



**St John
Vianney**
Parish Morisset



SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C SUNDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2022

*For over two thousand years, the Lord has addressed his disciples in the words of today's Gospel.
'Be compassionate...Do not judge... Do not condemn... Treat others as you would like them to treat you'.*

Jesus' vision of human behavior is at variance with the view of most people, that many regard it as humanly unachievable, and therefore ignore it.

How easy it is to be critical, to be over hasty in making judgements and to be intolerant to the faults of others. It is a struggle to overcome the feelings of bitterness and revenge that well up inside us, and can keep welling up, when we are badly treated by another. Forgiveness is never easy. Each day it must be struggled for, and prayed for.

It can be summed up in the Golden Rule which Jesus quotes. 'Treat others as you would like them to treat you. Sadly, what we do is to treat others as they treat us. But Jesus says, 'Treat others as you would like them to treat you'. There's a world of difference between the two.



We Acknowledge the traditional owners of this land the Awabakal Peoples. And pay our respects to the elders past and present, and any that may be with us today.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Foundation	Leader	In Office
1. Identity and Community		
2. Worship and Prayer.	Uta France	Mon
3. Formation and Education		
4. Mission and Outreach.		
5. Leadership and Structure.	John France	Sat & Sun

If you have any concerns or questions you can also talk to any member of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) who are: Juliet Hutchins, Mal and Pam Melvey, Kerry Lendon, and Rod Hay.

PRIEST SUPERVISOR: Fr Geoff Mulhearn
SACRAMENTAL PRIEST: Fr John Purnell
Parish Secretary: Mrs Rosanna Suckling Mon— Fri 9am-2pm

OFFICE: 60 Yambo Street, Morisset, PO Box 87, Ph: 02 4973.6859
Office Hours: 9.00 am to 2.00pm—Monday to Friday
(Due to COVID we ask that you make an appointment to come to the office)

Morisset Parish email: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Parish Leadership Team Email: morparishplt@mn.catholic.org.au

Morisset Parish Web site: www.vianneymorisset.org

Morisset Parish Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>

Morisset Parish Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/stjvparish_morisset/

Morisset Parish Bulletin Items: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Morisset Parish Presbytery: Ph: 02 4973 1537

(Please submit all Bulletin Notice requests to the parish office by 2pm Wednesdays)

Email the Parish Office to Subscribe for an Electronic Bulletin .

UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :

Sunday	20th February 9.30am Liturgy— Morisset
Tuesday	22nd February 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Sunday	27th February 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	01 March 9.30am Mass— Morisset

PHYSICAL DISTANCING REQUIRED

As the degree of harm to people in our Parish Community that they may experience if exposed to COVID-19 is high (number of congregants over 60) under WHS Laws we are still required to Physical Distance 1.5m apart. It is recommended that you book in to be guaranteed a seat. Use the **BOOK FOR SERVICES** button on the Parish Website, or the Eventbrite App or Website: <http://vianneymorisset.eventbrite.com> or if you have difficulty booking using the online formats call the Parish Office between 9am and 2pm Weekdays.

MASKS REQUIRED

Everyone over the age of 12 is required by NSW Health to wear a Mask that covers the nose and mouth indoors or while waiting to come inside.

DISCLAIMER: Unless otherwise stated, the advertisements placed in this bulletin are placed by independent third parties who have no legal relationship with the Diocese. The activities or services of the advertisers are not supervised or controlled in any way by the Diocese. The Diocese is not in a position to endorse the advertisers or the services provided and makes no representation about those matters. Accordingly, the Diocese cannot accept any responsibility for the advertisers or the activities or services that are the subject of these advertisements.

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C - REFLECTION

In the Gospel today, Jesus continues to instruct his disciples on the ethics of Christian behaviour. One of the most well-known and respected figures associated with the ancient and mysterious land of India is undoubtedly Mahatma Gandhi. He rallied his people to the cause of justice, freedom, and independence. He fought against the injustices of colonialism.

Today's Gospel is the very source of Gandhi's inspiration. It contains the central teaching of Jesus on the standards of behaviour expected of his followers. It not only sets them against the ruthless, competitive, inhumane, survival of the fittest mindset of the Roman Empire.

At the world Meeting of Families in Dublin, Ireland in 2018 Pope Francis also said that we all need to practice the 'magic words' of please, thank you, I'm sorry and I forgive you. The question that we could well ask today is; 'Is forgiveness still practiced in modern society?

Two years ago, the world was shown the face of forgiveness in the weeping, silent praying face of Leila Abdallah, as she knelt in front of the place where her niece and three of her children were killed, by an out-of-control driver. The constant news reports with images of this mum joined by her husband and her sister-in-law and the whole community responding in prayer, left the world a changed place. How wonderful was the initiative to turn the date of this tragedy on the 1st of February into an Australian National Day of Forgiveness. **4give Day.**

Pope Francis has given us a prophetic interpretation of the pandemic. He has stated time and again that at the root of the crisis is the virus of individualism and profit-driven mentality. If we want a different and a better world, not one destined to conflict and destruction, then we must abandon the grab-what-you-can approach.

Instead, we must learn to live by the upside down, inside out ethics of the Kingdom. May we model ourselves on Christ as we embrace wholeheartedly a discipleship of humility, vulnerability, compassion, and powerlessness. John France



FAITH MATTERS: SHARE THE LOVE OF LEARNING

Valentine's Day is one that so often divides opinion. Some see it as a clichéd day that crassly commercialises 'romantic love', while others take the opportunity to outwardly acknowledge and celebrate their feelings with flowers, cards, extravagant gifts, and special dinners.

MANDY GREAVES PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 14, 2022

To many, it may seem even more clichéd to make a marriage proposal on Valentine's Day. However, globally, Google searches for "how to propose" surge in February, almost doubling the monthly average!

In 2006, the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) hitched their wagon to the Valentine's Day train with the inaugural Library Lovers' Day. Their explicit aim being to celebrate libraries and the amazing, possibly life-changing, resources they hold within them. Library Lovers' Day is now a worldwide event with a new theme each year - the 2022 theme being Show the Love. This theme is core to the mission of all libraries; a responsibility to support and supplement education in their community, in a variety of formal and informal as well as cultural contexts. In simple terms libraries should promote and support a love of continued learning for all.

So why do ALIA and librarians have life-long learning as a core value? In thinking about this I started to do some research and found a very pertinent quote by Lyndon Baines Johnson. "Doing the right thing is not the problem. Knowing what the right thing is, that's the challenge" he said. More commonly known as LBJ, the 36th President of the United States of America from 1963 to 1969 hit the target for me. Life-long learning, continued learning, wide learning that take us outside our own interests and viewpoints is the one thing that makes one realise the "right thing" is something different for everyone; that the "right thing" is usually constantly evolving; that the "right thing" for me might very well be the wrong thing for you. Life-long learning makes it abundantly clear that you can never know it all.

As a young man, LBJ taught high school. An early experience teaching Mexican-American children at a segregated school later informed his presidency, "I shall never forget the faces of the boys and the girls in that little school, and I remember even yet the pain of realizing and knowing then that college was closed to practically every one of those children because they were too poor. And I think it was then that I made up my mind that this nation could never rest while the door to knowledge remained closed to any American." In an era of great racial inequality, legalised social divide, and painful cultural upheaval he saw education and knowledge as central to enabling the changes that were necessary, just and right to take place.

The apostle Peter wrote, ". . . make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge." Biblical scholars often discuss "knowledge" in this context as meaning the knowledge of Christ's goodness and love should guide Christians in fulfilling God's purpose on Earth. In addition to this knowledge of Christ, we in contemporary society also have a wealth of easily accessible resources to grow and inform our faith knowledge and beliefs through wide reading, research, and continued educational experiences.

In this internet age Libraries serve society as an essential educational resource, offering a gateway to free and reliable resources, many of which are not available online. Not everyone lives in a household that provides limitless Wi-Fi or the right environment to conduct research, write papers or read in peace. During times like these libraries play an essential role in sharing the love . . . of learning.

Keep up to date with all the Diocese Events and News at:
<https://mnnews.today/>

Keep up to date with what is happening with the Diocesan Synod at: <https://www.domnsynod.com.au/>



LENTEN REFLECTION

When our late Bishop Bill convoked the Maitland Newcastle Diocesan Synod in 2019, the turbulent nature of the following two years could not have been predicted. While Session One could take place face-to-face, Session Two needed to be modified due to the pandemic, and Session Three has been postponed.

ROSEMARY MCALLISTER PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 15, 2022

The first Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council was also delayed; however, in October 2021 representatives were able to gather online in prayer and discernment. The Pope convoked the Sixteenth Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops (Synod on Synodality) in October 2021: "For the first time in the history of the Church, this synod will invite all 1.37 billion Catholics to take part in the process of listening and discernment. The aim of this 'journeying together', the literal meaning of Synodality, is to bring Catholics closer to the mission of Jesus. In this 'way of being church' the whole People of God come closer together on the journey of bringing alive the Kingdom of God on Earth."

Our Diocese and our nation have already begun the listening and discerning process at a grassroots level. While no major decisions can be made at a Diocesan level regarding the Synod until a new Bishop is appointed, we can still walk and journey together, listen and learn from one another.

As part of our continued synodal journey, we also encountered Christ within each other through the Advent mystagogical reflection process. Stories of faith and life experiences were heard in the 'Churches without Walls' series, highlighting how our local People of God are working towards building the Kingdom of God. Continuing our synodal journey, you are invited to come together in parishes, schools and across the Diocese, both face-to-face and online, to remain connected during the season of Lent. This resource provides the opportunity to encounter scripture and our synodal themes through the process of mystagogical reflection. As you encounter the mystery of God in the scripture, this may lead you to discover the mystery of God in one another through sharing of life and experience. This Lent as we encounter the Paschal Mystery, you are invited to sit with the scripture and the themes revealed through our synodal process. We encourage you to watch the reflections of the scripture and the 'Church Without Walls' series and reflect on how we, as people of the resurrection, can put our faith into action.

To access the resources, visit: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/liturgy/lent-2022/>

The Diocese will be hosting Mystagogical Reflections each week during Lent, Monday mornings at 10.30am and Thursday evenings at 6.30pm.

To register, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/diocese-of-maitland-newcastle-18080128129>

PROJECT COMPASSION FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

End poverty
Promote justice
Uphold dignity



lent.caritas.org.au



1800 024 413



#projectcompassion

Project Compassion, the Lenten appeal of Caritas Australia, the Australian Church's international aid and development agency is running across the six weeks of Lent.

Supporting over 3 million people across the globe every year, Caritas Australia works in the most disadvantaged and vulnerable areas and uses long-term sustainable practices, such as working with local communities and NGOs, to build resilience and empowerment into the future.

For All Future Generations is theme of Project Compassion this year. Five stories from programs in Mozambique, India, Australia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Solomon Islands. Each of these stories demonstrates the powerful impact that each one of us can have for the people that will follow us in time. Caritas believes that, "Together, we can create lasting change."

Parishes, schools, dioceses and organisations can all participate through prayer, advocacy and donations.

HAVE YOU ACCESSED THE DOMN LIBRARY ONLINE?

You can access more than books at the DOMN Library. The Diocese has subscriptions to a number of online publications including, La Croix, The Tablet and the Religion & Philosophy Collection database. While the DoMN Library catalogue can be searched anonymously, registration is necessary for access to member privileges such as: borrowing books, audio visual resources and kits, for access to the eBook collection, periodicals and magazines and for access to the databases. Registration is an extremely simple process via the registration link on the library homepage. All physical resources will be made available for collection at the library desk in the Diocesan Offices reception area at 841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West, or by arrangement. All resources should be returned to the Diocesan Offices as well.

Link to DoMN Library: <https://library.mn.catholic.org.au>

HOW THE RELAXING OF RESTRICTIONS AFFECTS US

- We are able to sing from this Sunday 20th February.
- We are still wearing Masks this Sunday 20th February.
- You no longer need to check-in with a QR code or have someone do it for you.
- We are still required to physical distance 1.5m from people we do not live with. This means that you will need to sit in a seat as directed by our COVID Team, and there is no kneeling.
- We are still required to continue good hand hygiene practices.
- We are still required to continue COVID cleaning practices.
- You are not allowed to enter if you are unwell.

SYNOD OF BISHOPS

Have you taken up Pope Francis' invitation to participate in a global conversation about the Catholic Church? You still have three weeks to make a submission to your local consultation for the international Synod on Synodality, calling the People of God to walk together in our mission as Christians. Submissions close on February 27. Find out more at: <https://catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Traditionally at this time of the year, the Churches of the district gather to celebrate 'World Day of Prayer'. This Year on Friday 4th March, at 10am, the Morisset Baptist Church Cnr Fishery Point Road and Pulbah St Morisset, will host the event. This year the World Day of Prayer has been planned by the churches of England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. Our Church will again actively participate in the event.

Because of Covid restrictions, attendance will be limited to 80 people. If you are planning to attend, could you please phone Rosanna our Parish Secretary on 49736859.

PRIDE MASS

Our Diocese is hosting a Pride Mass for LGBTIQ people and their families, friends and supporters. Time: 6.00PM
Date: Friday, 4 March 2022 Location: Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 16 Tighes Terrace, Tighes Hill For more information, contact: LGBTIQ@mn.catholic.org.au

ONLINE FORUM FOR PARISHES IMPLEMENTING LAUDATO SI'

This is a follow-up forum to an earlier event organised by St Dominic's Parish, Camberwell, Victoria, with the assistance of the Parishes of Cheltenham and Highett. The Forum will invite you to:

- Consider models and resources available to parishes for implementing the Laudato Si' message of care for our common home
- Engage in Q&A around what initial steps can be taken to build a systematic response to this pressing call.

Date & Time: Tuesday 8 March 2022, 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm

Registration: Register free at <https://www.trybooking.com/BVHTM>

SEASON FOR GROWTH: ADULT SEMINAR

UNDERSTANDING CHANGE, LOSS AND GRIEF

This seminar is an educational experience, so the activities are designed to be objective rather than tap into Participants personal stories of loss and grief.

This session will provide you with an opportunity to:

- Examine the meaning of grief
- Review the range of changes and losses experienced in life
- Explore grief reactions and factors that influence them
- Identify different styles of grieving
- Explore strategies of empowerment, including the role of choice in the grief journey and the importance of networks of support

Date: Saturday March 12 Time: 9am-12pm

Venue: Diocesan Office, Toohey Room, Newcastle

RSVP: by March 1 to loretta.heffernan@mn.catholic.org.au
0408 895 951

"AMORIS LAETITIA FAMILY YEAR " 19 MARCH 2021- 26 JUNE 2022

The "Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love) Family Year" is an initiative of Pope Francis, which aims to reach every family around the world through several spiritual, pastoral and cultural proposals that can be implemented within parishes, dioceses, universities, ecclesial movements and family associations.

Over the course of ten monthly episodes, hear the Holy Father talk about each of the chapters of the Apostolic Exhortation Amoris Laetitia, along with the testimonies of different families who will share some aspects of their daily lives.

This initiative is a joint collaboration between the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life and Vatican News, and aims to facilitate the reading of the Apostolic Exhortation, with the aid of downloadable material prepared for personal and community reflection.

To access this resource:

<http://www.laityfamilylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/en/amoris-laetitia/iniziativa-e-risorse/10-video-amoris-laetitia.html>

PRAYING THE GOSPELS

You are invited to connect and pray with each other across the Diocese from your own home. God speaks to us through the words of the Gospel and then through artist's images of the Gospel message. Join us each Wednesday 5.00-5.45pm.

Zoom link: <https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/61036103033>

Password: pray

For more information contact:

rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

SUPPORTING THE DIOCESE CLERGY

If you would like to make contributions to support the Diocese Clergy / 1st Collection the Bank Account Details are:
Account Name: CDF 96020 Morisset Presbytery BSB: 062815
Account Number 00328161 Ref: 5016 1st Collection



"The Great Artesian Basin cries out for our protection. It is at risk from over extraction of water and the potential introduction of pollutants and petro carbons from fracking."

CRY OF THE EARTH, CRY OF THE POOR | SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2021-22
Read it now at www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

A PRAYER FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A NEW BISHOP

Shepherding God

You reveal your way of unfailing love
in the image of the Good Shepherd
who seeks the lost,
shows compassion
knows and is known by the sheep
and lays down his life for them.

We your people of Maitland-Newcastle
are without a bishop to shepherd us.

We ask that your Holy Spirit
who moves through this great south land,
inspire the choice of our new Bishop,
empower his 'yes'
and open our hearts in hospitality and love.
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help pray for us
Mary MacKillop of the Cross pray for us.

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH

We thank everyone who has continued their support for our Parish during these very different times. As cash is deemed a transmission hazard by NSW Health they recommend that donations and payments be made electronically.

There is an online parish payments button on the Parish Website Home page or alternatively you can deposit directly into the Parish Account our details are:
Account Name: CDF 96014 Morisset Parish BSB:062815
Account Number: 00328161 Ref: 5004 2nd Collection or 5004 PG and Giver Number.

WEEKEND ROSTERS

		<u>THIS WEEK</u>	<u>NEXT WEEK</u>
<u>Presiders</u>	9.30	U France	Mass
<u>PROCLAIMER:</u>	9.30	R Hay	L Hutchinson
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	9.30	J Hutchins	J France
<u>UNIVERSAL PRAYER</u>	9.30	J Hutchins	J France
<u>SERVERS</u>	9.30	XXXX	V Paulo
<u>AV:</u>	9.30	T Alexander	U France
<u>SOUND/ VIDEO:</u>	9.30	L & G Hutchinson	L & G Hutchinson
<u>SIGN-IN</u>	9.30	J Hutchins M Foo	H White T Alexander
<u>USHERS</u>	9.30	P Herbert P Melvey	R Hay J France
<u>CLEANING</u>	9.30	COVID TEAM	COVID TEAM

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMINITIES

THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER— 22ND FEBRUARY

SAINT POLYCARP— 23RD FEBRUARY

ASH WEDNESDAY— 2ND MARCH

SAINTS PERPETUA AND FELICITY— 7TH MARCH

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD— 25TH MARCH

PALM SUNDAY— 10TH APRIL

THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER— 14TH APRIL

FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD— 15TH APRIL

PASCHAL VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT— 16TH APRIL

SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION—17TH APRIL

Please pray for those who are sick, in hospital or recovering at home:

Joan Gillett, Bruce Gillett, Reg Callinan, Koby Smith, Patricia Jones.

Please pray for those who have been called to eternal life may they always be in our prayers.

Recently Deceased: Maureen Phillips



PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE BULLETIN

If you would like the parish to pray for a family member who is sick, recently deceased or you would like remembered please call or email the parish office or complete a prayer card for each person and place in the mail box near the parish office door. Cards are available at the back of the church and at the Parish Office.

All prayer requests require permission from a family member or the person. Due to Australian privacy laws.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,

I believe that You

are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment

receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.



Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>





SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Sunday 20 Feb 2022

The Introductory Rites

Gathering

The Lectionary/Roman Missal or a Bible may be placed on a table together with a candle and a cross.

Sign of the Cross

Leader:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All:

Amen.

Greeting

Leader:

Blessed be Jesus who makes us one,
and strengthens us
by the power of his Spirit.

All:

Blessed be God forever.

Introductory Remarks

Leader (in these or similar words):

Friends in Christ,
although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist this day,
we gather in God's name
for when two or more come together
God is always with us.
We worship in union with the whole Church
keeping this day of the Lord holy.

Opening Rite

LITANY OF PRAISE

Leader:

Before listening to the Word of God
let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, you came to call sinners: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you teach us the way to the Father: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you show us compassion and love: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader:

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

All:

Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

God of love
you teach us to be kind to those we do not like
for all people are your children.
Help us to see the good in those we meet
and may your peace always reign in our hearts.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

1 Sm 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

A reading from the first book of Samuel

The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **(R.)**
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. **(R.)**
4. As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Cor 15:45-49

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to Luke.

All:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Lk 6:27-38

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

Reader:

The Gospel of the Lord.

All:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All are seated.

Reflection on the Word

A short period of reflection may be observed.

Q. Do you think it is genuinely possible to live as Jesus calls us to in this gospel passage?

Q. In your life, what would it mean to lend (or give) 'without any hope of return'?

Q. What does it mean to truly be compassionate?

Q. Who are your 'enemies' and what would it take to demonstrate love for them?

Q. Do you know of people who have very little and yet are incredibly generous? What motivates them?

Profession of Faith

Leader:

In union with the whole Church
let us profess our faith.

All:

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the Faithful

Leader: With faithful hearts let us turn to God for all our needs.

Reader: That the Church will be a source of healing and compassion.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That nations will display respect and tolerance for ethnic groups.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who live out their marriage commitment will deepen their love through daily acts of kindness.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who encounter barriers because of difference will meet justice and acceptance.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That as we wait with joyful hope for a new Bishop, our Church of Maitland-Newcastle, we will be cleansed and renewed by the Word of God so that we will be ready, our lamps lit, when a new Bishop is announced.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That we may always be ready to forgive those who treat us badly and not count the cost.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all the sick and housebound will be blessed with knowing God's love, especially those in our community and families.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all who have died will receive the gift of eternal life, especially those in our community and families.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God of kindness and compassion, you are the source of goodness. Hear our prayer and help us to live as you have taught. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

© Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd

The Lord's Prayer

Leader:

At the Saviour's command
and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:

All:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The Concluding Rite

Blessing

Leader:

May the Lord be with us
and protect us
now and for ever.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All:

Amen.

Dismissal

Leader:

Let us go in the peace to love and serve the Lord.

All:

Thanks be to God.

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.