

# The Living Word

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

25 August 2024

## First Reading Jos 24:1-2, 15-18

*We will serve the Lord God, because he is our God.*

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 33:2-3. 16-23. R. v.9**

*(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)
2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked  
to destroy their remembrance from  
the earth.  
The Lord turns his eyes to the just  
and his ears to their appeal. (R.)
3. They call and the Lord hears  
and rescues them in all their distress.  
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;  
those whose spirit is crushed he will save. (R.)

4. Many are the trials of the just man  
but from them all the Lord will rescue him.  
He will keep guard over all his bones,  
not one of his bones shall be broken. (R.)
5. Evil brings death to the wicked;  
those who hate the good are doomed.  
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.  
Those who hide in him shall not be  
condemned. (R.)

## Second Reading Eph 5:21-32

*This is the great mystery, it applies to Christ and the Church.*

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.



## **Gospel Acclamation See Jn 6:63. 68**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Your words, Lord, are spirit and life:  
you have the words of everlasting life.*

*Alleluia!*

## **Gospel Jn 6:60-69**

*Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the words of everlasting life.*

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?'

'It is the spirit that gives life,  
the flesh has nothing to offer.  
The words I have spoken to you are spirit  
and they are life.'

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

## **Reflection by Greg Sunter**

For the last few weeks we have heard a number of readings from chapter 6 of the Gospel of John focusing on the teaching of Jesus that he is the Bread of Life, come down from heaven. This reading is the last in the sequence and shows the reaction to Jesus' teaching. What Jesus has been saying in this discourse is incredibly confronting to his Jewish audience. Jesus asserts that he has come down from heaven – from the Father – and that through knowing him one can know the Father. Jews were the first people to have a concept of one God. This belief did not allow for any spouse or child of God, nor any personal manifestation. They struggled with what Jesus was saying because his claim to have come down from heaven could be seen as blasphemous. No wonder many of them walked away from Jesus and wanted nothing more to do with him!

Jesus gives an interesting response to them. He tells them that it is the spirit that is important, not his human flesh, and that the spirit is what he has been sharing with them through his words and actions. He is trying to say to these faithful Jews, don't be hung up about the fact that I'm here in person, listen to my message as you've never heard it before. It is an interesting thought for our modern audience as well. How often do we fail to hear the message of Jesus because we are dismissive of the way in which it comes to us; the messenger; or the circumstances in which we hear it? The message is all the more confronting when it comes from an unlikely (or even un-likable) source. The message of Jesus is to be found in our everyday encounters with everyday people.

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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 Geoff Baron (priest in residence)  
Parish Secretary: Mrs Daniella Sutera  
Safeguarding & Admin Support: Ms Jennie Ryan  
Parish Mission Ambassador: Ms Josephine Barnes  
Pastoral Care Coordinator: Sr Nola Morrissy RSM

For all parish ministries, including Holy Communion to the Sick, RCIA, Baptism & 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](http://www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au)

**PARISH OFFICE & PRESBYTERY**  
34 Stevens Street, Queenscliff 3225  
Telephone: (03) 5258 1673  
Email: [queenscliff@cam.org.au](mailto:queenscliff@cam.org.au)

### OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday  
10:00am to 1:00pm (closed 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. Kerryn 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/](http://www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/)

### COLUMBARIUM

Please visit [www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/about-us/parish-columbarium/](http://www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/about-us/parish-columbarium/)

### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN ATTENDING NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Please visit our website for all information:  
<https://holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/sacramental-program-1/>

Please send in bulletin notices by 1pm on Thursdays

PARISHIONERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE THEIR BULLETINS HOME AFTER MASS

## 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

**Anniversaries 25<sup>th</sup> August to 31<sup>st</sup> August:** Bill Tobin, Don Law, Patricia Clarke, Jane Kelly, Margaret Byrne, Kathleen Richardson, Laurie Conway, Maddalena Bua, Michele Richards, Frank Leahy, Jack Drummond, Bill Snell, Joan Stent, Anne Slack, Josef Krechowitsch and Judy Shaw.

**Please pray for those who are Sick:** Naomi Bianco, Mary Blonk, Margaret Borg, Peter Bourke, Helen Carter, Sam Caruana, Sue Casey, Jack Davin, Ian Downing, Robert Drummond & Patti Semler, John Drury, Nell Fraigneux, Kay Freyne, Ross Gilham, Margaret Gladstone, Mary Gladwin, Martin & Mary Grundy, Justin Hanan, Stephen Hanan, Susan Hardy, Peter Harrington, Gregory Holien, Robert & Lyne Horner, Robert Hurley, Melissa Keogh, Hilda Koerntjes, Margaret Lomas, Toni Lukauskas, Michelle Mahoney, Brendan Merriman, Belinda Monterosso, Christine Naulty, Helen Pearce, Cecilia Piec, Mavourneen Ray, Margaret Renwick (Snr), Geraldine Richards, Betty Rushton, Kevin Teasdale, Deanne Warren, Cathy Williams and Peter Williams.

### 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: 1<sup>st</sup> September at 9:00am:

(C) Janine Fitzpatrick (L) Lachlan Fitzpatrick (SM) Jo Ballard, Judy Considine (W) Michael & Barbara Hardy.

### QUEENSCLIFF: 1<sup>st</sup> September at 11:00am:

(C) Michael Scott (L) Bel Campbell (SM) Terry Philp (W) Roger Furphy.

### COUNTERS: Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> August at 10:00am:

Remo & Naomi Bianco.

### \*\* 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/](http://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.

### The Parish Office is closed on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August.

Admin staff are attending the Parish Administration Forum in Melbourne (hosted by the Archdiocese).

**Cuppa at Ocean Grove:** parishioners are welcome for a cuppa and biscuit following 9:00am Mass on Sundays throughout Winter at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove.

**Each Church in our Parish has a TAP & GO terminal.** These have helped increase financial support for our Parish. Easy to use – please avail yourself of this way to support us. Thank you.

**Taizé Pray | Peace Gathering:** people in the Bellarine Peninsula and beyond are invited to gather to pray and worship at Santa Casa (33 Flinders Street, Queenscliff) on **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024 at 2:30pm** followed by afternoon tea at 3:30pm. Please RSVP to Sr Lizzie Finnerty RSM on 0418 194 261 or [santacasa@ismapng.org.au](mailto:santacasa@ismapng.org.au) for catering and seating purposes. All welcome.

*Together we pray for the children receiving  
the Sacrament of First Eucharist in the coming weeks.  
Please keep the children and their families in your  
prayers.*

**SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY (25<sup>th</sup> August):** Australia's Catholic bishops have released their Social Justice Statement for 2024–25. Entitled *Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World*, the statement argues that peace is possible if people commit to speaking the truth and redouble efforts to end war. Continue reading: [Social Justice Statement calls for truth and peace in a violent world](#).

### + ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN +

Thank you to everyone who has so generously already made a pledge or gift to the 2024 Archbishop's Campaign. Every gift, large or small, is greatly appreciated! If you are yet to make a gift, you can still do so. This campaign supports the vital ministries of the Church in our Archdiocese. Campaign envelopes with tear-off pledge cards are still available in the church. You can also make a gift online at:

[www.melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign](http://www.melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign).

I encourage you to please give generously to the Campaign. If you have filled in a pledge card, please place it into either of today's collections.

**"Save with CDF Community Fund – it's in everyone's best interest":** By opening an account, not only will you receive a competitive financial return, your savings will also help build parishes, classrooms, hospital wings, aged care homes and social service facilities. With competitive interest rates available across a range of accounts, including 5.55% p.a.\* on a 12-month Term Investment, it's a way to save while doing good. To find out more, visit:

[www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer](http://www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer) or email Anton Pan-Cassin [apancassin@melbcdf.org.au](mailto:apancassin@melbcdf.org.au) or Bernard Docherty [bdocherty@melbcdf.org.au](mailto:bdocherty@melbcdf.org.au). \*Interest rates subject to change. View current rates on the CDF website.

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### LITURGY IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August – Weekday, Ordinary Time 21**

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> August – St Monica (Memorial)**

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

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August – St Augustine (Memorial)**

9:15am Mass with St Aloysius Senior & Middle School students at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

11:00am Mass with anointing at Arcare, Point Lonsdale

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August – The Passion of St John the Baptist (Memorial)**

**Parish Office Closed**

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

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August – Weekday, Ordinary Time 21**

9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August – Weekday, Ordinary Time 21**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September – 22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**

*World Day of Prayer for Creation*

*Father's Day*

1:00pm Star of the Sea School Sacrament of First Eucharist Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove (Group 3)

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**Thought for the Week:**  
The best dreams happen  
when you're awake.

- Cherie Gilderbloom.

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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](mailto:enquiries.nils@vinniesnils.org.au).



Phone: 03 5221 7411 | Email: [bellarine@npts.com.au](mailto: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](mailto:charlie.sutera76@gmail.com).