



# St John Vianney's Catholic Parish

embracing the worshipping communities of  
Manly & Gumdale



## Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 16<sup>th</sup> August 2020

### USE ALL YOUR STRENGTH TURN AROUND AND ASK....

A young boy and his father were walking along a forest path. At some point, they came across a large tree branch on the ground in front of them. The boy asked his father, "If I try, do you think I could move that branch?" His father replied, "I am sure you can, if you use all your strength." The boy tried his best to lift or push the branch, but he was not strong enough and he couldn't move it. He said with disappointment, "You were wrong, dad. I can't move it." "Try again," replied his father. Again, the boy tried hard to push the branch. He struggled but it did not move. "Dad, I cannot do it," said the boy. Finally, his father said, "Son, I advised you to use all your strength. You didn't. You didn't ask for my help." We haven't used all our strength until we have recognized and appreciated the strength and support of those who love and surround us and those who care about our needs. Our real strength lies not in independence, but in mutual dependence. To ask for help and support when we need it is not a sign of weakness, it is a sign of wisdom and trust. It is a call for the greater strength that lives in our togetherness. When we ask for help and it is declined, it just means we have to ask at another time, or ask in another way, or ask another person. When by yourself you cannot manage to complete a task use all your strength turn around and ask!

We see in the Gospel today a woman in desperate need. Jesus first ignores both the persistent cry of the woman and the impatience of His disciples asking him to send the woman away. He then tries to awaken true Faith in the heart of this woman by an indirect refusal. But the woman is still persistent. She kneels before Jesus and begs, "Lord, help me." What is important is that her prayer expresses both helplessness and faith. We notice that the woman was refused three times by Jesus before He granted her request; finally, in answer to her plea at the fourth attempt, Jesus rewarded her persistence, curing her daughter.

As Christians, we also know that our particular requests may not always be for our good, or for the final good of the person for whom we are praying. Hence, let us trust that every time we pray for something or someone, the answer is already on its way, even before we have asked God for it. We just need to trust God's timetable and infinite wisdom that He will answer us according to His will and purpose. Today's Gospel reminds us that God's love and mercy are extended to all who call on Him in Faith and trust, no matter who we are.

Blessings,  
Fr. Dantus Thottathil.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK:** Karen Booker, Michael Gibbings, Mary Schmidt, Joyce Starkey, Pat Wilson, Sandra Wilson, Maddie Bell, Sr Teresa Geraghty, Mary Forrester, Krystyna Kelly, Sheila Petersen, Richard Pook, Violet Maureen Phillips, Ash Dean, Dennis Patterson, Carmen Phairs, Irene Gavrila, Rosa Maria Santos, Dawn O'Sullivan, Leon and Roz Thomas, Maura Poots, Angela Geraghty, Hugo Callan, Joan Francis, Angela de Weger, Terry Coles, Margaret Brennan, Ted Chapman, Leslee O'Connell, Katherine Pickering, Stacie Stonier, Val Steeden, Mitchell Sweet

**For a name to be included in the 'Prayer for our Sick' list, the Privacy Act now requires the personal permission of the nominee or a close relative.**

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Cyril Bashford, Catherine Biltoft, John Bozoky, Daphne Brian, Matthew Lyle Briggs, Anthony Cassell, Sr Christina Corcoran, John Dickson, John Featherstone, Ellen Flegerbein, Annie Johns, Gary Harding, John Kneeshaw, Jane Lacey, Sr Ella Evelyn Lloyd, Sebastiano Marano, Colin McIntosh, Eugenie (Gene) Massie, Phyllis Morahan, Adrian Moran, Ellen Morrison, Alma Mulherin, Albert (Jack) Muller, Margaret Murphy, Sr Clare Ellen (Evangelist) Murtagh, Delia Nelson, Eileen Normyle, Eddie Nunn, Elsie O'Connor, Lorna Pankhurst, Joan Pitman, Mary Plant, Gwen Pook, Paulene Power, Jean Reading, James Roe, Mace Reid, Merle Skinner, Gary Tointon, Myrtle Thompson, Dick Wells, Douglas Ziebarth.

### Quote of the Day:

Positive thinking is not only about Expecting the best to Happen... But it is also about Accepting whatever happens is for the Best...

### PASTOR: Fr Dantus Thottathil MCBS

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### ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Fr Prem Rethnamony

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### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Les Sellwood (Chair), Joshua Walsh (Sec.), Bruce Corrie, Helen McNamara, Paola Nunez, Maria Jones, Pam Chapman, Julia McLean

**Archdiocesan Safeguarding Officer** for Manly is:

Les Sellwood: 0401 235 739

**STOPLINE Contact:** AOB@stpline.com.au

**This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws. A copy of the Child Safety and Protection of Vulnerable Adults policy is situated in the foyer of the church.**

### Mass Times

**Wednesday 9:00am** Rosary and Mass at St. John Vianney's Manly (no bookings necessary)

**Saturday 5:00pm** Vigil Mass at St. John Vianney's Manly (40 people)

**Sunday 7:00am** Mass at St Jude's in Gumdale (20 people)

**Sunday 9:30am** Mass at St. John Vianney's Manly (40 people)

**Reconciliation:** By appointment only.

### Please Support Our Parish

Account Name: Manly Parish

BSB: 064786

Account Number: 006716002

**Thank you for your support of the Parish.**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

*I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.*

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants - all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant - these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

**Responsorial Psalm**

Response: O God, let all the nations praise you.

**Second Reading:** Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

*The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.*

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now - and only because of the mercy shown to you - will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

**Gospel:** Matthew 15: 21-28

*Woman you have great faith.*

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

**Announcements**

**Sacramental Program:**

Please keep the children attending our Sacramental Program in your prayers.

Children will receive their **First Holy Communion** on the 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> of August and 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> of September.

The **Confirmation** ceremonies will be held daily between 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of September.

**Love your neighbour:**

Saturday mass is very popular and quickly booked out in our system. This disadvantages Parishioners without easy access to online booking systems. To give them a chance to attend their preferred mass day on occasion, we kindly ask Parishioners to occasionally attend a Sunday mass instead. Thank you for supporting your fellow parishioners in this difficult time.

**Planned giving Envelopes:**

We will leave the envelopes at the hall until end of August for pick up. If you are not able to pick the envelopes up in that time frame we kindly ask you to contact the office where they will be stored.

***We would like to thank you for your ongoing and generous support for the Parish.***

**COVID-19 restrictions**

**Mass celebrations at St. John Vianney's:** Mass bookings for **40** people can be made until end-September.

To book please visit <https://www.trybooking.com/eventlist/sjv?embed=1>.

If you require assistance for bookings, please contact the parish office on 3131 2610 or email us at [manly@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:manly@bne.catholic.net.au)

**Mass Celebrations at St. Jude's:**

We are currently able to celebrate with **20** people in attendance with social distancing in place.

To book please contact: Helen McNamara via phone 0403 193 625 or e-mail: [Imac11@optusnet.com.au](mailto:Imac11@optusnet.com.au)

**STEWARDSHIP  
August 16, 2020  
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*"For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable." (Romans 11:29)*

God has a special mission in mind for each of us. He has given us the gifts we need to accomplish that mission. We are called to be good stewards by using those gifts to do the work that He has planned for each of us. If we deny our gifts or fail to use them as God calls us to use them, then some part of His work will be left undone.

*(Accessed on July 22, 2020 from <https://www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/bulletin-inserts/weekly-bible-reflections>)*

## **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**



Celebrated each year on August 15, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary commemorates the death of Mary and her bodily assumption into Heaven. Because it signifies the Blessed Virgin's passing into eternal life, it is the most important of all Marian feasts and a Holy Day of Obligation.

The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is also known The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, The Assumption of Mary Into Heaven, The Dormition of the Theotokos and The Falling Asleep of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The Feast of the Assumption is a very old feast of the Church, celebrated universally by the sixth century. The feast was originally celebrated in the East, where it is known as the Feast of the Dormition, a word which means "the falling asleep."

The earliest printed reference to the belief that Mary's body was assumed into Heaven dates from the fourth century, in a document entitled "The Falling Asleep of the Holy Mother of God." The document is written in the voice of the Apostle John, to whom Christ on the Cross had entrusted the care of His mother, and recounts the death, laying in the tomb, and assumption of the Blessed Virgin.

## **Prayer for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Almighty and everlasting God,

You have taken up body and soul

into the heavenly glory the Immaculate Virgin Mary,

Mother of Your Son: Grant, we beseech You,

that, ever intent upon heavenly things,

we may be worthy to be partakers of her glory.

Through Jesus Christ Your Son, our Lord,

who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,

One God, forever and ever.

Amen.