

Gospels for the Liturgical Year – Short Course – ACU Centre for Liturgy & Garratt Publishing

Week 2 – Celebrating the Lectionary Year A Notes – Professor Clare Johnson

Navigating the books

- Begin with Advent →
- Christmas Time →
- Lent, Palm Sunday, Paschal Triduum →
- Easter Time →
- Ordinary Time (2nd to 33rd) →
 - 1st Sunday of OT is the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (final Xmas entry) followed by the weekdays of the first week of OT
 - 34th Sunday of OT is Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe followed by the weekdays of the 34th week of OT
- Holydays Solemnities and Feasts
- Because date of Easter changes every year (determined according to lunar cycle: Easter is the Sunday after the first full moon following the Spring Equinox in the northern hemisphere) the number of Ordinary Time Sundays which occur between Christmas Time and Ash Wednesday changes each year. In order to enable you to use the three books again & again, all of the Sundays of Ordinary Time have been grouped together – to determine which Sunday we are up to, use the Ordo or Liturgical Calendar (which changes every calendar year) in conjunction with the *Celebrating the Lectionary* books – then you can use them for years to come!

The Year of Grace Liturgical Calendar

- Designed as a companion to the *Celebrating the Lectionary*
- Annual Poster – dates change because the date of Easter changes (dependent on the lunar cycle) and other dates rely on Easter
- Australian version (available through Garratt Publishing) lines up with our Liturgical Calendar
- Attractive classroom resource
- 2022 Booklet explaining how to use it can be downloaded from Garratt Publishing website

Focus on Matthew

- Primary Gospel read in Year A (elements of John in Easter Time)
- Matthew first in most ancient scripture sources
- Unique elements in Matthew:
 - The Church needs to be built on rock (Matt 16:18)
 - Sermon on the Mount (5:1-7:29)
 - The Beatitudes (5:3-12)
 - The Lord's Prayer (6:9-13)
- Probably written around 80-90CE, near Antioch in Syria
- Gospel proclaimed by Jewish missionaries in the 30s who converted both Jews & Gentiles
- Strong echoes of Jewish Christianity in Matt
- Evangelist is not Matthew the Apostle – likely a 2nd-3rd generation Jewish convert, a scribe
- Great respect for the Law, but only as Jesus interpreted it [old wineskins, new wine (9:17)]

Lectionary arrangement of Matthew (1:1-28:30) (Raymond E Brown SS)

1:1-2:23	Introduction: Origin and Infancy of Jesus the Messiah (Advent 4 & Xmas)
3:1-7:29	Part One: Proclamation of the Kingdom John the Baptist (3:1-12) Advent 2 Temptation of JC (4:1-11) Lent 1 Kingdom Proclamation (4:12-7:29) Sundays 3-9
8:1-10:42	Part Two: Ministry and Mission in Galilee (Sundays 10-13)
11:1-13:52	Part Three: Questioning of and Opposition to Jesus (Sundays 14-17)
13:53-18:35	Part Four: Christology and Ecclesiology (Sundays 18-24)
19:1-25:46	Part Five: Journey to and Ministry in Jerusalem (Sundays 25 to Xt the King)
26:1-28:30	Climax: Passion, Death, and Resurrection (Passiontide and Easter Time)

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Holydays, Solemnities, Feasts

- Jan 26 **Australia Day** (National Day of Prayer)
 - Feb 6 **Waitangi Day** (National Day of Prayer – Aotearoa/NZ)
 - March 17 Saint **Patrick** (Solemnity Australia/Feast NZ)
 - March 19 Solemnity of St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 - March 25 Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord (to Mary)
 - April 25 **ANZAC Day** (National Day of Remembrance)
 - May 24 Solemnity of **Our Lady Help of Christians** (Memorial NZ)
 - Sunday after Pentecost: Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity
 - Sunday after Trinity Sunday: Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
 - Friday after the Second Sunday after Pentecost: Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
 - June 24 Solemnity of the Nativity of St John the Baptist
 - June 29 Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles
 - August 6 Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord
 - August 8 Solemnity of Saint **Mary of the Cross MacKillop** (Feast NZ)
 - August 15 Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 - September 14 Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
 - November 1 Solemnity of All Saints
 - November 2 The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls)
 - November 9 Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
 - December 8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Important or unique to Australia/NZ (and so added to the books) are **bolded***

Unique to Celebrating the Lectionary Year A

- ❖ Additional sessions on Saints not found in the US versions
- ❖ Range of Saints that occur in the Australian/New Zealand Liturgical Calendar
- ❖ Variety of fascinating Saints; appropriate gender balance
- ❖ Saints are not linked to a specific liturgical year (i.e., A/B/C)
- ❖ You can use them in any year as they are attached to a specific calendar date
- ❖ Different selection for each liturgical year/volume
- ❖ Many of the saints linked to major religious orders involved in education (founder's days/patron days) have been included

Lectionary Year A Saints (only found in *Celebrating the Lectionary Year A*, but able to be used in every calendar year)

- Dec 3 Saint Francis Xavier (one of the founders of the Jesuits)
- Jan 27 Saint Angela Merici (Ursuline)
- January 31 Saint John Bosco (Salesians)
- Feb 6/Feb 7 NZ Memorial of St Paul Miki and Companions (16th c. Japanese Jesuit martyrs)
- Feb 10 Saint Scholastica (Benedictine)
- April 29 Memorial of St Catherine of Siena (Dominican)
- July 24 Optional Memorial of St Sharbel Makhlūf (Maronite)
- July 31 Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Loyola (founder of the Jesuits)
- August 3 Memorial of Saint Dominic (founder of the Dominicans) (in Australia, because celebrating the Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop supersedes what was Dominic's traditional memorial date on August 8)
- Saints are generally celebrated on their death date anniversary – the date of their entry into eternal life.