

### CHURCH GARDENS

At present the gardens are growing faster than can be maintained. The gardening group is desperately seeking more people to assist.

If you can spare any time we would certainly appreciate the extra help.

Please bring a water bottle & gloves

All equipment supplied.

Contact Kevin Redman 0402856114 for more details

### Today's Readings

**DEUTERONOMY 4:1-2. 6-8.**

*You may add nothing to the word which I speak to you-keep the commands of the Lord.*

**JAMES 1:17-18. 21-22.27**

*Be doers of the word.*

**MARK 7:1-8. 21-22. 27**

*You forget the commandments of God and hold on to human tradition.*

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM-**

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION-**

Alleluia, alleluia! The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation. Alleluia!

### **GENERAL INTERCESSION RESPONSE-**

God of light, hear us

Counting Roster -2021.  
Altar Society- 2021

**HARD OF HEARING?** Our Church has been equipped with a Powered Audio Induction Loop system for hearing aid wearers (T-Loop) - To obtain effective use of the loop sit in the main body of the church avoiding the very edge seats, turn hearing aid to T & adjust the volume to suit



**new Parish Website- www.stpatsutherland.org.au**



## **ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH**

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St Patrick's Primary School Principal: Mr. Phillip Tax: info@stpatsutherland.catholic.edu.au

**DUE TO COVID-19, LIMITED NUMBERS PERMITTED, PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR FURTHER DETAILS.**

*St Patrick's Parish acknowledges and honours the Gweagal People of the Dharawal Nation as the original custodians of this land*

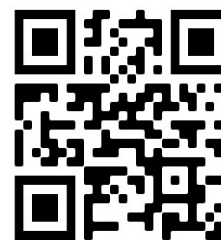


St Patrick's Sutherland is a Parish that strives to safeguard children at all times.



**22nd Sunday  
Year B  
29 AUGUST  
2021B**

Laws and customs are necessary, but true religion is more than observance. Jesus teaches that our attitudes, and the actions that flow from them, reflect the intentions in our hearts. We are to accept and submit to the word of truth that has been planted in us by God. If we love God and try our best to love others, we will indeed be true children of God.



**Livestream can be accessed at  
bit.ly/saintpatslive or simply by  
searching Saint Pats Sutherland on  
YouTube.**

Become a subscriber to the parish channel to get updates of upcoming livestreams.  
**Every Saturday 5pm and Sunday 9am.**

### **Afghan Refugee Appeal**

Sydney Catholic Archbishop, Anthony Fisher OP, has launched the Archbishop's Afghan Refugee Appeal. The appeal will raise desperately needed funds and commit the Archdiocese resources of education, health and welfare to Afghan families and individuals fleeing their homeland in the wake of the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan.

If you wish to donate please use this link just copy and paste into your browser.

[Archbishop's Afghan Refugee Appeal](#)

All funds and resources will go to Afghan asylum seekers and refugees in Australia

## Background on the Gospel Reading

This Sunday, our lectionary returns to Mark's Gospel after a number of Sundays in which we heard the Bread of Life discourse from the Gospel of John. Recall that we focus on the Gospel of Mark in Lectionary Cycle B, but substitute John's report of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes for Mark's report of this event.

In today's Gospel, Mark provides a significant amount of information about the Jewish observance of ritual-purity laws. Most scholars believe that Mark includes this information because his audience includes Gentile Christians who have no knowledge or experience of these laws. We can infer, therefore, that many in Mark's community were not Jewish Christians.

In this Gospel, Mark addresses the question of which Jewish practices would also be observed in the newly emerging Christian community. This was a significant question for the early Christian Church, especially in communities that included both Jewish and Gentile converts to Christianity. We also hear this question addressed in the letters of Paul with regard to table fellowship. In Gospel passages such as the one today, we see the Gospel evangelists finding justification for a Christian practice distinct from Judaism in the remembrances of Jesus' teaching and the practice of his first disciples.

Jesus first criticizes the Pharisees for putting human tradition above God's Law. Here, Jesus is referring to the tradition of the elders, the teachings of the Pharisees, which extended the ritual-purity laws of Temple worship to everyday Jewish life. Jesus criticizes the Pharisees for making this tradition equal to and as binding as the Law of Moses.

Next, Jesus comments on the meaning behind the Pharisees' language of holiness—clean and unclean. Jesus teaches that a person is not defiled by the food that enters his or her body, but rather by sin that emerges from his or her words and actions. In this teaching, Jesus unmask a deeper question behind the one posed to him by the Pharisees. The real issue is holiness, which is not found in external acts alone. Holiness comes from within and is evidenced in the actions and attitudes that emerge from a person's life.

If we read today's Gospel carefully, we will see a pattern in Jesus' teaching method that will be repeated in the weeks ahead. Jesus' first teaching is directed to the Pharisees who questioned him. Jesus' words are then directed to the crowd, teaching that a person is defiled by his or her words and actions, not by the food that he or she eats. In verses omitted in today's reading, we learn that Jesus returned home with his disciples, who in turn questioned him about what he had taught. The words we read at the conclusion of today's Gospel are addressed to Jesus' disciples. Mark's narrative shows several audiences for Jesus' teaching: his antagonists, the crowds, and Jesus' disciples. As we see in this reading, the words to the Pharisees are often words of challenge. The teaching to the crowds is often a general, sometimes cryptic, message. With the disciples, who often misunderstand Jesus' words, further explanation is offered about his message and its meaning.

Jesus' words challenge us as well. In our desire to show that we are holy, we might also give too much credence to externals, following rules without thinking about the intention behind them. Jesus reminds us that we do not make ourselves holy by our actions. Rather, we become holy when we allow God's Spirit to transform us. Our actions should be an expression of the conversion of our heart to God and to God's ways.

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE SICK:** Graham Lamberti, Elizabeth Kinsella, Eileen Kenny, Ted Cramsie, Joanne Dideta, Eileen Talbot, Adam Henson, Wendy Fell, Kristy Bugeja, Elizabeth Pemberton, Arnanoud Lemerie, Solange La Douce Jean Fabien, Steve Smith, Lloyd Handley, Bruce Kent, Anne Cassidy, Rafael Monserrat, Lena Mallet, Martine Benoit, Norma Miller, Lucy Gault, Ron Monro, Lorraine Davies, Bill Burke, John Bonadio, Marie Cameron, Patricia Holbrook, Maria & Luigi Altavilla, Marlene Visage, Anne Cook, Valerie O'Brien, Leonie Coleman, Bill Nicholls, Maureen Fraser, Carol Drew, Bill Morris, Ron Strauss, Patti & Kevin Gore. All the residents in Nagle Apartments. All the residents in Bupa. All residents in Lark Ellen. All residents in the Palms.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Mick Samuel, Rita Kirkland

**ANNIVERSARY:** Catherine Sullivan, Karl Paszkiewicz

**DECEASED MEMBERS & FRIENDS:** Bill Morris, Joan Quinn, Frank Townsend, David Hoffffman, Menezes & Minshull Families, Mona McGovern, Veri Laarakkers, Helen Warham, David Dee, Dorothy Lynch, Reg Benson, Pat Bathurst, Gabrielle Scarra, Dec'd PBVM Sisters, Robertson Family, Claude Press, John Press, Peter Rendell, Barry Scott, Margaret Stokes, Paul Fraser, Karen Westnidge, McMullen & Brown Families, Philip Struthers, Jim Walsh, Shirley Dent, Thomas O'Brien, Tyran Sharman, Gregory & Eileen Dodd, Sr Mary Julian, Larkin Family, Mullins Family, Fr. L. Cruikshank, members of McNamara, Torrington, Preston, Dent, Barrett, Mahoney, Lollback, Mason & O'Leary families, Terry McNamara, Griggs, Nunan, Farrell families, Jack Ethers, Mrs Hills, Mr & Mrs English, Aunt Nora and Aunt Thelma, Irene Mason, Monica & John Robinson, Don Barrett. Miller family & friends, Holy Souls in Purgatory