



St Anthony's Parish Picton

Bargo - Balmoral - Buxton - Couridjah -

Douglas Park - Lakesland - Menangle -

Picton - Pheasants Nest - Tahmoor -

Thirlmere - Wilton - Yanderra

Fr Peter Tien
Parish Priest



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time —YEAR B

Parish Bulletin

Sunday 22 August 2021

FIRST READING: Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18

We will serve the Lord God, because he is our God.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God.

Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

GOSPEL: John 6:60-69

Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the words of everlasting life.

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?

'It is the spirit that gives life,
the flesh has nothing to offer.

The words I have spoken to you are spirit
and they are life.

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

WEEKEND MASS TIMES:

St Anthony's Church - Tahmoor

Saturday Vigil - 5.00 pm

Sunday - 7.30 am & 9.30 am

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Tuesday - 5.00 pm— NO ADORATION

5.30 pm— NO MASS

St Bartholomew, apostle

Wednesday - 8.30 am— NO MASS

Thursday - 8.30 am— NO MASS

Friday - 8.30 am— NO MASS

St Monica

Reconciliation (Confession)

Not currently available.

Adoration: Tuesday: Not this week

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday & Thursday

9.00a.m. - 3.00p.m.

Parish Phone 4683 2230

Email: picton@dow.org.au

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) **Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its
boast. The humble shall hear and
be glad. (R.)
2. The Lord turns his face against the
wicked to destroy their remem-
brance from the earth.
The Lord turns his eyes to the just
and his ears to their appeal. (R.)
3. They call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their dis-
tress.
The Lord is close to the broken-
hearted; those whose spirit is
crushed he will save. (R.)



YEAR of SAINT JOSEPH

“Show yourself a father, and guide us in the path of life”

DECEMBER 8, 2020 - DECEMBER 8, 2021

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH (POPE FRANCIS)

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary! To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED:

Lord grant them eternal peace & joy and to their families and friends strength and comfort

ANNIVERSARY:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Don O'Brien (former principal of St Anthony's Primary School)

PRAY FOR THE SICK John Bell, Marie Darlington, Christine Jupe, Graeme Menser, Ross Spirou, Lesley Thompson, Mauro Mariano, Melony Cox, Joanne McMahon, Daniel Clarke, Margaret Brown, Lesley Gardiner, James McNeil, Ian Macnamara, Stephanie Macnamara, Elizabeth Linsell

READERS: THIS WEEK

NEXT WEEK

VIGIL:

7.30AM:

9.30AM:

CLEANERS:

FLOWERS:

SACRISTY:

DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG MASS ONLINE For all of the online Mass options- please visit the DOW website <https://dow.sh/dailymass>

NEXT WEEK READINGS:

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time —Year B

Deut 4:12, 6-8; James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

SUNDAY 21, B. HOLMILY – Fr Peter

The Gospel this weekend concludes the teaching of Jesus on ‘the bread of life.’

‘I am the bread of life that has come down from heaven. He who eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread I shall give is my flesh for the life of the world.’

Those words challenged the disciples to their bones! ‘How can this man give us his flesh to eat!’ And not fully understanding the teaching, some chose to leave him, turning their back on to him. Jesus respected their decision and their choice! The same God respects every choice a person makes!

He respects the choice that we make for our everyday living, for our journey of life!

During the pandemic and the lockdown, we have choices to make for our own sake and that of our family!

In the spiritual area, we too have choices to make for our faith and spiritual life. If we choose not to pray on Sunday, (due to being lazy for example), our spiritual life will get poorer and suffer due to our own choice and decision!

‘I am the bread of life!’

Jesus is the author of life and life nourishing Lord! If we come to him, get connected to him through prayers, our life will be nourished and supported!

Like any loving father on earth, God a loving Father wants best things for his children. He wants everyone to come to the fulness of life in heaven when our life on earth is over by following Jesus the way, the truth and the life. But Jesus forces no one to accept and follow him! The choice is up to each person to make!

Seeing that some of the disciples leaving, Jesus turned to the twelve and said, ‘will you also leave me?’

‘No,’ they responded. Peter and the twelve remained with Jesus! They recognised and came to believe that only Jesus had the message of eternal life.

Due to pandemic time with the lockdown, we can't physically gather to pray and to celebrate Mass in church on Sunday! But no one can stop us to pray from home ‘the Our Father’ or ‘Hail Mary’ or an act of contrition for the forgiveness of sin. Those prayers keep us connected one to another with God as the Father of the family of faith.

Some even wonder ‘where is God in all this? Why didn’t he do something about it?’

God is always present to us and is with us always. He never abandons us even for a second. He knows what’s going on! He knows our complaints and suffering.

For the Covid-19, he has done something about it, I guess, but still some people out there do not believe it! He has done something about it through scientists, through health workers, through the government; and continues to do something about it through the vaccine!

This is a testing time: a testing time to our faith, to our trust in God’s goodness and kindness, to our devotion.

Most of us - cradle Catholics - have inherited the faith from parents and grandparents! But time will come, and it is now, when an inherited faith is no longer enough. We need to make the inherited faith our own with our own words, devotion and actions.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL (Sunday 21, year B)

Leader:

Let us now bring our needs before our loving God, trusting that he will hear our prayers, let us pray:

Reader:

We pray for Pope Francis, bishop Brian and all the Christian leaders, that they may be true mirrors of Christ’s loving presence, inspiring others to do good. **We pray to the Lord.**

For those who are troubled in their faith, that like Peter they may come to trust the words of Christ.

We pray to the Lord.

For married couples and their children, that they may respect each other and grow together in mutual love. **We pray to the Lord.**

For the sick and the homebound of the parish, that God may lighten their burden and comfort them with His saving presence. **We pray to the Lord.**

For ourselves that, as we receive Christ in the Eucharist, we may enter deeply into the mystery that makes us one with Him. **We pray to the Lord.**

For the children of this Parish who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, that they may always strive to have a close relationship with Jesus in the Eucharist. **We pray to the Lord.**

Leader:

God our heavenly Father, you sent us the living bread from heaven. Grant that we may live each moment for you, and stay with the One who has the message of eternal life.

This we ask through Christ our Lord.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES are now available for collection from the foyer of the church.

(When Masses resume)

If you are not already in planned giving and would like to contribute to support the parish, please contact the parish office.

Giving can be done via the envelope system or by direct debit or credit card.

AN INVITATION TO JOIN ELECTRONIC PARISH

PLANNED GIVING Given that some parishioners are unable to attend Mass in our church, many who support our parish planned giving envelope program have asked how they can continue to financially support the parish. So, we respectfully encourage all parishioners to join our electronic parish planned giving program to help us ensure that we limit the financial pressure this current situation will impose on our parish.

Please visit <https://www.dow.org.au/plannedgiving/> to learn of the two simple ways you can give to our parish electronically.

Importantly, we are mindful that some of our parishioners will sadly be experiencing a change in their financial circumstances. Please contact the Parish Office 4683 2230, or picton@dow.org.au if you need to decrease/discontinue your planned giving contribution, but mainly to let us know how we can support you.

QR CHECK-INS: If you do not have a smartphone, there is an alternative – Service NSW is launching personalised check-in cards.

The cards contain a unique QR code that holds a person’s registered contact details.

When they attend a venue, a staff member can scan the card to register their attendance and details, rather than having them fill out a form. The cards are available from Service NSW online, or by calling 13 77 88

If you have planned giving envelope **No.68**, could you please contact the parish office or let Fr Peter know, thank you

Diocese of Wollongong church buildings are NOT OPEN for private prayer
Churches can be opened only for:
Masses, Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms and Reconciliation

MASS ON T.V.
As all Masses in the area have been cancelled due to the recent COVID restrictions—Mass can be watched every week on Sunday morning at 6.00 am on Channel 10

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