



# Welcome to the Catholic Parishes of Lithgow and Portland

We acknowledge the Wiradjuri and Gamilaraay peoples, the Traditional Custodians of the Land and pay respect to the Elders both past and present.



## 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time B

## 19 September 2021

### Liturgy of the Word

**1st Reading:** **Wis 2:12, 17-20**

*The wicked put God to the test.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** **53:3-6. 8. R. v.6**

**(R) The Lord upholds my life.**

- O God, save me by your name; by your power, uphold my cause. O God, hear my prayers; listen to the words of my mouth. (R.)
- For proud men have risen against me, ruthless men seek my life. They have no regard for God. (R.)
- But I have God for my help. The Lord upholds my life. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart and praise your name for it is good. (R.)

**Second Reading:** **Jas 3:16 - 4:3**

*Wisdom versus jealousy and strife.*

**Gospel Acclamation:** **See 2 Thes 2:14**

Alleluia, alleluia!

**God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Alleluia!

**Gospel** **Mk 9:30-37**

*Jesus teaches that to rank first, disciples must serve all.*

**Next Week: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time B:**

**1st** - Nm 11:25-29; **PS** - 18:8. 10. 12-14. R. V.9;

**2nd** - Jas 5:1-6; **GA** - See Jn 17:17;

**Gospel** - Mk 9:38-43. 45. 47-48

**A Frank Quote:** "Grace is not part of consciousness; it is the amount of light in our souls, not knowledge nor reason." 1 October 2013

### SEASON OF CREATION by Nick Brodie

Today's Gospel reveals a fearfulness in the disciples' response to Jesus. Afraid of asking too many questions, they almost seem to prefer being ignorant rather than admit the limits of their own understanding. Strangely, this self-imposed ignorance does not prevent them from posturing for position. What a warning for the Church this episode seems to offer!

While this excerpt of Mark's Gospel is often interpreted in terms of the virtue of humility, the other aspect of Jesus' point is easily overlooked. Every Christian is called to be 'last of all and servant of all'. Ours is a faith of humble service.

The scriptures repeatedly make the point that faith is always embedded in creation. A mountain, a road, a town, and a house all frame the action in this episode. Because the Church exists wherever its members go our beliefs and prayers are not restricted to church buildings. We take our faith on roads, into our homes and towns, and even up mountains.

Given this, our faith compels us to have a special care for all of creation. As Jesus clearly intimates, by humbly serving created things we express our love of the Creator who made them all.



### MASSES ONLINE

- ❖ **St Patrick's, Lithgow**, 10.00 am Sunday Mass on Zoom - details will be forwarded via email to the Parish mailing group, or contact the Presbytery 0263513092 (details are the same each week)
- ❖ **Cathedral (Bathurst)** with the Bishop presiding, on Sunday at 10.00am via Facebook and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SKuGx6oK5mU>
- ❖ **Dubbo Parish** - Mass on Thursday at 5.45pm and Sunday at 9.00am via Facebook
- ❖ **Mudgee Parish** - Mass on Sunday at 10.00am via Facebook
- ❖ **Cowra Parish** will livestream Mass each Sunday at 9.00 am via Facebook
- ❖ **Daily Mass** from Lavender Bay [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYRq7AjVimr-hCHFJD\\_HVaQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYRq7AjVimr-hCHFJD_HVaQ)

#### LITHGOW PARISH

Presbytery Telephone: 6351 3092  
Address: PO Box 229 (69 Lett St)  
Lithgow 2790

**St Patrick's Church, Mort St, Lithgow**  
**St Bernard's Church, Hartley** (by arrangement with NPWS)

**Parish Priest:** Fr Garry McKeown  
pp.lithgow@cdob.org.au

**Seminarian:** Thao Van Nguyen

**P/A:** Sr Anne Houston rsj

**Parish Secretary:** Sandra Ray  
Thurs and Fri (8.30am -4.00pm)  
office.lithgow@cdob.org.au

**Admin Assistant:** Judi Knight

Tues (8.30-2.30) Wed (8.30-4.30)  
accounts.lithgow@cdob.org.au

**Finance Committee President:**  
Tim Le Fevre

**Schools:**

*St Patrick's School - Yrs K-6*

Tel: 6351 3719 Fax: 6353 1731  
stpatlithgow@bth.catholic.edu.au  
www.stpatlithgow.catholic.edu.au

*La Salle Academy - Yrs 7-12*

Tel: 6354 5100 Fax: 6353 1552  
lasallelithgow@bth.catholic.edu.au  
lasalleacademy.catholic.edu.au

#### PORTLAND PARISH

**Convent/PA:** Sr Therese Patterson rsj  
Tel: 6355 5236 Fax: 6355 4277  
Mail: PO Box 70 Portland 2847

**Churches:**

St Vincent's Portland  
Sacred Heart Wallerawang  
St Matthew's Rydal  
St Mary's Kirkconnell  
St Brendan's Cullen Bullen  
St Jude's Capertee

**Pastoral Council President:**  
Charlie O'Mahony

**School:**

*St Joseph's School - Yrs K-6*

Tel: 6355 5111  
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#### BATHURST DIOCESE

Web: [www.bathurst.catholic.org.au](http://www.bathurst.catholic.org.au)  
Email: [reception@bathurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:reception@bathurst.catholic.org.au)



## Centacare Sunday - 19th September

This weekend we celebrate the works of Centacare, the social service arm of our diocese. Centacare assists thousands of people across our region through nearly 20 different programs and services. Its work is our diocese's response to Christ's exhortation to love our neighbour and care for the poor and disadvantaged in our community. If you want to find out more about Centacare or want to make a tax deductible donation, please call 63318944 or 1800 231 118. We thank you for your prayers and support.

### Centacare Prayer

Blessed are you, Lord of mercy and love, who through your Son gave us a marvellous example of charity and the great commandment of love for one another. Send your blessings upon us so that when we are called on in times of need, we will faithfully show your light and love to our neighbour. May we go forward confident in the intercession of our mother Mary, and in the name of our creating, liberating and ever loving God.

Amen



**Centacare Sunday**

*The social services arm of the diocese helping families and communities to thrive*

- Counselling for children, adolescents, adults, couples, and families
- Assisting families with post separation parenting and property settlement
- School Wellbeing Programmes for the diocesan schools
- Marriage preparation and Relationship Enrichment Programmes
  - Outside of School Hours and Vacation Care
  - Support for families with young children
- Improving educational and well being outcomes for Aboriginal children and families
- Centacare Outreach Wellbeing Support for rural communities
  - Social Wellbeing for Aged Care Residents

For more information or to make a tax deductible donation please call 63318944

## Diocesan Quiz Night

Are you joining us for the inaugural Diocesan Quiz Night?

It is going to be the quiz night of quiz nights!

Here are the final details:

- We will be using Zoom online to meet as a group and then using Kahoot to run the quiz.
- We recommend people have two devices, one for the Zoom and one for Kahoot eg a phone and a computer. - Using different tabs on one computer will also work.

7pm Saturday 18 September 2021

Join us via zoom: [bthcatholic.zoom.us/j/4582615130](https://bthcatholic.zoom.us/j/4582615130)

No prior Zoom or Kahoot experience is necessary but if people want to test their technology before we begin they can join the Zoom meeting from 6pm.

Did we say there will be prizes? There will be prizes!

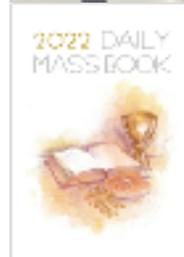
## 2022 Annuals

It is that time again folks! We will be ordering the Annuals in the next couple of weeks. If you would like a copy of one of the following, please phone 6351 3092, drop a message in the drop box at the Presbytery or email ([office.lithgow@cdo.org.au](mailto:office.lithgow@cdo.org.au)) your order as soon as possible please (payment upon pickup).



### 2022 ORDO - \$15.00 each

A digital version is available at \$12.00 each - order direct through Liturgy Brisbane <https://shop.liturgybrisbane.net.au/collections/>



### 2022 DAILY MASS BOOK - \$24.00 each



### 2022 BREAK OPEN THE WORD - \$24.00 each



## HSC EXAM VOLUNTEERS WANTED

La Salle Academy is looking for volunteers to assist with the implementation of provisions for some students during the upcoming 2021 HSC examinations.

These dates will be between Tuesday 9th November and Monday 29th November and will amount to approximately 15 hours in total.

If you think you might be able to assist please contact Lynda Beckingham on 02 6354 5100

# In praise of peace

Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ 10 September 2021

**A commitment to peace requires us to look beyond our own interests to the good of all.**

**Peace is something we all often long for.** Even the idea of an [International Day of Peace](#) (21 September) soothes and warms us. Our images of peace are various, but they are always happy. Perhaps of a sunlit valley with a stream running through green grass and flowering trees. Or of a family chatting quietly around the fire at night. Or of people walking down the street smiling at one another and exchanging greetings. Or of ourselves sitting quietly, happy with our own company and our thoughts, contented with ourselves and the world. All these images are touched by longing. We know that these moments are passing and that our lives are full also of conflict and anxiety.

St Augustine, a sharp observer of his world, said that in all we do we seek peace. That seems an extraordinary thought when we look at the world around us – full of war, violence, social media pile-ons. Augustine's point was that even when nations went to war, they wanted peace – on their own terms. This is true also in domestic disputes and shouting matches in the media. We want the kind of peace that comes from winning the conflict. In reality, however, the peace that follows war is often a city burned to the ground. A Roman writer spoke of the Roman Empire when he said, 'They make a desert and call it peace.'

## LOOK BEYOND OUR OWN INTERESTS

For Augustine this meant that peace was more than the absence of war and that the desire for peace was not enough. For peace our hearts need to look beyond our own interests and beyond doing whatever it takes to look out for the good of all people, and especially the people who are most vulnerable. That leads us to renounce violence as a way to peace and to be prepared to yield to others. This is the way of non-violence, which we commemorate with the [International Day of Non-violence](#) on 2 October.

Non-violence is both attractive and challenging. It is hard not to admire the Jains who avoid killing or mistreating any living being. Their consistency leads them to a vegan diet and also counsels against killing mosquitos and other insects. And yet

they had to debate whether it would be right to resist people who tried to kill Jain nuns.

The faithfulness of such conscientious objectors in time of war as Franz Jagerstätter, who accepted death at the hands of the Nazi regime rather than fight, also awes us. It continues to inspire pacifism among Christian groups which oppose the possession and readiness to make use of nuclear weapons. And yet most people, including Christians, believe that it is better to fight people intent on doing us harm than to let them have their way with us.

Whether or not we believe that violence can never rightly be met with violence, the International Day of Non-Violence and the lives of people who practise non-violence in demanding ways do make us reflect on the place that violence has in our personal lives and in our society.

## THE EFFECT OF VIOLENCE

We have become sensitive to the effect that violence has on people. We have learned how childhood beatings have continued to traumatise people in later life, and how often they have encouraged people to be similarly violent. We are also coming to recognise the extent of domestic violence directed against women and the damage it causes to body and to spirit. We now question, too, images of masculinity that identify strength and self-assertion with physical violence.

Many Australians have mercifully been spared from war in our own land. Many, however, have come to Australia after fleeing the violence of war in their own lands. They and their families have experienced the indiscriminate violence caused by bombs, shells and mines, the personalised violence of rape and bullets, and the tearing apart of family, village, culture and future hopes. Such experience and its affects can affect their lives and those of their descendants, as they have affected the lives of Indigenous Australians after the colonial invasion. The suicides among Australians who have fought in war, too, testify to its destructive effects.

Whether or not we become pacifists, we can see that no one gains as a human being from war or from war. In a world in which technology has been developed to kill anonymously and on a great scale, we can deplore violence and recognise that the arms trade today is a trade in death.

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## Season of Creation: Pope Urges Christian Unity

### Christians Respond with Inspiring Prayers and Actions Across the World

September 15, 2021 18:16

The Season of Creation is well underway around the world as the global Christian family heeds Pope Francis' call to unite.

On Sunday, at the 52nd Eucharistic International Congress, His Holiness repeated his desire for all Christians to come together during the ecumenical Season of Creation, the annual celebration of prayer and action for our common home that runs until 4 October.

"I thank the great Hungarian Christian family, which I would like to embrace in its rites, its history, its brothers and sisters, both Catholic and those of other confessions: all journeying towards full unity," Pope Francis said.

Last week, the congress celebrated its first Creation Day to celebrate the Season of Creation. The day witnessed the entire Catholic family coming together in prayer for God's creation.

Bishop János Székely, President of the Caritas in Veritate Commission of the Hungarian Catholic Bishops' Conference, wrote the Creation Day prayer (download at <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1iP3dEisPeiQfoEAbRi4uU-Kbe0bZxlbe>)

The moving prayer connects so much of what inspires all Catholics: Pope Francis' Laudato Si', the theme of bread in the Eucharist, and Saint John Paul II's inspiring remarks about sharing "the table of Creation."

Also on Creation Day, Magda Noszczyk of the Laudato Si' Movement challenged all Catholics to reflect upon how the climate crisis is affecting the most vulnerable and creating a "world without bread." <https://laudatosimovement.org/2021/09/09/can-you-imagine-a-world-without-bread-because-of-the-climate-crisis-its-already-here/>.

### Season of Creation around the world:

- In a historic statement ahead of the United Nations' 26th Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, **Pope Francis, Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, and Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew** called on all Christians to address the "unprecedented threat of climate change and environmental degradation."
- **In Malaysia**, a Holy Mass was celebrated to launch the ecumenical celebration and year two of a powerful campaign, "Protect Our Earth, Protect Our Children," led by the Bishops Conference of Malaysia..
- **In South Africa**, the Rev. Dr. Rachel Mash inspired the faithful to use the Season of Creation as a time to "awaken faith communities" around the world.
- **In Italy**, pilgrims retraced the steps of St. Francis of Assisi.
- **In the Philippines**, the local Laudato Si' Movement chapter showed exactly how to create a tent and welcome all during this ecumenical celebration as Christians focus on this year's theme, "A home for all? Renewing the Oikos of God."
- **In Marseille, Cardinal Peter Turkson**, Prefect of the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, signed the "Healthy Planet, Healthy People" petition, which urges world leaders at COP26 to take strong measures that protect our common home.
- In "The Pope Video" for September, Pope Francis encourages all people to change their lifestyles.
- At the International Union for Conservation of Nature World Conservation Congress in Marseille, Vatican and Catholic leaders urged action against EACOP.

# ISOLATION WELL-BEING

- SHOWER
- MEDICATION
- DRINK WATER
  
- CLEAN ONE THING / SPACE
- TEND SOMETHING GROWING / LIVING
  
- BE MINDFULLY PRESENT TO...
- A SOUND OR SONG
- A SENSORY FEELING
- SOMETHING YOU SEE
- A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE
  
- REACH OUT TO A HUMAN OUTSIDE YOUR HOME
- DO ONE THING TO GET YOUR HEART RATE UP
- DO ONE THING YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID LATER
- DO ONE THING JUST BECAUSE YOU WANT TO
- GET IN AT LEAST ONE GOOD LAUGH

**Are You Called to be a Spiritual Director? A Pastoral Supervisor? Or a compassionate listener to others?**

We invite you to a **Taster Session (via Zoom), on Saturday 2 October 2021 at 9.30am-11am AEST** to explore whether one of these ministries may be for you.

Come and experience in a facilitated group via Zoom:

- a) the Siloam Program for the Formation of Spiritual Directors,
- b) the Emmaus Supervision Program, or
- c) Let the Heart Listen.

Each of these courses is available in 2022 in-person (Covid-permitting) or via Zoom. To register for the free Taster event, please click the link on our home page at [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne), or contact us at [secretary@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:secretary@heartoflife.melbourne) or tel (03) 9890 1101.



A message from *Aid to the Church in Need Australia: One Million Children Praying the Rosary*: ACN invites you to join the prayer campaign 'One Million Children Praying the Rosary' for unity and peace in the world on the 18th of October. Be part of this prayer campaign and join many others! Register and learn more at



**Web:** The bulletin is available to view each week on our Diocesan webpage: <http://www.bathurst.catholic.org.au/?i=220&lithgow>. Scroll down to the very bottom of page! If you would like to be added to or removed from our email mailing list, please email [office.lithgow@cdob.org.au](mailto:office.lithgow@cdob.org.au). If you wish to be removed from our email list, please reply with "REMOVE" in the body of the email.

**Facebook:** St Patrick's, Lithgow - [www.facebook.com/stpatschurchlithgow/](https://www.facebook.com/stpatschurchlithgow/) and St Vincent's Portland - <https://www.facebook.com/stpatschurchlithgow/>.

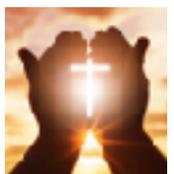
**- PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS -**

**Recently Deceased:** Lynne O'Donnell, Marie Bright, Peter Duffy (Dubbo)

**Anniversaries:** Michael Kuzma

**Requests for Remembrance:** Jean & Charlie Hutchinson, Peter Beveridge, Elaine (Pat) Whyte, Mildred, Clyde & Frank Baker; Don Compagnoni; Robert Bradford, Ted Howard; Fitzpatrick & Jabour families; Egan & Collins families; Kathleen Fowler; Howard, Burton & Martyn families; Holy Souls in Purgatory; Mavis Inzitari; Inzitari & Fittler families; Cec Kelly; Austen family; Butta family; Davis & McIntyre families

**Relatives, friends and parishioners who have asked for our prayers:** Bernadette Seckold, Margaret Kelly, Peter Cains, Geoff Jones, Scott Elferson, Heather Dowsett, Joyce Williams, Therese Walsh, Barbara Millis, Marcia Williams, Catherine Grey, Jason Komma, Jan Bennett, Frances de Horne, Special Intention, James McCreanor, Colleen Stack, Chris Ryan, Jenny Pietkowski, Noah Coolidge, Leonie Johnstone, Residents of Three Tree Lodge, Cooina, Tabulam and Tanderra Nursing Homes, current patients at all local hospitals and facilities.



The privacy of all people including sick persons and bereaved families is respected by the Parish. While we are happy to receive and offer a Mass for any intention, appropriate written consent from the person/parties to whom the intention is directed (except for the deceased, of course) must be obtained in order for that intention to be published in the Weekly Bulletin, otherwise it will be noted as a "Special Intention".