

The Living Word

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

17 September 2023

First Reading Sir 27:30–28:7

Forgive your neighbour's faults 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.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 9-12. R. v.8

(R.) *The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.*

1. 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. (R.)
2. 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. (R.)

3. 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 (R.)
4. 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. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 14:7-9

Whether 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.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 18:21-35

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

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



Reflection by Greg Sunter

This gospel passage follows directly from last week's passage. It concludes the whole of Matthew Chapter 18 that deals with sin, forgiveness and reconciliation. Peter's question to Jesus and suggested answer is a reflection of the view that there is a limit to the number of times we should forgive someone. Seven is a significant number in scripture and implies a 'perfect' amount. Even though by his use of seven, Peter is suggesting that he should forgive someone many, many times, Jesus quickly corrects Peter and says not seven, but seventy-seven times (or seventy times seven). Jesus plays on the use of the number seven and multiplies it to indicate that one should forgive as many times as is required – without keeping count; without keeping score.

The story of the unforgiving servant is a familiar one of forgiveness and mercy being shown but not passed on. The sting in the tail of this parable is Jesus' final warning that, 'So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives his brother from his heart.' This is an unsettling statement, as we believe God's forgiveness to be without measure and without end. Jesus warns that unless we seek to imitate God's forgiveness and forgive others 'from our heart' (with compassion) then we are not going to recognise the forgiveness of God and will cut ourselves off from it.

The whole idea of forgiving from the heart is a powerful contradiction of a popular concept: 'I can forgive, but not forget.' Is it really possible to forgive but refuse to forget? Surely holding on to a memory of hurt is holding on to the hurt itself and does not display that any forgiveness has occurred at all. To forgive but not forget is to keep count. How many times should I forgive the one who has hurt me? As many times as it takes!

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HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC PARISH

Incorporating the Mass centres and communities of

Holy Family	Our Lady Star of the Sea	Holy Trinity
101 Hitchcock Av	68 John Dory Drive	34 Stevens St
Barwon Heads	Ocean Grove	Queenscliff

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather, the Wathaurong people. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully in the land.

We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Fr Darien J Sticklen
Parish Secretary: Mrs Daniella Sutura
Safeguarding & Admin Support: Ms Jennie Ryan
Parish Mission Ambassador: Ms Josephine Barnes

Baptism Preparation:

Mrs Bel Campbell, Mrs Margaret-Mary Flynn, Mrs Maria Sammut

Holy Communion to the sick:

Jo Ballard, Sue Condon, Judy Considine, Louise Frances, Genevieve Malone, Eva Millie, David O'Connor, Majella O'Connor, Von Philp

For all other parish ministries, including RCIA, Sacramental Program, Men Alive, Faith Development & Spirituality Group, St Vincent de Paul local Conference, Trinity Aid for Refugees, etc., please visit:

www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au

PARISH OFFICE & PRESBYTERY

34 Stevens Street, Queenscliff 3225

Telephone: (03) 5258 1673

Email: queenscliff@cam.org.au

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
10:00am to 1:00pm
(excluding public holidays)

PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St. Aloysius, Queenscliff
Principal: Ms. Miriam Leahy, Tel: 5258 1736
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove
Principal: Ms. Kerry Sells, Tel: 5255 4308

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

BARWON HEADS: Saturday Vigil 6:00pm
OCEAN GROVE: Sunday 9:00am
QUEENSCLIFF: Sunday 11:00am

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Please see below: Liturgy in our Parish this week

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

is available prior to each weekend Mass, and before or after weekday Masses if needed.

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Visit our website for all information or contact Parish office
www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/

COLUMBARIUM

Please visit www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/about-us/parish-columbarium/

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOL CHILDREN

Enrolments are open for 2024.

Please visit our website for enrolment form and all information:

<https://holyltrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/sacramental-program-2/>

Please send in bulletin notices by 1pm on Thursdays

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Recently Deceased: Peg Benham (funeral was held on Wednesday 13th September in Chelsea).

Anniversaries 17th September to 23rd September: Mary Egan, Dawn Benham, Tony Joiner, June McClelland, Vincent Lynch, Damian Tobin, Neil Kerley, Brian Meehan and Ken Drury.

Please pray for those who are Sick: Elly Anwyl, Naomi Bianco, Denise Blake, Mary Blonk, Peter Bourke, Ron & Helen Carter, Sam Caruana, Brian Cotter, Jack Davin, Pat Dickeson, Ian Downing, Robert Drummond & Patti Semler, Gloria Forbes, Nell Fraigneux, Kay Freyne, Ross Gilham, Margaret Gladstone, Martin & Mary Grundy, Ben Hanan, Stephen Hanan, Peter Harrington, Jeannette Hodgkinson, Gregory Holien, Robert & Lyne Horner, Robert Hurley, Melissa Keogh, Gary Kingsbury, Hilda Koerntjes, Margaret Lomas, Toni Lukauskas, George Marshall, Belinda Monterosso, Annette Mullany, Christine Naulty, Frank Nelson, Helen Pearce, Cecilia Piec, Mavourneen Ray, Margaret Renwick (Snr), Geraldine Richards, Betty Rushton, Jeannett Stevens, Mary Sullivan, Pam Sullivan, Kevin Teasdale, Deanne Warren, Susan Weston, Michelle Williams, Peter Williams and Shirley Woodruff.

ROSTERS

If you are unable to meet your commitment on your day, please arrange a substitute. Thank you!

COMMENTATOR (C), LECTOR (L), SPECIAL MINISTER (SM),
WELCOMERS (W), PROJECTIONIST (P)

OCEAN GROVE: 24th September at 9:00am:

(C) Michael Kirkman (L) Maureen Earls (SM) Jo Ballard, Marg Lucas (W) Marg Lucas, Margaret Donovan.

QUEENSCLIFF: 24th September at 11:00am:

(C) Bob Merriman (L) John Hanan (SM) Angela Hatch (W) Sandra Gould.

COUNTERS: Tuesday 19th September at 10:00am:

Ken Caffyn & Daniella Sutura.

** NEWS & EVENTS **

If you need Pastoral care & support, or you are aware of others who may need assistance, please phone our Parish office. Mobile number for emergencies is on the recorded message.

For all Safeguarding updates, please visit the parish website:

www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/safeguarding/parish-child-safe/

We appreciate your understanding and support as we work together to comply with our legal requirements. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Safeguarding Essentials Training small group sessions available on the first Thursday of each month from 11am to 12:30pm. Registration is required. To register, please contact the parish office or email Jennie at queenscliff.safeguarding@cam.org.au. **Next session:** Thursday 5th October. The online module can be accessed at any time from the below link. You will need your unique Working With Children Check (card) number and an email address to register. <https://melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-training-and-upcoming-events/safeguarding-training-modules/>.

Join the Safeguarding Committee! We are looking for people from all three communities to join the Parish's Safeguarding Committee. The committee meets four times a year. We encourage you to please contact the parish office if you are interested.

Trinity Aid for Refugees (TAR): will recommence Grocery Collections for Refugees in September, starting at Holy Family, Barwon Heads. Anyone wanting to give support could email shirleyhurley@inet.net.au or donate directly to Wesley Church Welcome Place: BSB 633 000, Account 160 305 066. You are welcome to visit Queenscliff Rural Aid for Refugees www.queenscliffrra.org.

*Together we pray for the children receiving
the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.
Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.*

**We wish the principals, staff, students and families
a happy and restful school/Spring holiday break.**

TLC Aged Care, Homestead – Respite Care: TLC Aged Care in Wallington is offering respite care 'stay 14 days, pay for 7'. To book, call 132 TLC. Offer ends 30th September 2023. Limited flyers available at each Mass centre or visit: <https://holyltrinityqueenscliff.org.au/tlc-aged-care-respite-care-promotion/>.

TAR Catholic Social Justice Corner (weekly update): From the Address of Pope St John Paul II to the Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders in Alice Springs, Nov. 1986... "We know that during the last two hundred years certain people tried to understand you, to earn about you, to respect your ways and to honour you as persons. These men and women, as your soon realized, were different from others of their race. The loved and cared for indigenous people. They began to share with you their stories of God, helped you cope with sickness, tried to protect you from ill-treatment. They were honest with you and showed you by their lives how they tried to avoid the bad things in their culture."

Music at the Basilica 14th Annual Windfire Music Festival, Geelong: Friday 6th to Sunday 15th October 2023. For all event details and booking information, please visit: <https://holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/music-at-the-basilica-14th-annual-windfire-music-festival-geelong-6-15-october-2023/>.

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LITURGY IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

Monday 18th September – Weekday, Ordinary Time 24

Tuesday 19th September – St Januarius (Memorial)

9:15am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion
at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

Wednesday 20th September – Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang & companions (Memorial)

9:15am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion
at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

Thursday 21st September – St Matthew (Feast)

9:15am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

Friday 22nd September – Weekday, Ordinary Time 24

9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

Saturday 23rd September – St Pius of Pietrelcina (Memorial)

Sunday 24th September – 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
World Refugees & Migration Day

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Thought for the Week:

We can complain because rose bushes
have thorns or rejoice because the thorn
bushes have roses.

– Abraham Lincoln.

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL – Spreading the News (by Susan Weston)

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) is very keen to provide regular updates about matters that are discussed or raised at its meetings, and to facilitate the sharing of information about various initiatives and undertakings which occur in all parts of our Parish. This is important because it demonstrates in a real way how we work and strive to carry out the challenge to be "living examples" of Jesus' call to follow him and love our neighbour.

Recently the PPC farewelled several members who have made enormous contributions over a great many years, in particular Sue Casey, Maureen Frisch, Tony Frizza and Von Philp. Sue and Maureen represented Barwon Heads, Tony (Queenscliff) was our Chair in recent years, while Von represented the Liturgy Committee. On behalf of the Parish, we thank them for their service, commitment to making us a stronger faith community and the generosity of their time over many years.

The current PPC comprises the President, Fr Darien; its Chair being Liz Frazer, who also represents Ocean Grove; and some 12 other members, including the Principals of our 2 Parish Primary Schools. The PPC operates in accordance with its Constitution, a copy of can be found on our website <https://holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au>.

The Parish website is a vital piece of communication for the Parish, please check it out – you will find all sorts of information there, including events in our Parish & the Geelong region; the different Groups and Ministries at work; resources covering Faith & Life and information about our Sacramental programs.

It is fair to say that a week in the life of Holy Trinity Parish is more vital and vibrant than many realise. Interested in helping out or finding out how you can join in? Please call our Parish Office on 5258 1673 to speak with Daniella or email queenscliff@cam.org.au. She will put you in touch with the most appropriate person – you will definitely be made "Welcome".

FAITH DEVELOPMENT & SPIRITUALITY GROUP

SAVE the DATE: Sunday 8th October from 12:00-3:00pm

WHAT? Time out to experience The Uluru Statement from the Heart, an invitation from our indigenous brother and sisters.

WHERE? Santa Casa, Queenscliff. A beautiful retreat centre on the beach.

If you missed the chance to attend one of the 3 reflection days at OLSOS in late June and early July, organised by our Holy Trinity Parish Spirituality Group, here is an extra opportunity to have:

- Some precious quiet time and space – to think, to read or chat
- A coffee or tea on us
- A walk around a labyrinth or through the back gate to the beach
- A family BYO picnic

COST? An hour or so of your time.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

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Anthony & Letitia Dowling
with the friendly team you know and trust.

2 Park Lane, Ocean Grove VIC 3226

Phone: 5255 5655

Email: info@oceaneyes.com.au

Visit: www.oceaneyes.com.au



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

Vinnies No Interest Loan Scheme ("NILS")

Geelong Vinnies NILS provides people on pensions & low incomes with loans up to \$1500 for essentials such as whitegoods, TVs, computers, medical & dental services, car repairs, etc... with absolutely no interest or fees! For further information, contact Vinnies NILS Tel 5229 8829 or email enquiries.nils@vinniesnils.org.au.



Nelson Property
Transfer Services
Geelong & Bellarine

Looking to buy, sell
or transfer property?

Contact Frank Nelson

0413 017 053
bellarine@npts.com.au



CHARLIE'S MAINTENANCE CO

General maintenance, gardening, cleaning and tiling. Servicing the Bellarine and Geelong areas. Contact Charlie on 0413 609 170 or email charlie.sutera76@gmail.com.