

St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Sixteenth Sunday in Ord. Time
Year B, 21 July, 2024

Embracing the communities of
Cherbourg, Goomeri, Murgon,
Proston and Wondai



Unity in Diversity ... being one in Christ through Baptism!

The Surrender Novena:

Let Jesus take care of everything

Maura Roan Mckeegan

Servant of God Don Dolindo Ruotolo was a contemporary and friend of Padre Pio. Saint Pio said Don Dolindo was a 'saint' and that "the whole of Paradise" was in his soul.

Don Dolindo called himself "Mary's little old man". He lived in such great poverty that his own family turned away from him. He opened his arms without fear to embrace contagious sick people, caressing and kissing them. He offered himself as a victim soul for mankind, and was afflicted with many sufferings, including complete paralysis for the last 10 years of his life. But he suffered with joy, because he suffered for love.

He also had the gift of prophecy, writing to Bishop Huilica in 1965 that "a new John will rise out of Poland with heroic steps to break the chains beyond the boundaries imposed by the communist tyranny." This prophecy was realised in Pope John Paul II.

Many miracles have been attributed to Don Dolindo's intercession, both before and after his death.

Don Dolindo received from Jesus the words of 'Surrender Novena'. It is a prayer that is especially timely now, when world events feel out of control, and we are trying to grow in trust and abandonment to God's providence.

"You see evil growing instead of weakening?" Jesus says in this prayer. "Do not worry. Close your eyes and say to me with faith: 'Thy will be done, You take care of it.' I say to you that I will take care of it, and that I will intervene as does a doctor and I will accomplish miracles when they are needed."



"O Jesus, I surrender myself to You, take care of everything!"

It's also timely when our own personal suffering is threatening to overwhelm us and steal our peace.

"Repose in me, believing in my goodness, and I promise you by my love that if you say, 'You take care of it; I will take care of it,' Jesus' words in the prayer assure us.

As I write this, I have been holding back tears, because I just found out that, at least for the remainder of Lent, we will not be able to attend Mass in our diocese because of the pandemic. The idea of not being able to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, especially during a crisis, is crushing.

Yet this great suffering, this separation, is a chance to be united with Jesus in the Garden and on Calvary. We can join with Him, in a small way, in the isolation, loneliness, distance from God, and abandonment He felt. In being with Him there, we can console His Sacred Heart. (Padre Pio wrote a beautiful reflection on the Agony in the Garden that you can find here that explains in more depth how we can accompany Jesus in His suffering.)

Jesus abandoned Himself completely to His Father's will. As this Lent unfolds before us in ways we never imagined, Don Dolindo's Surrender Novena gives us a way to follow Jesus in His total abandonment, and to let Him "take care of everything."

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Sunday Mass Times

Murgon		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	Sunday	8.00am
Wondai		
every	Saturday	5.00pm
WEEK	DAY	TIME
Proston		
every	Saturday	9.00am
Goomeri		
every	Sunday	6.00pm
Gayndah		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays	10.30am
every	2nd, 4th Sundays	9.00am
Cherbourg		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
5	Sunday	4.30pm
Weekday Mass Times		
12 noon, Wednesday, Gayndah		
5.00pm, Wednesday, Wondai		
9.00am, 2nd, 4th Thursdays, School/Parish Mass, Murgon		
9.00am, 1st, 3rd Thursdays, Castra		
Holy Hour for Peace		
Wondai, 4.00pm to 5.00pm, Wednesday, before Mass		

Today's readings

Jeremiah 23: 1-6; Ephesians 2: 13-18; Mark 6: 30-34

Response:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

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The Surrender Novena

Day 1

Why do you confuse yourselves by worrying? Leave the care of your affairs to me and everything will be peaceful. I say to you in truth that every act of true, blind, complete surrender to me produces the effect that you desire and resolves all difficult situations.

O Jesus, I surrender myself to you, take care of everything! (10 times)

Day 2

Surrender to me does not mean to fret, to be upset, or to lose hope, nor does it mean offering to me a worried prayer asking me to follow you and change your worry into prayer. It is against this surrender, deeply against it, to worry, to be nervous and to desire to think about the consequences of anything.

It is like the confusion that children feel when they ask their mother to see to their needs, and then try to take care of those needs for themselves so that their childlike efforts get in their mother's way. Surrender means to placidly close the eyes of the soul, to turn away from thoughts of tribulation and to put yourself in my care, so that only I act, saying, "You take care of it."

O Jesus, I surrender myself to you, take care of everything! (10 times)

Day 3

How many things I do when the soul, in so much spiritual and material need, turns to me, looks at me and says to me, "You take care of it," then closes its eyes and rests. In pain you pray for me to act, but that I act in the way you want. You do not turn to me, instead, you want me to adapt to your ideas. You are not sick people who ask the doctor to cure you, but rather sick people who tell the doctor how to. So do not act this way, but pray as I taught you in the Our Father: "Hallowed be thy Name," that is, be glorified in my need. "Thy kingdom come," that is, let all that is in us and in the world be in accord with your kingdom. "Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven," that is, in our need, decide as you see fit for our temporal and eternal life. If you say to me truly: "Thy will be done," which is the same as saying: "You take care of it," I will intervene with all my omnipotence, and I will resolve the most difficult situations.

O Jesus, I surrender myself to you, take care of everything! (10 times)

Day 4

You see evil growing instead of weakening? Do not worry. Close your eyes and say to me with faith: "Thy will be done, You take care of it." I say to you that I will take care of it, and that I will intervene as does a doctor and I will accomplish miracles when they are needed. Do you see that the sick person is getting worse? Do not be upset, but close your eyes and say, "You take care of it." I say to you that I will take care of it, and that there is no medicine more powerful than my loving intervention. By my love, I promise this to you.

O Jesus, I surrender myself to you, take care of everything! (10 times)

Day 5

And when I must lead you on a path different from the one you see, I will prepare you; I will carry you in my arms; I will let you find yourself, like children who have fallen asleep in their mother's arms, on the other bank of the river. What troubles you and hurts you immensely are your reason, your thoughts and worry, and your desire at all costs to deal with what afflicts you.

O Jesus, I surrender myself to you, take care of everything! (10 times)

Day 6

You are sleepless; you want to judge everything, direct everything and see to everything and you surrender to human strength, or worse – to men themselves, trusting in their intervention – this is what hinders my words and my views. Oh, how much I wish from you this surrender, to help you; and how I suffer when I see you so agitated! Satan tries to do exactly this: to agitate you and to remove you from my protection and to throw you into the jaws of human initiative. So, trust only in me, rest in me, surrender to me in everything.

O Jesus, I surrender myself to you, take care of everything! (10 times)

Day 7

I perform miracles in proportion to your full surrender to me and to your not thinking of yourselves. I sow treasure troves of graces when you are in the deepest poverty. No person of reason, no thinker, has ever performed miracles, not even among the saints. He does divine works whosoever surrenders to God. So don't think about it any more, because your mind is acute and for you it is very hard to see evil and to trust in me and to not think of yourself. Do this for all your needs, do this, all of you,



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We pray for those who are sick:
Orlando Dyrity; Wendy Heidemann;
David McIntosh.

and you will see great continual silent miracles. I will take care of things, I promise this to you.

O Jesus, I surrender myself to you, take care of everything! (10 times)

Day 8

TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD OF THE PARISH OF ST JOSEPH'S MURGON

The Agreement with the Bishop of Wagga Wagga for Fr John Fowles' secondment to the Archdiocese of Brisbane concludes at the end of this year. Therefore Fr John will complete his term as Administrator of Saint Joseph's parish, Murgon on 31 December. I am grateful for his ministry in the Archdiocese of Brisbane.

In the coming weeks I plan to seek Expressions of Interest from the clergy of the Archdiocese for the role of pastor of Saint Joseph's parish, which includes the communities of Murgon, Cherbourg, Goomeri, Proston and Wondai.

In the meantime, **you are invited** to a parish gathering with representatives of the College of Consultors who will take time to listen to parishioners' thoughts on the current state and future needs of the parish.

The gathering will take place in Murgon on the morning of **Saturday, 10 August**. Details will follow in the parish newsletter in the weeks ahead. I hope you can attend.

May the God of peace bless you in every way.

Archbishop of Brisbane, 16 July 2024