



St John Vianney's Catholic Parish

embracing the worshipping communities of
Manly & Gumdale



Postal Address: PO Box 5174, Manly, Qld, 4179 **Phone Number:** 3131 2610
Email: manly@bne.catholic.net.au **Website:** www.manlycatholicparish.org.au

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C - 23 January 2022

The Lectionary takes us back to the very beginning of Luke's gospel, to the introductory address to "your Excellency" Theophilus – friend or lover of God, or even beloved of God. We cannot know whether Theophilus, an actual name, was an actual person or is a polite reference to the reader. It does not hurt for preachers to think of each listener as the friend of God.

This Sunday each year begins a programmatic reading of our Lord's public ministry that lasts until the end of November, with of course a detour for Lent and Easter. Matthew and Mark both testify to Jesus proclaiming at the beginning "The Kingdom of Heaven/God is near". Luke takes us back to Nazareth instead, to the Synagogue where Jesus reads from Isaiah 61:1-2 to announce the year of favour, a passage understood to point to Leviticus 25:10-13 that describes the Jubilee. We must wait until next Sunday to hear of the following reaction to his teaching on it. Matthew and Mark have a similar scene set in "his own country", but much later in the story. Only Luke has it in this precise form and place, and it needs to be understood as an expansive equivalent of Matthew's and Mark's opening proclamation "The Kingdom of Heaven/God is near"; here Jesus says, in effect, this prophesy is even now being fulfilled.

The episode is read annually at the Chrism Mass in conjunction with the Isaiah pericope that otherwise appears only in Advent in Year B. Instead duplicating that combination today the Lectionary gives us Nehemiah's account of the reaffirmation of the covenant during the post-exilic restoration of Jerusalem – which is actually the subject of the full passage from Isaiah 61. The reaffirmation was conducted by Ezra the priest reading the Law, its contents then being made clear, or translated and interpreted so all could understand. He did as Jesus would do in the synagogue – as we are to do in our liturgies with the homily breaking open the readings it follows.

Jesus declared Isaiah's passage was being fulfilled there and then. He had no legal authority to declare the nationwide Jubilee, so we must interpret it as already indicating another kind, or as pertaining to another realm.

The Jubilee practice reset property ownership and debt. Since on entering the Holy Land all were made equal sharers in the land within their tribes, how is it that later some have more land than others, or that some were even dispossessed? No society and economic system is perfect, and complexities in primarily agricultural societies gradually lead to the shift of the originally shared wealth, some losing direct access to land, becoming labourers for others. The Jubilee cancels spiralling debt and restores land distribution. One can imagine just how disagreeable such a proposal may be to those who are wealthy, especially if so not by nefarious means but through the inheritance of wealth accumulated over the generations courtesy of an imperfect economy. But the Jubilee proclaimed by Jesus is not imposed from on high; it emerges with the Kingdom from the grass roots level, freely enacted by the people who seek the Kingdom.

Each society and economy has its flaws, and produces its own inequalities, so the Jubilee work will never end, even as we strive constantly to redress them. There will always be dispossessed, to whom the active missionary work of mercy must be directed. This does not mean simply giving things in temporary assistance, which maintains the status quo, but striving to improve the situation itself. In this "year of Luke" there will be many reminders of his particular concern for the dispossessed and the fringe-dwellers, and so while a true reset of land ownership will never be achieved, we in Australia need to be particularly attentive to the dispossession of this land's first nations peoples.

A jarring note arises from the use of Nehemiah: the restoration was exclusionary; it cast off those who had impure ancestry and rebuffed the welcoming Samaritans thus setting up centuries of animosity between the two peoples. The Second Temple period it inaugurated was by no means universally exclusivist, and Christianity emerged from or was shaped by inclusivist strands. As our gospels make clear, perhaps Luke most clearly, the mission of Jesus is to all.

Liturgia © Liturgy Brisbane, 2022.

This Week's Readings:

First Reading

Neh 8:2-6, 8-10

Second Reading

1 Cor 12: 12-30

Gospel

Lk 1: 1-4, 4:14-21



Parish Contact Details

Pastor: Fr George Joseph

(Mob: 0470522587 Email: josephg@bne.catholic.net.au)

Parish Secretary: Kate Sellwood

(manly@bne.catholic.net.au)

Parish Office: Cnr Ernest and Kooralgin Sts, Manly

Office hours: 8:30am – 2:00pm Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri

Presbytery Ph.: 3396 0742

Parish Information

Parish Diary:

Monday 24 January

Saint Francis de Sales (M)

Tuesday 25 January

Conversion of Saint Paul (F)

6:00pm Mass @ Manly

Wednesday 26 January

AUSTRALIA DAY

**Parish Office Closed due to
Public Holiday**

9:00am Rosary @ Manly

9:30am Mass @ Manly

*Morning Tea after Mass has been
suspended until further notice.*

Thursday 27 January

Saint Angela Merici (OM) and
Saint Timothy and Titus (OM)

Friday 28 January

Saint Thomas Aquinas (M)

Saturday 29 January

5:00pm Mass @ Manly

Sunday 30 January

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00am Mass @ Gumdale

9:30am Mass @ Manly

Reconciliation

Saturday's: 4:30pm - 4:50pm

No appointment required.

Children's Liturgy: Sun 6 Feb

Safeguarding and STOPLINE

Archdiocesan Safeguarding Officer is:

Les Sellwood: 0401 382 085

STOPLINE Contact: AOB@stoline.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.*

Parish Pastoral Council

Les Sellwood (Chair), Pam Chapman, Bruce Corrie,
Helen McNamara, Julia McLean and Laurent Fontaine

Please Pray for Our Sick:

Karen Booker, Michael Gibbings, Mary Schmidt, Joyce Starkey,
Pat Wilson, Sandra Wilson, Maddie Bell, Sr Teresa Geraghty, Mary
Forrester, Sheila Petersen, Richard Pook, Violet Maureen Phillips,
Ash Dean, 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, Ted
Chapman, Katherine Pickering, Stacie Stonier, Barbara Peet,
Delia Chapman, David Schilling, Margaret Taylor

***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:

Anne-Marie Arthus, Russell Barton, Kevin Bourke, Floretina Brewer,
Jim Clair, John Costello, Cecil Crew, John Cronin, Daphne
Eddleston, Mary (Molly) Evrat, Camelo Fazio, Paul Jackman,
Patrick Leben, Dulcie Maher, Jennifer Lynas, Agnes Veronica
(Ronnie) Mason-Johnson, Hilary Maloney, Jessie Massie, Fletcher
McCormack, Sr Paula McGrath, Keith McGregor, Colin Moir,
Doris O'Donnell, Brian O'Sullivan, Mark Purdon, Donna Pytko,
George Reading, Millicent (Vera) Reed, Jean Rosenstengel,
Joseph (Neil) Sheppard, Theodore Shepherd, Hubert Smith,
Douglas Southern, Eric Steeden, John Wade, Lilli Wargin, Aleida
Wishey, William Spann, Maria Skubis, Luzdivina Lozano, Jean
Hine.

This Week's Roster

Saturday 22 January

First Reader: Laura F.

Second Reader: Maureen B.

Third Reader: Jane O.

EMHC: Nola S.

Sunday 23 January

First Reader: Jasser N.

Second Reader: Anne S.

Third Reader: Colleen S.

EMHC: Mark R.

Counting Group: C

In This Month's Catholic Leader:

The Christmas Issue is available at the back of the Church for
\$4.00

- Room at the inn for all this Christmas – Emmanuel City Mission throw open doors for extended hours
- Pope reading signs of the times – education, work and dialogue between generations
- Family of 11 escapes house fire 'by the grace of God'
- Pam Betts immensely grateful for a career spanning 42 years in teaching and education
- Grandmother right at home with friends on the streets
- Christmas messages from all Queensland Bishops
- Pope expresses concern for decline of democracy across the globe
- Former orphan Brendan Scarce counts his blessings in new book
- Veterans advocate gives heartfelt insight into own personal trauma
- Tim Sherlock has a gift for music and shares it

Parish and Community Announcements

Morning Mass on Thursdays and Fridays at Manly – LAST CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE

Commencing the first week in February there will be Masses on Thursday and Friday mornings. These Masses will take place on Thursday at 6:30am and Friday at 9:00am. To assist us in the process of adding this Mass we have developed a short survey which provides our community with the option to provide us with their input regarding the available times. We have also included some questions regarding Mass attendance which will allow us to update our attendance data. To complete this survey please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2JRNX72>. If you do not have access to a device to complete this survey, please contact the parish office for assistance.

Nominations for Parish Pastoral Council

Strong communities are created and maintained by actively community members. If you would like to contribute to the maintenance of a strong SJV church community, please consider nominating for the Parish Pastoral Council. No experience is necessary, just a willingness to participate, share ideas, and learn from the experience of others. For more information or to nominate please contact the parish office.

Replacement of Noticeboards in the Church Foyer

In the coming weeks we will be replacing the noticeboards in the Church foyer. We apologise in advance for any inconvenience caused by this process.

Vaccination Requirements for Volunteers – URGENTLY REQUIRED

As you may have seen in previous newsletters, the Archdiocese of Brisbane has made the decision that some specific volunteer roles will require COVID vaccination. These specific volunteer roles include: Leaders of Children's Liturgy of the Word and the Sacramental Program, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Sick who attend hospitals, nursing homes and/or private homes and local safeguarding officers. Volunteers do not have to be vaccinated under this policy where that position is solely related to activities that are purely domestic, social, recreational, religious or private in nature, including Mass. To meet the requirements, we require evidence of your vaccination. This proof can be provided in the form of a COVID-19 Digital Vaccination Certificate or an Immunisation History Statement as a PDF. To provide your vaccination certificate or for information on how to provide this or if you have any questions please contact the parish office on 31312610 or manly@bne.catholic.net.au. We would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Remember Lenten Program 2022 – Reflection Books Available to Order

The Remember Lenten Program for 2022 reflection books are now available to order via the parish office. The price of these books will be dependent on the number of orders we receive (cost will be between \$5 and \$10). Orders for this book will close on Friday 28 January 2022 at 10:00am, those who have ordered will be notified of the cost at this time.

Caritas Emergency Appeal for Tonga

You can provide vital relief to communities impacted by natural disasters, such as the volcanic eruption and tsunami in Tonga, along with the current COVID-19 crisis in Papua New Guinea and Fiji. With your support, our partners on the ground can respond immediately when crises strike. For more information or to donate please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/5n6dba4z>

Prayers of the Faithful

We are now including those in our parish who are ill in our prayers of the faithful. We will also be including those loved ones of members of our parish who have passed away. If you would like someone or yourself included in the prayers of the faithful, please contact the parish office.

COVID-19 Restrictions

Restrictions as of 11/01/2022:

- Masks are mandatory in indoor settings. Choirs and singers are not exempt. As singing remains a high risk activity, cantors must keep their masks on at all times during the liturgy.
- Hospitality is a high risk activity during this peak infection time. **For this reason, all Morning Teas in our parish have been suspended until further notice.**
- Mass Capacity: 1 person per 2 squares → approximately 150 people at Manly and 40 at Gumdale.

For more information regarding the current COVID-19 restrictions as well as the most up to date health advice please visit www.covid19.qld.gov.au

This Week's Readings

First Reading: Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10 Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people - since he stood higher than all the people - Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered, 'Amen! Amen!'; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read. Then Nehemiah - His Excellency - and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep.' For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law. He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

Responsorial Psalm: Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27 Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink. Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogue on the Sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written: The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the down trodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour. He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

Next Week's Roster

Saturday 29 January

First Reader: Jen B.

Second Reader: Nola S.

Third Reader: Laurent F.

EMHC: Denise D.

Sunday 30 January

First Reader: Kennedy C.

Second Reader: June M.

Third Reader: Donna R.

EMHC: Colleen S.

Counting Group: D

For the Children

We belong to one body

Sometimes when we hurt ourselves, we realise just how often we use that particular part of our body. Today St Paul reminds us that one body is made up of many parts and that all of these are important in their own way.

LET US PRAY Lord Jesus, you call each one of us to belong to one people, the family of God. Help us, together with our brothers and sisters, share your love with the world.

Next Children's Liturgy: 6th February



Next Week's Readings

First Reading Jer 1:4-5, 17-19

Second Reading 1 Cor 12:31 – 13:13

Gospel Lk 4: 21-30

