

## ST COLUMBA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, BERRIGAN TO CLOSE:

After a long and proud history of educating the local community dating back to 1898, St Columba's primary school in Berrigan will close permanently at the end of the current school year. (Catholic Education, Diocese Wagga Wagga)

## HEAL THE WORLD FROM VIRUS

At the General Audience on Wednesday, Pope Francis invites people to cure the "virus" of social injustice, inequality of opportunity, marginalization, and the lack of protection for the weakest.

Continuing his catechesis on "Healing the World," the Holy Father said our response to the pandemic must be twofold: "finding a cure for this small but terrible virus," but also curing "a larger virus, that of social injustice, inequality of opportunity, marginalisation, and lack of protection for the weakest."

In meeting that challenge, he said, we must always keep in mind the "preferential option for the poor." This is not a political, ideological, or partisan option, he said. Rather, "the preferential option for the poor is at the centre of the Gospel."

Closeness to the poor, said Pope Francis, also implies working to overcome the "unhealthy social structures," as we strive to return normality in the aftermath of the pandemic.

Similarly, as treatments for the coronavirus become more widely available, society should prioritise those who have the greatest need, rather than those who have the most money, the Pope insisted. "How sad it would be if, for the Covid-19 vaccine, priority were to be given to the richest."

Looking ahead, Pope Francis said, "if the virus were to intensify again in a world that is unjust to the poor and vulnerable, then we must change the world."

Pointing to the example of Jesus, "the doctor of integrated divine love," the Pope said, "we must act now, to heal the epidemics caused by the small, invisible viruses, and to heal those caused by the serious and visible social injustices."

Pope Francis proposed to accomplish this "by starting from the love of God, placing the peripheries at the centre and those who are least in first place."

*"Starting from this love anchored in hope and founded in faith, a healthier world will be possible."* (www.vaticannews.va)

### FINANCE

**Last week 1st Collection \$ 472.80 and 2nd Collection \$ 750.55**

**New Envelopes and Receipts are available in the foyer.**

**Twinning receipts and envelopes are also available in the foyer.**

Direct debit to our PARISH BUILDING Account BSB 066 789 A/C No 6111068 showing your surname, this account attracts a 100% tax deduction.

Direct debit to account BSB 066 789 A/C No 100005658, which is our parish working account, attracts a 50% tax deduction using your surname reference as envelope givers.

PRESBYTERY ACCOUNT, you can direct your donation to BSB 066 789 A/C No 100005657 also showing your surname as reference, no tax deduction.



## Sacred Heart Parish Koorungal 22nd/23rd August, 2020

**Parish Sec:** Roxy Locke

(Mon. Thurs. Fri. 9am-2pm)

**Pastor:** Fr John Baptist (Mob 0415 371 627)

**Parish Council Sec:** Marsha Reilly

**Presbytery:** 71 White Avenue, Koorungal. 2650

Telephone: 02 6922 6057

**Sunday Mass Times:**

Sat.Vigil:5:30pm Sunday: 10am

**Daily Mass Times:**

Monday - Friday: 5:45pm

Saturday: 9.30am

*Changes to Mass times will be on Chapel door.*

Reconciliation: Sat. 10.00am-10.30am

**Parish Pastor Email:** koorungalchurch@sacredheartparish.net.au

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sacredheartkooringal/>

**Web Site:** <https://kooringalchurchsacredheartparish.net/>

**Parish Council Email:** shkparishcouncil@gmail.com

**Safeguarding Officer:** Anne Brown Phone 6926 2937 Email annie1.temple@gmail.com

### **WE PRAY FOR:**

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Brian Connolly, Mary Desira, Frank Corbett, John Hosie, Beryl Pearson, Gerard Davis, Gerard Gaynor, Sr. Ann McRae pbvm, Thea Bowen, Fr. Frank Bell, John Maloney, Laurent Stout, Michael W. Flett, Tony Madigan, Allan Davis, Barbara McDonnell, Fr. Wilfred Plunkett, Fr. Noel Connolly ssc, John Stout, Bill Matthews, Beverly Crouch., Vitas Mangahis, Bette Fitzpatrick, Bob Barclay.

**ANNIVERSARIES/ REMEMBRANCES:** Jessie & Mac McAuliffe, Leslie & Molly Collins.

**SICK:** Theresa Gallucci, Ilona Gortva, Laurence Roche, Dorothy Castle, William Trist, Miriam McCoy, Joanne Huckel, Terry Phegan, Mary Condell, Genevieve Keogh, Dorothy Waterford, Shivaun Clifton, Barry Parnell, Hayden O'Callaghan, June Kimber, Denise Goonan, Adam Horsley, Finley Owens, Shirley Gabriel, Christopher Lee, Garry Brigham.



**Friendship Group:** The Friendship group will not be meeting at this time as the virus is still too dangerous. We will stay in touch.

**mainly music:** the program is planning to start again on 4th October.

# TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YR A

To prepare for next Sunday's Mass go to St Louis Jesuits – The Centre for Liturgy website: <http://liturgy.slu.edu> and/or Jerusalem Bible Translation of Readings: <http://www.universalis.com/>

**FIRST READING:** A reading from prophet Isaiah 22:19-23

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Ps 137:1-3.6.8

*Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.*

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth.

Before the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you.

On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul.

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar.

Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.

*Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.*

**SECOND READING:** A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 11:33-36

How rich are the depths of God — how deep his wisdom and knowledge — and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Mt 16:18

*Alleluia, alleluia! You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it. Alleluia!*

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 16:13-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah,

you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## GOSPEL CONNECTIONS

### A Rock Solid Foundation

One day soon, Peter will deny he ever knew Jesus. But at this moment, he's chosen to be the foundation upon which the future church will rest. Peter, in a sure spot? He was a nail driven into spackle! Is Jesus being ironic when he calls him a rock? In just a few more verses, Jesus will call Peter the devil.

Jesus is Lord - but also a realist. Human nature is soft, like the flesh that contains it, and there truly is no better choice among the Twelve than Peter. From this impulsive, unschooled, self-preserving fisherman, God will raise up the rafters of a church that will see twenty centuries and more. Not because Peter is great, but because God is. Not much can be built on flesh, as frail and uncertain as human beings are. But through the Spirit which gives the church its breath, the reign of God keeps on coming, on earth as it is in heaven.

*What part of your Christian commitment is like rock? What part is flesh?*

Spend time with God the Mystery. Without words, prayer aids, or the usual props, sit in silence and let God's 'unknowability' find you. Seek to be known, and not to know.

*"And now I'm going to tell you who you are, really are. You are Peter, a rock".*

(gpbs.com.au)

## SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2020

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 30 August. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today. The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support. The Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health, and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community. Download the Statement at [http://bit.ly/SocialJustice\\_2020](http://bit.ly/SocialJustice_2020).