.*

**Bank Account Name**

**Gosford Parish Church Account**

**BSB: 062 784**

**Account Number: 10001599**



## SAFEGUARDING MONTH

In this edition of Ad Clerum the Office for Safeguarding (Chancery), on behalf of Bishop Anthony, invites you to join the Diocesan initiatives of Safeguarding Month.

This year's theme is Participation of Children and Young People in Catholic Communities. To celebrate Safeguarding Month you are welcome to participate in the following events (click here to download invitation):

WEEK 1: 1-4 September

✠ Like Diocesan social media posts that show how Children and Young People participate in our Catholic communities

WEEK 2: 5-11 September

✠ Celebrate National Children Protection Week (NAPCAN) by visiting their national webpage - [www.napcan.org.au/](http://www.napcan.org.au/) and learn about the theme: Every child, in every community, needs a fair go.

✠ Wednesday 8 September – Online Launch of new resource for adults of Broken Bay – Participation of Children and Young People in Catholic Communities: A guide to Supporting & Engaging, Listening and Communicating with Children and Young People. Access the e-resource here - [www.bbcatholic.org.au/safeguarding-month-2021](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/safeguarding-month-2021).

✠ Thursday 9 September @ 12.30pm – 1.30pm – Free webinar facilitated by NAPCAN - eSafety's guide to online sexual harassment and image-based abuse. The webinar is designed for parents and carers of young people aged 13-18. To register click here: <https://register.gotoweinar.com/rt/8331659724914836752/>

✠ Thursday 9 September @ 7.00pm, Liturgy of Lament – an opportunity to gather and pray to God in acknowledging the suffering caused to our most vulnerable and to give public expression to our sorrow. The liturgy will be broadcast. Click here to view: [www.bbcatholic.org.au/safeguarding-month-2021](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/safeguarding-month-2021)

WEEK 3: 12-18 September

✠ Sunday 12 September, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday – join Bishop Anthony Randazzo in celebrating Mass at 9.30am via livestream from OLOR Cathedral. Click here to view: [www.youtube.com/channel/UCNenwlf7i14XB9TsVBrLvQ](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNenwlf7i14XB9TsVBrLvQ)

✠ Prayers – Remember in your prayers this week the wellbeing and safety of Children and Young People especially those who are particularly vulnerable due to covid-19. Prayer resources are available from our webpage: [www.bbcatholic.org.au/safeguarding-month-2021](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/safeguarding-month-2021)

WEEK 4: 19-25 September

✠ Wednesday 22 September @11.00am to 12.30pm, via zoom – Ministering to a Church in Trauma presentation by Rev Dr David Ranson, Vicar General. To register and receive your zoom link click here: <https://bbcatholic.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJItce2qpjovHtWs7Vymz9XkVWVhVtIq22Px>

WEEK 5: 26-30 September

✠ The Diocesan Office for Safeguarding places a special devotion to Mary Undoer of Knots. Her feast day is celebrated Tuesday 28 September. You are invited to pray the Mary Undoer of Knots Novena. A wonderful prayer resource can be accessed here: [www.praymorenovenas.com/mary-undoer-knots-novena](http://www.praymorenovenas.com/mary-undoer-knots-novena)

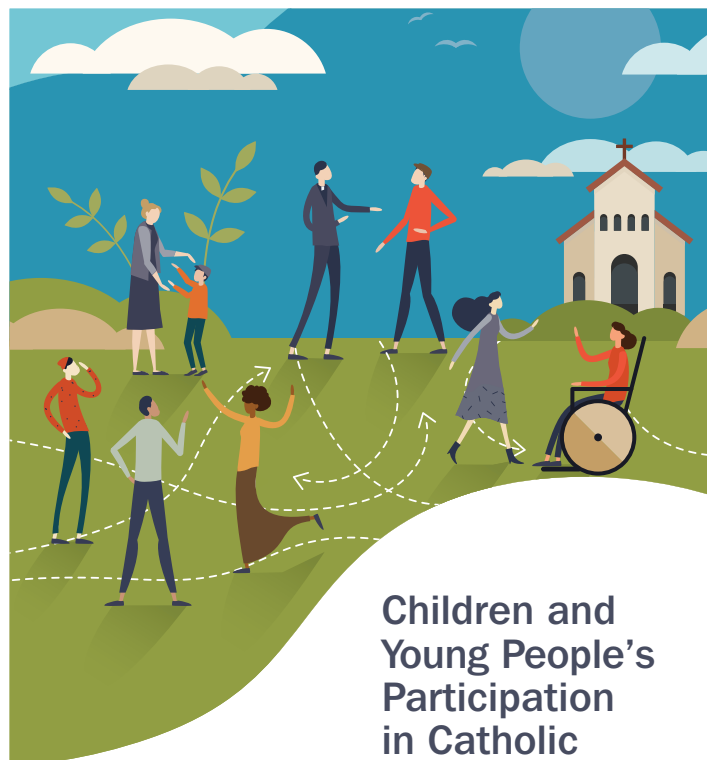
### What have the Children and Young People said...

"Kids sometimes have clouded views regarding their own safety or wellbeing but they should be able to confide in someone no matter the issue at hand, personally, when I don't feel safe I feel like everyone is against me, I don't feel comfortable and I feel pressured to not be my true self and put a 'mask' on. However, when I do feel safe, I feel relaxed". - Jess, age 17

The word of life...this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us — we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

1 John 1:1-3

— Bishop Anthony Randazzo DD, JCL



## Children and Young People's Participation in Catholic Communities

A Guide to Supporting & Engaging, Listening and Communicating with Children and Young People

CLICK HERE TO READ MORE



CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
SYDNEY



CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
BROKEN BAY



CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
NEWCASTLE

Supporting & Engaging | Listening | Communicating

## SMART Loving eNews



### Making Stumble-Stone Altars

There will be mistakes. We will make errors and we will mess up in this marriage business. Obstacles and challenges will be part of every romance. The critical issue is how we respond to these inevitable stumbles.

We attended a beautiful wedding recently in country NSW and came away inspired by the depths of faith and authentic love embodied by the bride and groom. The prayers in the wedding liturgy, the speeches and the story of their romance have provided us several ideas for this column which we will unpack over the coming months.

One of the things mentioned was the idea of making altars from their stumble-stones. Making stumble-stone altars... it's not often that a simple phrase can immediately communicate something profound, but this is surely one of them.

Stumble-stones: not stones that have stumbled, but stones that make us stumble. They come in all shapes and sizes and each represent their own peril to our marriage.

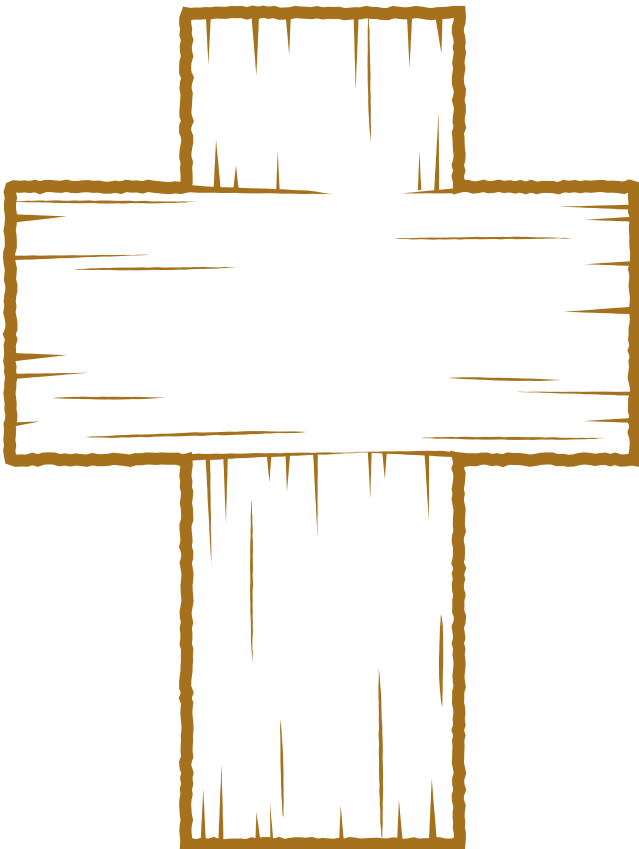
CONTINUE READING

# Take up your cross and follow me



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

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

A V I U Z

T X C R A

S O R Q H

S D U E O

A R K Y S

N G L L O

D F O F W

R I E P M

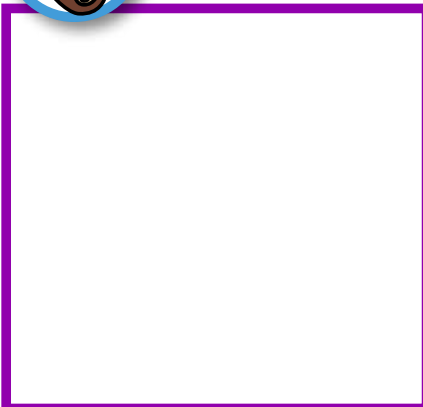
E U W T **E** FINISH

Help Jesus tell his disciples about what would soon be happening.

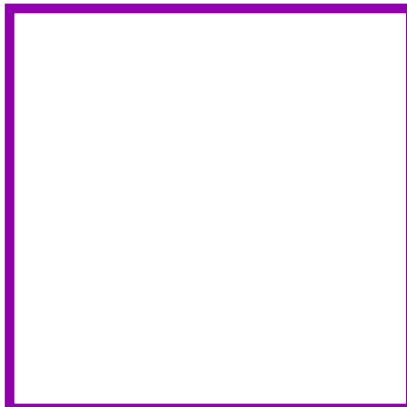


I must go to the city of Jerusalem...

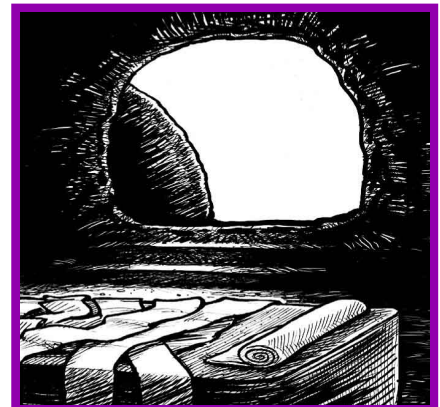
...where people will make me suffer and I will be killed.



Draw Jesus entering the city on the donkey



Draw Jesus suffering on the cross



Write what Jesus tells the disciples next

Mk 8:31-35

© Creative Ministry Resources 2006

Jesus asked the disciples  
 'Who do people say I am?'  
 What are some words you  
 would use to describe Jesus?

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Jesus wants people to  
 'take up their cross' and  
 follow him.  
 What does that mean?

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What are some of the  
 'crosses' that people carry?

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**If you, or you know  
 someone who is struggling.  
 Catholic Care can help.  
 Please contact the Parish  
 Office**

**PIETY STALL ON-LINE**

**LAUNCH WEEKEND**

<https://catholic-parish-of-st-patricks-gosford.square.site>

St Patrick's  
 Parish  
 Online Piety Stall

Click the 'Shop now' button to see what's in stock

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**CLICK AND COLLECT FROM THE OFFICE.**


Browse by category Shop All

All Items 68 results Show 60 Popularity


- Bibles
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- CD's
- Childrens
- Crosses
- Gifts
- Homeware
- Jewellery
- Rosary
- Sacraments
- Saints
- Seasonal
- In Stock




Wooden bead bracelet with cross  
\$7.00  
*Low stock*




St Peregrine Cancer card & medal  
\$5.00




St Peregrine Prayer card & medal  
\$5.00



St Peregrine - Oxide Medal  
\$1.00



St Peregrine bookmark  
\$2.00




Home warmer Plaque - Home & Love  
\$18.00  
*Low stock*

**PLUS MUCH, MUCH MORE ON LINE.**

**READ BROKEN BAY NEWS ON LINE**

**CLICK THE IMAGE BELOW**

**Broken Bay News**



The September issue of Broken Bay News is now available online.

This issue features Bishop Anthony's message about looking after your spiritual wellbeing, the new Pastoral Discernment Project on the Central Coast, online parenting help in lockdown, Bishop David Walker's 25th anniversary and so much more. Read it online here: [https://issuu.com/bbcatholic/docs/broken\\_bay\\_news\\_september\\_2021\\_issue\\_211](https://issuu.com/bbcatholic/docs/broken_bay_news_september_2021_issue_211)



**SALVATORIAN FORMATION DONATION CODE.**

If you would like to support future Salvatorian priests please go to the link. Just scan with your QR Code Reader on your phone.

[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=FHE9UKNMLYLQA](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=FHE9UKNMLYLQA)



**YOU ARE THE CHRIST ... THE SON OF MAN WAS DESTINED TO SUFFER MUCH.**

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**CF. SIR 36:18**

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true.

Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

## FIRST READING

**IS 50:5-9**

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

**I gave my body to those who struck me.**

The Lord has opened my ear.

For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away.

I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults.

So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

My vindicator is here at hand.

Does anyone start proceedings against me?

Then let us go to court together.

Who thinks he has a case against me?

Let him approach me.

The Lord is coming to my help, who dare condemn me?

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**PS 114:1-6. 8-9. R. V.9**

**(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.**

1. I love the Lord for he has heard the cry of my appeal; for he turned his ear to me in the day when I called him.

**(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.**

2. They surrounded me, the snares of death, with anguish of the tomb; they caught me, sorrow and distress.

I called on the Lord's name. O Lord my God, deliver me!

**(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.**

3. How gracious is the Lord, and just; our God has compassion.

The Lord protects the simple hearts; I was helpless so he saved me.

**(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.**

4. He has kept my soul from death, my eyes from tears and my feet from stumbling.

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

**(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.**

## SECOND READING

**JAS 2:14-18**

**A reading from the letter of St James**

**Faith without good works is dead.**

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**GAL 6:14**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.

**Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

**MK 8:27-35**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**

**You are the Christ ... the Son of Man was destined to suffer much.**

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again;

and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, '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, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**CF. PS 35:8**

How precious is your mercy, O God!

The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

## SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY

**BY DIANNE BERGANT CSA**

Classified as one of the Servant Songs, this passage resembles a personal lament. Despite all the suffering that he is forced to endure, the author is confident that God is on his side. This is a remarkable statement since suffering was generally thought to be deserved recompense for some transgression. There is no suggestion that God will take the suffering away. Instead, God is present with the afflicted one, and the suffering itself is no cause for shame. In fact, suffering actually strengthens the one who laments. The righteous one knows that even in suffering, God is there as an advocate.

The psalm is an individual prayer of thanksgiving. The ancients believed that death was an elemental force that could take possession of people, undermining their lives and draining them of vitality. Any ailment was considered some form of death. After the psalmist's suffering is reported, the mood shifts from one of despair to one of grateful praise. God is acclaimed as gracious, just and merciful. These covenant qualities are the very qualities that inspired the psalmist's confidence and devotion. The psalmist illustrates God's power in three ways: the soul or life force is freed from death; eyes are freed from tears; feet are freed from stumbling. It is no wonder that the psalmist breaks out in a song of thanksgiving.

The author of the Letter to James addresses a misunderstanding regarding the nature of true faith. He insists that genuine faith is not simply orthodox doctrine. It must be practical, expressed in action and authentic worship. The people involved are referred to as brothers and sisters, indicating that the conflict is taking place within the community. Some members are in dire need of food and clothing, and others simply tell them to 'Go in peace'. This is not the lively faith called for by Jesus who spent himself for all people even unto death. James' opponents want to separate



faith and works. James insists that faith that does not manifest itself in action is dead.

In the gospel, Jesus asks what people are saying about him. Some believe he is John the Baptist; others that he is Elijah; still others that he is one of the other prophets – all religious figures who have already died. Speaking in the name of the others, Peter proclaims that he is the Christ, the Messiah, the anointed one of God. Hearing this, Jesus elaborates on the character of his messiahship. He will be a messiah like the Son of Man, the enigmatic figure who will come on the clouds at the end of this age. To this he adds that he will suffer and die, an aspect not part of the ancient messianic traditions. Peter's rebuke exemplifies this. Jesus persists, adding that his followers will also suffer. This is indeed a hard saying.

## THIS WEEK

**Mon** St John Chrysostom, bishop, doctor  
**Tue** The Exaltation of the Holy Cross  
**Wed** Our Lady of Sorrows  
**Thu** Sts Cornelius, pope, martyr, and Cyprian, bishop, martyr

## NEXT WEEKS READINGS

### 24TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

**1st:** Wis 2:12, 17-20  
**2nd:** James 3:16-4:3  
**Gospel:** Mk 9:30-37



## YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL ANNIVERSARIES: MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

Rod Pelling, Susan Milne, Bernadette Humphries, Maura Garvey, Allan Hoole, Arthur Holland, Maree Nolan, Carlos Llenado. Jim Dibben, William Parkhouse, Anne Holohan, Brent Senger, Oliver Senger, Christopher Michael Graham, Nancy Fitzgerald, Angela Gibbs, Peter Allman, Peter Gloss, Pat Lowe, Maria Keisellis, Pam O'Malley-Jones, Megan McGowan, Judith Wennerbom, Marie O'Donovan, Frank McGuinness.

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Fr James Duck, Dr Douglas Arndt, John Darin, Lucila Besabella DeGuzman, Evangeline Diaz, John Vaughn, Baby Remie Redmond, Iris Pasquill, John Schipp, Dorothy Miller, John Eggenhuizen, Ruth Axon, John Vaughan, Julian Martinez, Ernesto Jose Lumayno.

Patrick Taggart, Amparo Valenia Bantay, Norman Curran, George Frediani, Josephine Comensoli, Boleslaw Then, Rodney Spencer, Andrew Murphy, John & Eva Smith, Sr Marie Paul Chanel, Maria Dabski.

### REMEMBRANCES:

Lloyd Wood, Fabria Ghazi, Ron Nixon, Jean Gimmongs, Valerie & Eric Neilson, Keanu Campbell, Joseph Vaz, Ronald Freeman, Fariba Ghazi, Mary Jane Buhagiar, Glenn Mills, Friquet Family, Mr Sammut, Foss family members.

### CONDOLENCES:

We give God thanks for Fr James Duck's long and fruitful ministry as a priest, and now commend him to Almighty God, "Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him."

Date	Mass	Intention	Date	Mass	Intention
Sat 11/09	9:00am Gosford	+ 1st Anniversary PATRICK TAGGART	Thu 16/09	9:00am Gosford	+ Anniversary THERESE MURTAGH
Sat 11/09	4:30pm Spencer 2nd Sunday of Mth		Fri 17/09	12:00pm Gosford	+ Birthday Remembrance EFFIE FERNANDES
Sat 11/09	5:00pm Gosford		Sat 18/09	9:00am Gosford	+ Remembrance VAL & ERIC NEILSON
Sat 11/09	5:30pm Somersby			4:30pm Spencer 2nd Sunday of Mth	
Sun 12/09	7:30am Gosford		Sat 18/09	5:00pm Gosford	
Sun 12/09	9:30am Gosford	1. Recently Deceased ERNESTO LUMAYNO 2. 1st Anniversary ELIZABETH POWELL	Sat 18/09	5:30pm Gosford	
Sun 12/09	6:00pm Gosford		Sun 19/09	7:30am Gosford	
Mon 13/09	9:00am Gosford	Personal Intentions of ROBYN NORBERRY	Sun 19/09	9:30am Gosford	
Tue 14/09	9:00am Gosford	+ Recently Deceased CARLOS LLENADO	Sun 19/09	6:00pm Gosford	
Wed 15/09	11:30am Gosford	+ Remembrance FARIBA GHAZI			

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