

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5th Feb 2023

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Is 58:7-10

Thus says the LORD:

Share your bread with the hungry
shelter the oppressed and the homeless;
clothe the naked when you see them,
and do not turn your back on your own.
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your wound shall quickly be healed;
your vindication shall go before you,
and the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer,
you shall cry for help, and he will say: Here I am!
If you remove from your midst
oppression, false accusation and malicious speech;
if you bestow your bread on the hungry
and satisfy the afflicted;
then light shall rise for you in the darkness,
and the gloom shall become for you like midday.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

R. The just man is a light in darkness to the upright..

Light shines through the darkness for the upright;
he is gracious and merciful and just.

Well for the man who is gracious and lends,
who conducts his affairs with justice.

R.

He shall never be moved;
the just one shall be in everlasting remembrance.
An evil report he shall not fear;
his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD.

R.

His heart is steadfast; he shall not fear.
Lavishly he gives to the poor;
His justice shall endure forever;
his horn shall be exalted in glory.

R.

Second reading: 1 Cor 2:1-5

When I came to you, brothers and sisters,
proclaiming the mystery of God,
I did not come with sublimity of words or of wisdom.
For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you
except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.
I came to you in weakness and fear and much trembling,
and my message and my proclamation
were not with persuasive words of wisdom,
but with a demonstration of Spirit and power,
so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom
but on the power of God.
Alleluia

Gospel Acclamation:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

GOSPEL Mt 5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples:

"You are the salt of the earth.

But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be
seasoned?

It is no longer good for anything
but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

You are the light of the world.

A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.

Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a
bushel basket;

it is set on a lampstand,

where it gives light to all in the house.

Just so, your light must shine before others,
that they may see your good deeds
and glorify your heavenly Father."

Gospel Reflection...

The Gospel speaks about salt losing its saltiness. That
can be hard for us to imagine. Once you take a pinch of
salt and season the food, the salt itself is gone. You don't
see the salt anymore.

I remember our professor in Scriptures saying how it can
be possible for salt to lose its taste. Their salt is unlike
ours. Theirs come in the form of chunks or salt rocks.
They put it inside a cloth and dip it into the pot while
cooking food. It is very much like the way we use
teabags. After some time, the salt rock loses its taste or
much of it at least. Then they can toss it outside on foot
paths where they serve to stabilize the ground.

Now we can better understand what Jesus is trying to tell
his disciples and all of us when he says: "You are the salt
of the earth." Like Jesus we are to spread the Good
News. But we must imbibe first within ourselves, the
Good News for people to believe in us and the Good
News that we proclaim. Otherwise, we are just like the
salt that has lost its saltiness.

Jesus also says: You are the Light of the world. When we
spread the Good News, we are like people holding the
candle for everyone to be able to see and move around
properly. But as we hold the lighted candle, the light also
touches our faces. It exposes us as well, both our
goodness and the otherwise. And if people don't like what
they see in us they might run away from the light instead
of going to the light.

Welcome to the Parish of Cororooke...

St Brendan's Coragulac &
St Joseph's Pirron Yallock

727 Corangamite Lake Road
Coragulac, VIC 3249
Email: cororooke@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Moderator: Maureen Finn 0428329231
Leadership Team: Pat O'Shea, Jill O'Dowd,
Michelle Gorwell, Marg Allan, Bronwyn
Hickman & Delia Melville
Supervising Priest: Fr Michael O'Toole
School Principal: Leanne Eastman
Parish Sec: Gracesyn Perrett 52331464
Child Safety Officer: Leanne Eastman
**St Brendan's: 9.30am Sunday/
5pm 4th Sunday**
**St Joseph's: 10:30am Lay-led /
Mass 1st Sunday**

St Brendan's: 12th Feb Lay led @9

Communion Minister: M Finn
Commentator: M McCarthy
Reader: B Allett
Leaders: M O'Shea/C Finlay

St Joseph's 12th Feb Lay led @10:30

Family: Hickman
Minister: E Smith
Lay Leaders: B&R Whytcross

ALTAR & SACRISTY DUTIES

St Brendan's: O'Dowd/Holland
St Joseph's: Feb: Hickman

Counters: 15 Feb: L Darcy

RECENTLY DECEASED: John Devine

ANNIVERSARIES: Frances McCarthy, Judy Palmer,
Ancza Buckle, Monica Martin, John Baggott,
Tarlea Roache, Mick Hickey, Pat Lenehan,
Majella Darcy

**Those seeking our prayers for healing and
well being.** Leah Spokes, Geraldine Finn,
Goldie Elsum, , Leo Embrey, Marie McGuane



Pope's intention for February - For parishes: We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

Dates to Remember:

9th Feb: School Mass@9:15. Cuppa to follow, all welcome

15th Feb: PLT meeting@5pm

Congratulations:



Great grandmother, Marg Everett,
grandmother Kerry, on the birth of
Teddy Allan, son of Hannah and Joel.



Birthday wishes:

Tracey Manson and Ros Whytcross, 60yrs
Margaret Everett 80yrs



*We welcome in faith Scarlett Ellen,
daughter of Gabrielle and Sam Clark,
whose baptism is today, at St Joseph's.*

BULLETIN NOTICES – OTHER NEWS

Prayer for Ukraine
God of peace and justice,
We pray for the people of Ukraine.
We pray for peace and the
laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
That your Spirit of comfort would
draw near to them.
We pray for those with power of war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion
to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your
precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince
of Peace. Amen

Groups invited to prepare for next phase of Synod on Synodality

The National Centre for Pastoral Research is inviting groups of seven to 10 people to express their interest in participating in the next round of consultation for the global Synod of Bishops on Synodality. Groups – using the working document and assisted by a reflection guide being produced by the national Synod of Bishops committee to support prayer, discernment and response – will be able to gather and share their feedback through an online portal. People wishing to coordinate groups for discernment on the Document for the Continental Stage should email the NCPR's Stephen Reid

(stephen.reid@catholic.org.au) to express interest in coordinating a group that meets the following criteria:

- Groups should be comprised of a mix of clergy, laity and religious.
- Group members are expected to be aware of Church matters at the diocesan and national level.
- Group members should be able to read and reflect prayerfully on the document and have experience doing so with similar documents.

Word of God Sunday – February 5, 2023

The Church in Australia marks Word of God Sunday on February 5 this year – **THIS SUNDAY**. Several resources have been prepared to assist with the promotion and commemoration of the day. They include homily notes, liturgical notes, prayers of the faithful, musical recommendations, reflection by Fr Tom Elich, bulletin notice and images for promotion. Resources available

at <https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Word-of-God-Sunday>

Aid to the Church in Need Australia (ACN)

Aid to the Church in Need is asking for support to aid sisters in Kenya in building a new mother house and formation centre for their local community. Hunger, illiteracy and lack of medical provision, combined with desperately poor roads and a lack of clean drinking water make life incredibly difficult for many people in Kenya. The diocesan congregation of the Visitation Daughters of the Immaculate Heart were established in order to help this needy population - but to continue their work they need your help! The Sisters' work includes caring for expectant mothers, acting as midwives, providing counselling, caring for the sick and looking after the elderly and orphans who are frequently abandoned by society. Your support will help these sisters to continue their mission by providing them with a permanent convent. To make an offering and learn more

visit <https://aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject>

LETTER FROM THE VICAR GENERAL

Greetings. The move into 2023, from my point of view, has come with a bit of gusto. It seems to be disappearing fast. When I sent my December 12

Christmas newsletter I was imagining a very different Christmas/New Year to the one I had. I managed a fall on the morning of December 23 ending in a hospital stay. I left St John of God hospital late Christmas Eve after a couple of operations sporting a broken wrist and a new pacemaker. Recovery has been slow and of course everyone is mentioning age. I am hoping people will show a little patience. You never know what's around the corner. In 2013 Pope Francis wrote

Evangelii Gaudium in response to the 2012 meeting of the Synod of Bishops devoted to the subject of the new evangelization. Many believe the document can be best summed up in the statement: "I dream of a 'missionary option', that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelization of today's world rather than for her self-preservation" (#27). *Evangelii Gaudium*

touches on many of the themes of Francis' papacy, including obligations Christians have to the poor and the duty to establish and maintain just economic, political and legal orders. This is a huge statement. The Pope believes the Church has been in self-preservation mode for too long. Pope Francis is calling for our Church to thrive by choosing the missionary option in everything that we do. The Plenary Council and the process

for the Synod of Bishops reflect some of the insights of *Evangelii Gaudium*. They have incorporated the involvement of the grass-roots church community in relation to setting the agenda. Former Church hierarchy structures have presented decisions and process to be followed. This shift towards more consultation has been appreciated by many. Both agendas arouse from universal dialogue recognising the Pope's desire for sodality in diversity of opinion. We are at the beginning of this synodal process. A lot more thought and development needs to occur before these processes are perfected. The more people participating in the decision making, the more diversity. There usually is greater learning if those taking part are from a variety of backgrounds. The Church seems to be in a learning spiral at the moment with the current ecclesial crisis making people so aware of

clericalism and its dangers. It is now imperative to find a way of collaborative leadership.

Nathalie Becquart, the first-ever woman undersecretary of the Synod of Bishops, says Church decisions must involve listening to as many Catholics as possible. She says that synodality means walking together along a common path. A synodal Church is one in which everyone has a voice. Synodality is an inclusive Church concerned with relationships and diversity. Pope Francis has made it clear that the coming Synod must result from a process that emanates from the very roots of the Church. The gathering in October 2023 will be the final step for the Synod of Bishops after discussions at the diocesan, national and continental levels have taken place. We are called to listen first to one another and then to the Holy Spirit. The Church is both a human and a divine reality; it is the Body of Christ, the People of God and the Temple of the Holy Spirit, a special and unique organisation. In order to understand all the dimensions of the Church we need to appreciate its human and spiritual dimension. Sr Becquart stresses the importance of decision makers do not see themselves as a separate body but as part of the community. She said true synodality means listening to one another even if, in the final instance, one person has to shoulder the sole responsibility. "It makes a great difference if someone decides alone or listens to the community." Most of the recipients of this email are associated with ministry in the diocese in one form or another. The events of recent years are moving the Catholic Church Community towards new forms of association. As old structures disappear and new ones' form there will be grieving but also joy-filled new beginnings and hopefully, a quickening of the heart. With every blessing and best wishes, Kevin Maloney VG

