



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Yr C

17th August, 2025

Parish Priest Fr Vincent Nguyen
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Ph: 5428 2591

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Ph: 5428 2591

CHILD PROTECTION - is everyone's responsibility

Check the Parish Website for:

Child Safety & Code of Conduct Policy
Parish Privacy Act / Professional Standards

A parent must accompany any child leaving the church during Mass.

Parish Email: gisborne@cam.org.au
Parish Website melbcatholic.org/s/gisborne
Parish Facebook Page www.facebook.com/stbrigidsparishgisborne

Secretary Hours Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am – 5:00pm**CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:**

Please pray for those who are in ill health:

**Eileen S, Corrine V, Anthony S,
Fran S, Helen K, George T, Diane M,
Marg P, Zoe F, Beth T &
Willow O.**

We pray for the recently deceased, especially
Elizabeth "Liz" Shelly and for those who have an
anniversary at this time, especially **Philomena Fewkes
& Victor Gauci.**

May they rest in peace.

**Upcoming Parish Masses & Events****Sat 16/08/25** Saturday 6pm Mass – Gisborne**Sun 17/08/25** Normal Sunday Masses**Mon 18/08/25 to Fri 22/08/25 – NO Weekday Masses***Due to Fr. Vincent being away at the Clergy Conference***Sat 23/08/25** Saturday 6pm Mass – Gisborne**Sun 24/08/25** Normal Sunday Masses**All weekend Masses - Eucharist Commitment Masses****Sun 24/08/25** 12pm – Baptism's**Tue 26/08/25** 5pm - Weekday Mass - Gisborne**Wed 27/08/25** 9:15am – Weekday Mass – Gisborne**Thu 28/08/25** 9:15am – Weekday Mass – Gisborne**Fri 29/08/25** 9:15am – Weekday Mass – Gisborne**Sat 30/08/25** Saturday 6pm Mass – Gisborne**Sun 31/08/25** Normal Sunday Masses**REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate**

A fierce fire in a eucalyptus forest bursts open the seed pods, cleanses the soil of smothering undergrowth, and returns nutrients to the soil to germinate the seeds. It is that sort of fire which Jesus brings to the earth.

So, at Pentecost, He sent His Holy Spirit '... like tongues of fire', bursting the early disciples out of the protective shell of the 'Upper Room', allowing them to be germinated as seeds of the early Church. It is the same in every generation which has to ask: What personal, family or social situations provide a hard casing which must be cracked open? What is the smothering undergrowth which prevents our germination as fearless disciples?

Jesus himself felt smothered by the small-minded people of Nazareth to which He never returned. He warns that families and good friends can try to smother the spark He wishes to ignite.

We might pause for a moment to pray that the fiery Holy Spirit might enable us to become a stand of tall trees reaching for the Risen Son in all His glory..

mtate@bigpond.com**Fr. Vincent – Annual Leave**

Mon 18/8/25 to Fri 22/8/25 clergy conference

Sat 6/9/25 to Fri 12/9/25 annual leave

Please note there will be no Weekday Masses whilst Fr. Vincent is on annual leave or at the Clergy Conference.

HELP WANTED – 2025 Communion Reflection Day

Following on from last years successful “bridging of the generations”

St. Brigids Primary School welcomes the participation of parishioners once again to share the activities with our Year 4 students as they prepare for their

First Holy Communion by attending their Reflection Day.

If you would like to lead an activity or simply participate with the “middle students” in planned activities throughout the day, we would love to have you join in. A current Working with Children Check is required.

If you have an hour to spare or half a day, we'd love your company.

Please contact Emma Barker: on 0408 339 642 to register your interest.

ANNUAL ARCHDIOCEAN CLERGY CONFERENCE.

This week the priests and deacons will gather with the archbishop for their annual clergy conference; Monday afternoon to Friday afternoon. **Thus, there will be no week day Mass this week.**



Rosters & Events



Ministers for next weekend's Masses

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

23rd & 24th August, 2025

6:00pm Mass St. Brigid's Reader: B. Floreani Eucharist: N. Spiers	8:00am Mass St. Ambrose's Welcomer: J. White Reader: M. Henry	Flowers: T. Armstrong 
9:30am Mass St. Patrick's Reader: B. O'Callaghan Eucharist: J. O'Callaghan	11:00am Mass St. Brigid's Reader: B. Myers Eucharist: K. Page	

THE ARCHBISHOPS CAMPAIGN 2025

During the month of August each Parish Community is invited to take up the annual collection for the Archbishops Campaign.

Available in all churches from this week will be envelopes and flyers that explain what agencies are supported by this campaign.

Over the next three weeks you are invited to support this campaign.

Please place your contribution in the envelope and put it in any of the collections over the next three weeks.

There is also an opportunity to make your contribution electronically.

Feast Days This Week:



Wednesday 20th August: St Bernard

Born in France in 1090, died in Clairvaux in 1153. Joined the abbey of Citeaux. Soon he became the founder and abbot of Clairvaux and pioneered the reform and expansion of the Cistercian Order. Remembered for his inspirational leadership, and for his devotion to the humanity of Christ and the Blessed Virgin Mary.



Thursday 21st August: St Pius X

Born in Italy in 1835 and died in 1914. In pursuit of his motto 'to renew all things in Christ,' he initiated reforms of the liturgy and canon law. His efforts to avert world war were frustrated. Remembered for his poverty and his promotion of liturgical participation, especially of frequent communion, to which he admitted young children.



Friday 22nd August: The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This feast was established by Pius XII in 1955 and was celebrated on 31st May. Since 1969 it has been observed on 22nd August to stress its relationship to the Assumption, taken up to into glory. Mary became queen of heaven and earth.

THANKSGIVING BY DIRECT DEBIT

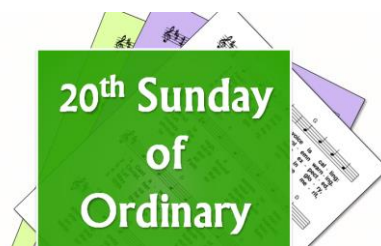
If you would like to contribute to the Thanksgiving Program, you may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

St. Brigid's Church Account
NAB

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6742 95773

Please use your surname and TG number as the reference.



PRIEST & PRESBYTERY BY DIRECT DEBIT

If you would like to contribute to the Priest & Presbytery expenses, you may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

St. Brigid's Presbytery Account
NAB

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6672 72303

Please use your surname as the reference.

OPEN HOUSE

Meet after 11am Sunday Mass at the Kaffee Bar for a coffee and chat.
Everyone Welcome!

SCRIPTURE STUDIES

Thursday – 10am
 For all enquiries please contact
 Bernie 0414 890 377

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Should you have a loved one gravely ill and in need of anointing or the services of a priest, please call the Parish Landline on 5428 2591.

St Brigid's Parish Weekly Giving

Collections last week: Presbytery \$571
 Thanksgiving \$1145

Thank you for your ongoing support through the Thanksgiving Program.

Introduction: The readings today focus on issues arising from the interpretation of Jesus and the divided response to him. St. Luke uses the image of fire with the double meaning of being an instrument of judgement, but also the gift of the Spirit.

1st Reading: Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

We hear how the prophet Jeremiah was the subject of scheming and betrayal and yet a foreigner spoke up for him. This anticipates how Jesus we treated.

2nd Reading: Hebrews 12:1-4

This letter to the Hebrews reminds us not to lose sight of Jesus, for it is he who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection.

Gospel: Luke 12:49-53

This at first seems a confusing passage of Scripture and needs to be seen in the fuller context of Jesus' journey. To follow him may sometimes cause division and the challenge to stand up for the truth.

Prayer of Intercession: Even with the disturbing words of Jesus, we have the assurance of the Spirit of Jesus being poured into the hearts of all who believe. We pray that the guidance of the Spirit will constantly encourage us to follow the Father's will.

1. We pray that our assembly of faith may celebrate this Eucharist free of any feuds, factions or wrangling. May Christ's Spirit lead us to be open to his will.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

2. We pray that a true spirit of renewal will empower us to minister our responsibilities at all levels, in our lives, in our homes and in our parish.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

3. We pray that divisions in families caused by fidelity to the gospel will be healed through growth in understanding.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

4. We pray for those who work with families, particularly the staff of CatholicCare. May they be guided and strengthened by the Holy Spirit in their work. May their efforts bring peace and happiness to the families who seek their assistance.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

5. We pray for ourselves and the special needs of all in our parish community. We pray for those who are sick – those on our parish prayer list – the frail, and for all who care for them. For the faithful departed: for those who have died recently, especially *Elizabeth "Liz" Shelly* and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially *Philomena Fewkes & Victor Gauci*, that they will experience the reward of eternal life for which they hoped.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

Please join in the parish Prayer.

Celebrant: Lord, we give thanks that Jesus your Son promised to send the Paraclete, the Spirit of truth, among us. May we entrust ourselves to the gift of your Holy Spirit to sustain our hope and lead us to your eternal kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Next weeks readings: Isaiah 66:18-21; Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13; Luke 13:22-30

ST. BRIGID'S GISBORNE PARISH PRAYER

God our Father, we thank you for all the blessings we enjoy in our parish family of St. Brigid's Gisborne.

Many have laboured to build our parish. May we all work together and hand in hand stand together.

May our parish be filled with holiness and prayer, faith and love.

May all who come here find a welcoming home, comfort in their needs and strength for their journey.

St. Brigid, St. Patrick, St. Ambrose and St. Colmcille watch over us always we pray, that with faith we grow and learn.

We make our prayer in Jesus name.

Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, (*all bow*)

born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; "he descended into hell;

on the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen

The Living Word

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

17 August 2025

First Reading

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

You bore me to be a man of strife for the whole world.

The king's leading men spoke to the king. 'Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.' 'He is in your hands as you know,' King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank.

Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said, 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well where he will die.' At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 39:2-4. 18. R. v.14

(R.) *Lord, come to my aid!*

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry. (R.)
2. He drew me from the deadly pit,
from the miry clay.
He set my feet upon a rock
and made my footsteps firm. (R.)
3. He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.
Many shall see and fear
and shall trust in the Lord. (R.)
4. As for me, wretched and poor,
the Lord thinks of me.
You are my rescuer, my help,
O God, do not delay! (R.)

Second Reading

Hebrews 12:1-4

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Let us bear patiently the struggle placed upon us.

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shamefulness of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God's

throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 12:49-53

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

I have come not to give peace, but discord.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over! 'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.

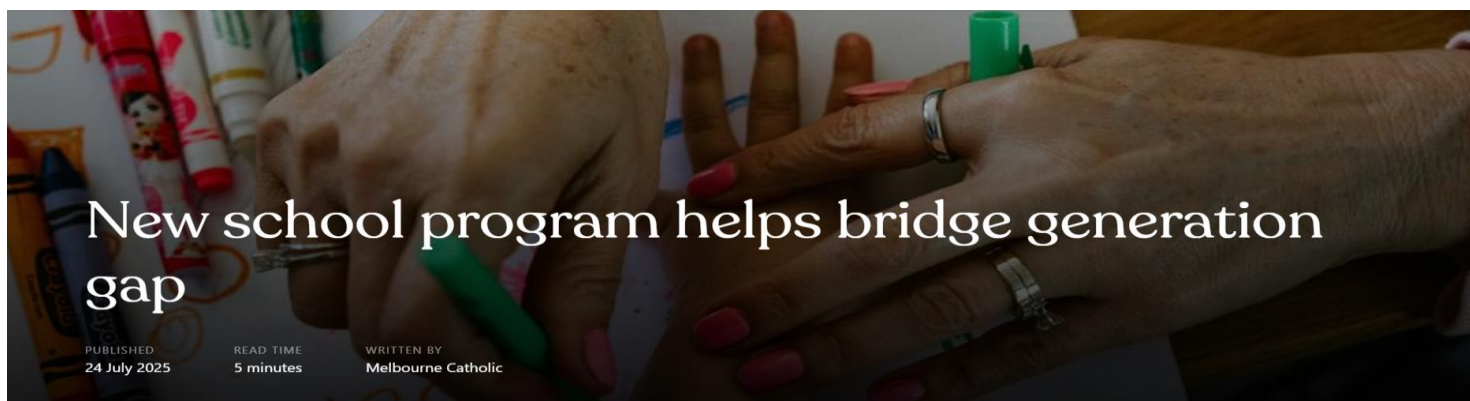
The Gospel of the Lord.

Use the words below to find out what
Jesus said to his disciples.

Do you _____ that I
am here to _____
on _____? No, but rather,
_____.



earth
division
peace
suppose
bring



New school program helps bridge generation gap

PUBLISHED
24 July 2025

READ TIME
5 minutes

WRITTEN BY
Melbourne Catholic

A new program called Generations of Value has been introduced in Catholic primary schools across Australia at the start of term 3. The program aims to help children appreciate the unique contributions of people at all stages of life, showing them how society is stronger and more vibrant with generations working together.

The program was developed by Mercy Health Foundation, Australian Catholic University (ACU), Catholic Development Fund and Catholic Health Australia. One of the main instigators, the foundation's partnerships manager, Mark Trayling, says the thinking behind the program stemmed from a comment by his grandfather, a naval man, that when people lose their last parent, they become a ship without a rudder.

'I appreciated the sentiment because it underscored how much we rely on previous generations for guidance,' Mr Trayling says.

'But upon reflection, I'd modify that image: while growing up, it's helpful to have two hands on the tiller and someone pointing to the North Star—so that later in life, we'll know how to steer on our own. Generations of Value is a reflection of this sentiment.'

Older people now are healthier, more educated and more involved than they ever have been.

ACU Professor of Healthy Ageing Laurie Buys is another of the program's creators and explains that one of its goals is reshaping the narrative around ageing. 'A stereotypical way of looking at ageing is that ageing is a "deficit"—that when you grow older, you "decline", physically and cognitively,' she says.

'And that's a very traditional and old-world way of looking at ageing. In fact, older people now are healthier, more educated and more involved than they ever have been in the community. [Babies born now] are likely to have a hundred-year life, so we need to really challenge that view that you're old at 65.'



Intergenerational activities may include gardening. (Photo via Shutterstock)

Generations of Value consists of eight sessions, each focusing on a Bible verse and activities that encourage reflection on the different roles and generations within a family.

Grandparents give a lot to their grandchildren, but they also get a lot.

'The Bible encourages mentorship and the sharing of wisdom, enabling older generations to guide and support the young,' says Mr Trayling. 'More than that, it honours both giving and receiving in relationships.'

'We don't need to reinvent the wheel in our teachings. Christianity already offers rich, time-tested lessons.'

At the start of the program, children create a 'Relationship Constellation Map' to visualise their connections with friends and family. This unit revolves around a verse from the Psalms:

One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. (Psalm 145:4)

Children note the number of generations within their family group and discuss something they've learnt from an older member, whether parent or grandparent or, if they're lucky, a great grandparent. For homework, they ask an older person to tell them a story about when they were young. Later sessions revolve around outings and games with their older relatives.

'A lot of the activities are designed so that the kids go out and interact with their grandparents and other older members of the community,' Professor Buys explains. 'It's encouraging those really healthy and engaging conversations and reciprocal relationships—you give and you take and you create that bond.'

'Grandparents give a lot to their grandchildren, but they also get a lot from their grandchildren. [Building positive relationships] becomes a foundation of trust, a foundation of love and having someone who's got your back, for both generations.'



Grandfather and grandson bond over video games. (Photo via Shutterstock.)

One key theme is questioning misconceptions about ageing. In a session about challenging stereotypes of ageing by contrasting myths with reality, students contemplate the meaning behind a passage in the Book of Samuel:

The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart. (1 Samuel 16:7)

The curriculum creators say the passage directly counters that 'deficit mindset' about ageing—that it is about being diminished as a human, rather than just another phase of life.

Prof Buys says if this generation of children will be living hundred-year lives, that myth needs to be cast aside. 'Everyone needs meaning and purpose in their life. We really want to bring to the conversation with young people that meaning and purpose is vital to having a good life.'

She believes it is important to create that mindset from an early age, and that has to happen through intergenerational partnerships and relationships. 'You've got to be part of the community and be active and engaged basically your whole life. You could be well and truly living into your 100s, so it's important to have something that gets you out of bed and get up in the morning.' It really is around living your best life.

The program draws inspiration from [the New Map of Life](#), developed in Stanford University's Centre for Longevity, which reimagines ageing as a time of opportunity. 'Our life is no longer linear,' Prof Buys says, referring to the 'traditional' path of birth, school, work, marriage, death. 'That sort of trajectory no longer occurs in that there's a lot of different transitions and pathways.'

'[Stanford researchers] say that learning doesn't just occur in school and at uni, that it occurs throughout your life. The *New Map of Life* talks about the different ways we're going to work, the different opportunities that will become available.'

'What I like about the *New Map of Life* is it doesn't pit the generations against each other. It encourages everyone to work together. So it's a really nice way of demonstrating that we all need each other.'

The program's final session celebrates community, with children sharing their completed maps and envisioning ways to create spaces where people of all ages feel welcome. The intention, Prof Buys says, is to change the narrative around the opportunities that come with longevity.

'And it's exciting. It really is about living your best life up until the very, very end of it.'