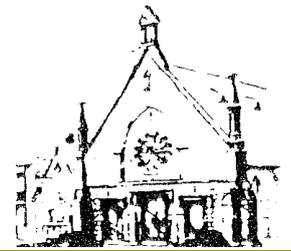




ST. BEDE'S AND ST. JAMES'



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year A Sunday 29th January 2017

St James' Church,

2 Woolley Street,
Glebe

Weekday Masses

Wednesday &
Friday: 9am
Sat: 8.30am

Sunday Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 6pm
5pm (Standard Time)
Sunday: 9.30am
(Tongan Choir: 4th Sunday)

Confession (Reconciliation)

Saturday at 5pm (St. James)

St Bede's Church

43 Pymont Street,
Pymont

Sunday Mass Times

8am and 11am

Sacramental Dates for 2017:

First Confession: Friday, 31st March

(Catechesis sessions: Sundays after 9:30am Mass in School Hall on 3 preceding Sundays)

First Holy Communion: Sunday 18th June

(Catechesis sessions: Sundays after 9:30am Mass in School Hall on 4 preceding Sundays)

Confirmation: 7pm, Friday 10th November

Parish Priest:

Father Anthony Walsh OP

Email: anthony.walsh@sydneycatholic.org

Phone: 9660 9839 ext 21

St James: 2 Woolley Street, Glebe

St Bede: 43 Pymont Street, Pymont

Phone: 9660 1407

Email: info@stjames-stbede.org.au

Web: www.stjames-stbede.org.au

Mail: PO Box 22, Glebe 2037

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9am–3pm

Parish Secretary: Ms Brooke Foye

Email: info@stjames-stbede.org.au

Phone: 9660 1407

St James School Principal

Mrs Enrica Bova

Email: enrica.bova@syd.catholic.edu.au

Phone: 9692 0870

Blessed are the poor in spirit

Who on earth are the 'poor in spirit'? These words of Jesus may puzzle us. They have no ready parallel in the Old Testament. Nor would any pagan reader of Matthew's Gospel in the late first century have understood this strange term. Who on earth will inherit the kingdom of heaven? As Christians, long familiar with the Gospels, we may think we have the answer - it's humility, isn't it? The uniquely Christian virtue missed by the ancient philosophers, the 'wise' who, St Paul tells the Corinthians, are shamed by God's choice of 'those whom the world thinks common and contemptible'. But while this is true, it may not get us far. What is the humility which Jesus here pronounces blessed? We won't find an answer if we think Our Lord goes on to announce a series of disparate rewards for disparate characters: one thing for gentlefolk; another thing for mourners; for those moved at the plight of the oppressed; for the innocent of heart; and so on. What, though, if Jesus here pronounces God's one blessing, not on this or that group of people, but on His one people, His Church, as they remain faithful to His calling and mission? Christian humility will be a life that is marked by mercy rather than retribution, endurance even under persecution, gentleness, and the resolute search for peace and justice made possible by innocence of heart.

What Jesus teaches in the beatitudes is in fact the way of life that He Himself already lives by the power of the Holy Spirit. We shall understand how that power enables a certain kind of poverty when we reflect on the Divine Pity that took on flesh and suffered for love of sinners. This is the humility that thinks no discomfort, no hard truth, too high a price for the dignity of others. Humility gets its hands dirty, gets down on hands and knees if need be, so that others can stand tall. This is the humility of the prophet, the healer, the man or woman of persistent prayer. This episode in Gospels recalls how the hidden God once spoke to Moses from the cloud over Mount Sinai. God then gave Moses the commandments, a way of life

and freedom for Israel. What we have here isn't a replacement for that way of life. Jesus tells us, rather, what that life costs in an evil world, and so how God blesses us for our fidelity to that way of life. In this sense, it looks forward to the cross and to the resurrection of Christ. The beatitudes assure us that as we share in His Passion, so shall we also share in His resurrection to eternal life.

It's surely best, then, not to translate these beatitudes by 'Happy are'. Those who are cursed and persecuted are rarely happy about it (and if they really enjoyed it, would you want to share eternity with them?). Those who mourn cannot be happy now by definition. Let's not gloss over the hardship to be endured by virtue of God's present blessing. Indeed, it is precisely God's blessing that is the well-spring of our hope.

God spoke and it came to be. God's word is always creative of what it promises. To be blessed by God is to be given new life, graced, enabled for this life of discipleship, and made ready to enjoy the final and lasting bliss of heaven, that kingdom where we shall know only the love of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This is why the great African theologian, St Augustine of Hippo, matched up the beatitudes with the effects of the Holy Spirit foretold by Isaiah. Our Gospel announces the life of grace. The same divine charity both makes for the life of the virtues in adversity and for the life of glory in eternity. One blessing, one reward if you like, for the one way of life.

It matters that Our Lord promises to satisfy those who hunger for justice, comfort for those who mourn: suffering, though real, is redeemed, healed or redressed. When the merciful receive mercy, they in some sense receive what they forwent. If we are to sacrifice real human goods, we must know that this is not ultimately at the expense of our humanity. The different promises reveal all that we hope for in Christ. By sharing in His humility we hope to share in His divine glory.

Richard Finn OP

St. Bede's Sesquicentenary Celebrations

The book launch of Fr. Colin Fowler's *The Catholic Community of Saint Bede (1867-2017)* will be held at St. Bede's Church on Sunday, 5th February at 3pm. Historian Edmund Campion will be launching Fr. Colin's book as the opening event of the 150th anniversary celebrations of St. Bede's. All Parishioners are warmly invited to attend.

NOTICES

SACRAMENTAL DATES

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FATHER COLIN FOWLER'S BOOK LAUNCH

We need volunteers on the day to help with hospitality - setting up and serving afternoon tea and some champagne. We also need your generosity by providing something savoury or sweet for afternoon tea. Please let us know what you can bring so we can ensure we have enough to share. You can drop goods off after 8am or 11 am Mass in the Parish Rooms. We look forward to celebrating all Father Colin's hard work in researching and writing the history of the parish with you. You are all warmly invited to attend the event in St Bede's Church on February 5th at 3pm. Please contact Brooke in the Parish Office on 9660 1407 (Tuesday, Thursday Fridays from 9am -3pm) if you have any questions or comments you wish to pass on to the committee.

AQUINAS SYMPOSIUM 2017

The Dominican friars of Sydney invite you explore the wisdom of St. Thomas Aquinas at the 2017 Aquinas Symposium to be held at Notre Dame University and St. Benedict's Church, Broadway on Saturday February 4th. It will feature presentations by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, Fr Anthony Walsh OP and more. The cost is by donation which includes lunch, morning and afternoon tea. RSVP is required. Please email Fr Thomas Azzi by February 1st to register: aquinas.symposium@gmail.com.

FR WIM'S NEXT PILGRIMAGE

"Of Celtic Saints, English Martyrs and Aussie Links" is the name of Fr Wim Hoekstra's next pilgrimage - to Ireland, Scotland and England, departing 25th September and returning 25th October. Some of the saints we'll be following are John Henry Newman, Patrick, Oliver Plunkett, Catherine McAuley, Columba, Mary Mackillop, Hilda of Whitby, Venerable Bede, Thomas Becket and English Martyrs; places visited include Birmingham, Glastonbury, Dublin, Knock, Iona, Holy Island (Lindisfarne), York, London, and Canterbury. Information afternoon—12 March@ 2.30pm in Downey Room, St Michael's Offices, 1-3 Chapel Lane, Baulkham Hills. Brochures available via e-mail to Fr Wim Hoekstra at wimh@parishhofbaulkhamhills.org.au or PO Box 1501, Baulkham Hills NSW 1755.

POSITION VACANT - ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC PARISH, LIVERPOOL.

Applications are being considered for the position of Parish Business Manager. The position is part time, 4 days per week. For further information please visit www.catholicjobsonline.com.au or by contacting Anthony Spata, REACH Human Resources, on [0402 210 055](tel:0402210055). Applications close Monday, 13 February 2017.

ST BENEDICT'S MONASTERY - 2017 CHRISTIAN MEDITATION AND RENEWAL DAYS.

You are invited to four introduction and renewal days at St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia Tel: **9653 1159** Sundays: **19 February, 21 May, 20 August** and **19 November Arrival:** 10am for 10:30am Presentations, Introduction to Christian Meditation, two periods of meditation, Eucharistic Celebration and information exchange. **Conclusion:** around 3pm. Books and CDs are available for sale, BYO picnic lunch, tea and coffee provided. Self-catering overnight accommodation may be available in the monastery guest house. Contact **Br Terry** on **0438 282 318**. Enquires to Ann Bergman: anniebergman@hotmail.com or **9498 2625** or Ann Lomas: atlomas@bigpond.com or **9456 4775**.

CONSIDERING A ROME PILGRIMAGE? FREE INFORMATION SEMINARS AVAILABLE.

Domus Australia in conjunction with the Sydney Archdiocese is running a number of tours to Rome all throughout the year. Find out more about these competitively priced tour packages (inclusions, itinerary, dates, etc) at one of two complimentary seminars (no obligation) to be held on Level 8 at Polding Centre: **Wednesday, 1 February 2017** (5:30-7pm), and **Friday, 24 February 2017** (11am-12:30pm). Complimentary pilgrimage kits are available for attendees (plus a chance to **WIN a trip for 2 to Rome** joining one of the Rome Pilgrimages or Encore Rome Pilgrimages of your choice!). All welcome to attend at no obligation. To book your place please **RSVP** by phoning **1800 753 959** or email pilgrimage@sydneycatholic.org. **DOMUS AUSTRALIA ROME PILGRIMAGES | CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY** www.romepilgrimages.com

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY THEOLOGY SHORT COURSE.

The next short course in Sydney - 15 February - 15 March, 2017. The course will be on "the Passion of Jesus" exploring the following important questions in the lead-up to Lent and Easter: How do the New Testament authors understand the Passion of Jesus? Why was Jesus tried and convicted? Why did Jesus die? How to understand the liturgical traditions commemorating Jesus' Passion? **Dates:** Wednesday evenings: 15 & 22 Feb, 8 & 15 Mar 2017. **No lecture on 1 Mar 2017 (Ash Wednesday).** **Time:** 6-8pm (Refreshments from 6pm, lecture starts at 6:30pm). **Venue:** Australian Catholic University, Strathfield Campus, 25A Barker Road, Strathfield, NSW 2135. Registration is essential at: <http://www.acu.edu.au/1119461>. For more information or to discuss alternative methods of payment please email shortcourses.ftp@acu.edu.au.

AQUINAS SYMPOSIUM 2017



Readers for next Sunday, 5th February 2017

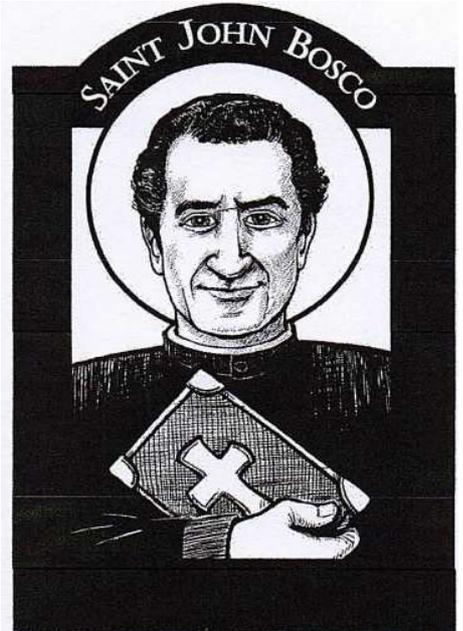
	St. James'	St. Bede's	St. James'	St. Bede's
	6pm	8am	9:30am	11am
First Reader	James Price	Robert Gavagna	Sr Bernice McDonnell	Rommel Tacadena
Second Reader	Michelle Renshaw	Ron Gattone	Paul Bizannes	Renata Tacadena

Please pray for the sick:

Gillian Ellis, June Ebert, Debbie Julius, Hazel Spratt, Archbishop Anthony, Fran Campisi, Irene Malin, Meryl Tapsell, Fr. Michael Walsh, Allan Hoad, Aziz Latif, Bp Geoffrey Robinson, Kate Mara, Leslee Hoad-Mara, Lee Tillam, Noreen Hayes, Kay White, family members, parishioners, friends.

Please pray for the deceased:

Fr. Peter Lucas OP, Catalina De'Vea, Martin Keane, Barry Lynam, Aida Cabal San Buenaventura, Noelene Reddie, Barry Sonter, Fr. Frank Furfaro, Mary Loh, Hazel O'Connor, Ken Owens, Pam Mara, Geof Gale, Bill Donnelly, Peter Walsh, Terrie McCabe, Adife Cetin, Graeme Blackburn, Sam Tinman, Georgia Hoad, Maria Lo, Rosie White, Petra Seranilla, Benedicto Zamora, Dr Lucy Landia, Eric Russell-Smith, Betty Rowswell, Laurie Zammit, Tom Gibbons, Mick Kennedy, Allan White, Phil Garde, Sean & Pat Flanagan, Frank & Melina Galluzo, O'Connor family members & all the faithful departed Parishioners.



St John Bosco was the youngest son of a peasant farmer in the town of Turin, Northern Italy. Soon after his ordination in 1841 he began his life's work of educating poor and orphaned children. He had an extraordinary gift for handling difficult youths without punishment, but with gentle and effective firmness. Inspired by St Francis de Sales, Don Bosco called his helpers "Salesians", who were formally recognised by the church in 1874.

Wordsearch

Try to find these words:



- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| crowd | hearts |
| disciples | mountain |
| drink | pure |
| earth | reward |
| excited | right |
| happy | sat |



O V X C Z S R A E V L V I E R H Y
 B H M D W O R C A B N X A W L E S
 U J Y P X C C T R A A N F G A A R
 B T K C Y W S O T S Q R K M J X N
 X I V V D T M E H H R Q Y G M B J
 W L F E R U P A E D R I N K L M K
 C T J A L X X L X K Z Y S A T C J
 B G E K S D E R C S W O L Y L F P
 M H F O M Z N D I Y U Y W P M U W
 P V W R G O O T T G Y N R C J E M
 F F S N Y C U Q E N H C E G Q U C
 L Y D R O Z I N D V S T W A V D H
 H M Z G Q O G A T I M Y A Z R A C
 G W H J B Y L F T A N C R J P I V
 S E L P I C S I D I I J D P T G U
 K G L D Q G W M U T W N Y N F Q H

Draw a line from the first half of each beatitude to its correct ending.



Blessed are those who grieve...

...they will be treated with mercy.

Blessed are the merciful...

...they will be called God's children.

Blessed are those who make peace...

...they will see God.

Blessed are those with pure hearts...

...they will find comfort.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Save us, O Lord our God!
And gather us from the nations,
to give thanks to your holy name,
and make it our glory to praise you.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

COLLECT

Grant us, Lord our God,
that we may honour you with all our mind, and love everyone in truth of heart.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13

Seek the Lord
all you, the humble of the earth,
who obey his commands.
Seek integrity,
seek humility:
you may perhaps find shelter
on the day of the anger of the Lord.
In your midst I will leave
a humble and lowly people,
and those who are left in Israel will
seek refuge in the name of the Lord.
They will do no wrong,
will tell no lies;
and the perjured tongue will no longer
be found in their mouths.
But they will be able to graze and rest
with no one to disturb them.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God’s doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Rejoice and be glad;
Your reward will be great in heaven.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:
‘How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy the gentle:
they shall have the earth for their heritage.
Happy those who mourn:
they shall be comforted.
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.
Happy the merciful:
they shall have mercy shown them.
Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God.
Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called sons of God.
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
‘Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.’

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven & earth, of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O Lord, we bring to your altar these offerings of our service: be pleased to receive them, we pray, and transform them into the Sacrament of our redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION:

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Let your face shine on your servant.
Save me in your merciful love.
O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourished by these redeeming gifts, we pray, O Lord, that through this help to eternal salvation true faith may ever increase. Through Christ our Lord.

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