St Brigid's Parish
Stuart - Wulguru - Woodstock

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C — 23 February 2025

1 Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them. David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

Psalm

R/ The Lord is kind and merciful. .

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings . R.

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion . R.

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults . R.

As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. As a father has compassion on his Sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him. R.

1 Corinthians 15:45-49

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man .

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
I give you a new commandment; love one another as I have loved you . Alleluia

Luke 6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your

tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. 'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

On behalf of St Brigid's Parish, our Parish Priest and Parishioners,
We welcome any new members to be part of our community.
"All Members are a gift from God", so a very warm "Welcome" to you,

Parish Notices and Events

Parish Mission Council

The Parish mission Council will meet this Tuesday evening at 6.15pm in the Annex.

Lenten Discussion Program

This year the parish will be offering a Lenten programme for parishioners. The discussion booklets have been prepared by the Diocese of Wollongong. These will commence on Thursday evenings following Mass from 6 March. If you are interested in participating please contact the Parish office.

A Retreat based on the Spiritual Exercises

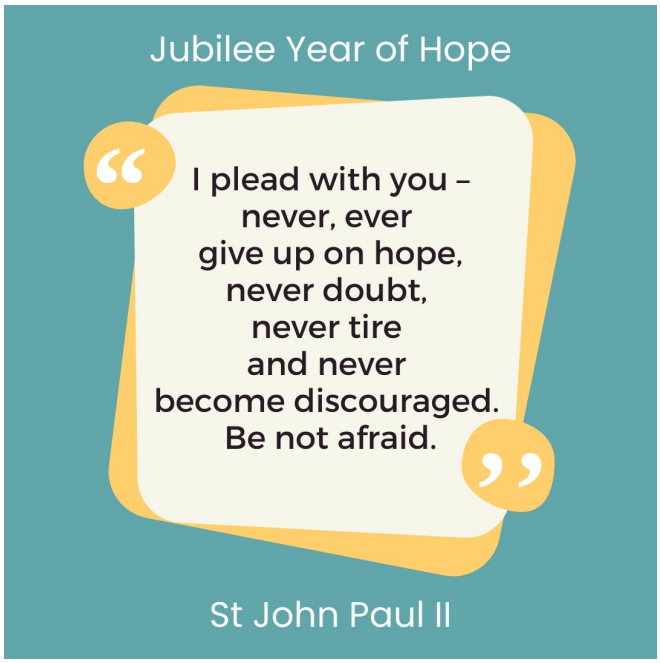
Are you interested in deepening your awareness of God's action in your daily life? There are many ways of doing this. One way was developed by Ignatius of Loyola who developed a series of exercises in prayer. He believed that much like physical exercise strengthens the body, spiritual exercises strengthen our souls. His focus was to help us deepen our awareness of God's action in our lives.

During Lent and Easter this year the parish will be offering the First Spiritual Exercises, a short program of exercises developed from Ignatius' exercises. We will meet on five Tuesday evenings (4 March, 18 March, 1 April, 15 April and 29 April) at 7.30pm for about an hour to introduce the exercises for the following fortnight.

Please ring the office to register your interest so we can ensure we have enough resources for everyone.

Practical Prayer to Encounter God:

Explore the depth and power of God's Word in Scripture and experience a practical means of prayer which connects to real life. Meeting each Wednesday from March 12th to April 9th from 5:30 -7:00pm. Please register your interest with the House of Prayer 4728 9861 or houseofprayer@tsv.catholic.org.au



Volunteers Needed

We need Readers and Special Ministers for our Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses. We need people prepared to join a money counting team which will count every six to 8 weeks (at a time suitable to members of the team). If you would like to volunteer, please contact the office via email or phone.

Parish Keys

We are looking into having the keys changed for our Parish, with master keys for SJTW. If you require keys for your ministry, cleaning etc, could you contact the office to enable us to create a new 'Key Register'.

Caritas Australia -Project Compassion

During the month of March, we are asked to again support this charity where we are called to *Unite Against Poverty*– You can support through boxes envelopes or by scanning a QR Code. This information will be published in the next two weeks.

Vocation View

Jesus helps our faith be fruitful; the amount we measure out is the amount we are given back. How can we generously follow the call of Christ today?

Have you thought? – Scriptural context—Compassion

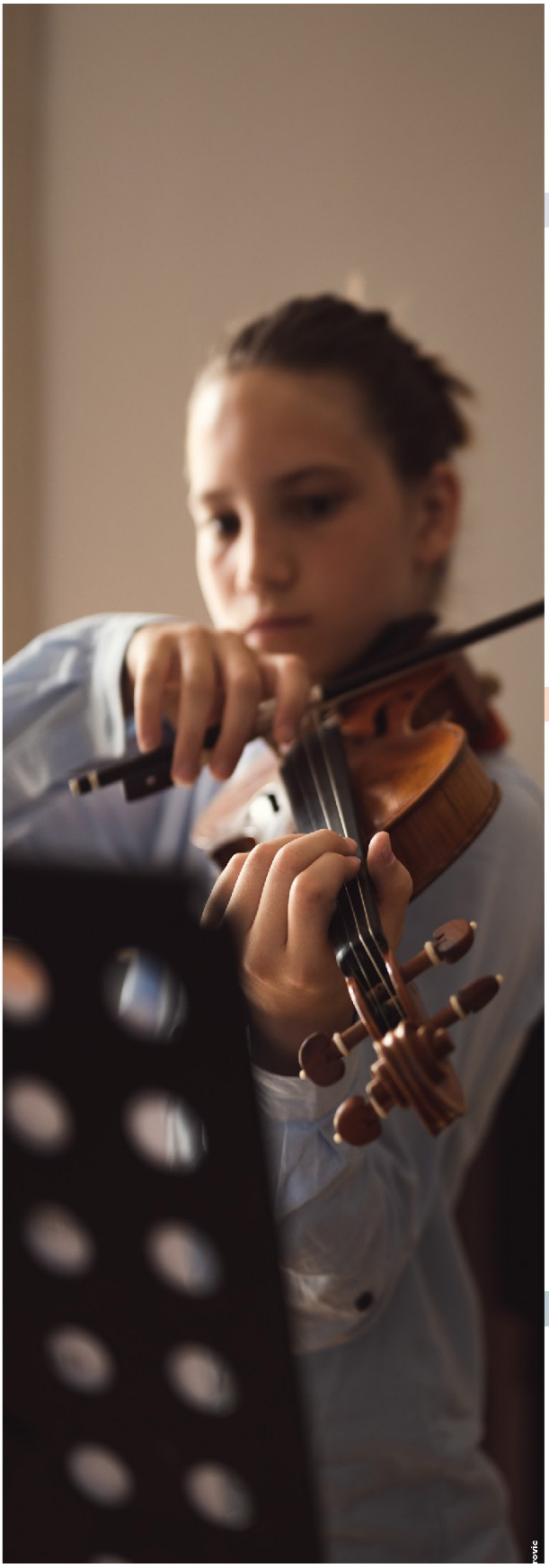
The compassion of God is a very strong theme that runs through the Gospel of Luke. Throughout the gospel, the compassion and mercy of God is emphasised and a defining feature of the gospel is the number of healings and parables that relate to people who were regarded as the outcasts of society. In this gospel, Jesus is the embodiment of God's compassion. Jesus wants all people to experience first hand the abundant love God holds for them. Today's gospel passage is a reminder that when we experience God's compassion we are also called to show it to others

Please keep in your prayers:

Prayers FOR Healing

May Williamson, Anne-Maree Cashin, Debra Craig, Maureen Milchem, Linda Sibley, Laura Farquhar, Lisa Haines, Michael Robertson, Margaret Catchpole, Judy Coorey, Neville & Carolyn O'Sullivan, Matilda Lee, Genevieve Cochrane, Amelia Cart, Henri & Hansel Bekiesch, Sandra Eels, Toni Evans, Anne Burgess, and all in need of our prayers.

May the Lord's healing hand rest upon them



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 | 1 Cor 15:45-49 | Lk 6:27-38

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

"Love your enemies" may be one of the most oft-quoted verses of Scripture. We tend to think of it as a moral principle to guide us in our dealings with people who rub us the wrong way. But do we ever consider what it tells us about God? After all, Jesus, who is God himself, speaks it. God tells us to love our enemies because *God* loves his "enemies" – that is, those who freely choose to oppose his plan of life and love. On the cross, Jesus forgave and prayed for the people who sought to kill him *while they were crucifying him.* But his mercy was not confined to that time and place alone; he died for each of us who, whenever we sin, refuse to love him. If we get this into our heads and our hearts – "God loves and forgives *me*" – we can begin to rest in his embrace like children confident in the unconditional love of their father's heart.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

If, as a child, you learned a musical instrument for which regular recitals were the norm, you know how many hours of practice are required for a few short minutes of performance. You know, too, that if you are well prepared, a musical composition which appeared impossible months before comes easily and naturally on the day of the recital. For most of us, loving our enemies as Jesus commands us to do appears far beyond our reach – impossible, in fact. But this kind of heroic love is nevertheless God's call for us, and he will never deny us the grace we need to respond to his call. What's required on our part is a willingness to practice. If we practice loving in small things even when it's difficult – listening patiently to someone whose conversation bores us, for example, or taking on an extra chore without seeking recognition or thanks – we will be prepared for the day when God asks us to make an even greater act of love for his sake.

PRACTICE

This week, go out of your way to find opportunities to love even when it's difficult. Do your best to be conscious of your intentions, even in the moment, by asking God for the grace to love generously and by offering your act of love to him.

Rosters Weekend of 1/2 Mar		Saturday 6.00pm	Sunday 9.00am
	Readers	1. Philip Windridge 2. John Nuss	1. Silvyana Widjaja 2. Mary Mudge
	Special Ministers	Steven Cooke	Bree Denniss & Greg Cameron
		Cleaning Team C	Counting: Patsy (This week)

Sunday Masses 1/2 Mar	
Wulguru	Sat 6.00pm Sun 9.00am
Woodstock	Sun 4.30pm
St Brigid's	Sun 6.00pm

Weekdays 24 to 28 Feb	
Mon	5.30pm Wulguru
Tues	8.00 SCCC 4.30 Adoration 5.30pm Wulguru
Wed	5.30pm Wulguru
Thur	5.30pm Wulguru
Fri	NO MASS

Confessions

12pm to 12.15pm Saturday
or by appointment

Our Parish

Parish Priest
Fr Damian McGrath

Admin Assistant
Jo-Anne O'Brien

Contact Us
07 4778 1219
stbrigids@tsv.catholic.org.au
PO Box 2490, Idalia Q 4811

Office
Behind St Joseph the Worker
Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-noon

Online
www.stbrigids.au
facebook.com/stbrigids.au
youtube.com/@wulgurucatholic

St Joseph the Worker
276-280 Stuart Drive,
Wulguru Q 4811

St Christoper's Church
91 Old Flinders Hwy,
Woodstock Q 4816

St Brigid's Church
523 Stuart Drive
Roseneath Q 4811

Southern Cross Catholic College
07 4778 3444
sctsv.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Megan Wuersching

The Pastor's Pen!

This Sunday, I have the pleasure of celebrating the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens with Michelle and Rite of Welcome as a Candidate for Full Communion with Grant. Michelle and Grant have been joining us for Sunday Mass with their two boys since June last year. For a number of months, I have been preparing Michelle for Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Grant is baptised and attended Iggy Park College in his days of youth. He will be received into the Church at Easter. There two boys will also be baptised. Please commit to praying for them during the period leading up to the Easter Sacraments.

Someone asked me whether it would be possible to find an individual prayer resource for the Lenten Season. I have hunted around and found one from Brisbane Archdiocese. We have ordered some copies which should be here by next week—please bring along $5 if you would like a copy.

We also have the Lenten Discussion Program on Thursday Evenings and the First Spiritual Exercises on Tuesday Evenings (every two weeks). These are both wonderful opportunities to grow in faith and to commit during the Lenten Season to growth in prayer. Please see the advertisements within.

On Tuesday, I was finally able to celebrate the Start of the School Year with Secondary students at Southern Cross. Their Mass was postponed due to the February rains. The Hall was absolutely packed due to the presence of so many grade 12 parents who were there to see their children recognised as this year's Seniors

Chapel Mass, before school, at Southern Cross on a Tuesday morning recommences this week.

This Sunday, at Woodstock, I am able to offer a special blessing for 60 years of marriage to Barry and May Williams, whose anniversary was on Thursday. I treasure the opportunity to recognise those who have been witnesses to faithfulness in married life for so many years. Congratulations.

Fr D.

Scan to donate

Through our Baptism we are empowered by the Holy Spirit.
Through the love of Jesus Christ, we live and share the Good news with all.