

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9 July 2023



*Readings for
this week:*

Zechariah 9:9-10
Romans 8:9,11-13
Matthew 11:25-30



*Readings for
next Sunday:*

Isaiah 55:10-11
Romans 8:18-23
Matthew 13:1-23



Liturgical Jottings

Grace before Meals

In the gospel we have five examples of Jesus praying a blessing before meals. “Christians, whether alone or with companions at table, say grace before and after meals to thank God for his goodness in providing their daily food. This practice is also a reminder that the Lord Jesus combined the sacrament of the Eucharist with the ritual of a family meal and showed himself to his disciples as their risen Lord in the breaking of the bread. As they gather at table and see in the food they share a sign of God’s blessings on them, Christians should be mindful of the poor, who lack even the bare minimum of food that those at table may have in abundance. By their moderation they will therefore try to provide help for the hungry and as a sign of Christ’s love will on occasion invite the poor to their own table, in keeping with the words of Christ recorded in the Gospel (Luke 14:13-14).” Book of Blessings, nn 1030-31

This book gives four plans and within them seasonal variants for Advent, Christmas, Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

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Looking at the Gospel

The readings for today engage us in a reflection on the nature of the Trinity, as well as the ways that we are enriched by each of the divine Persons. The gospel acknowledges the sovereignty of God. This is followed immediately by mention of the handing over of all things to Jesus, making him a kind of vice-regent of God. Paul speaks of the Spirit, clearly a divine reality, but different from Jesus and the one called God. According to Paul, this Spirit is the Spirit of Jesus and the Spirit of God, implying that somehow both Jesus and God claim the Spirit. It is this Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead, and it is this same Spirit who dwells in Christians.

The grace of this Triune God touches our lives in some ways that are tangible and other ways that demand faith. The most tangible manifestation of God is Jesus himself. God has been revealed to us through this Jesus. While Jesus was a tangible person, our accepting of him as the manifestation of God requires faith, and this faith is no easier today than it was at the time of Jesus himself.

The overriding disposition of these readings is humility. Jesus, the human manifestation of the divine, is meek and humble, and the true disciple is called to be humble. A second disposition is placed before us – grateful praise. In the psalm we praise and bless God; we extol God’s holy name. In Jesus we have known the tender touch of God, and we are grateful. © Dianne Bergant CSA

Did You Know?

In the ancient Middle East, leaders rode horses into war, but rode donkeys in peace. Solomon rode a donkey on the day he was recognized as the new king of Israel (1 Kings 1:33). Other instances of leaders riding donkeys are in Judges 5:10; 10:4; 12:14; and 2 Samuel 16:2. A donkey in Zechariah 9:9 fits the description of a king who would be “righteous and having salvation, humble.” Rather than riding to conquer, this king would enter in peace.


Saint of the Week: St Benedict, 11 July

He was a founder of monks for whom he wrote set of rules to guide the communal life of monasteries. The Rule of St Benedict has much to say: it lifts our eyes up to the stars but keeps our feet firmly on the ground; it calls us to perfection but keeps us sane. He died 547

On the Lighter Side

There are many forms of Grace before Meals from scripture, classical literature, traditional prayer books, free and spontaneous praying. Some are set to music, some rhyme and a few are humorous; e.g. “Lord, bless this bunch as they munch their lunch.” Websites abound with all varieties.



	Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving	
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Maria Assunta Carrafa
	Our sick and their carers	Santo Vraca, Josie Anderson, Bernie Maher, Bill Moroney, May Turvey,

DAY, TIME, DATE	COMMENTATOR	READER	GOSPEL PROCESSION	GIFT PRESENTATION	SPECIAL MINISTERS	SCREEN OPERATOR/ORGAN
Sat 6:00 pm 15 th July	Carol Coulston	Mary Vraca	S Gregg	TBC	N/A	Mary Gale
Sun 10:30 am 16 th July	Rob Miller	Denice Bourke	D Turvey	A Basile M Sgammotta	Anna Ciavarella	Mary Gale Trish Warnett
Sun 10:30 am 23 rd July	Carol Coulston	Anne-Marie Nihill	D Phelan	S Gregg M Vraca	Denice Bourke	Debbie Worm Trish Warnett
Sat 6:00 pm 15 th July	Carol Coulston	Shelia Gregg	P Crombie	TBC	N/A	Mary Gale
Sun 10:30 am 30 th July	Rob Miller	Mary Gale	D Corrigan	Steve & Simone De Lai	Ross Kelly	Debbie Worm Trish Warnett

Two Week Mass Timetable Week commencing 10 July

Weekday Mass

Mon 10th July No Mass
 Tue 11th July No Mass
 Wed 12th July 9:15 am Anointing Mass
 Thur 13th July No Mass
 Fri 14th July 9:15 am Mass

Weekend Mass

Sat 15th July 6:00 pm Mass
 Sun 16th July 10:30 am Mass

Weekday Mass

Mon 17th July No Mass
 Tue 18th July No Mass
 Wed 19th July 9:15 am Mass
 Thur 6th July No Mass
 Fri 20th July 9:15 am Mas

Weekend Mass

Sat 21st July No Mass
 Sun 22nd July 10:30 am

Reconciliation 5 August

**"it's those with a childlike heart
who have the deepest insights"
FR MARK DE BATTISTA**

This week on the Journey (Ep 518)

On the Journey this week: Fr Mark De Battista says when it comes to faith and knowledge of God, it's those with a childlike heart who have the deepest insights. Mother Hilda compares King David's harp playing to the music of Jesus in our heart. Plus, Pete Gilmore's faith testimony, Trish McCarthy on the gift of water, the bush deacon, Josh Clayton on why tolling bells unite us, and more great music!

Visit www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime

SAVE THE DATE SATURDAY 29TH JULY 2023

We will have a special Mass at 5pm to celebrate Trish's 90th Birthday and show our appreciation for the amazing support she has provided to our Parish for many years.

After Mass we will all gather together as a Parish to celebrate and to share good food. If everyone could bring a casserole or similar to share.

There is a list in the Narthex for your attendance and what you will be bring. Please join with me to celebrate our beautiful Trish.

Fr John.

Rosario italiano

Il Rosario italiano si terrà venerdì 14 luglio alle ore 14 in Chiesa. Tutti sono invitati a partecipare.

Italian Rosary

The Italian Rosary will be held on Friday 14 July at 2pm in the Church. All are welcome to attend.

Themes for 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

<https://young-catholics.com>

The readings for the 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A encourage us to praise God for all of the blessings in our lives. The first reading is a song of praise for the coming Kingdom of God. The second reading tells us to live by the Spirit, for the Spirit will bring life to our mortal bodies through Christ Jesus. And in the gospel, Jesus praises the Father and then invites us to follow him, for he helps us when we are stressed and overwhelmed.

Revelation to the Childlike: Jesus praises the Father for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to those who approach God with childlike simplicity and humility, highlighting the importance of having a receptive and humble heart.

Divine Wisdom and Knowledge: Jesus acknowledges that true wisdom and knowledge come from the Father and are revealed to those whom He chooses, emphasizing the dependence on God's revelation for understanding spiritual truths. Invitation to Find Rest: Jesus extends an invitation to all who are burdened and weary to come to Him for rest, offering solace and relief to those who seek refuge in Him.

Gentle and Humble Heart: Jesus describes Himself as gentle and humble in heart, portraying His compassionate and approachable nature that provides comfort and support to those who come to Him.

Learning from Jesus: Jesus invites His disciples to take His yoke upon themselves and learn from Him, illustrating the importance of being His student, growing in knowledge, and finding guidance and rest in Him.

Easy Yoke and Light Burden: Jesus assures His followers that His yoke is easy and His burden is light, suggesting that the path of discipleship with Him is not burdensome but rather filled with grace and empowerment.

Tatura Hospital & Parkvilla Aged Care Facility Ladies Auxiliary

The Ladies Auxiliary is inviting all Sacred Heart Parishioners to attend the AGM on Thursday 27th July at 2pm in St Mary's Hall.

Guest Speak will be Claire Ewart-Kennedy from GV Health Foundation. Afternoon team will be provided.

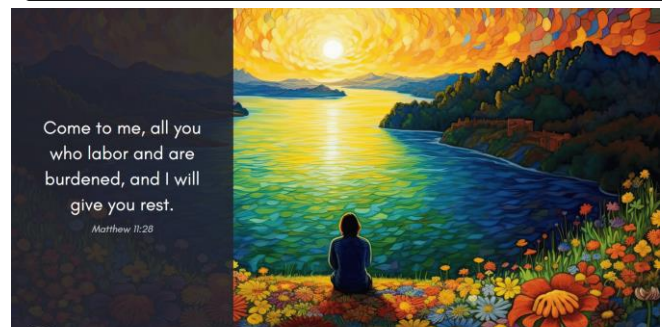
Reflection Questions for 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

- Should I turn to God immediately when I face difficult times, or should I try to rely on myself first?
- Am I more inclined to depend solely on my own strength and abilities, or do I seek God's guidance and assistance from the beginning?
- Can I recall a time when I was struggling, and the Lord came to my assistance? How did I experience the presence and help of the Lord during that time?
- Who in my life needs me to be the hands and feet of Christ today, helping them with their heavy load? How can I extend the love, compassion, and assistance of Christ to them?
- In what ways can I deepen my trust and reliance on God's strength? How can I cultivate a deeper trust and reliance on God's strength in my daily life?
- Are there areas where I tend to rely more on myself than on God? How can I invite Jesus to share my yoke and lighten my burdens?
- How can I actively seek rest and renewal in Jesus? Am I intentional about seeking solace in Jesus and surrendering my burdens to Him?
- How can I prioritize finding rest and hope in Jesus' presence, trusting that He will provide the strength and guidance I need?

Monsignor Peter Jeffrey 60th Anniversary Celebration

Mary's Parish warmly invites you to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for the 60th Anniversary of the Ordination to the Priesthood of Monsignor Peter John Jeffrey on Thursday the 27th of July 2023 at 5:00 pm at St Brendan's Catholic Church, Shepparton. At the conclusion of the Mass we also invite you to join us for dinner at the GV Hotel. The Dinner is Reserved seating and booking is required, please use the Eventbrite link to book. RSVPs for the dinner close on Tuesday the 18th of July.

<https://monsignor.eventbrite.com>



Acknowledgement to Country

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of year. We pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside First Nation Australians in truth, justice, and reconciliation.