

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

14th / 15th January 2023

Isaiah 49:3,5-6

The ancient Israelites thought of themselves as the Chosen People of God. They took this to mean that they were the recipients of God's special love and care. But the great prophets of ancient Israel proclaimed a new understanding of the covenant. The children of God were to be a light to the nations so salvation could extend to the ends of the earth.

Next Week: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Isaiah 8:23-9:3
1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17
Matthew 4:12-23

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

We are called by God and consecrated in Christ to be a holy people. This means that we must be diligent in keeping our thoughts and deeds pure. We need to clear out the dark concerns of our minds and clear the secret recesses of our heart of all sin. Christ gives us the strength we need to be a holy people.

John 1:29-34

John proclaimed that Jesus was the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world. Jesus does not just cover up our sins with his saving love. They do not remain as bitter memories or embarrassing moments. He buries them in the sea of his forgiveness.

Universal Prayers

1. For those whose parents have failed to give them the blessing of what good creations they are. We pray to the Lord.
2. For those who feel inferior because they have embraced cultural values instead of those of the kingdom of God. We pray to the Lord.
3. For those who have let failures define them instead of their origins as children of God. We pray to the Lord.
4. For those who experience work as meaningless and demeaning instead of an act of service to God and to the world. We pray to the Lord.
5. For those in unhealthy relationships who have forgotten who they really are. We pray to the Lord.
6. For those who are moving toward life's end without a sense of fulfilment. We pray to the Lord.

Weekday Liturgical Schedule

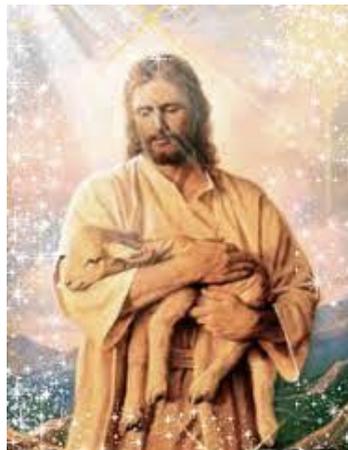
Tuesday	Mass	8am
Wednesday	Mass	8am
Thursday	Mass	8am
Friday	Mass	8am

CONFESSIONS

Tuesday 17th Jan 7pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Wednesday 18th Jan 8.30-9.30am



Mass Intentions

Saturday 14th January
Special intention

Sunday 15th January
Special intention

Tuesday 17th January
Owen Monkhouse



PLEASE NOTE THESE DATES

Sunday 22 nd January	Solemn Vespers & Benediction	4pm St Thomas Aquinas Church
Tuesday 31 st January	Choir Practice	7.30pm St Thomas Aquinas Church
Tuesday 7 th February	Parish Council	6pm Parish Hall
Tuesday 21 st February	Scripture Class	6pm Parish Hall

LITURGY POINTS

In January especially, we welcome visitors to the Highlands & to our parish. But with visitors, sometimes liturgical inaccuracies also visit. Normally, stubbornness is not a behaviour to be encouraged, but when it comes to the right time to stand, be stubborn!

The missal says:

Celebrant: Pray, brothers & sisters that my sacrifice & yours may be acceptable to God the almighty Father.

The people rise & reply: May the Lord accept ...

On solemnities & major feasts the celebrant has the option of imparting a solemn blessing at the end of Mass.

Celebrant: Bow down for the blessing.

Then the celebrant, with hands extended says the threefold blessing.

Amen is said three times between each invocation.

Please be loud in your response of "AMEN".

Vinnies News

A huge thank you from Vinnies for all the generous and kind contributions to our recent Christmas Hamper Appeal and to our pantry during 2022 via the trolley near the Coles checkouts. These donations have been an enormous help.

As we begin 2023 we have a continuing need for non-perishable pantry items such as:

- pasta and rice
- pasta sauce
- tinned meals
- baked beans and spaghetti
- coffee and tea
- toilet paper
- tooth brushes – single pack
- tooth paste
- personal care items, for example, deodorant, shampoo etc.

These non-perishable items may be placed in the trolley near the Coles checkout at Bowral.

Bulletin Advertising

Our bulletins are soon due to be reprinted and there are a number of spots for local businesses to advertise their services on the back page.

And it works!

If anyone is interested, please contact the Parish Office.