



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."

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B 31st July/1st August, 2021

Reflection on the readings

Last Sunday's reflection drew attention to links between the accounts of the feedings of a multitude and other passages in Scripture. Omitting the interlude of the walking on water, today we come to the beginning of John's discourse on the Bread of Life which has links to other places in Scripture, most notably today's reading from Exodus (16:2-4, 12-15), where the sojourners in the wilderness are fed with manna, the "bread" that would "rain down... from the heavens", also called in Psalm 78(77):24-25 "bread from heaven" (in the Greek but "grain of heaven" in Hebrew) and "bread of angels". It opens with the people's complaint against Moses and Aaron: "Why did we not die in Egypt, where there was plenty to eat? You have brought us out to starve and die!" At least they recognised that death was the constant; either way, they would die, either harried but fed, or hungry but free. In response, they were fed; they did not starve; but they did still die—as John repeats more than once in this discourse.



The first link in today's gospel pericope (6:24-35) to the first reading is clearer in more literal translations: the statement by Jesus that "you ate from the bread and were filled" (v.26, in our Lectionary as "you had all the bread you wanted to eat") links to two expressions in Exodus, in the people's claim that in Egypt they "ate bread to the full" (v.3, given to us as "could eat bread to our heart's content") and in the promise that "you will be filled with bread" (v.12, but for us "you shall have bread to your heart's content"). John's next line then alludes to Isaiah 55:2, "Why spend money on what is not bread, your work [or wages] on what fails to fill?" in the passage beginning "All who are thirsty, come to the waters!", including "listen, and your soul will live" and "my word... shall not return without accomplishing what I sent it to do". When the people ask what the work is that must be done, they are told it is believing in the one who was sent. John told us at the opening of his gospel that Jesus is the Word, and threaded throughout the gospel are references to his having been sent to accomplish the Father's will. So here, very early in the discourse we are being directed again to understand Christ as the Word of God, the one who has words of everlasting life, as the discourse's conclusion will affirm, and who indeed imparts true and everlasting life. In this discourse we find John weaving together parts of the Exodus account and Isaiah's Servant as he seeks to impart a profound understanding of who Jesus is,

and why seeing and listening to him (which is to believe in him) is necessary for life.

To digress a little, there is an interesting feature lost from the abbreviated Exodus story. None of the manna was to be kept until the next day, and it spoiled when people tried to do so. The manna was to be collected each day except the Sabbath. Double provision was made available on Fridays, and what was set aside for the Sabbath did not spoil so that the people could both rest and eat; this Sabbath "bread" given before its time we might call *tomorrow's bread*. In both Luke's and Matthew's divergent versions of the Our Father—Matthew's version being since late antiquity the main or even only preparatory prayer for receiving Communion—we find an unusual word that has come into our translations as *daily*. However, its more probably correct translation is *of the morrow*, the petition literally being "our bread of tomorrow, give us today". There are indeed many patristic sources that hold this petition to be a specific reference to Eucharistic Bread.

In our Christian understanding the food and drink of the Eucharist is nothing less than sacramental participation (both individually and communally) in the one who is the Eternal Bread, the Living and Life-Giving heavenly Bread, the satisfying Word so that none who come to him will be hungry, and none who believe in him will thirst.

Text: Homily Help - Rev Dr Barry Craig - Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

Image: Unsplash.com

The Peter's Pence Collection

We collected \$392.00 for the Peter's Pence Collection last weekend. The community's generosity to all collections hasn't waived during the pandemic. Thank you! The Peter's Pence Collection is an annual collection of the Catholic Church around the world. The collection allows the Holy Father to respond to the most needy throughout the world, to offer timely, effective emergency assistance to our suffering brothers and sisters.

Give the Gift of Faith. Your generosity towards Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish can go on forever when you include our parish endowment fund in your Will. With endowment funds, the principal is kept intact and the distributions to the parish come from growth and earnings. This provides a steady stream of income to parish ministries forever. For more information on naming Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish Endowment Fund in your Will, please call the Catholic Foundation at 3324 3200 or the parish office.



An article from our Social Justice Group

One year ago today the chief law officers from Commonwealth, state and territory governments met and failed to take any action to end the appalling practice of locking up children as young as 10 years old.

They promised to meet again and progress the issue. In-

St Mary of The Cross (Year B)

1st Reading: Kings 17:8-16

2nd Reading: Colossians 3:12-17

Gospel: Matthew 6:25-34



Daily Mass Readings

stead, they have kicked the can down the road leaving almost 500 children to languish behind bars between 2019 and 2020.

We must not let them get away with doing nothing.

That's why we're asking you to contact your state or territory Premier or Chief Minister and remind them just how many of us support changing these outdated and harmful laws.

We're asking you to take two actions today:

Send an urgent email to the Premier or Chief Minister of your state or territory and urge them to #RaiseTheAge to at least 14 years old. We've got all the details you need, [click here to send your email now](#).

Share a photo of yourself at 10 (or under 14) on social media with the hashtag #RaiseTheAge to help us spread the word about this campaign and encourage other people to get involved. [You can see an example Facebook post here](#).

At ten years old, the majority of children are still small enough for a car booster seat. They are still losing baby teeth. Their young brains are at a critical stage of development.

All the medical evidence tells us that any contact with the criminal justice system can cause lifelong harm and leads to higher rates of adult incarceration, homelessness, mental



illness and even premature death.

Every day ten year old children are behind bars is a travesty. A whole year of inaction is unacceptable.

Take action now: [click here to contact your state or territory Premier or Chief Minister and call on them to change these damaging and harmful laws](#).

There is a better way.

There are alternatives all over the country that are changing children's lives for the better and making our communities safer. From learning on country programs in Western Australia, to trauma-informed mentoring in Victoria and wrap-around, culturally safe family supports in the ACT: this is where governments should be investing our taxpayer dollars – not locking tiny children in concrete cells.

[Send an email right now to your Premier or Chief Minister and urge them to #RaiseTheAge without any further delays](#).

“Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion; thus will I test them, to see whether they follow my instructions or not.” EXODUS 16:4



When the Israelites gathered more than their daily portion of manna, the surplus became wormy and rotten. In the same way today, self-reliance, pride and ego leads to hoarding and excessive surplus of goods and money. Living a stewardship lifestyle helps us discern our “wants” from our “needs”. Living a grateful and generous lifestyle reminds us that God will provide all that we need and that we have plenty to share.

Thank you for being part of a loud (and growing!) movement that our politicians can't ignore.

PS - It's super easy, we've prepared a draft email for you. [Just click here to get started](#). Then, jump on to Twitter or Facebook to spread the word and share a photo of yourself at 10 years old.

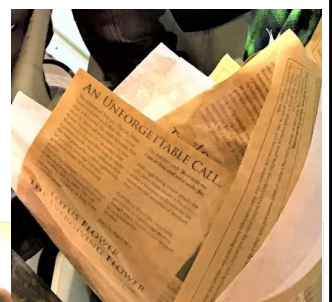
I don't usually share much about my day with you...an update for you.



Here are a few happy snaps of the newly married couple. Blessings to Ryan and Jaime-Lee on the occasion of their marriage.

Couldn't help but notice the print around the flowers!

'An unforgettable Call'





Care for Creation

Did you know about the Tarkine Rainforest Tasmania?

Nestled in the North-West corner of Tasmania, Australia's island state is the greatest expanse of temperate rainforest, and the second largest in the world, the Tarkine is an intriguing experience.

Unlike many places in the world the Tarkine remains as a hidden treasure and a forgotten wilderness. This expanse of uninterrupted 477,000 hectares of Tarkine wilderness holds ancient relics both plants and animals dating back millennia. Not only is it home to the largest temperate rainforest in Australia and second in the world, but is alive with unique creatures and habitats not found anywhere else. This pristine wilderness is under threat from an international mining company that currently has plans for expansion through the rainforest. The Australian government faces the difficulty of finding balance between short term employment and the responsibility of protecting unique environment.



Our government is guided by the voice of the people. Our responsibility is to have an informed opinion and to exercise that civic voice.

Here are some links to help you gather information.

<https://discoverthetarkine.com.au/the-tarkine/>

<https://www.thesaturdaypaper.com.au/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2021/jun/06/where-mining-meets-rainforest-the-battle-for-tasmanias-tarkine>

https://www.bobbrown.org.au/help_save_the_tarkine

Tennis Courts for Hire with lights

CHEAP RATES!

Bookings available through the office Monday to Thursday



Milk Bottle Top Recycling Update:

Thank you for the great response to milk bottle top collection, we have made significant start in our effort to reduce plastic from landfill. We are collecting the **LDPE #2** or **HDPE #4** caps for the Ocean Crusaders oceancrusaders.org/recycling/ repurposing program.



The caps are manufactured into blocks that can be used like giant Lego blocks to build garden walls, sheds, benches etc. **It is important that the caps are caps, foam insert removed and colour sorted.**

To help you with this we have placed colour coded milk containers on a trolley at the back of the church. Your support in sorting the caps at the collection point means we can more efficiently pass them onto Ocean Crusaders.



We inherited a box of caps and were so glad to save them from Land Fill.....it took quite some time to transform the chaos to meet the requirements!



What's in the diary this week at Stafford?

Mon 2nd		Mass
Tues 3rd	8.30am	Morning Prayer with communion
Wed 4th		
Thurs 5th		Mass
Fri 6th	9.00am	Mass
Sat 7th	5.00pm	Mass with Livestream Zoom
Sun 8th	9.00am	Mass with Livestream Zoom

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 Local Safeguarding Representative:

Helen Royan Phone 0407 372 540

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: Ben Campbell
APA: Leanne Murray
APRE: Kym Waters
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 and OCTOBER).

For BAPTISM BOOKINGS please contact the Parish Office.



AN OINTING 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.

Let Us Pray

We pray for those who are unwell:

Jim Henry, Brian Wellman, Luca de Pascalis de Moraes, , Rose Ann Takas, Nicki Goodman, , Caitlyn Lengkeek, Elizabeth Martin, Crad Smith, Sr Dorothy, Glenda Honan, Fay Barrett, Norm Ward, Isaac and Brendan Camille, Bob Devine and Nicole Dyer.

We pray for those recently deceased: Ari Vargas, Angel Bathan, Jill Barrett, Kathy Brady, Rene Ulcoq, Weny Bargayo Joan French (Mother of Alison Golden), Jean Tisdall, Sr Elizabeth Pointing RSM, Esme Whitby (John's mum), Veronica Burns, Marguerite Moloney, Raymond Labid, Bon Bargayo, Pam Ward, Peter Rogers, Sr Margaret Mines RSC, Joan Goldby, John Dove, Maria Calini,

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Joyce Davis, Elsie Ketter, Lynette Matthews, and all deceased parishioners, their families and friends, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ maimed, killed or dispossessed because of their faith.



The caring staff at Holy Cross Funerals assist families at the death of their loved ones, to ensure that the Funeral Services are conducted with dignity and compassion.

For however you choose to say goodbye.

*Burials *Cremations *Repatriations

*Pre-Arrangements *Funeral Bonds

Find us on

www.holycrossfunerals.com

Phone: 07 3293 0555

Email: info@holycrossfunerals.com

An Outreach of the Catholic Church

Funerals with Faith

Live Stream Mass via Zoom

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81808532313>

Meeting ID: 818 0853 2313

Passcode: eucharist One tap mobile

+61731853730,,81808532313#,,, *698241838# Australia

+61861193900,,81808532313#,,, *698241838# Australia

Dial by your location

+61 7 3185 3730 Australia

+61 8 6119 3900 Australia

Passcode: 698241838



The August issue of The Catholic Leader is available now for \$4. Featured in this month's issue:

- ♦ Ipswich mayor Teresa Harding finds space to pray in her office
- ♦ Queensland nurses speak out against VAD
- ♦ Celebrating Catholic Education Week in July
- ♦ Queensland's newest priests race lockdown clock to be ordained
- ♦ Brisbane doctoral student opens up Catechism in new podcast
- ♦ Toowoomba family watch as daughter makes first vows in New York
- ♦ SPECIAL Catholic Education Week Advertising Feature
- ♦ Plus special columns, weekly Readings, puzzles

