



Parish of Gosford

The Shrine of St John Paul II

The Communities of St Patricks East Gosford, Mangrove Mountain Community & Holy Trinity Spencer
Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the



Gosford Parish
Year of
JOY

NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARY

BY MARY COLOE PBVM

The Epistle to Titus and the two epistles of Timothy are known as the Pastoral Epistles since they deal with practical living of Christian lives. While seeming to be written by Paul, most scholars consider that these letters come later, somewhere between 70CE and 100CE and thus address the needs of later generations of Christians trying to live at peace within the wider Greco-Roman world. So the advice in today's letter is to 'be self-restrained and live good and religious lives'. By living such good lives, the Christian community is a witness to their faith in the blessings now bestowed by the crucified and risen Christ. The free and gracious love of God is emphasised as the motivation for God's action in Jesus. God is described as kind, loving, compassionate and generous. It is unfortunate that many still retain older images of God as a harsh, calculating judge and today's reading provides an opportunity to refute such images. Obviously, the religious experience of the community behind this letter was the God experienced by Jesus as 'Abba'.

Jesus' first 'Abba' experience is described in the scene of his Baptism. The three synoptic Gospels record this scene of Jesus' baptism by John, and all try to convey the deeply interior spiritual experience of Jesus. Historically, Jesus came from Nazareth to John, and the Gospel of John suggests that Jesus spent some time as a disciple of John before beginning his own ministry. A glance at the other three Gospels' presentation of this scene can help to identify some unique features of Luke's gospel, and therefore indicate the particular theological perspective of Luke.

Mark presents the experience as something totally private to Jesus. He is the only one to see the heavens part, and to hear the heavenly voice. Matthew and Luke bring elements of a private and public manifestation of God. Luke records, 'heaven was opened'. The use of the passive voice is a technique known as 'the Divine Passive' to indicate that this was the action of God. Since Luke omits the words from Mark that Jesus saw the heavens opened, Luke suggests that this was a public revelation. Then Luke follows Mark in having the heavenly voice speak directly to Jesus, 'You are my Son.' This suggests a private experience.

Some other elements in Luke's presentation need to be noted. Only Luke records that Jesus 'was at prayer'. Prayer will emerge as a theme of this Gospel and frequently Luke presents Jesus withdrawing from his ministry in order to spend time in prayer, or teaching his disciples to pray. (Luke 5:16, 33; 6:12, 28; 9:28; 11:1, 2; 18:1, 10; 22:40, 46) This same theme continues in Luke's second volume, the Acts of the Apostles. In Mark and Matthew, we are told that Jesus came out of the water and then the heavens opened and the Spirit came down on him. Luke omits this detail and so Jesus is standing in the water when the Spirit descends. This deliberate change to Mark indicates Luke's presentation of Jesus' baptism as a new creation. In Genesis 1:3, we read that the Spirit of God moved over the face of the waters. This same Spirit now hovers over the waters of Jesus' Baptism. This marks the dawn of a new era in Luke's theology. In Luke 16:16 we read, 'The Law and the Prophets were until John; since then the good



THE HEAVENS WERE OPENED AND THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME UPON HIM.



news of the kingdom of God is preached.' Across Luke's two-volume work, there is a particular time schema:

- The time of Israel (the Law and the Prophets)
- The time of Jesus and the Kingdom (The Gospel)
- The time of the Church (the Acts of the Apostles)

Each of these eras begins with the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit. The one Spirit provides continuity between the time of Israel, seen in such characters as Zechariah, Simeon, Anna, the time of Jesus, and the time of the Church. I consider the scene of Jesus' baptism as his vocational call. From this moment, his life changes dramatically and he begins a public ministry to proclaim the in-breaking of God. This, in fact, is his experience here. He knows God as Abba, and knows himself as beloved son. From this spiritual insight, Jesus shifts his perception of God as one who reaches out with kindness and compassion to those in need, particularly the most vulnerable. It is false to imagine that Jesus comes to us with full knowledge of his calling, as if he has somewhere a heavenly diary to consult telling him all he needs to know and do. Jesus is fully human and fully divine, and to be fully human means being open to the mysterious call of God and needing to carefully ponder this mystery and work out the details in solitude and prayer.



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention

JANUARY

For the right to an education.

Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected. .



FR. Francis Jordan

That which Holy Church wants is evidently part of God's Holy plan, and it will be possible to carry it out trustingly in humility and Holy zeal

MM Diary 1888 p53

ASSISTANCE NEEDED WITH REMOVING CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS FROM CHURCH

On Tuesday 14 January we will be removing all Christmas decorations. We would like to invite some volunteers to help us after 9am Mass. Hope to see you there!

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 9:30 am - 3.00 pm

Tuesday: 9:30 am - 4.00 pm

Wednesday: 9:30 am - 4.00 pm

Thursday: 9:30 am - 4.00 pm

Friday: 9:30 am - 3:00 pm

FR BRONEKS BIRTHDAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO FR BRONEK!

We wish many blessings to Fr Bronek on his special day but also we would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his ministry and hard work in our parish. We appreciate everything you do for us all Fr Bronek and we pray for you to continue your ministry in Gosford in good health and happiness..

Please join us for 9:30 am Mass followed by cake and morning tea.



SALVATORIAN COLLABORATORS MEETING

The next collaborators meeting will be held on Saturday January 25th at 3pm in the Jordan room.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FR GEORGE KOŁODZIEJ SDS

We would like to congratulate Fr George Kołodziej SDS, Superior of Salvatorians in Australia for being appointed by His Holiness Pope Francis as 5th Bishop for the Diocese of Bunbury WA.

We are very proud to see second Salvatorian Priest from Australia becoming a bishop! Fr George brings to that role a great experience of working in many areas of priestly ministry. It is a huge loss for us Salvatorians in Australia but an amazing gain for the local church of Bunbury Diocese!

Fr George worked in Gosford Parish in 2002-2008.

We wish him many blessings and please keep him in your prayers



Pope Francis has appointed Fr George Kołodziej SDS to be the fifth Bishop of Bunbury



CONGRATULATIONS TO FR GREG

With the appointment of Fr George Kołodziej SDS as 5th Bishop of Bunbury Diocese our own parish priest Fr Greg became Superior of Salvatorians in Australia. Fr Greg will continue this role till next election during Regional Chapter in September. Please keep Fr Greg in your prayers as it will be very busy time for him.

SHRINE OF ST JOHN PAUL II
ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Devotion to
St John Paul II

EACH SATURDAY
@ 9AM MASS

ALL WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR MASS
AND SPECIAL PRAYERS OFFERED
THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF ST
POPE JOHN PAUL II

LORD, LIFT UP YOUR HOLY PRIESTS.
GRANT THEM THE GRACES THEY NEED TO
ADMINISTER YOUR PEOPLE. KEEP THEM
PURE AND STRONG IN YOUR LOVE.
GIVE THEM COURAGE WHEN THINGS ARE
DIFFICULT, AND ACCOMPANY THEM WHEN
THEY ARE LONELY. STRENGTHEN THEM
IN TIMES OF WEAKNESS. AMEN



THE HEAVENS WERE OPENED AND THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME UPON HIM.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered:

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 42:1-4. 6-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord:

Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom my soul delights. I have endowed him with my spirit that he may bring true justice to the nations. He does not cry out or shout aloud, or make his voice heard in the streets.

He does not break the crushed reed, nor quench the wavering flame. Faithfully he brings true justice; he will neither waver, nor be crushed until true justice is established on earth, for the islands are awaiting his law. I, the Lord, have called you by the hand and formed you; I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light of the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to free captives from prison, and those who live in darkness from the dungeon.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 28:1-4. 9-10. R. v.11

(R.) The Lord will bless his people with peace.

1. O give the Lord you sons of God, give the Lord glory and power; give the Lord the glory of his name. Adore the Lord in his holy court.

(R.) The Lord will bless his people with peace.

2. The Lord's voice resounding on the waters, he Lord on the immensity of waters; the voice of the Lord, full of power, the voice of the Lord, full of splendour.

(R.) The Lord will bless his people with peace.

3. The God of glory thunders. In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!' The Lord sat enthroned over the flood: the Lord sits as king for ever.

(R.) The Lord will bless his people with peace.

SECOND READING

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 10:34-38

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.

'It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.'

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

MARK 9:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard:

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

LUKE 3:15-16. 21-22

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

When Jesus had been baptised and had been praying, the heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit came upon him.

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.'

Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

JOHN 1:32,34

Behold the One of whom John said:

I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.



ROSTER - JANUARY 19TH - SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

Mass	Vigil 5:00 pm	7:30 am	9:30 am	6:00 pm	Mangrove Mt Vigil 5:00 pm
Date	18.01.25	19.01.25	19.01.25	19.01.25	18.01.25
Audio Visual	Ron Begg	Peter McLean	Tom Croll	Cheryl Walsh	
Acolytes	Anna Jung Alberto Torres	John Ryan Sheila Evans	Liz Malik Peter Cho	Patrick Nicholls Mark Bennett	
Commentator	Hilary Pope	Eunice Dal Busco	Chris Paget	Barbara McCarthy	Nai Hereford
Lectors	Nicole Murphy Megan Neale	John Konopka Susana Lindaya	Nica Pardo Regina Fong	Anna Llige Joseph Nicholls	Marisa Xuereb Alyce Chin
Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist	Patricia Anderson	Jane Eager	Regina Fong	Rick Llige	
Altar Servers	Dominic Chehade Christopher Chehade Amin Chehade	Veronica Chechelska Sabina Chechelska	Cara Eades Alexander Warner Jamie Nardi Aila Rahkola	Reagan Gomez Evana Jose Gabriel Guirguis Diesel Parletta Victoria Bennett	Jessica Xuereb
COUNTERS 13/1/2025 Margaret Hunter, Victoria Milanovic, Eunice Dal Busco 20/1/2025 Diana Addis Neryl Tyrrell Eunice Dal Busco	ALTAR LINEN P/Up 13/01/25 Aimee Sands Ret'n by 17/01/25 COFFEE SHOP 19/01/25 Maria Nardi Danielle Camilleri	ALTAR SOCIETY Sat 19/01/25 Maree Nolan Anna Neale Pauline Nesbitt Ros Moriarty CHILDRENS LITURGY -	PARISH BUS 19/01/25 Driver Jorge Osorio Helper Pauline Nesbitt	FRIDAY HOSPITAL 17/01/25 Co: Cheryl Walsh John McCrae Bigi Kongola Denise Nicholson Sandrea Petith Joan Vella-Critien	SUNDAY HOSPITAL 19/01/25 Johnson Fernandes Paul Hussein

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