



Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish, Stafford

A Parish of the Brisbane North West Deanery

Vision: "To follow the example of Jesus by serving others."

The 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time- Year A 20th/21st June 2020

Context Connection *from Liturgia*

This Sunday's Gospel seems to be a collection of various sayings that by themselves might be hard to understand but, when taken as a whole, and within the context of the entire chapter, provide inspiration for those who follow Christ. Jesus gives his disciples advice to follow when they go out into the world and face persecution for giving witness to his Good News. First, Jesus tells his disciples that God will accompany them on their mission and that if they place their trust in God, they have nothing to fear. Second, Jesus instructs the disciples to proclaim his message openly because, right from the start, Jesus's teachings and mission are to be made public. Housetops were the highest points in a village or town from which a proclamation could be made and heard by many people. The Good News that Jesus came to share was not meant to be secretly whispered to a select few who were considered worthy. Third, Jesus warns that there is a risk in proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ—some may kill the messenger. Jesus's disciples need to put their trust in God, to fear God, and not "those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul" (10:28). Only God can destroy the body and the soul.

Matthew speaks of the value of each human being in the eyes of God by using the example of sparrows that sold two for a penny—hardly worth anything, yet even these creatures have great value in the eyes of God: "Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father" (10:29). If God cares for a sparrow in this way, God's care for human beings must be infinite. The Gospel closes with Jesus's emphasising the importance of witness in discipleship. He calls the disciples to share his message through words, actions, and lifestyle.

Tradition Connection

Matthew speaks of the value of each human person in the eyes of God. Not one sparrow dies without God's being aware of its fall. How much greater is a human life? This forms the very essence of the Catholic Church's pro-life stance. All human life is sacred because it is created by God, both body and soul (see CCC, number 362).

This lavish care and concern that God the Father has for all creation, which we call divine providence, is found throughout the Bible. God promises that God's providence will always be with us. Because we have come to know that God's providence is always consistent, we can place our trust in God.

A human being is made up of a physical body and a spiritual soul. The soul is immortal, and it is not separated from the body—our body and our soul are completely united. Through Baptism, the human being as a whole—body and soul—becomes a member of the Body of Christ, now and throughout eternity.

The spiritual soul is created by God at the moment of conception, and it is immortal. Because it is immortal, it can never perish. At

death, our soul will be separated from our body. But when God raises us from the dead, our soul will be reunited with a new, incorruptible body, that is, a body that will never know illness, disease, or death again.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Matthew wants all disciples to remember that they are loved and cared for by God the Father—unceasingly. The providence of God then gives the disciple the courage to be a witness in the world—to be someone who lives his or her faith in a way that gives voice to a God who not only creates but also nurtures and sustains creation.

The disciple of Christ must not only keep the faith and live it but also profess it, confidently bearing witness to this faith and spreading it.



Wisdom Connection

Matthew offers words of encouragement to those who give witness to their faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus's disciples are encouraged to fearlessly confess their faith regardless of outside forces threatening to persecute the Christian community. It is more important to trust in God and give witness to divine providence than to trust in the false sense of safety that human authority might give. Matthew wants to let his community members know they have nothing to fear, because God is their refuge. Jesus lays to rest any fears the disciples may have that would cause them to abandon their mission. Matthew also warns that there will be individuals who will say things in secret and who will cause problems for the disciples who are preaching the Good News of Jesus. These hypocrisies, however, will be exposed. Matthew wants the disciples to focus on one goal: to give witness to their faith. Each disciple's final judgement will be based on his or her faithfulness to Jesus during his or her life.

The 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

1st Reading: Kings 4:8-11, 14-16

2nd Reading: Romans 6:3-4, 8-11

Gospel: Matthew 10:37-42



Mass Celebrations will begin on the weekend of 11th/12th July.

Now that I have your attention there are a few things to share with you.

We are planning to reopen for Mass on the weekend of 11th/12th July. We are planning for a 5pm Mass on Saturday and another Mass on Sunday—the time is yet to be decided. We may still have a Zoom liturgy for those unable to attend Mass.

We will need to **prepare a roster for Mass**. This will include

- ♦ **One Eucharistic Minister**
- ♦ **Three Readers**
- ♦ **Co-ordinator/Sacristan**
- ♦ **Ushers**
- ♦ **Maybe Cleaners**

In preparation for this weekend, we may have a few practise runs with weekday Mass, so we can refine any problems before we invite 100 persons into our church! More information about this next week.

The government legislation for COVID-19 will be adhered to and will be enforced while visiting any parish areas including the church space. We must continue to social distance from those not in your household, while in the church. We are bound to keep within the limits of maximum capacity based on four square metres per person, while in the church. We cannot allow anyone to mingle outside the church before or after Mass. Unfortunately, no cuppa after Mass.

We will be providing information on how to book for Mass. There will be an online booking option for those with internet access. For those without internet, we will take booking requests via email or phone. Depending on the number of parishioners requesting a seat at Mass, there may be a draw from a 'hat'. I'm hoping it doesn't get that complicated. During the booking process, we will be asking for your details for the contact tracing records. This is also a compulsory government regulation. This record will be kept for 56 days, in line with the most recent government legislation.

At the moment, we will only be allowing worshippers into the church that have booked in through the online booking or through con-

tacting the parish office.

We are looking at having a seating plan for each service, so this will eliminate the need to move within the church space any more than necessary.

Hand sanitizer will be available upon entering the church

A receptacle for your **Planned Giving offering** will be at the door, please be ready to place your offering, before using the hand sanitizer!

We are currently in discussions about the process of receiving Communion. We may have hand sanitizer available in the aisle, for you to use before presenting to the Eucharistic Minister/Fr Denis for Communion. There will be no wine distributed at Mass.

How can you help us??

We need to fill a roster. Refer to the list to the left. Some of our regulars may not be attending Mass as they fall into the vulnerable category. Please don't wait to be asked, if you can help with any of the usual roles please do so. If you've always wanted to know why the Air Stewards smile so much, offer to be an usher. You can have all the power and tell people where to sit and how to exit the aisle when we touch down!

If you are new to the roster, **please register as a volunteer on the <https://archbne.org/welcome>**. This needs to be completed before any roster begins. Please contact me in the office by phone or email to volunteer. Thanks in advance, Debra

All ushers will need to have some training/ information about the role they play at Mass.

In summary

- ♦ **Volunteer for the next roster**
- ♦ **Book in for Mass**
- ♦ **Contact Tracing sheet completed**
- ♦ **Social distance from others**
- ♦ **Use Hand Sanitizer**



- ♦ Arrive with enough time to be seated by usher
- ♦ Leave promptly after Mass

After you leave this is what happens

- ♦ All seating that is used, is cleaned before next service
- ♦ All hard surfaces are cleaned
- ♦ All altar ware is cleaned before next service
- ♦ Toilets are cleaned

Sustainable Choices: More food, less waste.

Did you know that 40% of the average household bin is food waste? Or that food waste contributes 4.4 gigatons of carbon dioxide equivalent into the atmosphere each year?

Project Drawdown ranked reduced food waste as the 3rd most effective solution to reverse global warming based on greenhouse gases avoided or removed from the atmosphere. So I guess the question is...

do we want to be part of the problem or the solution?

I'll be offering simple solutions to reduce, reuse and recycle your food waste and in doing so, minimise your carbon dioxide emissions. You'll also learn how to: save yourself some money, enjoy more of the food you buy, keep your food fresher longer, and turn food waste into a valuable resource.



When: Thursday 25 June at 8pm

Where: Zoom webinar

Duration: 40 mins

Cost: FREE

Registration: Please email piawrafter@gmail.com by Monday 22 June to receive your zoom link which will allow you to attend the online session.

"Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father." (Matthew 10:32)



Stewardship
a way of life

Would others know that you are Catholic by the way you act and speak? Do you share your Catholic faith with others? Do you defend your Catholic faith when the situation arises or do you remain silent? Do you pray in public before meals? Pray for the strength and courage to be a joyful witness of our Catholic faith when the opportunity presents itself. Let us be come the radiant light and bold witness that we are called to be!

Small Blessings

As we sit comfortably each Sunday Morning in our lounge chairs, with pieces of equipment ready for Liturgy. Fr Denis in a small confined space in the Parish Office has sorted it all for us to participate in our Sunday Morning Liturgy off The Word. Fr greets each one by name, Pianist, Cantor, Readers are all prepared to assist. It is such a Blessing for each of us to be together for this special Liturgy time, so well prepared and prayerfully shared with us. *Anon*

Malicious emails are circulating to parishioners across Australia purporting to come from parishes. If you receive an email that may have malicious content, please contact the parish. The Archdiocese are keen to take action against those sending out the emails.



Tennis Courts for Hire with lights

CHEAP RATES!
Bookings available through the office Monday to Thursday

Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish Office

Address: 70 Appleby Road, Stafford
Parish email: stafford@bne.catholic.net.au
Parish WEBSITE: www.staffordcatholicparish.org.au
Parish Administrator: Fr Denis Scanlan
Fr Denis' E-mail: pp.stafford@bne.catholic.net.au
Parish Pastoral Council: ppcstafford@gmail.com
Parish Secretary: Debra Visser
Office Hours: Mon/Tues 9 - 3.30pm Thurs 9-1
Office Telephone: 3356 7155
Parish Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Representative: Cath D'Hage
STOPline Service: 1300 304 550 or
AOB@stopline.com.au or
www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com

Queen of Apostles School Contacts

Address: 10 Thuruna Street, Stafford
School email: pstafford@bne.catholic.edu.au
School Principal: Nigel Bird
APA: Leanne Murray
APRE: Ben Campbell
School Office Hours: 8.00am - 4.00pm (Mon-Fri)
Phone (Thuruna St:) 3352 9200
Phone (Chuter St:) 3326 0400

BAPTISMS in this Parish occur at 10.30am on the Third Sunday of each Month (**except during Lent**). **For BAPTISM BOOKINGS** please contact the Parish Office. **SUSPENDED**



We pray for those who are unwell

Maureen Scott
Colin Kenny
Carmel Remphrey
Madonna Power
Barbara Jones
Sr Elizabeth
Chris Stevens
Jack Charalambous
Maria Rosa
Pam & Norm Ward
Irene Johnson



ANointing OF THE SICK

IF you are **going to hospital unexpectedly** for an op, let Fr Denis know and we can celebrate this Sacrament beforehand.



You may add a **sick person's name to the list by phoning the Parish**

Office (3356 7155).

To keep the list 'fresh' the last names will be removed. If their illness continues, let us know and we'll add them to the start of the list.

We remember those whose anniversary of death occur about this time including

Gordon, Gargano, Maud Menezes, Matthews, Ketter, Rowbotham, Horn and Sheehan families and all deceased Parishioners, their families and friends, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ maimed, killed or dispossessed because of their faith.

Do you need a small blessing?

smallblessings.com.au

We pray for those recently deceased including:

Christopher Smyth
Yvonne Dixon
Sr Virginia RSC
David Mather
Noel Wood
Jack Jones
Patrick McKewin
Alex Pipe
Fr Peter Conroy
John Blumke



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