

# BULLETIN

St Pius X Church

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

29th January 2023



Christ our Anchor

## Manning Parish

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

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### Scripture Commentary by Brendan Byrne SJ



The Gospel for today (Matt 5:1-12) introduces the great Sermon (Sermon on the Mount, 5:1-7:29) which is the real beginning of Jesus' public ministry in the Gospel according to Matthew. As we have noted from the start, of all four evangelists, Matthew is the one most concerned to relate the Christian community to its Jewish heritage. Central to that heritage is Israel's possession of the Law or Torah of Moses. For Matthew, Jesus does not sweep away the Torah but 'brings it to fulfilment' (5:17). With an authority far in excess of that of Moses, he does this by giving it an authoritative interpretation valid for the time of the Kingdom of Heaven that he proclaims. As the Jewish community has in the Law of Moses, the Torah, that shapes its life, so the Christian community should find in the Sermon the Torah that is to shape and characterise its life.

For this reason it is important to note the context in which Jesus gives the Sermon. If we look back to the concluding verses of the previous chapter, we shall see that Jesus addresses his disciples in the presence of 'all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics and paralytics, ... great crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan' (4:24-25). 'Seeing the crowds' (5:1a), Jesus ascends the mountain, sits down and his disciples come to him – as to a Teacher – for

instruction. He is going to tell them who they must be and how they should live, not just for themselves, but for the sake of that burdened mass of humanity that is down there on the plain waiting for his – and ultimately their – ministry.

This is the essential context for the Beatitudes with which the Sermon begins (vv 2-12). The Beatitudes are not commandments bluntly instructing the disciples about how they should live. They are rather invitations to adopt certain attitudes and live out certain values in the light of a particular vision of God.

Other things being equal, the attitudes and situations that Jesus here commends are not in themselves a recipe for getting on in the world. All cohere around the core idea of living in a non-competitive, non-grasping way. To be poor in spirit (as well as being actually poor); to be gentle and unselfish, rather than on the make; to be prepared to weep alongside the unfortunate rather than avoid them; to work for justice and peace; to exercise mercy and be single-minded in pursuit of the good ('pure in heart'); to be ready to endure persecution and calumny for the sake of the gospel: all these things make one vulnerable here and now, entailing much loss. But then we have to note the second clause in each beatitude, stating the reason for the 'blessedness' in each case. All those passives: 'shall be comforted', 'shall be satisfied', 'shall have mercy shown to them', and so forth, indicate, in biblical parlance, the action of God. congratulated, why they are 'Blessed'.

The First Reading, a rare appearance of the prophet Zephaniah (2:3; 3:12-13) provides an appropriate background for the Beatitudes in that it commends similar attitudes and, again, does so in the light of a similar vision of God.

The Second Reading, 1 Cor 1:26-31, also fits the theme. Paul reminds a community inclined to adopt worldly standards of how it was precisely their lowliness and ordinariness in the sight of the world that led to their choice and spiritual enrichment by God.

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Gregory Lo 0435 383 417, Andrew Tai 0435 950 532 ,

Juliana Tseng 0438 864 689

Email: [safeguarding@manningparish.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@manningparish.org.au)



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Melissa Vranjes

Principal

Our Motto

At St Pius X Catholic Primary School, the values lived by Jesus Christ are the foundation for everything we do.

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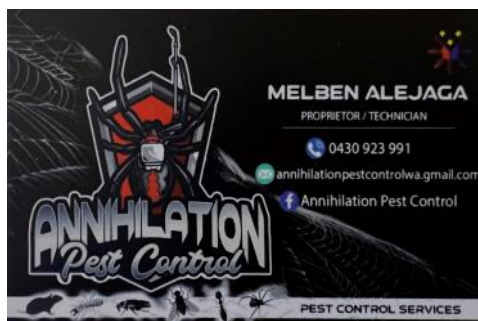
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ROSTER		Weekend 28/29 January	Weekend of 4/5 February
Special Ministers	Sat 6.00pm	Christine Carvalho	Janine Banks
	Sun 7.30am	Marilyn Lamplugh	John Miles
	Sun 9.00am	Lina DaSilva	Fay Collins
Readers	Sat 6.00pm	Jean Pavey	Carmen de Sousa
	Sun 7.30am	Carol Nicklette	Pauline Joseph
	Sun 9.00am	Giselle Shankar	Corrie Barnes
Altar Servers	Sat 6.00pm	Volunteers	Volunteers
	Sun 9.00am	Volunteers	Volunteers
Counters		D & B Molony	Sharon & Ryan Moore

Parish Calendar		
Jan Mon 30	8.00am	No Communion Service
Tue 31	8.00am	Mass (St John Bosco) Church
Feb Wed 1	8.00am	Mass (Week 4 in Ordinary time) Church
Thu 2	8.00am	Mass (Presentation of the Lord) Church
Fri 3	8.00am	Mass (Week 4 in Ordinary time) Church
Sat 4	8.00am	Mass (Week 4 in Ordinary time) Church
	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (5th Sunday in Ordinary time - Year A) Church
Sun 5	7.30am	Mass (5th Sunday in Ordinary time - Year A) Church
	9.00am	Mass (5th Sunday in Ordinary time - Year A) Church
	11.00am	Chinese Mass (5th Sunday in Ordinary time - Year A) Church



is asking for support to aid sisters in Kenya in building a new mother house and formation centre for their local community. Hunger, illiteracy, and lack of medical provision, combined with desperately poor roads and a lack of clean drinking water make life incredibly difficult for many people in Kenya.



Your support will help these sisters to continue their mission by providing them with a permanent convent. To make an offering and learn more visit <https://aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject> or scan the Qr code.

**Line Dancing Classes**  
**Recommencement date Monday 6 February 2023**  
 Mondays and Wednesdays  
 10am - 12noon \$6 per session  
 All proceeds go to the Parish  
 This is a community building initiative to keep you fit and active with the help of Francis & Hellen Tay  
 All are welcome; no age limits.

**Tai Chi Group**  
**Recommencement date Monday 6 February 2023**  
 Mondays in Parish Hall except holidays  
 Starts 7:30pm and finishes at 8:30pm  
 All parishioners are most welcome  
 For more information, please contact or text Maurice on 0408 782 224 or Stephen on 0403 167 838

**Catholic Youth Ministry Employment Opportunities**  
 The Catholic Youth Ministry is seeking two suitably qualified persons to join their team and nurture the faith of youth and young adults across the Archdiocese.

Media Officer – Fixed Term 12 Months, Full-Time (listed on SEEK). Manages communications for the office, including but not limited to e-newsletters, website, graphic design, video production, print materials and social media communications for young people in the Archdiocese.

Youth Worker – Casual. Contributes to the establishment, running and support of coordinated youth and young adult groups across the Archdiocese, assists in parish and diocesan youth events, and liaises with clergy, schools, other agencies, and movements.

For details, refer to <https://www.perthcatholic.org.au/Employment.htm>. Email [recruitment@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:recruitment@perthcatholic.org.au) for a copy of the Job Description and the skills/experience required for the roles. Applications close Tuesday 14 February 2023.

**CHILD OF GOD**  
 GETAWAY WEEKEND  
 FEB 2023 // FRI 10 - SUN 12  
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Join CYM for another exciting getaway weekend in February 2023 [from 6:00 pm Fri: 10/02 to 3:00 pm Sun: 12/02] with other young adults from around Perth. Held at Advent Park in Maida Vale, there will be lots of music, fellowship, prayer, talks, and discussions, on the baptismal calling of Priest, Prophet, and King. We will explore together what it means to live out our faith as a true Child of God.

Johannes Alexander / Youth Ministry Worker  
 E: [perth.cym@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:perth.cym@perthcatholic.org.au)  
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**Catholic Faith Renewal**  
**Enjoy an evening of Songs of Praise**  
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## 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

*Ps 145:7-10. R. Mt 5:3*

(R.) Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger  
and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)
3. It is the Lord who loves the just  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

## 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.'

## Next Sunday Readings

**5 February 2023**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A**

First Reading: Isaiah 58:7-10

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16

## Reflection for Young People

By Lisa-Marie Calderone Stewart

The verses of today's Gospel are called the Beatitudes. Sometimes they are called the Be Attitudes because they tell us the kind of attitudes we need to develop and the way we need to be.

Do these Beatitudes sound like good news or bad news? Why?

Who are the most peaceful and contented people you know? What do they have in common with the attitudes of the Beatitudes?

What are the attitudes of consumerism and materialism? How do commercials and ads encourage people to buy products? How are these attitudes different from those of the Beatitudes?

What attitudes would make a better world? What attitudes would make a more selfish and self-centred world?

How could you rewrite the Beatitudes in language that most teenagers today would more easily understand?



## Manning Parish Youth Quest Youth Ministry

Guiding our youth on a Quest to know, love and serve the Lord. The youth ministry for the parish is open to youth aged in High School or University, and meet every second Saturday after mass.

Get in touch with us by finding us online at  
<https://www.facebook.com/youth.manningparish/>

## CHILDREN'S CORNER



Jesus told his disciples that even though people may be mean to you, as a follower of Christ you will have a great reward in heaven. What are some of the ways we can follow Christ?