

HOMILY BY RICHARD LEONARD

The Pope had just finished a tour of the USA and was taking a limousine to San Francisco. Having never driven a limo, he asked the chauffeur if he could drive for a while.

Well, the chauffeur didn't have much choice, so he climbs in the back and the Pope takes the wheel.

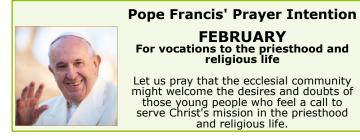
The Pope starts accelerating to see what the limo could do. He gets to 130 kph and suddenly sees the lights of the highway patrol in his rear vision mirror. He pulls over, but the policeman, seeing who it is, says, 'Just a minute your Holiness, I'm going to have to call in about this one'.

The trooper asks for the chief. He tells the chief he's got someone really important pulled over.

It's not Ted Kennedy again is it? No Chief, it's more important. Is it the Governor? No sir, it's more important. Good God man, you haven't pulled over the President? No sir, even more important. Who the heck is more important than the President of the USA? I don't know sir, but he's got the Pope as his chauffeur. What you see is often not what you get. What we have just heard in Luke's Gospel falls into this category. When we hear the phrase 'Blessed are you' it can sound rather patronising. It can seem that Jesus glosses over all sorts of tough human realities with, 'Well done, keep it up, be happy and we'll fix it all up in heaven'. But reading the beatitudes in this light is a direct contradiction of what Jesus says in this text and certainly how he lived it out.

The Hebrew concept of a blessing isn't about Divine pats on bowed human heads; it is about where the presence of God is to be found. In the Hebrew Scriptures, a blessing is the discovery that God is present and active in one's experience, right here and right now. So the beatitudes are saying that we do not need to go past our own daily struggles to find the presence of God. Jesus tells us that when we see the poor, the compassionate, the mournful, those who campaign for a just society and suffer because of it, the gentle, the innocent, the peacemakers and the martyrs; we are encountering, in a special way, the presence of God.

Jesus teaches us that God is not impervious to our pain and happiness, or a great manipulator desiring terrible

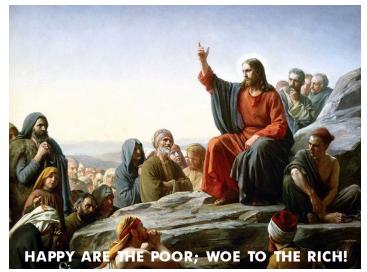


things to punish us or teach us something. No. The God of the beatitudes is a companion with us in every experience we go through either personally or as a community.

Luke goes on to give us the 'woes and warnings' and these are as important as the beatitudes. Luke highlights for us that every blessing carries with it a call, every gift contains a duty to share it, and every right houses within it a responsibility. This is particularly true of our nation where the vast majority of our citizens are housed, educated, have clean drinking water, a long life span, a job and enjoy a stable democracy. This places us in the top fifteen percent of the world's population. We should discover God's presence in the midst of these blessings, but we must face up to the responsibilities they give us.

It is not good enough to be simply appalled at the widening gap between rich and poor in our own country and around the world. Today's Gospel places at our feet the challenge to do something about it, in our prayer, in our careful use of resources, in what we spend our money on and how we vote for governments which might affect international change.

The Beatitudes and warnings call us to become so transparently attentive to justice, development and peace for all people that what others see in the followers of Christ is precisely what they get.





FR. Francis Jordan

.....go ahead courageously! All the sorrows, which the Lord sends you are the most powerful means in his hand to teach you to follow him on the Way of the cross... MM Letters 1895/08/05





ST PATRICK'S PARISH GOSFORD

UNDER THE PASTORAL CARE OF SALVATORIANS Society of the Divine Saviour

http://www.sds.org.au

PARISH PRIFST	Fr Grzegorz (Greg) Skulski SDS	
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ASSISTANT PRIEST	Fr Bronislaw (Bronek) Pietrusewicz SDS	
	bronek@sdsau.com	

PARISH OFFICE (02) 4325 1042

Monday & Friday: 9:30am – 3:00pm Tuesday - Thursday: 9:30am – 4.00pm

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PARISH PASTORA	L COUNCIL			
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PARISH OPERATIONS	Eunice Dal Busco			
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COMMUNITY	Diane Dankwah			
DISCIPLESHIP	Maisie Tenev			
LITURGY	Jon Kealy			
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ADMINISTRATION & PASTORAL SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR	Raelene O'Connor			
	St Patrick's - Kevin Williams			
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS	St Joseph's - Carolina Murdoch			
	St Edwards - Mark Bonnici			
FINANCE COMMITTEE	Maria Andrzejewska			
	Hilary Pope hilary.p1@optusnet.com.au If you see any activities involving children or vulnerable adults that concerns you, please email Hilary Pope, our Safeguarding Officer			

Officer.

CHURCH OPEN DAILY DURING OFFICE HOURS

STANDARD WEEKDAY MASSES

GOSFORD, 76 YORK STR	GOSFORD, 76 YORK STREET EAST GOSFORD				
Mon: 9:00am Tue: 9:00am	Wed: 11:30am Thu: 9:00am	Fri: 12:00pm Sat: 9:00am			
Adoration and Con	fossion 30 minutos ba	Devotion to St JPII after Mass			
		SSION 30 MIN PRIOR			
GOSFORD, 76 YORK STR					
Sat Vigil: 5:00pm	Sun: 7:30	0am, 9:30am & 6:00pm			
Filipino Mass:	2nd Sunday of each	month: 12:00pm			
Mangrove Mountain	Mangrove Mountain Sat Vigil 5:00pm St Dionysius Chi 21 Nurses Road, Central Mangrove				
SPENCER, 4200 WISE		4:00pm 2nd Sat of Month			
ADORATION BEFOR	E THE BLESSED SAC	RAMENT IN OUR CHURCH			
Mon 8:30 - 9:00am	Wed 11:00 - 11:30am	ri 12:30 - 3:00pm			
Tue 8:30 - 9:00am	Thu 8:30 - 9:00am	Sat 8:30 - 9:00am			
	ROSARY	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu	Rosary Begins 1 Hour	Before Mass			
Fridays	11:35 am to 11:55 pr	n (30 Mins Before Mass)			
Caturday	8:05am until 8:25am:				
Saturday		2nd Mothers & Babies 3rd Persecuted Christians			
Sunday	7:05 am to 7:25 am				
BLESSED SAC	RAMENT CHAPEL \	WITHIN THE CHUCH			
Monday to Friday	Access during Parish o	office hours			
ACTIVE GRC	OUPS IN OUR COMMUN	IITY OF ST PATRICK'S			
Cancer Prayer Group	After 9:00am Mass, 4th Tues	aday of the Month, in the Jordan room.			
Craft Group	9:00am to 12:00pm Every Fr	9:00am to 12:00pm Every Friday in the Jordan Room			
Grief & Loss Support	Please contact Margaret on 0439257817				
Women's Faith Circle		2nd and 4th Friday of the Month in the Primary Learning And Resource Centre 6:00 pm to 7:45 pm			
Men of the Sacred Heart		:00pm Mass followed by meeting in the			
Seniors Ministry		month. Enquiries: Barb: 4322 0250 or			
	Prayer Group DVDs 1st Mo	nday of the Month			
Monday Morning Prayer Groups	Prayer & Bible Discussion 2nd, 4th and 5th Monday of the Month				
9:30 am after Mass	Prayers for Christian Unity 3rd Monday of the Month				
Bible Study - Monday night	7:00pm to 9:00pm Monday, i	n the Jordan Room, all are welcome!			
Divine Will Prayer Group	6:00pm to 7:15pm every We	dnesday in the Jordan Room.			
Salvatorian Collaborators	3:00pm, 4 th Saturday of the r	nonth, in the Jordan room.			
Paddies - Youth	Years 3 & 4 students, meet e Hall 3:00 to 4:30 pm.	every Friday during school terms in the			
Arise - Youth Group	Years 5 & 6 students, meet every Friday during school terms, in the				
Ascend - Youth Group	Years 7 to 12 meet every Su	school Library 6:00pm. Years 7 to 12 meet every Sunday night during school terms, after			
Awake - Young Adults	6:00 pm Youth Mass 18 to 35 year olds meet the last Saturday of each month 7:00 pm in				
Group	the Jordan Room Every Sunday during the 9:30am Mass except during school				
Children's Liturgy	holidays and during Sacramental program formation. All Children's Liturgy Leaders are cleared with Working with Children Checks.				



NATIONAL CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP STANDARDS Committed leadership, governance & culture Key Elements of Standard 1:

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

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OUR FIRST FRUITS OFFERING IS ON THIS WEEKEND AND FOR THE NEXT 2 SUNDAYS

This weekend will be the start of our First Fruits Offering. This program aims to ease the financial burden on our Parish through special regular gifts from our Parishioners.

Our Pope has been calling on us to be a more missionary church—to renew our faith, become better stewards of what we own, and care deeply for each other.

Please collect the envelope and take copies of the printed material. Once you've read the material and considered your financial position, join our program by considering regular giving and/or leaving a gift in your Will (bequest). What a wonderful way to make a lasting contribution to our Parish.

For further information about planned giving and tax deductibility, please speak with the Parish office 4325 1042

Our Parish is grateful for your offering.

God Bless you

LETTER FROM FATHER GREG

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

With hearts full of gratitude and joy, we invite you to a very special celebration in the life of our parish community—the 60th anniversary of St. Patrick's Church and the 65th anniversary of St. Patrick's Catholic School. These milestones are a testament to the faith, dedication, and love that have built and sustained our community over the years.

To honor this remarkable occasion, we will gather for a Thanksgiving Mass on 1 March at 5pm in St. Patrick's Church. This will be a time to reflect on God's many blessings, to remember those who have gone before us, and to give thanks for the generations who have nurtured our parish and school. We especially invite past and present parishioners, students, staff, and friends to join us in this moment of thanksgiving.

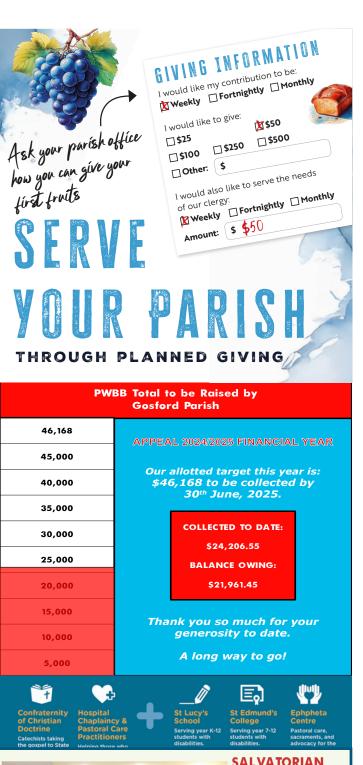
Following the Mass, we warmly welcome everyone to an International Food Night, a joyous evening of food, fellowship, and cultural celebration. Our parish is blessed with a beautiful diversity of backgrounds and traditions, and this event will be a wonderful way to share our heritage through food. We encourage you to bring a dish from your cultural background to share with others, as we celebrate the richness of our community. There will also be music, entertainment, and activities for all ages something for everyone to enjoy!

These anniversaries are more than just numbers; they represent decades of faith, education, and service. They remind us of the countless prayers said within our church, the many students who have walked through the halls of our school, and the love and generosity that continue to strengthen our community.

We hope you will join us in this time of thanksgiving and celebration. Please mark your calendars and spread the word among family and friends. If you would like to contribute to the event in any way—whether by volunteering, bringing a dish, or assisting with preparations—please contact our parish office.

Let us come together as one family of faith, united in love and gratitude, as we honor the past and look forward to a bright future.

Yours in Christ, Fr Greg Skulski SDS Parish Priest





SALVATORIAN FORMATION DONATIONS

Please help!

If you would like to support future Salvatorian



priests please go to the link. Just scan the code to the left with your QR Code Reader on your phone. Or click below the link with your mouse.

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_





Children's Liturgy is returning on March 2nd. Held within the Sunday 9.30 am Mass, in the Jordan Room. We are seeking volunteers to assist this Ministry. Please contact the Parish office for further information 4325 1042.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - BAPTISM PREPARATION

Thank you Maisie Tenev for preparing our Parish families for the Sacrament of Baptism for the past 6 years. Maisie is now stepping down from this role. Baptism preparation is typically carried out once a month on a Saturday morning held in the Parish office for 1 hour. If you are interested in support the Parish in this role, please contact the Parish office for more details 4325 1042.

SALVATORIAN COLLABORATOR MEETING

The next Salvatorian collaborator meeting will be held at 3pm Saturday 22^{nd} February in the Jordan room.





Check out <u>www.bbjubilee.com.au</u> for more information about whats happening, this 2025 Jubilee year in our Diocese of Broken Bay.

From 3rd March, Pilgrims across the Diocese will be able to participate in the **Jubilee** Pilgrim Passport initiative. In much the same way as the famous Camino de Santiago pilgrimage has a passport that can be stamped along the way, you can get a Jubilee Pilgrim Passport from your Parish to commemorate the Jubilee Year. When visiting the Cathedral and the 3 Shrines of Hope, you can



have your Passport stamped as a memorial of your time there. A "complete" passport is one where you have visited the Cathedral and each of the Jubilee Shrines of Hope across the Diocese, and had your passport stamped at each. Stay tuned for further information.

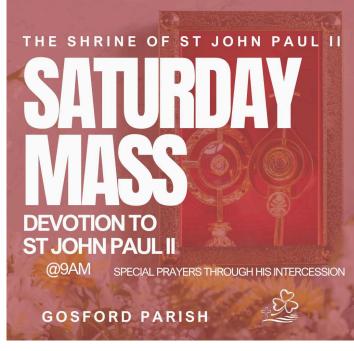
Upon **completing your passport**, you can receive the **Jubilee Local Pilgrim of Hope Certificate**, which together with your stamped Passport forms a momento of your participation in this Holy Year.

When you go to get your stamp: don't forget all the wonderful graces that are available "the Treasury of the Church" in this Jubilee Year!

God has entrusted the Church with the amazing gift of "Indulgences" – these gifts of grace are there waiting for us, but it is up to each one of us to actively receive them.

Generally to obtain an indulgence, some form of sacrifice of our time and attention is required, but it is such a tiny sacrifice compared to the marvelous graces we receive. Even the grace of a "partial indulgence" is so beneficial, so very worth a small gift of our time and attention to the God who loved us into being.

Don't just go to get the stamp! Let that stamp be a memorial for you of the fact that you went and made a small offering of your time and attention to our Lord!



HAPPY ARE THE POOR; WOE TO THE RICH!

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

CF PSALM 30:3-4

Be my protector, O God,

a mighty stronghold to save me.

For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 17:5-8

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The Lord says this:

'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man, who relies on things of flesh, whose heart turns from the Lord.

He is like dry scrub in the wastelands: if good comes, he has no eyes for it, he settles in the parched places of the wilderness, a salt land, uninhabited.

'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord, with the Lord for his hope. He is like a tree by the waterside that thrusts its roots to the stream:when the heat comes it feels no alarm,its foliage stays green; it has no worries in a year of drought, and never ceases to bear fruit.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 1:1-4. R. Ps 39:5 (R.) Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

1. Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked; nor lingers in the way of sinners nor sits in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the Lord and who ponders his law day and night. (R.)

(R.) Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

2. He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper. (R.)

(R.) Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

3. Not so are the wicked, not so! For they like winnowed chaff shall be driven away by the wind. For the Lord guards the way of the just but the way of the wicked leads to doom. (R.)

(R.) Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

SECOND READING

1 CORINTHIANS 15:12, 16-20 A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people.

But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

LUKE 6:23 Alleluia, alleluia! Rejoice and be glad; your reward is great in heaven. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

LUKE 6:17. 20-26 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases.

Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said: 'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God.

Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.

Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh.

'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.

'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now.

Alas for you who have your fill now:

you shall go hungry.

Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.

'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

CF PSALM 77:29-30

They ate and had their fill,

and what they craved the Lord gave them;

they were not disappointed in what they craved..

DONATE TO OUR PARISH

BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR DIRECT DEPOSIT Account Name:

Gosford Parish Church Account

BSB: 062 784

Account No: 100001599

Please remember to always include a reference if a deposit is for a specific purpose, e.g. 1^{st} collection, 2^{nd} collection, PWBB. If a deposit is a donation that doesn't require a receipt, the word 'donation' would suffice.

Thank you so much for your generosity!



Tel: 4325–1042 ♦ email: patsgos@acs.net.au ♦ Web: <u>www.bbcatholic.org.au/gosford</u>

Mass	Vigil 5:00 pm	7:30 am	9:30 am	6:00 pm	Mangrove M Vigil 5:00 pr
Date	22.02.25	23.02.25	23.02.25	23.02.25	22.02.25
Audio Visual	Michael Lynch	Peter McLean	Tom Croll	Cheryl Walsh	
	Joseph Nicholls	Gerard Price	Peter Julius	Patrick Nicholls	
Acolytes	Mark Bennett	Eunice Dal Busco	Peter Cho	Tim Dasan	
Commentator	Hilary Pope	John Konopka	Liz Malik	Johan Fernandes	Alyce Chin
Lectors	Regina Fong	Sheila Evans	Carol Bailey	Rayden Gomez	Sonia Cummings
	Natalie Mills	Jane Eager	Ellen Antonino	Nora Koleszar	Judy Grenfell
Extraordinary	Patricia Anderson	Neryl Tyrrell	Patti Beattie	Trudie Hiep	
Ministers of					
The Eucharist					
Altar Servers	Natasha Pettitt Soren Patelia Jeoan Jobin	Amelia Eager Faith Eager Theodore Huang Hugo Huang	Samson Paget Serah Jubin Jeremy Jubin	Vito De Toffol Remi De Toffol Luca De Toffol Xavier Werder Reagan Gomez	Dylan Xuereb
COUNTERS 7/02/2025 avid Slingsby ictoria Milanovic unice Dal Busco 4/02/25 on Begg byce Byrne rudie Hiep	ALTAR LINEN Pick up 17/02/2025 Return 21/02/2025 Marie Cradock Coffee shop 22/02/25 Hilary Pope Jan Stinson Carla Verde	ALTAR SOCIETY Sat 22/02/2025 Donna Hobday Pauline Parsons Julianne Hayne CHILDRENS LITURGY RETURNING SUNDAY 2ND MARCH	PARISH BUS 23/02/25 Driver - Rob Surdich Helper - Joe Nicholls	FRIDAY HOSPITAL 21/02/2025 Co-Eileen Arndt Colleen Drummond Bigi Kongola Denise Nicholson Sandrea Petith Joan Vella-Critien Gary Wills	SUNDAY HOSPITAL 02/03/25 Robyn McBride Mark Bennett 16/03/25 Marie Cradock

PRAY FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Gloria Emara, Tom Milostic, Kevin O'Donnell, Judy Wennerbom, Mary-Anne Bonnici, Lynette Ridgewell, Carmen Gaha, John Powell, Chris Golden, Clair Hasting, Paul & Patricia Jones.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Gilberto Dal Busco, John Hiep, Dean Davids, John Muir, Colin Pratt, Betty Van Yzendoorn, Yvette Lindor, Sheila Mary Myers, Martin Brown, Hugh & Margaret Duffy, Maria & Paul Bigeni, Laura McGuire, Joyce Maher, Verigina Galea, Antionio Monachino, Bob Moore.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Philomena Mary Pannell, Josephine Gauci, Jadwiga Skulska, Janet Hicky, Tony Murphy, Gabrielle Cerveau, Victor Azzopardi, Benedetto Bortone

REMEMBRANCES:

Maude & Regis Monvoisin, Gabrielle Cerveau, Ian D'Mello.

CONDOLENCES:

We offer our sincere condolences to anyone in our Parish who have recently experienced the loss of loved ones, particularly to Father Greg and his family on the loss of their beloved mother Jadwiga Skulska and the Nicholls family on the loss of their beloved Mother Philomena Pannell. May God welcome them into his Heavenly home and grant them eternal rest.

Date	Mass	Intention	Date	Mass	Intention
Sat 15/02	9:00am Gosford	JPII intentions	Wed 19/02	11:30am Gosford	+ Anniversary of death Gilberto Dal Busco
Sat 15/02	4:00pm Spencer		Thu 20/02	9:00am Gosford	Conversion of Souls and the recently converted
Sat 15/02	5:00pm Gosford	Recently deceased Jadwiga Skulski	Fri 21/02	12:00pm Gosford	Intention available
Sat 15/02	5:00pm Ct Mangrove	Recently deceased Josephine Gauci	Sat 22/02	9:00am Gosford	JPII intentions
Sun 16/02	7:30am Gosford	Thanksgiving Tom Milostic	Sat 22/02	5:00pm Gosford	7 th Anniversary death of John Hiep
Sun 16/02	9:30am Gosford	Parish intentions	Sat 22/02	5:00pm Ct Mangrove	Intention available
Sun 16/02	6:00pm Gosford	The soul of Jadwiga Skulski	Sun 23/02	7:30am Gosford	1 st Anniversary of death Dean Davids
Mon 17/02	9:00am Gosford	Private intentions	Sun 23/02	9:30am Gosford	Parish intentions
Tue 18/02	9:00am Gosford	Healing of Tom Milostic	Sun 23/02	6:00pm Gosford	Recently Deceased Philomena Mary Pannell

MASS INTENTIONS



WE SERVE THE "NERVOUS" ERINA FAMILY DENTAL

Ph: 4367 5066 72 KARALTA RD ERINA [Before the turn off to Erina Fair] Parking available on site.

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