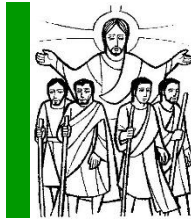


Welcome to the Parish of Saint Michael Thirroul



PARISH BULLETIN

2/3 JULY 2022

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME + YEAR C

ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

In the gospel reading, Jesus picks seventy-two people to send out on a challenging preaching mission. They travel from one city to another, by foot, without money or other provisions. Think about all the stuff we take when we travel, and you will see how difficult their mission was. But Jesus doesn't leave them helpless. He gives them power. They can cure sicknesses and cast out devils. That is a lot of power! Jesus handpicked the seventy-two people to whom he gave this power. What would it have felt like to be a disciple who was not picked? How left out must such a disciple have felt?

But guess what? These seventy-two disciples were left out too. They may have done miracles, but they were left out of the company of the twelve apostles. The Gospel says that Jesus appointed seventy-two others—others beside the apostles, that is. Even though the seventy-two come back rejoicing that the devils are subject to their power, they still don't rank being added to the twelve apostles.

And, of course, that isn't the end of the story. Jesus took John and Peter with him to witness his transfiguration. The other ten apostles were left out.

How can Jesus leave people out in this way? Is everybody supposed to suffer some sense of abandonment by Jesus except those lucky enough to be in the innermost circle of the twelve? Or the even smaller circle of the two?

The solution to this puzzle lies in what a person wants. The seventy-two come back rejoicing in their power. But then power is what they want. Jesus rebukes them for it. Don't rejoice in your power, he tells them; rejoice rather in the fact that you will be united to God in heaven.

If you want not to be left out of something, your desire has to do with yourself and your status. Those who felt left out because they weren't chosen to be among the seventy-two wanted to be honoured by being part of that group. And maybe that is why they weren't picked.

And maybe the seventy-two were passed over when Jesus was picking the twelve apostles because what the seventy-two cared about was power and their own status as powerful people handpicked by Jesus. If what you want is power and status, your desire is for yourself, isn't it? It isn't for Jesus.

So maybe in the end it is Peter and John who come with Jesus to see his transfiguration because what they want more than anything else is being with him. If what you want is Jesus, you will never be left out.

In Luke's account of the life of Jesus, we are at a turning point. Jesus is beginning his journey to Jerusalem to meet his fate; and he is instructing the followers who must carry on his mission. He has already sent his chosen twelve out on mission. Now he sends out 'seventy-two others'. The numbers are symbolic. The mission of the apostles is to the twelve tribes of Israel – since the immediate concern of Jesus was to call the nation back to faithfulness. Seventy two was the number of the pagan nations, according to the traditions of the Old Testament – ultimately the mission of Jesus is universal. The 'seventy-two others' represent all of us, his followers in every age, called to share in his mission to bring the Good News of God to all people. 'Evangelisation', being bearers of the Good News, is a basic theme in the Church's teaching today. 'The labourers are few', Jesus tells us, and we tend to think he is referring to the 'professionals', clergy and religious. But today's gospel tells us that it is that not only those who carry on a leadership role like that of the apostles, but all followers of Jesus who are called to carry forward the Church's mission in the name of Christ.

The Lord's instructions to the seventy-two are for us too. He invites us to learn what it is to be an evangeliser. The first requirement is that we have truly found joy in the meaning faith gives to our lives. These disciples 'came back rejoicing'; and today's liturgy, in its choice of the reading from Isaiah, underlines this first characteristic of authentic bearers of the gospel message – with its expressions of boundless joy in the blessings of God. True evangelisers must have a faith commitment that is strong: the disciples are told that they must be single-minded – their greatest treasure should be the message they bear; it will be this personal conviction that leads others to share in what they have found. True evangelisers are bearers of peace: the disciples are told to be aware of the healing and reconciliation their message should bring to their hearers. Jesus sends the disciples out 'two by two': because the example of a community that lives by Christ's teaching is an essential part of authentic evangelisation. And finally, Jesus warns against the spirit of self-importance that can spoil the work of the evangelist: all that should matter is their own relationship with God.

Clearly, it is not clever presentation, or anything of that order, that will make us good evangelisers, but the quality of our own response to the call of Jesus, to share in all that he stands for – especially in the ordinary situations of our lives, in the midst of our families and our ordinary life relationships.

Scholars who have studied Luke's mind tell us that the program he sets out here is realised in the life of the early Church as he describes it in the Acts of the Apostles. And today's reading from Paul to the Galatians reminds us of that great evangeliser, whose labours, as he spread the Good News, are a magnificent illustration of the message of today's gospel.

Being Left Out



QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading Isaiah 66:10-14c

- ↪ Salvation history started in the Hebrew Testament, moved through the Christian Testament and continues today. Do you think God's love changed over time?
- ↪ Christ's peace "spreads like a river" throughout the Church. If there is a whole world that needs Christ's peace what is the Church's job?

Second Reading Galatians 6:14-18

- ↪ "For neither does circumcision mean anything, nor does uncircumcision." Some people wanted to follow the ancient practices. Paul did not. Are there be discussions today in the synodality meetings, concerning some practices now?
- ↪ St Paul looks at the circumcision situation from the perspective of "the cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ." Can you envision problems in today's Church from the same perspective? How does Jesus look at the fact that people in certain parts of the world can only go to Mass a few times a year because there are no priests?

Gospel Luke 10:1-12,17-20

- ↪ In what ways are you a labourer in the abundant harvest? If you are a "lamb" do you think God will protect you from the "wolves"?
- ↪ "The Lord appointed seventy-two others whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town ..." In his apostolic exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel), Pope Francis says the evangelist needs to "enter fully into the fabric of society." Why is that? Who did that first?

268. To be evangelizers of souls, we need to develop a spiritual taste for being close to people's lives and to discover that this is itself a source of greater joy. ...

269. Jesus himself is the model of this method of evangelization which brings us to the very heart of his people. ... If he speaks to someone, he looks into their eyes with deep love and concern: "Jesus, looking upon him, loved him" (Mark 10:21). We see how accessible he is, as he draws near the blind man (cf. Mark 10:46-52) and eats and drinks with sinners (cf. Mark 2:16) without worrying about being thought a glutton and a drunkard himself (cf. Matthew 11:19).

We see his sensitivity in allowing a sinful woman to anoint his feet (cf. Luke 7:36-50) and in receiving Nicodemus by night (cf. John 3:1-15). Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is nothing else than the culmination of the way he lived his entire life. Moved by his example, we want to enter fully into the fabric of society, sharing the lives of all, listening to their concerns, helping them materially and spiritually in their needs, rejoicing with those who rejoice, weeping with those who weep; arm in arm with others, we are committed to building a new world ... as the result of a personal decision which brings us joy and gives meaning to our lives.

– Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, 24 November 2013

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

SESSION 2 OF THE PLENARY COUNCIL 3 TO 9 JULY 2022

The four-year journey of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia will reach the second – and final – assembly from 3 to 9 July 2022. The Framework for Motions document that will be considered at the second assembly contains thirty motions across eight mission areas that the **277 members** – clergy, religious and laity – will vote on during the assembly. The Framework for Motions "will form the backbone of our reflection, discussion and decision when we gather", Plenary Council president Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB wrote. "As we strive to discern, and then to embrace, all that God is asking of us now and as we move into the future, we will be challenged to recognise both the strengths and weaknesses of 'who we are' and the hope which lies in 'who God is calling us to become'. The Plenary Council will be held in Sydney at Cathedral College, next to St Mary's Cathedral. You can read about it and find links to daily broadcasts of the opening sessions each day and the Masses by clicking on this link: <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/> – Jodi Steel and Ken will be attending this week. You might like to look at this reflection by Scripture Scholar, Fr Frank Molony SDB, a short twelve minute video ... <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V9vGhnlavcA&list=PLz0HgCPwqc3ljzPwYiKiFGV4V9d0Rwqpv&index=2>

The Framework for Motions are here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EiQBQV8U8-T5DemhN1TY-WSIT4uSzy-v/view>

THE XVI ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS

The Diocese has completed its XVI Synod Synthesis Report, with the advice gleaned from the discernment, discussion and writing of the faithful of the Diocese, used as the basis of Bishop Mascord's submission in contributing to the XVI Ordinary Synod global church feedback. The Diocese of Wollongong Synthesis Report may be viewed at <https://catholic.org.au/synodalchurch> – please pray for this ongoing process of prayer and discernment for the XVI Ordinary Synod: the future – a truly synodal way of being the Church. The General Assembly will take place in Rome during October 2023. There is much to be done before then.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY

Every year, on the first Sunday in July, Catholics come together across Australia to acknowledge and celebrate the gifts of Australia's First Peoples in the Catholic Church. This year is particularly important because of the need to reconnect due to the Covid 19 pandemic and its impact on the ways in which we interacted and made contact with one another.

For 2022, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) is asking for everyone to come together, but also consider practical ways in which they can support Australia's First Peoples – not just for this special day, but every day.

Mumeri (the artwork on the right) was created by Dr Lisa Buxton in August 2013 to celebrate the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney's inaugural Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mass held at St Mary's Cathedral. The theme for the Mass 'Holy Spirit in this Land' was captured in the artwork through the use of Aboriginal and Catholic symbolism.

Today we celebrate the fact that God has always been present with, and loved, our First Peoples in Australia, a love that God extends to all First Peoples across the world. In today's Gospel Jesus tells us to pray to ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. If we truly want more labourers for the vineyard that produces the Good News of life in abundance for all, the same vineyard that also tells the Jesus story through the eyes and hearts of Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders, then praying is only one way to do this. We also need to make a deeper commitment to our sisters and brothers through being labourers in the vineyard. **NAIDOC** (National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee) has a theme this year of '**Get up, Stand up, Show up**'. Labourers for the harvest of the Lord do exactly that – they labour or work for the Lord, and that can take the form of getting up and being active. There is much we can do as Christian people to address issues that affect our First Nations sisters and brothers.

The Roman Catholic Church began its ministries in the Torres Strait when Pope Leo XIII (1878–1903) requested that the Sacred Heart Fathers establish a Mission in New Guinea. It was decided among the Fathers that the setting up and servicing of such a Mission would be better facilitated if a site was chosen in the Torres Strait. Parishes are now established at (Sacred Heart) Thursday Island, (Holy Family) Horn Island, (St Joseph the Worker's Church) Hammond Island and (St Stephen's) Bamaga.

We have a proud history of getting up, standing up, and showing up. From the frontier wars and our earliest resistance fighters to our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities fighting for change today—we continue to show up.

Now is our time. We cannot afford to lose momentum for change. We all must continue to **Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up!** for systemic change and keep rallying around our mob, our Elders, our communities. Whether it's seeking proper environmental, cultural and heritage protections, Constitutional change, a comprehensive process of truth-telling, working towards treaties, or calling out racism—we must do it together. It must be a genuine commitment by all of us to Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up! and support and secure institutional, structural, collaborative, and cooperative reforms.

It's also time to celebrate the many who have driven and led change in our communities over generations—they have been the heroes and champions of change, of equal rights and even basic human rights.

Getting Up, Standing Up, and Showing Up can take many forms. We need to move beyond just acknowledgement, good intentions, empty words and promises, and hollow commitments. Enough is enough. The relationship between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians needs to be based on justice, equity, and the proper recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' rights. Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up! with us to amplify our voices and narrow the gap between aspiration and reality, good intent and outcome.

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council: www.natsicc.org.au



WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Weekday readings are from **Year II**

Monday	4 Jul	Monday of Ordinary Time Week 14 School holidays until 17 July Plenary Council Session II: Sunday, 3 July ... concludes Saturday, 9 July Jodi Steel and Ken are members of the Plenary Council and will attend all week	Hosea 2:16-18,21-22	Matthew 9:18-26
Tuesday	5 Jul	Tuesday of Ordinary Time Week 14 ✘ Mass is not recorded this week	Hosea 8:4-7,11-13	Matthew 9:32-38
Wednesday	6 Jul	Wednesday of Ordinary Time Week 14	Hosea 10:1-3,7-8,12	Matthew 10:1-7
Thursday	7 Jul	Thursday of Ordinary Time Week 14	Hosea 11:1-4,8-9	Matthew 10:7-15
Friday	8 Jul	Friday of Ordinary Time Week 14	Hosea 14:2-10	Matthew 10:16-23
Saturday	9 Jul	Saturday of Ordinary Time Week 14 Dinner at Club Thirroul after the 5:30pm Saturday Mass	Isaiah 6:1-8	Matthew 10:24-33
Sunday	10 Jul	15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C ... Scripture Readings are listed below		

THIS WEEK'S RECIPE ... Lemon Custard Tea Cakes

150g butter, chopped, at room temperature; ½ cup caster sugar; 1 teaspoon vanilla extract; 2 eggs; 200g (1½ cups) self-raising flour; ⅓ cup milk, at room temperature; icing sugar, to serve.

Lemon Curd Custard: 1½ tablespoons custard powder; 2 teaspoons caster sugar; ¾ cup milk; ⅓ cup lemon curd; grated rind of 1 lemon.

To make the custard, place custard powder and sugar in a small saucepan. Add just enough milk to make a paste then add remaining milk. Slowly bring to the boil over medium heat, stirring constantly. Reduce heat and simmer for 2 minutes. Set aside to cool completely, stirring occasionally. Stir through lemon curd and rind. Preheat oven to 180°C/160°C fan forced. Grease a 12 x ½-cup-capacity muffin pan. Use electric beaters to beat butter, sugar and vanilla in a bowl until pale and creamy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat in flour and milk until well combined. Spoon 1 tablespoon of mixture into each muffin hole, spreading slightly up the sides of the pan. Fill with 1 tablespoon of custard and top with another 1 tablespoon of batter, trying to encase the custard in batter. Repeat with remaining muffin holes. Bake for 22 to 25 minutes, or until golden and puffed. Leave to cool for 5 minutes before turning onto a wire rack to cool. Serve dusted with icing sugar. **Favourite recipe to share?**

Email it to the Parish Office.

PARISH OF SAINT MICHAEL, THIRROUL – PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Lyn Woodley, Henry Idziak and Judy Bull (Chairperson) have completed their terms on the Parish Pastoral Council. Members of the Parish Pastoral Council serve for three years, and ideally, there are nine members of the Parish Pastoral Council. Thanks to Lyn, Henry and Judy for their service to our Parish. Other current members of the Parish Pastoral Council are: Anne Clark; Marie Grace; Kerrie Hennessy. Welcome to new member Natalie Shelley. The Pastoral Councillors will be seeking other new members.

CENTENARY OF THE PARISH OF SAINT MICHAEL, THIRROUL, IN 2023

On **31 October 1923** the parish of Thirroul was established, separating it from Bulli. The new parish covered the area from Bulli Pass to Bald Hill. A Centenary Committee is being formed, under the auspices of the Parish Pastoral Council, to organize celebration activities. Anyone knowing some of the significant or memorable history over the last 100 years – anyone interested in joining this committee or with suggestions for the celebrations **please contact Judy Bull** on ☎ 0407 672 417 or judy.bull@bigpond.com

THIS Sunday's Readings – on website

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME • Year C

1st Reading Isaiah 66:10-14

2nd Reading Galatians 6:14-18

Gospel Luke 10:1-12,17-20

NEXT Sunday's Readings – on website

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME • Year C

1st Reading Deuteronomy 30:10-14

2nd Reading Colossians 1:15-20

Gospel Luke 10:25-37

SUNDAY

MASS TIMES

Saturday 5:30pm

Sunday 8:00am

☑ Saturday Mass recorded

Parish of St Michael – Thirroul

One of the four Northern Illawarra Parishes

Moving forward as a Parish Family

Patrick Vaughan • Parish Priest

Andrew Granc ofm, Ken Cafe ofm • Assisting

Lauren Faulks • Parish Secretary

Tues, Wed 9am-3:30pm; Fri 9:30am-2:30pm

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Parish School of St Michael

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WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday ———

Tuesday 5:30pm

Wednesday 9:00am

Thursday 9:00am

Friday 9:30am

Anointing of the Sick 1st Friday