



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."

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B 10th/17th October, 2021

Reflection on the Readings

The reference to trusting in God last Sunday makes a reprise today in Psalm 33(32):22, in the antiphon as "we place our trust in you" and in the text as "we place all our hope in you". This Psalm acknowledges that even those who revere God may experience difficulties; being good is no guarantee that bad things will not come your way, but when bad things do come, those who revere God wait on him to help them according to his will. It supports the short first reading (Isa 53:10-11) from the fourth Suffering Servant song (52:13-53:12), which was treasured by the early Church as referring to Christ, and which we read every year on Good Friday. The servant accepts his surprising treatment on the behalf of others so that when it is over

they shall find relief. The idea of knowingly inflicting punishment on the innocent with a view to releasing the guilty is naturally repugnant and a violation of our sense of justice. And yet it is often employed: some offence having been committed in a classroom, with the guilty party not known, a whole class is detained until someone ei-

ther confesses or rectifies the matter. While this is intended to force either correction of the crime or the guilty person to confess, it is not unknown for an innocent party to step forward and accept the penalty so as bring the punishment of all to an end. Looking from the perspective of God, such an analogy fails, for nothing is hidden from God; the crime and the guilty are known. But it works from the perspective of Christ in the flesh, especially when the focus is less on particular sin and more on the general experience of shared frailty. Today's Gospel reading, Mark 10:35-45, shares with Matthew's Christ's reference to "the cup that I (am to) drink". This image of the cup given by God to drink in the Hebrew Scriptures is negative, for it is the cup of wrath, a punishing potion. Only Mark speaks of "the baptism with which I am baptised", for which use we have no antecedent in Scripture that I have identified. The only correspondence seems to be in Paul's writings, where it signifies death, albeit our death in Christ. Together, the expressions do betoken his coming passion and death, for which "the Son of Man [came]... to give his life as a ransom for many." That this is the intended focus and linking theme in these passages is emphasised by the fact that the last verse also supplies the Gospel acclamation.



Mark wrote with his own logic, not for the benefit of future liturgical use, so he does not stick to the theme. He had, however, preceded this section with the third instance (omitted from the Lectionary) of Jesus telling the disciples about his approaching death and resurrection. We are side-tracked here by the request of the brothers James and John, and its effect on the others. Unlike Matthew, who has the brothers' mother petition a favour for them, Mark's uncompromising version places the failure to understand the teachings, and the presumptuousness it engenders, firmly on the brothers themselves. The question Jesus asks, "What do you wish (that I may do for you)?", is important, for next Sunday he will ask it of another. In both the request for favoured seats and the indignation of the other ten,

Mark exposes the lack of understanding of all the Twelve. Jesus calls them all to him to tell them that leadership among them is not to be measured in terms of rank or domination, but in humility and service—the model of Jesus himself. This has, by chance, resonance with the second reading (Hebrews 4:14-46), where he is acknowledged as the Son of God, a higher rank than which cannot be accorded, and yet he is the one who humbly shares our frailty so as to know our weakness, and who is therefore able to understand and show mercy.

Text: Homily Help - Rev Dr Barry Craig - 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

Image: Unsplash.com

Please welcome

**Bishop Brian Finnigan as he celebrates Mass
with to our
community this weekend.**



We thank Bishop Brian for his time, energy and faithful wisdom. Bishop Brian will be staying for a cuppa after Mass on Saturday evening and will join us for the liturgy and morning tea after 9am Mass. (More info on page 3)

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

1st Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-9

2nd Reading: Hebrews 5:1-6

Gospel: Mark 10:46-52



Daily Mass Readings

ANGLICAN ROMAN CATHOLIC RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Each year people from the Catholic Archdiocese of Brisbane, the Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba and the Anglican Church of Southern Queensland (the Dio-

cese of Brisbane) gather to pray with and for one another for a greater mutual understanding and reconciliation.

This year's service will be hosted by our Archdiocese at St Stephen's Cathedral and the theme is centred on the Season of Creation:

"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Luke 12:32-34 NRSV)

Save Thursday 4th November at 11am into your diary and find out more via the event page here:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/263276095690241>

GO ON AN INTENTIONAL ADVENT THIS YEAR

Looking for a way to engage with the Advent season? Get in early and order your \$5 copy of *New Life in Christ*, a new 28-day reflection resource. Written for busy individuals but easily adapted for groups, each day will include a scripture reading and a reflection.

Place your order with Debra by phone or email.



QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CATHOLIC VIEW ON VACCINATION?

You can learn more about Pope Francis's recent encouragement to all to get vaccinated with approved Covid-19 vaccines in the link below. Pope Francis referred to it as 'an act of love.' <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2021-08/pope-francis-appeal-covid-19-vaccines-act-of-love.html>

The Archdiocese of Brisbane supports COVID-19 vaccination except for those people with a valid medical exemption from their health professional.

We do recognise that some Catholics have concerns about the origins of the cell-line associated with the development of the AstraZeneca vaccine. If this is a concern for you then the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines provide two alternatives that avoid this issue.

PLENARY COUNCIL FIRST GATHERING—WHERE TO NEXT?



The months between the first and second general assemblies of the Fifth

Plenary Council of Australia are a time for "prayer, reflection, maturation and development", according to a concluding statement from the first assembly.

The statement, approved by the Council's members during Saturday's final plenary session, speaks of a week in which regular prayer and spiritual conversations, encouraging deep listening, "allowed space for still nascent dreams and visions to come to greater maturity".

It came after 16 sessions across six days, encompassing conversations in groups of eight to 10 people, larger groups of up to 30 and gatherings of the full membership of the Council. All sessions were punctuated with time for prayer and reflection.

The concluding statement said the process of members listening to each other in those various forums "has planted promising seeds and raised important questions for us".

"We have experienced and expressed the range of emotions that come with facing profound issues together, holding in tension diverse interpretations and expectations," it said.

"Through prayer and reflection, we have been called to be patient with the process, with each other, with the Church and, most importantly, with the Holy Spirit."

The statement outlines some of the affirmations of the life of the Church that were shared during the first assembly, as well as some of the desires expressed for a Church that renews itself for mission.

"Often expressed through the lens of personal experience, the discernment of this assembly has threaded together conversations about what the Church can offer today's world on the one hand, and how the world can inform the ways and structures of the Church on the other," the statement said.

The assembly considered the experience of some groups within the community who don't always feel at home in Catholic communities. Those groups could include young people, women, single people, parents and families, people with disabilities, people with diverse experience of sexuality and gender, and others "who feel, for a variety of reasons, that there is no place for them".

"We asked how a missionary Church might connect with those who feel distant from the community of faith," the statement said. *Continued page 3*

"Each of these voices has been a powerful reminder that the Church, as a sign of the kingdom of God, has the vocation of being an image of Christ and an icon of grace to the whole human family."

The statement said the closing of the Council's first assembly means the journey "now enters a time of prayer, reflection, maturation and development".

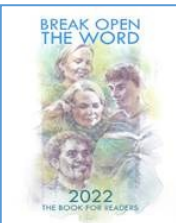
"This will involve continuing reflection by the members of the Council, and consultation with the wider Church community, as we develop propositions for presentation to the second assembly of the Council next July," it continued.

"In faith, hope and charity, we entrust all these tasks to the guidance and wisdom of the Holy Spirit. Our prayer remains, as always: 'Come, Holy Spirit. Come Holy Spirit of the great South Land'."

Read the concluding statement [on the Plenary Council website](#).

Break Open the Word for 2022 is available for pre-order now.

The cost is \$24 and I will be placing the order in the first week of November to allow time for delivery and labelling of each book. To place your order simply contact me by phone or email to add your name to the order form. Payment can be made using this link. Thank you, Debra



[Break Open the Word Payment](#)

Sound the Bells for Climate Change

This Sunday 17th October, immediately following Mass, our parish will join Christian Communities around Australia to pray for action on Climate Change.

We will process from the church to the garden, where a short liturgy will take place. We will ring bells... a symbolic act of alert and alarm, to emphasise our need for national and global climate action. **Bring your bells!**



https://www.arrcc.org.au/day_of_action

Milk Bottle Top Collection

Please, please, please wash your lids before donating them. A simple rinse is not effective in removing all milk residue. We have some lids that have dry milk or mould which isn't pleasant to see in the church. Also, remove the padded inserts of the lids before washing and donating. Many thanks to all for supporting this great cause.

"For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mark 10:45)



If you held a mirror up to your life, would it reflect God's love and mercy? If you are struggling with this, try changing your attitude from "I want more" to "thank you God for everything you have given me, I have enough to share". This change in perspective will bring you joy through service to others. Pray daily to become less self-centered and to become more God-centered.

Parish archive sorting will continue next

Wednesday at 10am in the Parish Meeting Room.



All are welcome to come along. This is not an exclusive group! This an opportunity to stroll down memory lane and enjoy a cuppa with old friends and new friends

too! Every one is most welcome to join in the working bee of sorting our parish archives of photos and other relics.

Morning tea and Supper are being reintroduced after

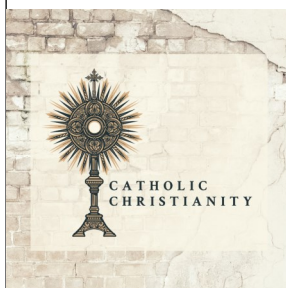
mass. To make this a

success we need more volunteers to complete the

COVID SAFE TRAINING COURSE produced by TAFE QLD. This is a free course and is done online. The course will take around 30 minutes to complete. A certificate is issued at the completion of the course. Send the certificate to me, for our records and you will be able to assist in the preparation and service of morning tea and supper. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me and I will endeavour to assist you. The link to the course is here. Debra

<https://covidsafework.tafeqld.edu.au/course/126/covid-safe-work-training-for-dining-in>

CATHOLIC CHRISTIANITY PODCAST



Can science disprove God? Is it valid to say that it's true for you but not true for me? Is there more to the human experience than what science can measure?

Find out in episode one of the **Catholic Christianity podcast**,

Season One: Reasons to Believe.

Subscribe on your preferred podcast platform or watch on YouTube by searching 'Catholic Christianity'. Find out more at www.catholicchristianity.org.

What's in the diary this week at Stafford?

Mon 18th		
Tues 19th	8.30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Wed 20th	10.00am	Parish archives gathering in the meeting room
Thurs 21st		
Fri 22nd	9.00am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Sat 23rd	5.00pm	Mass with Livestream Zoom
Sun 24th	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:



Timothy Wilson, Graham Evans, Fr Paul Glynn, Bruce Willson, Veronica Nicholson, Don Al-lerta, Fay Robertson, Maurice & Alison Drake, Bob Devine, Jose Pitts, Brian Wellman, Luca de Pascalis de Moraes, Rose Ann Takas, Nicki Goodman, Cait-lyn Lengkeek, Fay Barrett, Norm Ward,

We pray for those recently deceased: David Connors, Marcelle Zarrouk, Mary 'Monica' Harland, Peter Glasby, Francisco Aliviano, May Smith, Pat-rick Sommerville, Peter O'Donnell, Jim Henry, Tom Lynch, Kay Dunn, Ari Vargas, Angel Bathan, Jill Barrett,

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Barbara Maffei, Eduardo Mijares, and all de-ceased 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.

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

- ◆ Queensland legalises euthanasia in dire change for the state
- ◆ Brisbane Oratory celebrates its first priestly ordination
- ◆ Former Queensland Rugby Union CEO says guardian angel brought him to Braille House
- ◆ Granddaughter of war medic returns vestments to Church
- ◆ Stanthorpe parish priest Fr Lino Valente remembered
- ◆ Holland Park remembers 60 years of St Joachim Church
- ◆ Aussie Christians open up on Jesus in new book by Greg Sheridan
- ◆ Helen and helpers lead little ones to God's way

