LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Jer 20:7-9
The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 62:2-6, 8-9. R. v.2
(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading: Rom 12:1-2
May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Gospel Acclamation: See Eph 1:17-18
Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Mt 16:21-27
Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Memorial Acclamation:
We proclaim your death O Lord, and profess your resurrection, until you come again.

Reflection by Richard Leonard

At the morning parade in Dachau on 22nd July 1943, six prisoners were found to have escaped. Retribution was swift and brutal. Randomly selected, 12 people were hanged. As the other prisoners watched their 12 fellow inmates gasp for breath, someone in the crowd cried out, ‘Where is God now?’ ‘My God’, another voice yelled back, ‘My God is hanging there’.

This sort of faith is what today’s Gospel is all about. Christianity is the only world religion that holds that God took our flesh, suffered, died and was raised to life. It is certainly true that we have domesticated the scandal of the cross, even to the point that, these days, it dangles from various parts of people’s anatomies. I often wonder, had Jesus been electrocuted to death, whether we would have little golden chains around our necks? But while we have tried to tame the reality of Jesus’ tortured hours in Jerusalem, the reality of the cross in each of our lives cannot be so commercially soothed.

Christians are not meant to be smiling masochists. We are not meant to be lovers of pain – just bearers of it.
We are invited, by Jesus, to see the burden of suffering in our lives as an opportunity to be faithful to his example. It also gives us an opportunity to be in solidarity with all those who suffer in our world. This is easier said than done. When we suffer in our daily lives, thoughts of others rarely come to mind easily, but it can be consoling to keep our suffering in context and know that we are not facing it alone.

We are encouraged to see that suffering can be an opportunity to grow in love. If we understand our crosses as our particular schools of love, then we learn more about ourselves and God and are able to help others carry their crosses as well.

Carrying our cross, however, is not just about bearing physical, personal, sexual, spiritual or emotional pain; it can also be in the sharing of our gifts and talents, our love and compassion. In every gift there is a burden. Following Christ’s example, we are called to share our gifts heroically with anyone in need, even to the end.

Some people complain these days that God is often presented as a big marshmallow, all sweet and soft. Today’s Gospel shows the ‘edge’ involved in being a follower of Christ. I don’t know of a more demanding vocation in our world than that of taking up the cross of being faithful, loving and selfless.

And while we are invited to take up our cross and follow Jesus, we never do it alone. If we have the eyes to see it and the humility to accept it, Christ, literally, hangs in there with us every step of the way.

So let’s recall the first cross from which we take comfort as we bear our own crosses. ‘In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.’
**Parish Office:** 28 Ingham Road West End, Townsville  
**Office Hours:** 9:00am – 4:00pm Monday to Friday  
**Postal Address:** PO Box 1335 Hyde Park, Castletown, Q4810  
**Phone:** 4771 4461  
**Email:** cathedralparish@tsv.catholic.org.au

**Parish Pastoral Council:** Teresita Trovato, Jim Stone, Lee-Ann Barton, Michael Cannon, Marie McAuliffe, John Doolan

**AN INVITATION:** We are seeking nominees for the Parish Pastoral Council as some members have completed their term of office. If you wish to nominate yourself or others, kindly contact Fr Rod Ward or the Parish Office.

**Parish Finance Council:** Fr Rod Ward, Warren Norehey, Ray Nicholls, John Doolan.

**Administrator:** Fr Rod Ward  
**Director of Music:** Jackie Crocker, Sacred Heart Cathedral Townsville - jcrocker@tsv.catholic.org.au  
**Parish Admin Secretary:** Juliet Walker

**Parish Bulletins can be accessed via the Townsville Catholic Diocese website.** http://www.tsv.catholic.org.au.

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**MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATOR**

The next round of preparing adults in the RCIA program is being planned. Please advise of any interested adults who are considering learning more about the Catholic Church.

Families interested in joining a Family Group are invited to advise the Parish Office.

The next Sacramental Program, preparing young people for the Sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation, will be conducted during the next school term. Please advise the Parish office of any nominations. Letters have been sent to all schools in the Parish area requesting inclusion in their news bulletins.

The parish thanks all of our volunteers who have continued to carry out the many necessary roles that have allowed us to continue to conduct our many functions during these difficult times. It is a source of inspiration for us all.

**FATHER ROD WARD, ADMINISTRATOR - SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL PARISH**

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**PARISH NOTICES**

**Parish Baptism:** Baptisms are now permitted with a maximum of 80 people which includes celebrant. For more info, ring the Parish office 4771 4461

**Parish Hoy:** Cancelled until further notice.

**Cathedral Parish Women’s Group:** Meeting cancelled.

**Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish Reflection Program:** Deferred

**Sacred Heart Cathedral 2020 Sacramental Program:** Sacred Heart Cathedral 2020 Sacramental Program’s commencement date is deferred.

**The Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish Office** is still open from Monday to Friday 9:30am to 5pm. For all enquiries, please contact 4771 4461 or email: cathedralparish@tsv.catholic.org.au.

**Cherish Life Townsville:** The next meeting for Cherish Life Townsville will be on the 31st August 2020, 7:30pm in Aitkenvale Library.

**Baptism this Week:** The parish warmly welcomes Gelward John Hold, Seylah Daisy Bulgarelli and Isla Lee Condon who will be baptised in Sacred Heart Cathedral this Sunday.

**Mass Livestream:** Sunday Mass from the Sacred Heart Cathedral will continue to be Live Streamed for the community. You can find the stream here https://www.youtube.com/c/SacredHeartCathTSV. Prayer resources and other important information can be found www.tsv.catholic.org.au/COVID-19

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**Parish Prayer List**

Please pray for:  

Polly Betts; Brian Keogh; John Mehedy; Susan Alexander, Rosa Maria Santos, Chase Rafael Payne, Kevin Coyne, Fr Colin Mason & Frauke Knobl.

O Almighty, everlasting God, eternal salvation of those who believe, hear our prayers on behalf of your ailing servants for whom we implore the aid of your mercy, that with health restored to them, they may offer thanksgiving to you. Amen

* Please be advised that the parish office requires individual and/or family permission for inclusion in the public prayer list under the Privacy Amendment (Enhancing Privacy Protection) Act 2012.
**Catholic Youth Commission, Townsville Diocese:** Bishop Tim is establishing a Diocesan Youth Commission and is looking for members. If you love God, care about young people, live in or beyond Townsville and enjoy working in a team to create and develop vision and strategies you may want to put in an Expression of Interest. Email youth@tsv.catholic.org.au to receive an Information Pack and register for an information session (dates: 18/08/20 or 29/08/20). For more information contact our Youth Office – 4726 3262. Closing date: Friday 4 September.

**Grace Upon Grace Retreat:** The House of Prayer invites you to join us from the 24th of September to 30th September on a 6 day retreat ‘Grace Upon Grace’. Live in accommodation available. For more information please contact House of Prayer 4728 9861 or houseofprayer@tsv.catholic.org.au

**Gregory the Great** was born in Rome in 540 AD. He used his own money to establish monasteries in Rome and Sicily, and eventually became a monk himself at the age of 35. In 590 AD, he became the first monk to be elected pope and the first pope to take the name Gregory. He was known as a great statesman and is accounted the fourth of the great Latin doctors of the church. His influence on church music gave rise to plainsong becoming known as Gregorian chant. Gregory the Great was the father of the medieval papacy, and he was instrumental in helping Western Europe rise from the ashes of the fallen Roman Empire. He referred to himself as “the servant of the servants of God”, a term which the popes have used ever since.

**World Day of Prayer for Creation Retreat:** Leading into the World Day of Prayer for Creation (September 1) and Season of Creation (1 September – 4 October), Catholics are encouraged to participate in a first-of-its-kind retreat. The “7 Days of Creation Reflection-Retreat” has been prepared by Columban priest Fr Charles Rue, whose ministry has for many years had a focus on the Catholic understanding of care for the environment. A complete resource guide can be found on the ACBC website – www.catholic.org.au

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**All Churches of Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish**

**Sunday mass collections from 22 / 23 August 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday Mass Collections</th>
<th>Cathedral 10am</th>
<th>Cathedral 5pm</th>
<th>St Mary’s</th>
<th>St Francis</th>
<th>St Joan of Arc</th>
<th>St Patrick’s</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>$260.40</td>
<td>$94.05</td>
<td>$146.85</td>
<td>$195.50</td>
<td>$87.50</td>
<td>$66.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>$139.90</td>
<td>$30.75</td>
<td>$67.55</td>
<td>$85.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$52.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>P/Giving Cash / DD</td>
<td>$160.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$346.00</td>
<td>$217.00</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
<td>$95.00</td>
<td>$843.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total collections for the week</strong></td>
<td><strong>$560.30</strong></td>
<td><strong>$124.80</strong></td>
<td><strong>$560.40</strong></td>
<td><strong>$497.50</strong></td>
<td><strong>$112.50</strong></td>
<td><strong>$213.40</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,068.90</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Thank you to all parishioners for your ongoing financial support of our parish and its good works. Your generosity helps continue the important ministries and services provided across the many worshipping communities in our Parish - Centred in Christ. Missions – Maintenance – Ministries*

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Prayer in this time of Crisis
Almighty and all-merciful God, lover of the human race, healer of all our wounds, In who, there is no shadow of death, save us in this time of crisis: Grant wisdom and courage to our leaders; Watch over all medical people as they tend to the sick and work for a cure; Stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation; If our doors are closed, let our hearts be open. By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear, that hope may never die and the light of Easter, the triumph of life, May shine upon us and the whole world. Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the dead, Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Holy Mary, health of the sick, pray for us.
St Joseph, guardian of us all, pray for us.

For those who care for the sick
Father of mercies, we thank you for all who care for the sick. When they diagnose, give them patience. When they protect the vulnerable, give them your protection. When they work to heal, give them strength. When they comfort, give them consolation. When they are tired, give them rest. When they are discouraged, bring them your hope. May we welcome and respect them as we support one another in this time of trial.

For those seeking a cure for the virus
Come, Holy Spirit, enlighten the minds of women and men of medical science who are working to find a solution to this viral infection. Guide their research and help them discover what you provide in creation, sure ways of control, protection, inoculation and healing. Strengthen them in their tiring work and enrich in them the virtue of hope. Amen.

Continuing restrictions:
- Social distancing and hygiene
- Tracking, tracing, rapid response
- COVID safe business plans in place

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**CROSSWORD**

**Across**
3: If something is lost you must _ _ _ _ _ it
5: Jesus decided he must go to this city
6: After how many days was Jesus raised to life?
7: The wooden structure used in a crucifixion
11: The opposite of take

**Down**
1: Unable to remember
2: Jesus’ followers
3: Take the path of a leader
4: This man did not want to believe what was going to happen to Jesus
8: Move upward
9: The devil
10: We shall have eternal _ _ _ _ _ when we enter the kingdom of God

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Next Week’s Parish Roster:
05/06 September 2020: Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MINISTRIES</th>
<th>ST JOAN ARC</th>
<th>ST FRANCIS XAVIER</th>
<th>ST MARY’S</th>
<th>ST PATRICK’S</th>
<th>CATHEDRAL 10AM</th>
<th>CATHEDRAL 5PM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commentator/Leader</td>
<td>Em</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Teresita Trovato</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Reader</td>
<td>John W</td>
<td>Ruby Franklin</td>
<td>Jim Stone</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Bob Farrell</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Reader</td>
<td>Andrew S</td>
<td>Mary McAuliffe</td>
<td>Anne Steinemann</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Rochelle Trovato</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prayers of Faithful</td>
<td>Lena Williamson</td>
<td></td>
<td>Paul Fanning</td>
<td></td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Eric Keenan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Counts: Tuesday, 01 September 2020 - Terry McAuliffe and Ruby Franklin

| Children’s Liturgy | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Piety Stall | - | - | - | Pam & Tom Rush | Pam & Tom Rush |

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