

Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

23 August 2020



*Readings for
this week:*

Isaiah 22:19-23

Romans 11:33-36

Matthew 16:13-20



*Readings for next
Sunday:*

Jeremiah 20:7-9

Romans 12:1-2

Matthew 16:21-27



Liturgical Jottings

Solemn Blessings

Every Mass concludes with the final blessing and dismissal. The Blessing may be simple or solemn. The Roman Missal contains solemn blessings for seasons, feasts and sacraments: Advent, Christmas, New Year, Epiphany, Passion time, Easter time, Ascension, Holy Spirit, Ordinary Time 1-6, Blessed Virgin Mary, Ss Peter and Paul, Apostles, All Saints, Dedication of a Church, Confirmation, Ordination of Priests, Deacons and Bishops, Marriage, Blessing of Abbots, Abbesses, Virgins, Religious and Masses for the Dead. In Australia we have two more for the Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and Australia Day. These may also be used in the Divine Office and Liturgies of the Word at the discretion of the celebrant.

Looking at the Readings

During the Season of Ordinary Time the first reading and the Gospel have a common theme or link or the first is the prophecy and the gospel is the fulfilment of the prophet's words. Today the link between the first reading and Gospel passage is the key: The Key of David and the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven are symbols of conferring authority. The one that holds the key is entrusted with the exercise of authority for the service of God's people. God does the conferral, Eliakim and Peter receive the authority to rule the earthly kingdom (Israel) and heavenly kingdom on earth (the Church) respectively.

Simon Peter is the Apostle who first speaks out: "You are the Christ, the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus blesses Peter. As God confers the keys, God also reveals the mysteries to and endows Peter with faith, love and strength. This passage is important to understand the authority of the emergent church, which is both divine and human. Peter, which name means rock, is the rock on which Jesus will build the church and Peter will later lead. It is also a turning point in the life of the Apostles knowing Christ and for Jesus turning his focus on his impending suffering and death. The word "Church" occurs in the Gospels twice, both in direct speech of our Lord, here and in Matt 18:16. Jesus second question is addressed to all of us: "But who do you say that I am?"

Keys of the Kingdom

Keys are found only once in the Hebrew Scriptures, twice in the Gospels and twice in the book of Revelations. Each time they are used metaphorically and not as a physical device to unlock a door. Keys have been around for centuries, but certainly not common in Old Testament times. Pegs were precursor to keys, a primitive device to secure doors and gates. Prophet Isaiah also mentions a peg in today's reading as a securing device. In recent time keys are used symbolically at 21st birthdays, official welcome to a city, and as a token in the transfer of a car or a new home.

Quote of the week

What then is time? If no one asks me, I know what it is. If I wish to explain it to him who asks, I do not know.

Saint Augustine, Confessions Book XI Ch XIV

On the Lighter Side

In searching for keys in the bible, my search program also found donkeys and monkeys. Donkeys are mentioned 162 times and even a talking donkey in Numbers 22:30-33. Monkeys are mentioned only twice but no turkeys were found.

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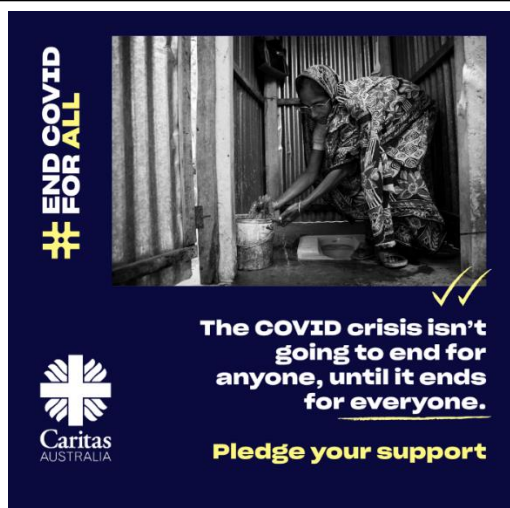


	Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving	Concetto Gallo, Vincenzo Cassetta, Monica Tagliabue
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Mary Smith, Tom Deane
	Our sick and their carers	Lewis Noonan

9:30 am On-Line Mass Sacred Heart

During the six week lockdown period in Victoria you will be able to Celebrate Mass with Fr John Paul on Sundays from 9:30 am via our website.

<http://www.sacredheartparishtatura.com.au/>



As COVID-19 continues to impact parts of Australia, millions of people around the world are also dealing with the impacts of the virus. Many of these communities were already facing poor sanitation, overcrowding and limited access to healthcare. How can you combat COVID-19 without access to adequate sanitation and healthcare?

Caritas Australia has joined churches and aid agencies for #EndCOVIDForAll, a pledge of support that will be taken to government to show our support for vulnerable communities, because **it's not over until it's over for everyone**. For more information on #EndCOVIDForAll or to sign the pledge go to www.caritas.org.au/end-covid-for-all

Mary can teach us how to be united with the Heart of Jesus

Mary welcomed Jesus into her heart and it became a peaceful dwelling for the divine. There are times when our hearts resemble a divided house with many rooms: one for work, one for prayer, one for human relations, another for relaxation, etc. Each one well defined so that we leave one and enter another, forgetting the one we left a moment ago. Mary, on the other hand, resembles a unified house, where the place of prayer, work, rest or any activity are carried out in this unique environment of constant relationship with God.

To continue reading

<http://popesprayerusa.net/2020/08/10/mary-can-teach-us-united-heart-jesus/>

People of compassion: A message from Archbishop Peter A Comensoli

'The word compassion has two parts to it: 'com' and 'passion'. Com, in its Latin, means 'with' and 'passio' means 'suffer'.

To have compassion is to suffer with, and to be able to reach out to those in need. I'm sure you have that sense of our circumstances that this moment'. In his latest message to the faithful, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli stands before the icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and asks us to reflect on what it means to be people of compassion during times of suffering. Go to Youtube to watch the video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qP8irm2Ppeo&feature=emb_logo

Names for the Bulletin and Prayers of the Faithful

Please email tatura@cdos.org.au if you would like to have an anniversary included in the bulletin or if you would like us to pray for someone who is sick. Please ensure you have the person's permission first to have them added to the bulletin and prayers of the faithful.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future".
Jeremiah 29:11