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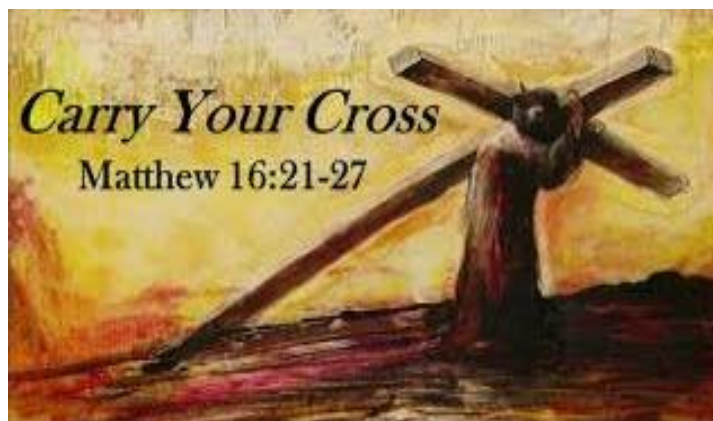
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A

29th/30th August 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Welcome to the Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time.



We do our best to live faithful lives, yet we still go through difficult times. Weren't our prayers and faithful service meant to please God? So, how come life isn't easier?

Sometimes doing what we believe God is asking of us puts us in conflict, not only with the world outside, but even with those closest to us - friends and family. This leaves us questioning: "Did I get it wrong? Aren't I doing my best to do God's will? Then, why has my life gotten so difficult? Where is God in this mess?"

There is a message for us in Jeremiah's lament. Faithfulness to God does not always make life easier. Many of us know something of Jeremiah's complaint. We pray, try to live faithfully, practice forgiveness, care for those in need, serve our church community, and stand up for what is right. Then how come some things get worse rather than better? Like Jeremiah, we might feel "duped" and complain, "God, I trusted you. Why did you let this happen to me?"

Isn't it striking how this faithful prophet does not hide his anger, frustration, and disappointment from God? But, as contradictory as it may seem, complaint can actually be an expression of faith in God. Even though Jeremiah is frustrated and disappointed, he is still speaking to God. He still believes God is there listening to him.

The Gospel reminds us that Christianity does not guarantee us an easy life. Jesus promises his disciples that following him will give them life, but he also makes clear that accepting the richer life he offers will involve sacrifice. If we accept the cross, it will not end in death. The cross does not have the last word. Resurrection does!

Peter does not want to hear that Jesus is going to Jerusalem. He knows that Jesus will suffer there. Even worse, if Peter and the others follow Jesus, they too will suffer. Peter cannot imagine that suffering and death could be part of God's plan. Don't we understand Peter's dilemma? It is ours as well. We want to hear that God will protect us from suffering, loss, and disappointment. But it is clear that Jesus does not offer Peter, or us, an easy road. Jesus is not saying that we should go out of our way to suffer. But if we forgive, speak the truth, remain faithful to him, and live according to his teachings despite the cost, it is going to hurt us.

Like Peter, I would prefer Christianity without the kind of discipleship Jesus offers. I want a faith that comforts me but does not challenge me. But Jesus asks us the same question he asked his disciples: "What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?"

What would the life Jesus is offering, with its cross, look like now, in this world? It would mean becoming compassionate people, having integrity and strength in our relationships, and being courageous as we speak and act on behalf of the least among us. What a paradox! We find our true life not by clinging desperately to ourselves, but by giving ourselves away in love.

Blessings, Father Morgan.

Kingaroy Nanango Catholic Parishes Collection

"Thanks to your generosity, we collected a total of \$1565.80 over the last weekend — every dollar helps us make a difference!"

(This amount does not include any Direct Credit.)

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Friday 28 th August	Cooyar	6pm	Vigil
Saturday 29 th August	Blackbutt	5pm	Liturgy
Sunday 30 th August	Kumbia	8am	Liturgy
	Nanango	8am	Mass
	Kingaroy	10am	Mass

First Reading	Jeremiah 20:7-9
Responsorial Psalm	My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.
Second Reading	Romans 12:1-2
Gospel Acclamation	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	Matthew 16:21-27

WEEKDAY MASS OF 22ND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Thursday 3 rd September	Blackbutt	9am	Liturgy
	Kumbia	5:30pm	Mass
			ANNOINTING MASS
Friday 4 th September	Kingaroy	9am	Mass
	Nanango	12pm	Mass

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 5 th September	Blackbutt	5pm	Mass
Sunday 6 th September	Kumbia	8am	Liturgy
	Nanango	8am	Mass
Children's Liturgy	-	Kingaroy	10am
			Mass

PARISH PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Death Anniversaries: May Manthorpe, Dick Ryan, Dafyd Martindale, Caroline O'Sullivan, Noelene Hayes, Barry Hayes.

Prayers for the sick:

OLHC Parish - Amelia Cole, Greg Knaggs, Damian Wyvill, Bruce McCarthy, Shirley Warner, Wendy Smith, Kyle Sutherland (Perrett), Kylie Lane, Chris Stevens, Luke Colahan.

St Mary's Parish - Denise Mann, Liz Mamczur, Ellie Spicer, Joe Smoothy, Judy Stanton, Jo Saunders, Michael Carroll, Therese Hanley, Teresa O'Sullivan, Juliette McCorley, Bruce McCarthy, Rikie Brinkman, Bernice Mahoney, Julianne Cross, Megan Manthey, Brian Smith, Lisa Kennedy, Mary O'Neil.

NANANGO PLAYFEST - 4-6 SEPTEMBER 2026

NANANGO PLAYFEST – 3 days of live entertainment at the Nanango Cultural centre on Father's Day Weekend.
Saturday night - a 3-course meal for \$30 PP.
3 DAY PASS \$50 pp, 2 HOUR Session \$15 PP
Book online. Tickets available on trybooking.com



CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN

Last weekend, our parish held an appeal for the Annual Catholic Campaign in support of the important local ministries in our Archdiocese. Thank you to everyone who responded generously to Archbishop Shane's call for support.

If you didn't get a chance to make a gift last week, there is still time. If you took the envelope home, please pop it in the mail or leave it here on your way out after Mass. You can also give online by scanning the QR code on the envelope, or going to catholiccampaign.com.au Your tax-deductible gift will be put straight to work by funding the vital Catholic ministries in our local community.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office.

Thank you again for your faithfulness and generosity.

FACEBOOK PAGE

Please 'Follow' or 'Like' our Kingaroy Nanango Catholic Parishes Facebook Page for Parish news, information and photos.

Season of Creation

Season of Creation runs from 1 September to 4 October each year, with this year's theme "Living Water," reflecting on the hope and healing God brings even in dark times.

Living the Gospel - Have you got what it takes?

For some people, to be a Christian is a 'soft option' – they see being Christian as being a bit 'fluffy'. This week's gospel is a reminder of the real challenge of being a Christian. Jesus reminds us that to be one of his followers we must be prepared to pick up our cross – whatever our particular cross might be – and still follow his example. To be a Christian means that we don't fall in a heap when difficulty comes our way; we take up the burden – our cross – and continue to look forward with hope. To live like Jesus is no easy option. (Extract from Liturgy Help)

Father's Day Raffle

St Mary's Kingaroy Raffle – Drawn Sunday 6th September
See ticket sellers this weekend to get your tickets.

1st Prize: ESKY GIFT PACK

2nd Prize: \$50.00 Fuel Voucher

3rd Prize: \$30.00 Hotel voucher

Tickets: \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00.

All proceeds to painting of St Mary's Church and Hall.