

ST MARY'S PARISH, ROBINVALE

Incorporating St Patrick's Manangatang

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 12th & 13th September 2020

Please remember these people in our prayers

Recent Deaths: Serena Jenkins

Anniversaries: Lucia Gervasi; Margaret Dillon; Maria Galioto;
Frank Grant; Rose Carr; June Foran; Michael Gorman; Vi Power; John Pisasale;
Norman Attivissimo ; Margaret Sinclair; John Kennedy; Vince Calarco; Ron Cocks;
Showrilu Nagothu (Father Anthony's mother)

Sick: Sam Giampaolo; Therese Cummins; Rosa Santos; Kristin Sparto; Debbie Nolen;
Jack Hayes; Basilio Alcodia; Gai Trainer; Jeremy Dickson; Carmela Garreffa; SR. Basil;



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Administrator

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Parish Finances: Many thanks for your continuing support of our Presbytery and Parish during these unprecedented times. Parishioners wishing to contribute to the Presbytery/Parish finances during the COVID19 restrictions, please deposit to the Parish account - Westpac: BSB: 033250 Account number: 870747. St Mary's Parish has joined with CDF (Catholic Development Fund-Ballarat) and CDF Pay where you can electronically make a one off payment or set up a regular payment. You receive an electronic receipt for any payments made. The link for St Mary's Parish, Robinvale is <https://bit.ly/CDFpayRobinvale>

Parish Planned Giving: Thank you to the parishioners who support the work of the Church through their financial contribution. New envelopes, along with receipts are available from the Parish Office. Please contact Parish Office/Pat Curran 0427 269 211 or email robinvale@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Online Mass:

Mass for the coming weekend,
12-13th September.

24 Sunday in Ordinary time

For the Parishes of St Mary's
Robinvale and St Joseph,
Ouyen.

<https://youtu.be/zWqN7n7kEuQ>

Social Justice Statement 2020-2021

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. In the Social Justice Statement 2020 -2021, To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today, 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 meet the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community. More information is available from the diocesan website www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or http://bit.ly/SocialJustice_2020

Reflection on the Gospel

In the Gospel, Peter approached Jesus and asked him, Lord if my brother sins against me how often must I forgive him? Peter is an important figure in the Gospels. His role reminds us of two great aspects: responsibility and reconciliation! Well, Jesus knew the heart and mind of Peter. He answered him, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy times-seven." Seven is a number indicating perfection and, in the case of Peter's proposal, seven is synonymous with "Always." And there is no limit to forgiveness. We are a people in need of forgiveness and we are to forgive infinitely.

In the second part of the Gospel, the parable of unforgiving servant is very challenging. We who receive so much forgiveness and understanding from God are so frequently unable to forgive others or even see things from their point of view. From this parable we learn that holding on to anger only brings more suffering, particularly for the person who harbors hate. Mahatma Gandhi once said, holding on to a lack of forgiveness or holding on to grudges is like drinking poison and expecting the other person to die! It can be so hard- so hard to forgive those who have hurt us. Jesus assures us, do not be afraid, take courage. Forgiveness brings healing. Forgiveness brings the mercy of God.

- Fr Anthony Nagothu

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:9

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you; and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 102(103):1-4,9-12

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults.

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins.

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

SECOND READING Romans 14:7-9

Alive or dead, we belong to the Lord

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 13:34

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

To be forgiven, you must forgive

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Pope Francis—Twitter

General Audience

Pope Francis—Twitter As a human family we have our common origin in God. We dwell in a common home, the garden-planet where God placed us. But when we forget all this, our social fabric is weakened and the environment deteriorates.