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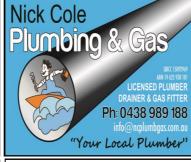


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14th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 6/7 July 2024 - Year B

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday

Keep the Fire Burning Strong in Faith is the theme of this year's NATSI Sunday. We pray today, in the Gospel Acclamation, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor." (Luke 4:

In today's video at the end of Mass, Archbishop Mark Coleridge invites every parish in the archdiocese to develop a Parish Reconciliation Plan. He said, "We're all aware that the need for reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australia is one of the greatest challenges that we face as a nation. In some ways, it's been a running sore at the heart of the nation. And until the running sore is healed, Australia can never quite be the country that it is meant to be, or that it can be. I have been very committed to the Reconciliation Action Plan as a way of fostering this new engagement, a new imagining and a new acting, to try and heal the wound between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australia and to bring about a genuine reconciliation that goes beyond words. I invite you, whoever you are, or wherever you are as a parish... to undertake some kind of Reconciliation Action Plan... to commit yourself to a RAP within your own community. So that together, all of us together, can commit in the power of the gospel. This is not about politics or ideology, it's about the Gospel. So that, in the power of the Gospel, we can walk together the path of a genuine and lasting reconciliation."

In accord with our Parish Strategic Plan, the Service and Outreach Ministry Team is establishing a Reconciliation Action Group (RAG) to develop a plan in accord with the Archdiocesan Reconciliation Plan 2023 - 2025: Relationships, Respect and Partnerships.

Those wishing to work towards the establishment of a Parish RAP as part of the Parish Reconciliation Action Group are invited to scan the Parish Linktree QR Code or to email Trish Harding cp.serviceandoutreach@bne.catholic.net.au

Pentecost painting by Magda Lee, Gracie (Balgo Mosquito and Imelda Gugamen Community). The Holy Spirit is located in the centre of the painting. It is the Spirit working in all of our communities. The dots represent people all over the world and the people coming together for Church. The different colours represent different people.



Youth & Young Adults

We continue to work hard to provide the young people of our community with opportunities to encounter Jesus. We are so grateful for God's grace and for the support of this community as we build a place for our youth to grow into the people whom God intends them to be, especially while they are challenged by various parts of our society. It is a privilege that we are able to offer any and all support, and we thank each of you for your part in helping us provide that support.

Continued over page....

PARISH OFFICE - Ph: 07 5430 9390 (After hours pastoral emergency 0431 099 854) OFFICE HOURS Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm caloundra@bne.catholic.net.au

Our Parish's Mission is to be a vibrant community that actively accompanies people to encounter Jesus.

Youth & Young Adults continued...

We continue to welcome around 40 students to youth group each Friday night. This year we have been journeying with the word "Spirit" and seeking to understand where the Holy Spirit is moving in our lives. We are currently in the middle of a Bible series, looking at a handful of people's stories from the Old Testament and what we can learn from their lives as young people in the 21st century.

Kingdom Youth will begin again for Term 3 in Week 2 on Friday 19 July from 6pm – 8:30pm at Unity College. All in Years 7 – 12 are welcome, regardless of faith level or school attending.

Our young adults have ventured into a new pattern of meeting. On the **second Wednesday** of each month, Adoration is provided by our team for the **whole parish**. All parishioners are welcome for prayer, Reconciliation, music, and Benediction in OLR Church from 6:30pm – 7:30pm. Our young adults often gather after for a short dinner/catch up. On the fourth Wednesday of each month, all young adults are welcome to dinner somewhere local at 6pm, before we start in the Church at 7pm for input and prayer. So far, we have covered topics such as Pentecost and the Sacrament of Marriage, with guest speakers from the Brisbane Youth Office and Vocations Brisbane. **Our next YA event is Wednesday 24 July on the topic of Charismatic Worship.** All young adults are welcome.

Once again, we are now preparing to head to Ignite Conference in September. Our current projection of numbers is around 30 students and 10 young adults, giving us a group of over 40 from Caloundra and surrounds. Ignite is a place for our youth to encounter Jesus through the beauty of the Sacraments, in fellowship with others from around Australia, and among themselves as they make this journey together. So many of our youth are serving on Friday nights and at Sunday Masses because of their experiences here. We can't take this many alone and will appreciate all the support we receive. Please save the dates of our two upcoming fundraisers:

- Bake Sale & 100 Board Fundraiser Sunday 14 July after the 9:30am at OLR (tickets for the board will also be sold at the Saturday 5pm and Sunday 6:30am tickets are \$10 each and the winning ticket will win \$300).
- Car Wash & BBQ Sunday 4 August from 7am 11am, outside OLR Church, Caloundra.

If you find yourself in the position to give and would like to sponsor the registration of one student, please contact the parish office. Thank you so much for your generosity!

More than anything, please continue to pray for our ministry and the young people of our Church. Our youth are not just the Church of the future, they are the Church of today! And they have so much to give to the life of our universal Church and our community. If you would like to contact us, please email cp.youthandyoungadults@bne.catholic.net.au.

God bless, Felicity, Kath, Sandy, and Fr Gerard.

How are God's Grace and Sacrificial Giving related?

There is something highly enigmatic about God's Grace. It is difficult to put one's finger on what Grace exactly is, or how to even recognise Grace in our lives. Perhaps the easiest way to understand Grace is through the metaphor of the dewfall. You may recall that in the second Eucharist Prayer, the priest calls down the Holy Spirit upon the gifts of bread and wine "like the dewfall."

Like the over-night dewfall, Grace is often only perceptible after it has happened. Grace is discernible when we look back and prayerfully/deliberately reflect upon our lives. We are able to recognise the moments when God has gently and lovingly invited us in a particular direction or placed a particular decision before us. Grace is that 'thing' (for absolute want of a better word), which nudges/invites us in a way which respects our freedom to choose how we respond.

In this vein, Grace is constantly at work in our lives, and never ceases to invite our freely chosen response. This invited 'response' is always a 'yes' to God's desire for our love and freedom - our love for others and God, as well as our freedom from sin and attachment to the things of this world such as money, power, and ego.

We acknowledge the First Peoples of the land on which we celebrate our Eucharist and live out our faith.

What is God's Grace doing in you **right now**? In my experience, Grace often pushes up against things which I find challenging, such as particular relationships, my attachment to things, and my need to be in the right. I am also convinced that while I have my perceived *needs* - which often inform what I pray for - God knows me better than I do, and actively works in my life (through Grace) by placing decisions before me which invite my 'yes'.

One of those Grace-inspired invitations/decisions we all have before is at this time is how we approach Sacrificial Giving. While Covid has somewhat disrupted our two-week preaching on Giving - with Fathers Joseph, Gerard and Francis isolating - the opportunity remains: to be deliberate about **how** and **why** we givenot to the Church, but to God. At this time, I would like to invite your consideration on two different aspects of Sacrificial Giving: **rate** and **volume**.

When we talk about **rate**, we are addressing how much each person gives. Now while one's rate of giving is highly personal, I posit an important question: does your rate of giving reflect an offering to God of your first fruits? In other words, are you giving God an amount that means something to you? Notwithstanding the beauty of the widow's mite (Mk 12:41-44), and the danger of suggesting a specific amount, most (not all) people in our lucky country could afford a weekly gift of \$20 or more.

When, on the other hand, we talk about **volume**, we're addressing the amount of givers in our parish. Friends, the average age of worshipping parishioners is not yet going down. Our senior parishioners form the majority of our volume of givers, and so while we (the parish finance council and I), are deliberately looking at alternative sources of income for our parish that will assist in funding our Mission, it is vital that we grow our volume of regular (weekly) dedicated givers.

Today, I am inviting you to prayerfully consider a response to one or both aspects of Sacrificial Giving: rate and/or volume. This might mean a percentage increase in your weekly rate, or it might mean becoming an electronic giver (volume). By becoming an electronic giver through either a weekly direct debit or the Parish Giving App, you are greatly assisting the parish in its ability to plan and budget for our Mission. In making your decision, I gently invite you to resist the natural inclination of thinking, 'What will I get out of it?', but to asking the question, 'What will my giving allow us to achieve as a parish', and 'Who will it allow us to reach?'

Friends, if you missed out on receiving a copy of our Annual Performance Report - which also contains a blank direct debit request form - last weekend, there are more copies available this weekend. I sincerely thank you for prayerfully approaching this important topic with an open heart, and I look forward to sharing the good news of our parish's response to this year's annual Parish Appeal.

Peace and blessings, Fr Josh

St Vincent De Paul

St Vincent de Paul, Caloundra are very grateful for your generous and ongoing support. There will be a winter appeal in the OLR Church on the weekend of the **27th and 28th July**. Your assistance makes a real difference in this community and is greatly appreciated.

Parish Ladies Lunch

The next Parish ladies lunch is at **12 noon on 19th July at Golden Beach Tavern, 32 Bowman Road, Caloundra.** All ladies welcome. Please RSVP by Monday 15th July to Linda 0429380979.

Parish Diary

Monday 8 July
Lay-Led Liturgy (OLR) 9am
Adoration (OLR) 9.30am

Tuesday 9 July
Lay-Led Liturgy (OLR) 9am
Rosary (OLR) 9.30am
Adoration/Rosary (Maleny) 8am

Mass (Maleny) 9am

Wednesday 10 July NO Mass (UNITY) 7.50am School Liturgy (OLR) 9am Mass (Lt Mt) 9.30am

Thursday 11 July
Mass (OLR) 9am
Mass (Currimundi) 9:15am

Friday 12 July
Mass (OLR) 9am
Adoration/Rosary (Lands) 8am
Mass (Landsborough) 9am

Saturday 13 July
Reconciliation (OLR) 8.30am
Mass (OLR) 9am

Vigil Mass 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass (OLR) 5pm Mass (Beerwah) 5pm

Sunday 14 July
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mass (OLR) 6.30am
Mass (Landsborough) 7am
Mass (Unity) 8am
Mass (Kawana) 8am
Mass (Maleny) 9am
Mass (Currimundi) 9.15am
Mass (OLR) 9:30am
Mass (Lt Mt) 10.30am
Mass (Unity) 5pm

Linktree QR Code

