

GOSPEL

Lk 11:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Ask, and it will be given to you.

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come; give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us. And do not put us to the test."

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

 **The Gospel of the Lord.**

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

24 JULY 2022

FOUNDATION OF PRAYER

Like the disciples we find ourselves asking, 'Lord, teach us to pray'. All people of faith are called to pray but how are we to pray? What attitudes are appropriate? Should we be fearful of the living God or trusting and open? The readings for today provide us with some useful orientations. Abraham's pleading for Sodom and Gomorrah is not simply a theoretical concern. Abraham is pleading for the survival of Lot and his family, though he does not mention them specifically. He is prepared to push God's mercy to the limit to save his relatives. His trust in God and his courageous persistence in prayer are rewarded. Similarly, Jesus teaches the disciples that such persistence is the very stuff of the life of faith. Those who seek will find, to those who knock the door will be opened. Abraham knew that the living God was a God of justice and mercy; Jesus goes further to show that the living God is also to be seen as a loving parent, a tireless provider, to be addressed as our Father.

Paul knew that we can have this sort of confidence in God because of what had come about through Jesus' death. Our baptism enables us to share in his saving death and resurrection. On the cross, Jesus has already graciously paid the debt our sin would normally require us to pay. Because of this gift, we can approach God with confidence and trust because the burden of our past has already been taken up by Jesus.



Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Gen 18:20-32

A reading from the book of Genesis

Lord, do not be angry if I speak.

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.'

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' The Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.'

Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No', he replied, 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'

Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

 **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 137:1-3, 6-8. R. v. 3

R. Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, / you have heard the words of my mouth. / Before the angels I will bless you. / I will adore before your holy temple. **R.**

2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love / which excel all we ever knew of you. / On the day I called, you answered; / you increased the strength of my soul. **R.**

3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly / and the haughty he knows from afar. / Though I walk in the midst of affliction / you give me life and frustrate my foes. **R.**

4. You stretch out your hand and save me, / your hand will do all things for me. / Your love, O Lord, is eternal, / discard not the work of your hands. **R.**

SECOND READING

Col 2:12-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

He has made you alive with Christ for he has forgiven all our sins.

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins.

He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

 **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Rom 8:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father. Alleluia!



Sacred Heart Parish Church

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PPC Chair: Mr David McMahon
FC Chair: Mr Anthony Michael
Holy Trinity Principal: Mrs Jillian Rainger - 67224066
Parish Secretary: Peter Turner - 67221103.
Office Hours: Mon 25 July & Fri 29 July - 8am to 1pm
Tues 26 July - 8am to 12pm

PARISH MASS TIMES

Sacred Heart Church Inverell
Saturday 6.00pm (5.30pm from May to August)
Sunday 9.00am
Monday, Tuesday and 1st Saturday 9.30am
Wednesday and Thursday 12 noon
1st Friday Mass and Benediction 12 noon
First Wednesday Anointing Mass 12 noon
McLean Village Each Friday except 1st Friday 11.00am
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday 8.15am - 9.15am
Sunday 8.00am - 8.30am
Tingha St. Francis' Church Saturday 4.00pm
(Saturday 3.30pm from May to August)
Ashford St Patrick's Church 1st & 3rd Sunday 11.00am
Bundarra St Mary of the Angels 2nd & 4th Sun 11.00am
Yetman St Joseph the Worker 5th Sunday 11.30am

Baptism (Saturday only) 11am;
Marriages and Funerals by Appointment
For emergencies please phone 0428-126703



O' Sacrament Most Holy
O' Sacrament Divine.
All Praise and all Thanksgiving,
be every moment Thine...

Prayer to the Most Precious Blood of Jesus

Precious Blood, ocean of divine mercy: Flow upon us!
Precious Blood, most pure offering: Procure us every grace!
Precious Blood, hope and refuge of sinners: Atone for us!
Precious Blood, delight of holy souls: Draw us! Amen.
(St Catherine of Siena)

PARISH SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

JULY - THE HOLY MONTH OF THE MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD

MON 25th	Feast Day of St James, Apostle Rosary Mass	9.00am 9.30am
TUE 26th	Feast Day of Sts Joachim & Anne, Parents of Our Lady Rosary Mass	9.00am 9.30am
WED 27th	Rosary Mass	11.30am 12 Noon
THUR 28th	Rosary Mass	11.30am 12 Noon
FRI 29th	Feast Day of Sts Martha, Mary & Lazarus Rosary Mass McLean Mass	9.00am 9.30am 11.00am
SAT 30th	Vigil Mass	5.30pm
SUN 31st	18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass	9.00am

OUR VISION AND OUR MISSION

We as a PARISH, try to live out our **VISION: To continually form a Christ-centred community based on the Gospel Values expressed through SERVICE in peace, justice and love.**
MISSION: To know Christ more, His life and His teachings. To imbibe Christ's message of love and service. To try to share generously what graces and blessings we have and to be instruments of the Gospel message.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Repose of the soul of Brok Geaney (grandson of Colleen & Bernie Graham); Repose of the souls of Thomas Robbins & Margaret Dickins, Anniversary of Jack Perrett

Other Special Intentions

Recovery of health of Danny Dickins

We Pray for the Recently Deceased & for the Anniversaries of

Patricia Coleman, Bob Kniepp, Carma King (sister of Tony King), Greg Kenny, David McGinty, Kevin Dewberry. **Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Peter Crabb (uncle of Matt Rennie), Beau Zappa, Clare Lockwood, Denise Thomeycroft, Miriam Ballam, Matthew Smith, Eileen Hagan, Margaret Kahler, Lloyd Fleming, Herb McArdle, Bernie Graham and family, Joan Ticehurst, Fr John Willis, Jenny Turner, Emma Donaldson, Tony Starr, Baby Isabel Akhil, Paul Saint, Kerrie O'Keefe, Sr Leo (Josie) Clancy, Rex Parry, Danny Dickins, Katrina Newbiggin, Brian Barker, Denise Taveira, Joanne Essey, Graham Tom, Fred Voight, Agnes Hannigan **and the sick members of our parish whose names are not listed here.**



"How beautiful is the family that recites the Rosary every evening."
- Pope St John Paul II

HOME ROSARY

Tingha Bernie & Colleen Graham
11 Diamond Street
Wednesday 27 July at 4.30pm

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Finance Committee	Mon 25 July 2022	5.30pm
Liturgy Committee	Sat 13 August 2022	8.30am
Pastoral Council	Wed 27 July 2022	5.00pm

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM FOR THE SUPPORT OF YOUR PRIESTS AND UPKEEP OF THE CHURCH

1st Collection: Presbytery for priest support
BSB 082105 Account No. 001023550
Account Name: Sacred Heart Presbytery Inverell Savings Account
2nd Collection: Church for upkeep & maintenance (PGP)
BSB 082105 Account No. 001001010
Account Name: Sacred Heart Parish Inverell
For those on the Planned Giving Program could you please quote your surname and envelope number for the reference.

Pope Francis: Vaccination is an Act of Love "Getting vaccines that are authorised by the respective authorities is an act of love. And helping the majority of people to do so is an act of love. Love for oneself, love for our families and friends, and love for all peoples. [...] Getting vaccinated is a simple yet profound way to care for one another, especially the most vulnerable."

SAFETY PLAN FOR OUR PARISH If you prefer to receive Holy Communion on the tongue, please wait until all other parishioners have been before approaching the altar. **If you are unwell please stay at home. If you require Home Communion contact the office.**

JULY 24TH - SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C (GRANDPARENT SUNDAY)

"When you say the Our Father, God's ear is next to your lips."

- St André Bessette

A friendly reminder: Please maintain a respectful atmosphere of reverence before and after each Mass so those praying may do so without distraction. Any conversation should be conducted quietly. Also, please remember to turn off your mobile devices.

"By devoutly assisting at Holy Mass you render the greatest homage possible to the Sacred Humanity of Our Lord."
St Leonard

ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER FOR JULY
Suzette Dizon, Grace Almoite, Nhel Gascon

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly - Sun 24 July

"Do not cast me off in the time of old age; do not forsake me when my strength fails." Psalm 71:9
We Join with the Holy Father in praying for all grandparents and the elderly this weekend. May they always be honoured, appreciated and loved, and their lives treasured and treated with respect by members of society, especially those in government and the medical professions.



Prayer for Grandparents / Elderly
(Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI)

Lord Jesus, You were born of the Virgin Mary, the daughter of Saints Joachim and Anne. Look with love on grandparents the world over. Protect them! They are a source of enrichment for families, for the Church and for all of society. Support them as they grow older. May they continue to be for their families strong pillars of Gospel faith, guardians of noble domestic ideals, living treasuries of sound religious traditions. Make them teachers of wisdom and courage, that they may pass on to future generations the fruits of their mature human and spiritual experience.
Lord Jesus, help families and society to value the presence and role of grandparents. May they never be ignored or excluded, but always encounter respect and love. Help them to live serenely and to feel welcomed in all the years of life which you give them. Mary, Mother of all the living, keep grandparents constantly in your care, accompany them on their earthly pilgrimage, and by your prayers, grant that all families may one day be reunited in our heavenly homeland, where you await all humanity for the great embrace of life without end. Amen.

Centacare NENW is seeking applications for up to two Non-Executive Directors, location is Armidale, job type is permanent—part time (NED) Applications close at 5 pm on Friday 29th July 2022. Please go to the link for further information and how to apply
<https://centacarenenw.elmotalent.com.au/careers/external/job/view/324>



Celebrating a global return to global missions:
Once again Australian Catholics are being offered deep re-engagement with our sisters and brothers globally. For more information please visit the following link:
<https://psalms.org.au/event/celebrate-psalms-return-global-missions/>

Roster	Greeters	Projector	Readers	Commentator	Communion Minister	Counters
23 July-Sat 5.30pm	Volunteers	J Kelly	R Breen	P Armstrong	Volunteer	
24 July-Sun 9am	Volunteers	P Girle	B McGrath	C Bruse	Volunteer	B Baldwin & J Frater
30 July-Sat 5.30pm	Volunteers	Sr Coral	J Monie	N McCosker	Volunteer	
31 July-Sun 9am	Volunteers	R McGregor	D McMahon	M Robinson	Volunteer	G Chie & G Fleming

First Communion will occur on Sun 21 August at the 9am Mass. Please keep all the children making their First Communion and their families in your prayers.

Reflection What is prayer? The best definition of prayer is that it is a lifting of the mind and the heart to God. Prayer is a dialogue. Man breaks silence in two ways: a dialogue with his fellow man and a dialogue with God. Prayer is a lifting of the heart and mind to God; notice we said nothing about the emotions. Prayer is in the intellect, in the will, and in the heart; it is embracing a love of truth with a resolve and determination to grow in love through an act of the will.

Why should we pray? Why breathe? We have to take in fresh air and get rid of bad air; we have to take in new power and get rid of old weaknesses. We pray because we are orchestras and always need to tune-up. Just as a battery sometimes runs down and needs to be charged, so we have to be renewed in spiritual vigour. Our Blessed Lord said, "Without Me you can do nothing." The person who thinks only of himself says only prayers of petition; the one who thinks of his neighbour says prayers of intercession; whoever thinks only of loving and serving God says prayers of abandonment to God's will, and this is the prayer of the saints. The degree of our devotion and love depend upon the value that we put upon a thing: St Augustine says, "Amor pondus meum"; love is the law of gravitation. All things have their centre. The schoolboy finds it hard to study, because he does not love knowledge as much as athletics. Business executives find it hard to think of heavenly pleasures because they are dedicated to the filling of their "barn." The carnal-minded find it difficult to love the spirit because their treasure lies in the flesh.

The essence of prayer is not the effort to make God give us something. Prayer, then, is not just informing God of our needs, for God already knows them. Rather, the purpose of prayer is to give God the opportunity to bestow the gifts He will give us when we are ready to accept them. One can be impolite to God, too, by absorbing all the conversation, and by changing the words of Scripture from "Speak, Lord Thy servant hears" to "Listen, Lord, Thy servant speaks." God has things to tell us that will enlighten us - we must wait for Him to speak.

The Lord hears us more readily than we suspect; it is our listening to God that needs to be improved. When people complain that their prayers are not heard by God, what often has happened is that they did not wait to hear God's answer. We become like that which we love: If one loves the material, one becomes like the material; if one loves the spiritual, one is converted into it in his outlook, his ideals, and his aspirations. Given this relationship between love and prayer, it is easy to understand why some souls say: "I have no time to pray."

It is never true to say that we have no time to meditate; the less one thinks of God, the less time there will always be for God. The time we have for anything depends on how much we value it. Thinking determines the uses of time; time does not rule over thinking. The problem of spirituality is never, then, a question of time; it is a problem of thought. For it does not require much time to make us saints; it requires only much love.

Venerable Servant of God, Archbishop Fulton J Sheen