



**Welcome to the
Parish of St Michael
Thirroul and Wombarra**
www.thirroulcatholic.org.au

moving forward as a parish family
One of the Northern Illawarra Parishes



20 / 21 OCTOBER 2018
29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ✦ YEAR B
World Mission Sunday! Welcome to the Baptized!

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

The Greatest Service

Today's liturgy is about service. In the opening prayer we ask for "strength and joy in serving God as followers of Christ." The First Reading is from the fourth servant song of Second Isaiah: the prophet sings of one who "gives his life as an offering" (First Reading). The Gospel is about disciples who want to be important. Jesus teaches them this lesson: "whoever wants to rank first among you must serve the needs of all" (Gospel). We ask for the "freedom to serve God with our lives."

Our Lord and Master calls us to be a community of service. Our strength comes from following in the footsteps of this Master, who "has not come to be served but to serve."

What is our service to the world? If all we do is affirm the world's wisdom, what kind of service is that? After all, it is the wisdom of the world that has led us into the dark alleys of hatred, prejudice, bigotry, legalism, abuse, alienation and killing. "It cannot be like that with you." We must provide an alternative to the wisdom of the world: that is the greatest service we can offer.

"The fundamental moral criterion for all economic decisions, policies, and institutions is this: they must be at the service of all people, especially the poor."

– US Bishops, *Economic Justice for All*, 1986: 24

"The process of development and liberation takes concrete shape in the exercise of solidarity, that is to say in the love and service of neighbour, especially of the poorest."

– Pope John Paul II, *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*, 1987: 46.

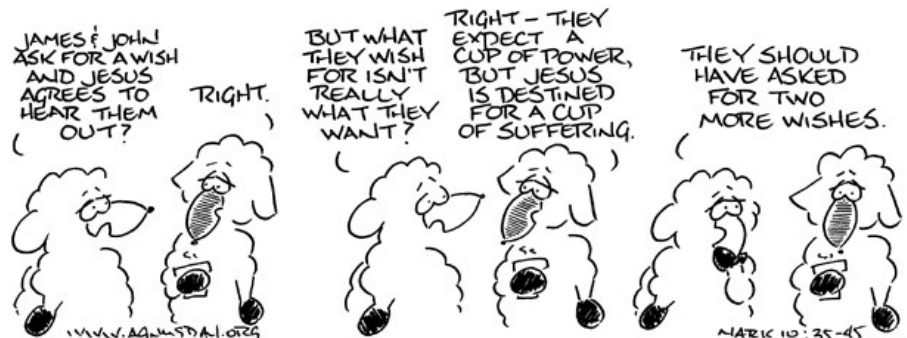
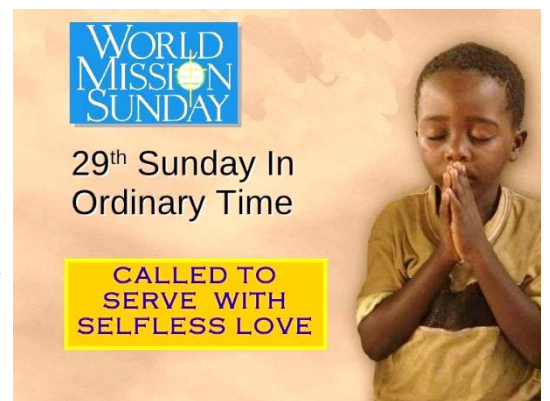
In Mark's telling of the story of his final journey to Jerusalem, Jesus three times warns the twelve of the fate that will overtake him in the Holy City. During this time, Jesus must have reflected frequently upon the Servant Songs of the Isaian writings, and their paradoxical anticipation of the way in which God would fulfil the hopes of Israel. Our first reading is a brief excerpt from the greatest of these Songs. The Servant who will bring to realisation the true destiny of Israel will know great 'suffering ... offering his life as an atonement'; he will take the 'faults' of the people 'upon himself'. But by doing so he will turn the nation's failure into God's final triumph, as he achieves 'what the Lord wishes'. 'By his suffering my servant shall justify many'.

With these things in his mind, Jesus has to contend with the naïve ambitions of James and John – and with the indignation of the 'other ten', resentful that the sons of Zebedee have tried to steal a march on them. Given the context we have described, it comes as no surprise that the response of Jesus refers to the ordeal that lies ahead of them. 'You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink with me the cup of suffering, share in the ordeal in which I am soon to be plunged?'

Our Christian language often speaks of 'conversion'. The incident we are considering points to the fact that true conversion is much more than a reform of personal morals. It is a revolution in our understanding of what our life 'in Christ' means; it is the starting point of true discipleship. Jesus now urges the twelve to be converted, to broaden their vision, change their values – by identifying with the paradoxical ways of God that are the subject of his reflections as he journeys to Jerusalem. If they are to be leaders and guides in the community of disciples, their exercise in authority must be more than the realisation of their ambitions for a place of prestige and power. If they want to be truly great, they must make themselves 'servants' – even 'slaves' – of all.

Jesus will teach us, not merely by his words, but also by the living witness of his example: 'For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve' – words that sum up the whole tenor of his life. The reading from Hebrews reminds us how truly he lowered himself to share our life: 'feeling our weaknesses with us ... tempted in every way that we are, though without sin'. These are amazing words; truly, God's Servant is also our brother. This reading introduces the great theme of Hebrews, Jesus 'the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heaven'. This theme will interpret the saving mission of Jesus to Jewish converts – for whom the temple observances meant so much – by a comparison with the role of the priests in temple worship.

We live in the time of fulfilment. The Spirit of Christ has been given to the Church; and great heroes down through the ages have followed Christ's example, making themselves servants of all. Genuine renewal is linked with such a conversion to God's ways making the Church a sign of hope in a world without hope, a true foreshadowing of the final Kingdom in which God's ways will shape all things.



PLEASE BRING ALONG: ONE NON-PERISHABLE ITEM PER FAMILY EACH WEEK TO HELP VINNIES PROVIDE FOR THE NEEDY IN THE LOCAL ILLAWARRA Area

YOU ARE MISSION

'You are Mission'

Pope Francis has called every man and woman to be a part of mission. In his World Mission Day message he speaks especially to the youth to take an active role in mission, however also reminds us that 'mission revitalises faith' and that all Christians are called to mission as we are children of God.

Catholic Mission supports life-giving work in 160 countries around the world. Today you will learn one of the many stories from people and

Freecall: 1800 257 296

catholicmission.org.au/youaremission

projects that have benefitted from the prayers and dedicated support of people like you.

By supporting the Catholic Mission World Mission Appeal today, or by partnering with us through your monthly gift, you can be a part of mission and support those in need all around the world.

Please give generously and keep missionaries and communities in your prayers.



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

The 2018 Catholic Mission World Mission Appeal highlights the variety and scope of the work of Catholic Mission around the world. It also encourages the donors to recognise their important role in mission work – through prayer and donations towards life-giving projects. This year for World Mission Day 2018 Pope Francis says: "Never think that you have nothing to offer, or that nobody needs you. Many people need you. Think about it! Each of you, think in your heart: many people need me." You can read Pope Francis' message here: https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/missions/documents/papa-francesco_20180520_giornata-missionaria2018.html

THANK YOU FROM THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Thank you to everyone who supported the **Operation Christmas Child** – your generosity is very much appreciated. On Tuesday, 16 October, **70 shoe boxes of toys** were packed by members of the **Austinmer Uniting Church** and the **Catholic Women's League**. Thank you for your ongoing generosity.



SWIM SAFELY

So far in Australia **this season 167 surf rescues** have been made! *Last week it was 153 ... 14 rescues in a week and the water is still only 17°C!*



Draft Mission Statement for Our Parish

The Parish Pastoral Council has drafted a "**Parish Mission Statement**" and seeks your feedback prior to its promulgation. The recent National Church Life Survey and a review of other parish websites indicated that our Parish doesn't have a clear, common statement of where we stood as a parish community. The Pastoral Council has thus tried to sum up our special character and our aims. We were looking for something that could inspire us and others and allow us to track how we are growing in faith and service. **Please take the time to both read the Statement below and to provide feedback.**

OUR VISION

Our parish by the sea will grow in faith as a friendly, tolerant and supportive community. We are committed "to act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with God". (Micah, 6:8)

OUR MISSION

We seek to:

1. worship and develop a deeper relationship of our God and God's Son, Jesus Christ, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit through our liturgy, our communion with others and the appreciation of God's Holy Word;
2. act as Christ's disciples in our commitment to social justice and compassion;
3. uphold the dignity and listen to the voices of all in our community, from the young to the elders, and recognise their contributions;
4. reach out to the marginalised, those burdened and sick at heart, through acts of kindness and inclusion, such as comforting the sick and lonely and contributing to the works of the St Vincent de Paul Society;
5. welcome, include and show hospitality to all who contact and come to our parish community; and
6. continue to offer the tastiest morning teas after Sunday Mass.

Please **provide your feedback** by **contacting personally one of the Pastoral Councillors** or by **emailing the Parish Office** [thirroul@dow.org.au] or **Judy Bull**, Chair of the Pastoral Council [judy.bull@bigpond.com]. Members of the Pastoral Council are: **Judy Bull, Anne Clark, Henry Idziak, Genevieve Nowlan and Lynn Woodley.**

PRINCIPAL AT OUR PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Catholic Education Office announced this week that, after a thorough interview process, the new principal of St Michael School is **BELINDA HUGHES**. Belinda has been the deputy principal and is currently the acting principal, as Kerrin Cronin is on secondment to the CEO head office and will now be continuing in that role, hence the vacancy. The position of deputy principal will now be advertised. Belinda is a parishioner of Bulli Parish. **Congratulations, Belinda!**



WELCOME TO THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Welcome to **LUCATTE MEISNER** baptized in our parish this Saturday evening, and to **INEZ BENSLEY** and **ISABEL SHARRATT** baptized this Sunday morning. Welcome to their parents, godparents and family. *Thank you to bringing your child to our Parish.*

Next Baptisms in our Parish will be during the weekend Masses on either **17/18 November** and then on either **15/16 December**. If you want your infant daughter or son baptized on **17/18 November**, at least one parent needs to attend the Baptism Preparation Class which will be held at **7:15pm on Thursday, 25 October**. Enrolment forms are obtainable from the Parish Office.

Baptism, the first sacrament of initiation, prepares us to celebrate the Eucharist. Baptisms are usually held on the third weekend of each month [except January and Lent], during either of the weekend Masses. Baptism forms are obtainable from the Parish Office.



ADULT FAITH TALKS AT THIRROUL

There has been great interest in the proposal to have a series of adult formation talks for interested parishioners. No need to book; no cost ... just come along to our Parish Church ... Here are the details:

Monday, 22 October at 7:30pm in the Parish Church Ken ofm
Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation ... *Amoris Laetitia* ... On Love in the Family.

Monday, 29 October at 7:30pm in the Parish Church Andrew ofm
If your faith be the size of a mustard seed. ... Living adult faith: a dynamic experience.

Monday, 5 November at 7:30pm in the Parish Church Andrew ofm
Praised be You my Lord for all Your creatures. ... St Francis of Assisi: Patron of the Environment, basic elements of a Franciscan perspective.

Monday, 12 November at 7:30pm in the Parish Church Andrew ofm
Be You Holy – as I the Lord am Holy: Explorations into personal and communal holiness.



PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

Pope Francis is encouraging our Church to be a listening (synodal) Church. We're invited to speak freely and honestly, sharing from our hearts and to listen humbly – to each other and to the Spirit. In our encounters with one another, we encounter and discern what God is asking of us. Our listening and dialogue sessions are now up and running. We will be holding a session on Saturday, 27 October at 3:30pm, at the church. We are also running sessions through our existing groups and with small groups on request. Please either put your name on the sheet on the front seat of the church or contact the Parish Office if you'd like to join. We want to hear from everyone!

Our Bishop, Brian, will host a regional "Listening Session" on Sunday, 11 November, 12-4pm at St John Vianney Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow for Local Animators and others. Please contact the Parish Office if you plan to attend, to enable coordination.



SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: TUESDAY, 30 OCTOBER

"Pastoral Care in 2050 – Will there be space for Christians in a spiritual but not religious Australia?"

Speaker: Reverend Geoffrey Flynn. Geoff is currently the Minister of the Wollongong Mission of The Uniting Church in Australia (UCA) which has a long history of supporting persons in crisis through Lifeline South Coast and its Community Care Centre. Geoff has 20 years' experience serving in leadership positions within the Church including the NSW/ACT Boards of the UCA Synod and Uniting and is currently a Director of Lifeline Australia. Geoff is passionate about promoting mental health, and is an experienced Defence and Mental Health Chaplain, and Clinical Pastoral Educator. Currently he visits South Coast Private Hospital as the Chaplain in the Post-Traumatic Stress ward. Geoff has a strong interest in Public Theology and the integration of Christian proclamation and community service. He is a founding member and President of the Illawarra People for Peace.

Venue: Woonona Bulli RSL Club, 455-459 Princes Highway, Woonona, (corner of Princes Highway & Nicholson Road Enter off Nicholson Road). Date: **Tuesday 30 October, 7:30pm – 9:00pm. All Welcome.** Please come and join in the conversation!



HERBS IN OUR PARISH GARDEN

Thanks to **Pat Mirabito**, **Genevieve Nowlan** and others, our Parish Garden in front of the Columbarium and against the presbytery wall is thriving. Among the beautiful flowers are several **herbs**. Thanks to **Richard Phillpott**, signs indicate which herb is planted where. The herbs that are growing are: **CHAMOMILE; CHOCOLATE MINT; CORIANDER; DILL; LEMON BALM; MARJORAM; MINT; PARSLEY (two varieties); SAGE, ROSEMARY and THYME**. The herbs are doing so well now that **all parishioners are welcome to 'help yourself to any of the herbs'** – nothing beats fresh herbs to add extra flavour to a delightful meal. *Scissors or secateurs are available in the Sacristy for your convenience.*



THE VALUES OF JESUS

Enthusiasm for the Kingdom – he was moved to compassion for people even though fatigued.

Conversion of Heart as a Way of Life – in need of God's mercy evidenced in humility and a need to change.

Respect/Reverence for Persons – God is above persons; the Law is below persons; how he treated people, especially those who don't fit or who have some ailment, physical or mental.

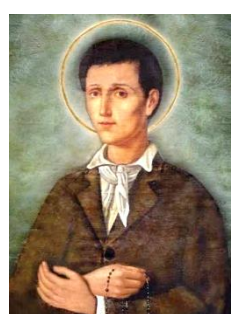
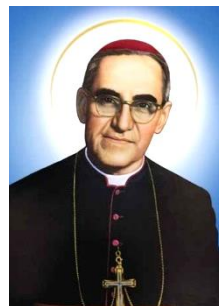
Loving Service to Others, Reciprocated – lifting a finger to make a difference in the lives of others; he allowed people to wash his feet; he was grateful to people and for people.

Prayer – different ways, public, private.

THE NEWEST SAINTS

Last Sunday, 14 October, Pope Francis canonized **seven** new saints: **POPE PAUL VI** (Giovanni Battista Montini); **OSCAR ROMERO**; **FRANCESCO SPINELLI**; **VINCENZO ROMANO**; **CATERINA KASPER**; **NAZARIA IGNAZIA MESA**; and **NUNZIO SULPRIZIO**.

Oscar Arnulfo Romero Galdámez was born in Ciudad Barrios of El Salvador on 15 March 1917 from a modest family. At 12, he worked at a carpenter. In 1930 he entered the minor seminary of San Miguel. In 1943 he obtained a licentiate in theology at the Gregorian University, Rome. Ordained priest, he returned home and dedicated himself to pastoral activity as a parish priest. He was later appointed director of the San Salvador Seminary, Secretary of the Episcopal Conference of San Salvador and Executive Secretary of CEDAC. In 1970, elected Auxiliary Bishop of San Salvador, he dedicated himself to the defence of the poor. From 1974 he became Bishop of Santiago de Maria and since 1977 Archbishop of San Salvador, in full social and political repression. On 24 March 1980, he was assassinated while celebrating Mass among hospital patients where he lived modestly and poorly. He was beatified in 2015 in San Salvador



Nunzio Sulprizio was born in Pescosansonesco, Abruzzo, Italy on 13 April 1817. Orphaned at an early age, he was entrusted to his maternal grandmother. From her she learned the art of prayer and the profound truths of faith. At the age of nine he was alone again. He was then entrusted to a maternal uncle, a blacksmith, gruff and violent. In the shop, among the ill-treatment of his uncle, his physical suffering began: he became seriously ill with osteosarcoma [*bone cancer*] and was sent to Naples to the Hospital of the Incurable. A paternal uncle recommended it to Colonel Felice Wochinger, who took care of him like a real father. The hospitalization lasted 21 months. Prayer in his suffering brought relief and help. He was declared incurable. In great pain and forced to bed, at age **19**, on 5 May 1836, he died. Totally dedicated to God, the life of this young man was marked by two great loves, the Eucharist and the Madonna.

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK Monday 22 Oct 7:30pm Adult Faith Talk *The Joy of the Gospel*

CHURCH SIGN IN FRANCE

“When you enter this church it may be possible that you ‘Hear The Call Of God’. However, it is most unlikely that God will call you on your mobile. Thank you for turning off your phone. If you would like to talk with God, find a quiet corner and pray earnestly. Should you want to see God, send God a text message whilst driving.”

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO: ARMISTICE DAY, 11AM, 11TH DAY OF 11TH MONTH

Paul Tisserant, who fell in action during World War I on 14 April 1918, on the eve of his death in the Saint-Thierry Wood, north-eastern France ... he wrote to his little four-year-old daughter: “Darling little Genevieve ... for whom I dreamed of such a bright future – it is necessary for me to leave you without being able to see my dream’s fulfilment ... I hope you will be worthy of your parents, that you will love your mother and get on at school and that afterwards you will work and help her in her trials. Be proud of your name, respect yourself, and be of good heart and kind. Practise the religion of your parents and grandparents and be proud of it. And when you are grown up and beginning to think of marriage, choose a man who is not ashamed to enter a church ... Never forget that it is in prayer ... that you will find the strength of character necessary to your consolation in trouble, and the way to all good. It is so that I came to ... make the sacrifice of my life for our liberty ... and the triumph of our faith.”

During the weekend Masses of 10/11 November, there will be a special Remembrance Day service. **Let us not forget.**

On **Sunday, 11 November**, immediately after the 8am Mass, the ashes of **Brian Lehane** will be placed in the Columbarium. And on **Sunday, 4 November** after the 8am Mass, the ashes of **Veronica and Bryan Algie** will be placed in the Columbarium.

QUESTIONS THAT CAN HAUNT YOU

Why does a round pizza come in a square box? How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage? Why is it that people say they ‘slept like a baby’ when babies wake up like every two hours? Why are you **IN** a movie, but you’re **ON TV**? Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground? Why do doctors leave the room while you change ... They’re going to see you naked anyway? Why do toasters always have a setting that burns the toast to a horrible crisp, which no decent human being would eat? Why does Goofy stand erect while Pluto remains on all fours? They’re both dogs! Do the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune? ... Why did you just try singing those two songs? Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog’s face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him for a car ride, he sticks his head out the window? Why doesn’t Tarzan have a beard? **Who has the answers to these?!**

THIS Sunday’s Readings *on our website*

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year B

1st Reading Isaiah 53:10-11

2nd Reading Hebrews 4:14-16

Gospel Mark 10:35-45

NEXT Sunday’s Readings *on our website*

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year B

1st Reading Jeremiah 31:7-9

2nd Reading Hebrews 5:1-6

Gospel Mark 10:46-52

Parish of St Michael – Thirroul

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🌐 www.thirroulcatholic.org.au

Parish School of St Michael ☎ 4267 2560

Parish Office Hours

Tuesdays, Wednesdays 9am to 3:30pm

Fridays 10am to 3pm

Magda Pires • Maureen Franciskovic

Patrick Vaughan, Parish Priest

Andrew Granc ofm, Geoff Allen, Ken Cafe ofm

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Church of St Michael • Thirroul
Saturday – 5:30pm • Sunday – 8:00am

Bulli Sunday 8:30am and 5:30pm
Corrimal Saturday 6pm, Sunday 9:30am

LITURGIES THIS WEEK

Wombarra [*Liturgy*] Monday n/a

Thirroul Tuesday 5:30pm

Wednesday 9:00am

Thursday 9:00am

Friday 9:30am