



Welcome to the Parish of Saint Michael Thirroul



PARISH BULLETIN
18/19 JUNE 2022
THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST + YEAR C
CONFIRMATION ON TUESDAY

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Feeding on Flesh

In the gospel reading, Jesus feeds those who come to him with bread and flesh—well, fish, but you are eating flesh if you are eating fish. In the second reading, Jesus feeds people with bread and flesh, too—his own flesh, which the bread of the Eucharist is.

It is not so hard to understand why Jesus would feed those people with the flesh that is fish. They were hungry, and they were used to eating fish. But why would Jesus feed people with his flesh? People being fed in the Eucharist are definitely not used to eating human flesh, and they aren't hungry for it either.

Think of it this way. Because we ourselves are flesh, we need food to live; and every need carries with it a kind of vulnerability. If your need is not met, you will suffer or die. But vulnerability makes trust essential. If you are vulnerable, you will have to depend on others and trust them for help. And so, one person's feeding another makes a kind of intimacy of trust between them.

When a mother feeds her baby, the vulnerability of the baby and its dependence on its mother is so great that the mother's feeding of the baby makes a powerful intimacy between them. There is a kind of loving union between the mother and the infant who needs her to feed him. When she breastfeeds him, she feeds the baby with herself. What is part of the body of the mother becomes part of the body of the baby; and, in her milk, she herself is what the infant needs to live and grow.

Adults, too, are needy and vulnerable—to sin, to the death of the soul, to all the afflictions and sorrows of this world; and the need for help is correspondingly very great. That help lies in Christ. And so, like a loving mother, Christ feeds us with himself. He does not suckle us at his breast; but he feeds us in an even more powerful way, by his dying, which is memorialized in the Eucharist, where Christ himself is present to us and in us. In that union, we have intimacy with the Lord who feeds us and gives us what we need to live.

And that is why Jesus feeds his people with his flesh.

Today's liturgy, like that of last Sunday, invites us to a deeper appreciation of the Paschal Mystery we have just celebrated. Today we renew our faith in the great sacrament in which the Saviour's Paschal Mystery gives life to the Church age after age.

The gospel reading from Luke makes clear the central place given to the Eucharist in the community for which the gospel was written. In Luke's narrative, Jesus, after completing his Galilean ministry, turns his attention to the formation of the apostles. He has them share in his mission by sending them to preach the good news and to heal the sick. Confronted by a crowd that has neglected to provide themselves with nourishment in their eagerness to stay in his company, Jesus has a new lesson for The Twelve. 'Give them something to eat yourselves', he tells them. There can be no doubt, as the narrative continues, that Luke sees these words as pointing to the Eucharist, the nourishing of the people of God that will be the centrepiece of the apostolic ministry. 'Taking the loaves and fish, Jesus 'raises his eyes to heaven', pronounces 'the blessing' over the loaves, and then 'breaks them'. Though provided by Jesus, the nourishment is given to the people through the ministry of the apostles – who are instructed to organise the people 'in parties', to distribute the loaves and fish, and to collect the scraps.

St Paul's letter to the Corinthians gives us the oldest extant account of the institution of the Eucharist. Paul writes barely twenty years after the crucifixion; but he makes it clear – using the technical language of the rabbinical tradition in which he was formed – that he is handing on an authentic and sacred tradition of the Christian community. This is independently confirmed by the fact that Paul's narrative of what happened at the Last Supper shows clear evidence of having been modified by repetition in liturgical celebrations. The implications of Paul's brief account are momentous. 'This is my body, which is for you' (with manuscript variations, 'given for you', 'broken for you'). In the Church's central act of worship, Jesus makes himself the nourishment of the world, perpetuating the last act of his earthly life – in which he gave himself into the hands of his Father, for the life of the world. The words, 'This is the new covenant in my blood', echo the declaration of Moses as he inaugurated the first covenant (Exodus 24:8); but this is the 'new' covenant in which humanity's final bonding with God replaces the shadows and types of the Old Testament. The celebration is a 'memorial' that 'proclaims the Lord's death until he comes' – the constant faith of the Church since the beginning, that the Lord and his Paschal Mystery are present in the celebration of the Eucharist, finds strong support in the biblical overtones of these words.

The context of Paul's words has great practical significance. Immediately prior to this passage, Paul rebukes the Corinthians for forming selfish and exclusive factions – as they gather to celebrate the sacrament that should awaken in them a love that is selfless, one with that of the Saviour!



QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading Genesis 14:18-20

✚ In what ways does Melchizedek prefigure Jesus?

✚ Discuss the properties of bread and wine and their benefits to the body when consumed. Why do you think Melchizedek chose them for offerings? Do you know why Jesus chose them?

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

✚ What do we believe Jesus meant when he said, “do this in remembrance of me”? To what does “this” refer? Could it mean more than one thing? Is it “remember me when you do this”? Or, in remembrance of me, do also what I did for others?

✚ Explain “For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.” Is the gift of Jesus’ life, death and resurrection a one-time thing that happened in the past, or is the gift on-going and always newly present?

Gospel Luke 9:11b-17

✚ The crowd had been listening all day, in a deserted area, away from villages. How are the 5,000 like the Church today? Are we starving for divine inspiration on questions, spellbound by Jesus’ words like ecojustice, incarceration, immigration, bias, gun control?

✚ Pope Francis says about the Twelve’s idea of sending the hungry people away: “... it isn’t the way Jesus thinks.” What would Jesus, who ate with sinners and welcomed strangers, think of his ministers refusing to give the Eucharist to people now?

He tells his disciples straight out: “You give them something to eat” (Luke 9:13). We can imagine the thoughts that went through their minds: “We don’t have enough bread for ourselves, and now we are supposed to think about others? Why do we have to give them something to eat if they came to hear our Teacher? If they didn’t bring their own food, let them go back home, it’s their problem. ... This way of thinking is not wrong, but it isn’t the way Jesus thinks. ...

The Lord does great things with our littleness, as he did with the five loaves. He does not work spectacular miracles or wave a magic wand; he works with simple things; ... love can accomplish great things with little. The Eucharist teaches us this: for there we find God himself contained in a piece of bread. Simple, essential, bread broken and shared, the Eucharist we receive allows us to see things as God does. It inspires us to give ourselves to others. It is the antidote to the mindset that says: “Sorry, that is not my problem,” or: “I have no time, I can’t help you, it’s none of my business.” Or that looks the other way.

– Pope Francis, *Homily on the Body and Blood of Christ*, 23 June 2019

ONE NON-PERISHABLE ITEM PER FAMILY EACH WEEK TO HELP THE NEEDY IN THE LOCAL ILLAWARRA AREA: drop items in the special white plastic bin if you come to Mass

FLOOD AND UKRAINE APPEALS – THANK YOU!

Thank you for your incredible generosity over the last month. Totals *so far* ... as donations keep coming in:

VINNIES FLOOD APPEAL – TOTAL TO BE DONATED IS: **\$13,950**. THANK YOU! } **TOTAL \$25,070**
UKRAINE CRISIS APPEAL – TOTAL TO BE DONATED IS: **\$11,120**. THANK YOU!

To donate: **BSB 066 711, Account Number 001788**, and in the “Reference” indicate **FLOODS** or **UKRAINE**.

2022 WINTER SOLSTICE - JUNE SOLSTICE – TUESDAY AT 7:12PM

The **Solstice** is an astronomical event that happens twice, once in summer and once in winter, each year when the Sun reaches its highest position in the sky as seen from the North or South Pole. During Solstices the tilt of the axis of the Earth (with respect to the Sun) is the maximum at 23° 26'. Solstices occur on 20 or 21 June and 21 or 22 December each year. During summer the day of the solstice is the longest day of the year and during winter the day of the solstice is the shortest day of the year. This year’s **Winter Solstice** will occur at **7:12pm** on this **Tuesday, 21 June**. *The best part about the winter Solstice ... summer is coming back!*

REFUGEE WEEK: 21 TO 26 JUNE

“Our Church teaches that anyone who is forced to flee to protect their lives or human dignity has a moral claim on our assistance, whether they fit legal definitions of a refugee or not. We need a just, humane and timely system for assessing claims for asylum.” – Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, *Towards a Better Kind of Politics*, 2022, p3.

“... history teaches us that the contribution of migrants and refugees has been fundamental to the social and economic growth of our societies. This continues to be true in our own day. Their work, their youth, their enthusiasm and their willingness to sacrifice enrich the communities that receive them.”

– Pope Francis, *Message for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2022*.

BAPTISMS THIS SUNDAY – CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME

WELCOME to those baptised in our Parish this Sunday during the 8am Mass: **MADDOX HAMILTON** and **HARLEY WILSON**. Thank you to their parents, godparents, families and friends for bringing the children to our Parish community for Baptism.

Baptism is the first Sacrament of Christian Initiation. If you would like Baptism for your infant daughter or son – age younger than seven years – then you need to contact the Parish Office to obtain the Enrolment Form and other materials, and to book a time for the Baptism. Baptisms are held on the **third weekend** of the month, during either the 5:30pm Saturday Mass or the 8:00am Sunday Mass. At least one parent will need to attend a Baptism Preparation Meeting which is *usually* held on the last Thursdays of each month at 7:15pm in the presbytery. The next Baptisms to be held in our Parish will be on either Saturday or Sunday, **16/17 July 2022** and the preparation meeting will be on **this Thursday, 23 June** at 7:15pm.



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2022 – TUESDAY



Confirmation Candidates 2022



Confirmation is the second Sacrament of Initiation. **Congratulations to the 26 Candidates** for Confirmation this year. **Congratulation to: KEITA SHIPTON; ELYZA RYAN; TOMAS MCCARTHY; XAVIER BRIDGER; TORI GEARSIDE; AMELIA MCNAMARA; EVIE TAYLOR; ISLA O'CONNOR; SOPHIA LAMBERGER; HARPER PINGNAM; ARI COLLEY; NOAH HENDERSON; MITCHELL FISHER; AMELIA MACFARLANE; CAMERON SHELDRIK; DARIUS HAMOD; OLIVER GREGORIO; MADDIS ORGAN; ELIANA TRASLER; EVIE ZUBOVIC; RILEY SAVILLE; HAMISH MCLEOD; SEBASTIAN NEDESKI; CALLUM DENNYSON; RUBY WITTEN; OWEN ALLEN.**

COULD YOU PROVIDE A FOSTER HOME?

CatholicCare urgently needs foster carers to provide love, care, and support to help children thrive and reach their full potential. Carers receive comprehensive support from the Fostering Futures team to ensure they have a full range of resources and networks to nurture their forever home. Our team have over 30 years' experience helping carers give vulnerable children a loving home and a brighter future. We are **urgently** seeking a placement for Katie* (name has been changed for privacy) aged 13 years. Katie enjoys cooking, bike riding, playing board games, reading and loves animals. She needs a loving and caring home and will thrive with carers who have patience and time to support her to manage emotions, build connections with others and achieve a positive future. If you would like to learn more about becoming a carer with CatholicCare, please call 0418 783 956 or email fosteringfutures@catholiccarer.dow.org.au

menALIVE Growing Good Men: Father & Teenage Son Weekend Experience ... 6:30pm, Friday, 21 October – 1:30pm, Sunday, 23 October 2022 at Cataract Activity Centre, Appin. ☎ 4222 2403

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Weekday readings are from **Year II**

Monday	20 Jun	Monday of Ordinary Time Week 12	2 Kings 17:5-8,13-15,18	Matthew 7:1-5
Tuesday 📖	21 Jun	Saint Aloysius Gonzaga , religious 7:00pm Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Brian	2 Kings 19:9-11,14-21,31-36	Matthew 7:6,12-14
Wednesday	22 Jun	Saint John Fisher , bishop, martyr Saint Thomas More , martyr Ken away Wednesday and Thursday at Baulkham Hills for Tribunal work	2 Kings 22:8-13, 23:1-3	Matthew 7:15-20
Thursday	23 Jun	Thursday of Ordinary Time Week 12 Baptism Preparation Meeting 7:15pm for Baptisms in July	2 Kings 244:8-17	Matthew 7:21-29
Friday	24 Jun	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	Ezekiel 34:11-16	Romans 5:5-11 Luke 15:3-7
Saturday	25 Jun	The Birth of John the Baptist	Isaiah 49:1-6	Acts 13:22-26 Luke 1:57-66
Sunday	26 Jun	13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C ... Scripture Readings are listed below Immaculate Heart of Mary – Patronal Feast of our Diocese		

THIS WEEK'S RECIPE ... Parmesan-crust Roast Potatoes

1kg King Edward or other floury potatoes, peeled, chopped; ½ cup (125ml) extra virgin olive oil; 1 cup (80g) grated parmesan; ¼ cup (40g) semolina; 10-12 thyme sprigs.

Preheat the oven to 190°C. Place potatoes in a pan of cold, salted water over medium heat. Bring to a simmer and cook for 10-12 minutes until almost tender. Drain, then return to the pan and shake vigorously over medium heat to dry out and rough the edges. Pour ¼ cup (60ml) oil in shallow roasting pan, then place in the oven to heat. Combine parmesan and semolina in a bowl and season. Toss potato in remaining ¼ cup (60ml) oil, then coat in parmesan mixture. Carefully remove pan from oven and add potato to hot oil. Scatter with thyme and roast for 25-35 minutes, turning once, until golden and crisp. **Favourite recipe to share? Email it to the Parish Office.**

2022 SIGNIFICANT MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES MASS

If you are celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60 or over 60 years of marriage this year, and would like an invitation to the Mass to be celebrated by Bishop Brian Mascord at St Francis Xavier Cathedral on **Sunday, 7 August 2022** at 2pm, please register online at www.dow.org.au/events/ – or contact **Helen Bennett** at the Office of the Bishop at **4222 2403**, or via email helen.bennett@dow.org.au by no later than Monday, 11 July. Once you have done so, an invitation and official online registration procedures will be sent to you.

SPIRITUALITY ON THE SOFA, WEDNESDAY, 22 JUNE VIA ZOOM

“Being heard – love and light”. Come, and from the comfort of your own home, on your own or with a friend or two, engage with **Kate Wilson** and **Dr Zachariah Duke** as they share some of their life adventures in the fields of disability, disadvantage and depression ... and how there might be Love and Light at the end of the tunnel ... Kate, in her early twenties, has represented Australia in the Paralympics and Zach is known internationally for his research in Disability Theology and is a senior lecturer at the Australian Catholic University.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85782086082?pwd=NHl0R1JUNm1FZ3Bxb0RmaW5FOS9kUT09>
or launch Zoom and use: **Meeting ID: 857 8208 6082** and **Passcode: 936307** 📞 Marea on 0414 873 910



LIVE Local is a Regional Youth Group every Friday night in the school term from 7–9pm, at St Therese West Wollongong school hall. All people aged 13–17 are welcome to attend. 📞 youth@dow.org.au

<p>THIS Sunday's Readings – on website</p> <p>BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST • Year C</p> <p>1st Reading Genesis 14:18-20</p> <p>2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 11:23-26</p> <p>Gospel Luke 9:11-17</p>	<p>NEXT Sunday's Readings – on website</p> <p>13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME • Year C</p> <p>1st Reading 1 Kings 19:16,19-21</p> <p>2nd Reading Galatians 5:1,13-18</p> <p>Gospel Luke 9:51-62</p>	<p>SUNDAY MASS TIMES</p> <p>Saturday 5:30pm</p> <p>Sunday 8:00am</p> <p>📖 Saturday Mass recorded</p>
<p>Parish of St Michael – Thirroul <i>One of the four Northern Illawarra Parishes</i> <i>Moving forward as a Parish Family</i> Patrick Vaughan • <i>Parish Priest</i> Andrew Granc ofm, Ken Cafe ofm • <i>Assisting</i> Lauren Faulks • Parish Secretary Tues, Wed 9am–3:30pm; Fri 9:30am–2:30pm</p>	<p>🌐 www.thirroulcatholic.org.au</p> <p>📍 325 Lawrence Hargrave Drive</p> <p>📧 PO Box 44 • Thirroul 2515</p> <p>☎ 4268 1910 📠 4268 1976</p> <p>📧 thirroul@dow.org.au</p> <p>Parish School of St Michael</p> <p>☎ 4267 2560</p>	<p>WEEKDAY MASSES</p> <p>Monday ———</p> <p>Tuesday 📖 5:30pm</p> <p>Wednesday 9:00am</p> <p>Thursday 9:00am</p> <p>Friday 9:30am</p> <p><i>Anointing of the Sick 1st Friday</i></p>