

knew he would need help if he wanted his message to reach as many people as possible.

It was the disciples who seemed to do most of the negotiating for the everyday necessities (a place to stay, food for the crowds, etc.). There is a great lesson in this Gospel for all of us. If even Jesus needed people to nurture and encourage him, consider how important the support of a loving community is for us, and our children. Staying committed to Christian values is not always easy in today's society. This is why it is essential to surround your children and yourself with people who share your values.

Christians are not theists. We do not believe in a "me and God" approach to religion. We are Christians; we find God all around us, especially in other people. A faith community is essential for Christians. Become involved in your church, get to know people socially so your children have other role models to look up to.

Our children also need to see that Mom or Dad sometimes



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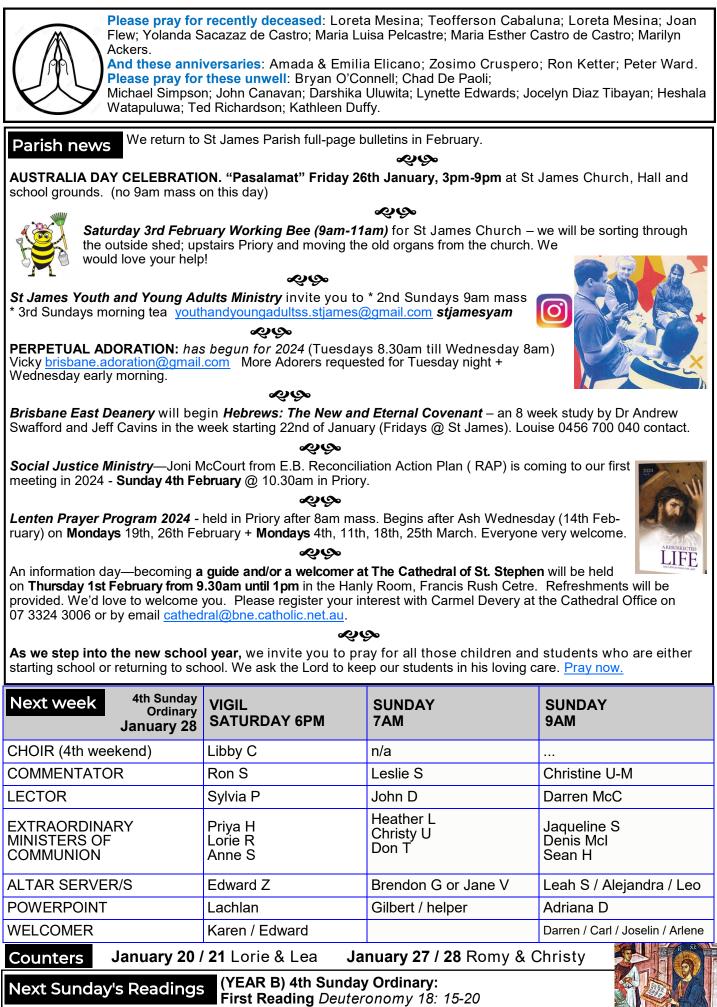
"The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe the gospel."

Sheepish Question:

When do I need courage to fully believe and live by God's way?

needs help. Parents make mistakes and messes that have to be fixed or cleaned up too. Children need to see that even their parents, on occasion, need their help. All of this is part of teaching our children to be interdependent, a crucial learning if they are going to understand what it means to be a Christian.





I will put my words into the prophet's mouth, and he will tell them all I command. Second Reading 1 Corinthians 7: 32-35 The unmarried woman dedicates herself to the things of the Lord, that she might be holy. Gospel Reading Mark 1: 21-28 This is a new kind of teaching that speaks with authority.

