



St John Vianney's Catholic Parish

embracing the worshipping communities of
Manly & Gumdale



Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 30th August 2020

Losing all to gain all with Jesus Christ....

Each of us has some problems, worry, concern and cross to bear. At times the cross may be rather insignificant; for others, the cross seems to have unbearable weight. When we face these worries, problems, fears ... these crosses, we often find our faith challenged and perhaps hope fades. But it is precisely at these times that our faith teaches us that God holds us in the palm of His hands and that life is not a game of chance.

One morning, a wealthy man sat on his balcony enjoying sunshine and his coffee, when he noticed a little ant which was going from one side to the other side of the balcony carrying a big leaf several times more than its size. The man watched it for more than an hour. He saw that the ant faced many obstacles during its journey, paused, took a diversion and then continued towards its so destination.

At one point the tiny creature came across a crack in the floor. It paused for a little while, analysed and then laid the huge leaf over the crack, walked over the leaf, picked the leaf on the other side then continued its journey.

The man was captivated by the cleverness of the ant, one of God's tiniest creatures. The incident left him in awe and lead him to contemplate the miracle of creation. It showed the greatness of the creator. In front of his eyes there was this tiny creature of God, lacking in size yet equipped with the ability to analyse, contemplate, reason, explore, discover and overcome.

About an hour later, the man saw that the creature had reached its destination, a tiny hole in the floor which was the entrance to its underground dwelling. And it was at this point that the ant's shortcoming was revealed. How could it carry into the tiny hole the large leaf that it had managed to carefully bring to the destination? It simply couldn't!

So the tiny ant, after all the painstaking and hard work and exercising great skills, overcoming all the difficulties along the way, just left behind the large leaf and went home empty-handed.

The ant had not thought about the end before it began its challenging journey and in the end the large leaf was nothing more than a burden to it. The ant had no option, but to leave it behind to reach its destination. The man learned a great lesson that day.

Isn't that the truth about our lives?

We worry about our family, our job, how to earn more money, and where we should live, what kind of vehicle to buy, clothes to wear, all sorts of unimportant things, only to abandon all these when we reach our destination – the grave.

We don't realize in our earthly journey that these are just burdens that we carry with utmost care and fear of losing them, only to find that at the end they are useless and we can't take them with us....

If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life? (Mt 16: 25-26).

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 Gavril, 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 Fleggerbein, 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:

We learn something from everyone who passes through our lives
Some lessons are painful,
some are painless,
but all are priceless.

PASTOR: Fr Dantus Thottathil MCBS

(email: thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au)

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: Jeremiah 20:7-9

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, 'I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.' Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me. I could not bear it.

Responsorial Psalm

Response: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord our God.

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-2

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel: Matthew 16: 21-27

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

Announcements

Office Hours: Next week the parish office will be **open on Tuesday and closed Wednesday** between 8:30am-2:00pm. Apologies for any inconvenience that this change may cause. Office hours will return to normal from Monday 7/9/2020.

Congratulations: To all the children making their First Holy Communion this weekend. Please keep these children in your prayers.

The following children will make their First Holy Communion this weekend:
Oliver Ansley, Ella Brown, Noah Caddies, Luca Copp, Jack Cullen, Braxton Exton,
William Fuller, Siobhan Gardner, Zavier Grasic, Taylor Green, Harvey Hoy,
Ryan Keller, Roisin Keller, Emily McKay, Wyatt Milzewski, Alana Murphy,
Ciara O'Carroll, Chelsea Ogborne, Isla Parker, Georgie Travers, Sonny Tyson,
Ollie Watts, Matilda Woodford



Sacramental Program: First Holy Communion will be held on the 29th of August at 3:30pm and 30th of August at 11:00am and 4:00pm as well as on the 5th of September at 3:30pm and 6th of September at 11:00am and 4:00pm. Confirmation will be held daily from the 1st of September until the 4th of September at 6:30pm. *Please keep these children in your prayers.*

St. Vinnies Manly: St. Vinnies is looking for a small kitchen table for a family in need. Please contact Gail Ann Harrison: 0407 581 066, for further information. Thank you.

Holy Land Collection 2020: The Holy Land Collection for 2020 will take place on Sunday 13 September 2020. As a parish we are asking that you place any donations for this collection in an envelope labelled Holy Land Collection as place it into the parish collection box located in the foyer of the church. Thank you.

New Website: We are building our new website and are looking forward to sharing it with you in Spring 2020. With this change we are going to be able to maintain the content ourselves. This change will also decrease our expenses for the website. Please tell us what you would like to find on our website by sharing your suggestions with Martina at the Parish office or by sending your ideas to our email address: manly@bne.catholic.net.au

COVID-19 UPDATE

From the Archdiocese: 'The Chief Medical Officer has expressed confidence in organisations with COVID Safe plans and at this stage parishes following the Industry Plan for Places of Worship can continue to hold acts of worship with no additional operating restrictions.' Bishop Ken Howell

Our Parish operates under the COVID safe plan and we can continue to celebrate mass following these guidelines.

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

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