Parish Bulletin

St Carthage's Cathedral Parish, Lismore



SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF:

- St Carthage's Cathedral, Lismore Tues -Thurs 8.00am, Fri 12.05pm. Sat Vigil 5.30pm, Sun 9am & 11am Reconciliation - Sat 4.45pm-5.15pm
- Carmelite Monastery Chapel, Goonellabah

Mon-Fri 7am, Sat 8am, Sun 7am

• St Dympna's Church, Dunoon *Sunday - 8.30am*

PARISH OFFICE

Business Manager: Ray Dunn Operations Manager: Christine Byrne Admin. Assistant: Jenny Falls

Doyle House, 6 Leycester Street Lismore, NSW 2480.

8.30am-4.00pm weekdays

P: 6626 0200

E: admin@stcarthages.org.au
W: www.stcarthages.org.au

Postal Address

PO Box 2, Lismore, NSW 2480

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

St Carthage's Primary School Janelle Heffernan Ph: 66215529

St John's College, Woodlawn Aaron Beach

Ph: 6626 2600

Trinity Catholic College

Jesse Smith Ph: 6627 6600

COMMUNITY CARE

St Carthage's Community Care CEO: Ray Dunn

General Manager: Cathy Donnelly

Ph: 6620 0000

W: www.stccc.org.au

PARISH CLERGY

Bishop Gregory Homeming OCD **Bishop of Lismore**

Fr Bing Monteagudo

Administrator

Fr Alexander Munyao

Assistant Priest

Revd Graeme Davis

Deacon



PAYS 2.60% INVEST WITH PEACE OF MIND!

Head office: 10 Orion St, Lismore, 1800 802 516. www.dif.org.au

12 February 2023, 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Pastoral Council were able to meet last week for the first time since Covid. This year, 2023, they are looking forward to reconnecting and working together in the ongoing life and development of our parish community, working together with all parishioners and visitors to provide support for their effort to live as followers of Christ.

The current members of the Pastoral Council are Travis Lyon, Margaret Condon, Br Peter Walsh, Suzanne Nichols, Paul Murphy, Jack Sheridan, Tayla Tickle, Sr Evelyn, Fr Alex and Fr Bing.

Over the coming weeks they will revisit their formation day and continue to plan and discuss the way forward. Please keep them in your prayers as they take up this important role and offer their commitment and generosity across various entities in our Parish Family.

Youth Mass

Our first Youth Mass for 2023 will be held on Saturday 18th February at 5.30pm. The Mass will be followed by a BBQ and Youth Meeting at Doyle House.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the youth in our parish to lead and take responsibilities and duties of the Mass and hopefully encourage them to be an active member of the Parish.

The Youth Masses will be held on the third Saturday of each month throughout 2023 here at the Cathedral, followed by a youth meeting and BBQ. All are invited to attend.

<u>Please Note:</u> If your child will be attending the youth group we ask that you please collect a Parental Consent form from the Sisters or at the back of the Church and return it to the Parish office as soon as possible.

ASH WEDNESDAY



Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the Season of Lent when we prepare for the Feast of Holy Week. From Ash Wednesday to Holy Week it is a time of fasting, penance, prayer and abstinence. Please use this special time of Lent to pray for others and our own forgiveness and reconciliation with God and

neighbour.

Ashes will be blessed after the Homily at each of the Masses in our parish and at the schools on Ash Wednesday, 22 February.

Mass times are as follows:

7am - Carmelite Monastery

8am - Cathedral

12noon - St Vincent's hospital

12:05pm - Cathedral

5:30pm - Cathedral

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will take place on Friday's during Lent at 6:00pm in the Cathedral commencing 24 February.



LITURGY ROSTER

February 11/12 - 6th Sunday Year A

Saturday 5.30pm

Reader 1 Cathy Donnelly Reader 2 Fiona Fennamore

Sunday 9.00am

Reader 1 Russell Shearman

Reader 2 Jill Ritson

Sunday 11.00am

Reader 1 Gerardo Inghoy Reader 2 Ging-ging Basio

February 18/19 - 7th Sunday Year A

Saturday 5.30pm

Reader 1 Youth Mass Reader 2 Youth Mass

Sunday 9.00am

Reader 1 Russell Shearman

Reader 2 Jill Ritson

Sunday 11.00am

Reader 1 Gerardo Inghoy Reader 2 Ging-ging Basio

Adult Formation

Are you interested in learning more about Liturgy, Sacraments, Prayer,

Scripture, Church History, Ministry Leadership, Catholic Doctrine, Ecclesiology, Social Justice, Spirituality, Morality and/or Youth Ministry at a basic, intermediate or advanced level at a very reasonable cost and over three or five weeks? Parishioners can now access the *VLCFF* through the Lismore Diocesan partnership with Dayton University.

Cycle 2 Registrations are now open, closing 22 February

<u>Learn more</u> about the VLCFF, the available courses, timetable, costs and how to register.

Contact Tony Worner for further information, to discuss options, or enquire about a closed course (minimum of 10 people)

VLCFF.LismoreDiocese@stagnesparish.org.au.

Rosary at St Dympna's Dunoon

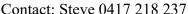
Rosary is prayed every Wednesday, 5.00pm at St Dympna's Church, Dunoon. All are welcome to attend.



Virtual Learning Community

Brotherhood Rosary Crusade

When: 1st Saturday of the month 12pm Where: At the front of the Cathedral



World Day of Prayer 2023 Taiwan "I Have Heard About Your Faith"



Date & Time: Friday 3 March, 9.30am

Location: St Carthage's Catherdal followed by Morning Tea Contact: Parish Office 66260200 or Mary Ford 0417685618



The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office

If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Diocese of Lismore, we ask you to contact us.

We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss options you have available to you.

To contact the Safeguarding Office please phone (02) 6621944 or email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au



Reading Reflections

To Be Better Gospel People

In today's gospel it seems Jesus is asking too much of us! Following the commandments is not enough. We must also avoid anger, abusive language, lustful thoughts, or taking oaths of any kind! Even calling someone a 'fool' or 'renegade' is an offence. But is Jesus actually asking us to follow an impossible set of commandments...or is he doing something else?



First, we need to note Jesus' statement in Matthew's Gospel; "I have not come to abolish the law or the prophets, but to complete them". The community of disciples Jesus is addressing are all Jews who show great respect for the Law. The pharisees, in particular, are suspicious of Jesus because he doesn't speak much about major Jewish rules such as circumcision, food laws or Sabbath requirements.

At times, they think, Jesus even acts against them!

However, Jesus is not interested in debating them about any particular law. Instead, he challenges their inadequate, superficial – at times hypocritical – thinking that assumes God's favour is won by following the letter of the Law.

In fact, Jesus says the Law does not go far enough unless it highlights love of God and neighbour. So, Jesus reinterprets the Law according to the spirit of the Beatitudes; "Blessed are the pure in heart; blesses are the poor in spirit; blessed are the merciful; blessed are the peacemakers".

But, who among us can claim to be these perfect "Beatitude people"? We are still left with this problem of what seems to be the "impossibility of the gospel" captured in Jesus' statement: "You must be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect". Now, Jesus is not naïve. He is perfectly aware that none of us – scribes, pharisees or his own disciples – is able to claim this degree of spiritual conversion to the law of love. So, do we just wash our hands, shrug our shoulders and carry on as before?

Or do we take the second option of turning to the God of love and mercy who challenges us to change our ways, forgives our failures, and assists us to become more effective "gospel people"? To be a gospel person is to be on a journey. This call to deepening conversion is not only needed in the current world of geo-politics; it is also needed in our own Christian communities.

Let us together look to God's revelation in Jesus and the Scriptures so wonderfully summarized in today's reading from St Paul: "the things no eye has seen, no ear has heard, things beyond the human mind, all that God has prepared for those who love him". The gospel is not impossible because it is the wisdom and work of God in process. Let us play our small but important role in bringing the gospel to birth in our families, communities and world.

Gerard Hall © Majellan Media 2023

COLLECTION TOTALS - Weekend 04/05 February 2023

First collection - \$ 780.35 Second collection - \$ 369.00 Loose - \$ 339.45 Please write on the envelope the amount given.



Direct Deposit: First - \$ 199.13 Second - \$ 105.00

If you would prefer to direct deposit your contribution into the bank please deposit to the following accounts using your Surname and envelope number (if applicable) as a reference e.g. Smith 23

First Collection (Support of Diocese Priests) -

St Carthage's Cathedral Parish Clergy Account BSB 062 565 Acc 10435601

Second Collection (Support of Parish and Ministries) -

St Carthage's Cathedral Parish General Account BSB 062 565 Acc 10435599

Please remember in your prayers;

THOSE WHO ARE RECENTLY DECEASED: Graham Dunstan, Margaret Mitchell, Johnny Tenegra, Denise Fields, Dorothy Tickle, Mary Gillies, Diane Miller, Elaine Dwyer, Robert Argent, Constance Anne de Dassel, Elizabeth Caragher and Joan Pollard.



THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Michael Webb, John Devassy, Loy Callaghan, June Sharpe, John Kopinski, Karl Meir, Kristin Robison, Chris Bird, Stephen Munyao, Rosa Aboc, Mary Ranger and Marcelino Gabriel.

THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES ARE AT THIS TIME: Mira Sludic, Mary Josephine Fischer, Maria Griffani, Jack Thorp, Eddie Cabatan, Timoteo and Casimera Calunsag, Bernadette Wynn, Neville Ford and Vigilia Lavender.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: All souls in Purgatory

FIRST READING

Sirach 15:15-20

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

The Word of the Lord. Response: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 118:1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R. v.1

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law! They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. (R.)

You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care. May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. (R.)

Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. (R.)

Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end. Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. (R.)

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him. These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

The Word of the Lord. Response: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:17-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

'It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.