

THE BULLETIN

ST THERESA'S PARISH

2-3 NOVEMBER 2019

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR C

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Philip was getting ready to graduate from university. For many months he had admired a beautiful sports car in a dealer's showroom, and knowing his father could well afford it, he told him he wanted this car as a graduation gift from the family. His father did nothing. As his graduation day approached, Philip awaited signs that his father had purchased the car.

Finally, the day after his graduation, his father called him into his study and told him how proud he was to have such a fine son, and that he loved him. He handed Philip a beautifully wrapped box. Philip opened the box and found a beautiful, leather-bound Bible, with Philip's name embossed in gold. He did not even take the Bible out of the box.

Angrily, he yelled at his father and said, 'Is this it? With all your money you give me a Bible?' and stormed out of the house, leaving the Bible behind. Philip's family ran after him, but he jumped in his car and sped away. He refused to answer his mobile phone, even when his family kept ringing it for hours and hours.

Very late that night, when he had cooled down somewhat, he drove home to discover that his father had suffered a massive heart attack and died two hours before. His father had a history of heart disease. His furious and heart-broken mother told him to go and find the Bible which was the cause of the scene that morning.

He found the Bible right where he had thrown it down on his father's desk. With tears, he opened the Bible and began to turn the pages. He came to a bookmark where his father had carefully underlined a verse, Matt 7:11, 'And if you, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your Heavenly Father in heaven give to those who ask Him?'

As he read those words, a car key dropped from the back of the Bible. It had a tag with the dealer's name, the same dealer who had the sports car he had desired. On the tag was the date of his graduation, and the words...PAID IN FULL. Philip broke down and sobbed.

How many times do we miss God's blessings because they are not packaged as we expected?

The Gospel we have just heard is often called, 'the little man's revenge'. Zacchaeus was the least likely person in Jericho to host Jesus at dinner. In fact, as this marvellous story goes, that was the last thing on his mind as well. All Zacchaeus seems to have wanted is get a good look at Jesus who was on a 'walkabout' in the village.

Jesus, however, seized the opportunity, given him by the actions of Jericho's chief tax collector, to teach everyone about how God's Kingdom comes in extraordinary packages. Because of his job, the local Jewish community would have hated Zacchaeus and yet Jesus does two things that welcome into the family of God: he calls him by name and dines with him. Jesus might have gone in the door of Zacchaeus' home, but he brings Zacchaeus out through God's door. He enables Zacchaeus to face up to his extortion and wealth and to claim his salvation.

It's the same with us. If only we have the eyes to see, the ears to hear and the arms to embrace, Jesus comes to us through the most unusual people, times and places. We are his family, he calls us by name and he dines with us as often as we choose to accept his standing invitation to this table. But there's a price tag: we are meant to be different people for this encounter, generous with all we have to offer the world and transparent in all our relationships.

No matter how lost we are, how far up a tree we get stuck or even when we are consumed with regret at the dreadful judgements we have made about the wrapping of God's gifts, Jesus calls us by name, invites us to his table and tells us that salvation is near at hand.

© Richard Leonard SJ

Richard Leonard SJ is the Director of the Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting, is a member of the Australian Catholic Media Council and a film critic for all the major Australian Catholic newspapers. He completed a PhD in cinema studies at the University of Melbourne. He lectures in cinema and theology at the Jesuit College of Spirituality and has been a visiting lecturer in Australian cinema at the University of Melbourne, a visiting scholar within the School of Theatre, Film and Television at UCLA and is visiting professor at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Catholic University, has lectured widely and is the author of numerous books.

RECENTLY DECEASED

George Keryk

HEALING FOR THE SICK

Peter Brown (Denis Brown's Brother)

Parishioners:

Lynne McRae

Len Pauli

Neville Preece

Eric Howe

Moya Schaefer

Rosemary & Brian Carter

Friends and Family

Anna Sellar (Trish & Terry Sheely's daughter)

Bernadette Welch

(friend of Bette Flamsted)

Kathleen le Gras (Sister of Sr Una)

Shona Kraayvanger

(Gabrielle Adam's daughter)

Joe Short (Powell family group)

Indiana Harman

(Ray & Madeline Taylor's Granddaughter)

Louis Gandini (Lina Pervan's brother)

Connie Bamgart (Lina Pervan's friend)

Peter & Elaine Dillon

(Vivienne Price's father & mother)

Patricia Jenkins (Thel Jelley's cousin)

Roslyn Morton (Patrick's sister)

Simon Riethmuller (Shirley's son)

Max Shearer (Grandson - Judy Shearer)

John Mullen (Helen McNaught's nephew)

Archie Mullen (Helen McNaught's brother)

Rev. Brian Sparksman

Fr Peter McGrath .CP

John Morgan (Kathy Sternes Uncle)

Veronica Griinke (Friend & neighbour of Kathryn & Paul Marangelli)

Molly Schmidt (Aileen Collins' friend)

ANNIVERSARIES

Mary Franzmann

Grace Jones

Doreen Dunne

Warren Smith

Gwen Savage

Marie Sheridan

Fr William McGovern

MASSES

READINGS

BAPTISM

MON	NO MASS
TUE	NO MASS
WED	9.00AM Lay Led Liturgy
THU	NO MASS
FRI	9.00AM MASS
SAT	6PM MASS
SUN	9.30 AM MASS
<p>RECONCILIATION IS AVAILABLE BEFORE MASS OR BY APPOINTMENT</p>	
<p>If you require a Gluten Free host, please advise the</p>	

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
First Reading: *Wisdom 11:22 - 12:2*
 You have mercy on all things because you love everything that exists.
Responsorial Psalm:
Psalm 144: 1-2, 8-11,13-14
 I will praise you name forever, my king and my God.
Second Reading:
Thessalonians 1: 11 - 2:2
 The name of our Lord Jesus Christ will be glorified in you and you in him.
Gospel Acclamation: John 3:16
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 God loved the world so much he gave us his only Son that all who believe in him might have eternal life.
 Alleluia!
Gospel: Luke 19: 1-10
 The Son of Man came to seek and to find that which was lost.
Next week's readings.
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14
Thessalonians 2: 16 - 16 3:5
Luke 20: 27-38

Baptisms are celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month either during Mass at 9.30am or after Mass at 11.00am



Consolation Message



*Although it is difficult today to see beyond the sorrow.
 May looking back in memory help comfort you tomorrow.*

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

Preparing for the Australian Church's Plenary Council 2020 (PC2020) reminds us that the Catholic Church is a vast collection of local Churches. Western Catholics call these local Churches "dioceses"; they are led by bishops. (Eastern Christians call local Churches "eparchies"; their leaders are eparchs.)

These dioceses and their bishops are independent of each other. Bishops are not "under the authority" of any other bishop ... except one. Throughout the world, all Catholic dioceses acknowledge that the Bishop of Rome has a special role of caring for, leading and keeping in unity his fellow bishops and their people. Thus the Pope helps the Church throughout the world exhibit a real unity while rejoicing in its great diversity.

Most dioceses in the same country, also seek to support each other and display a local unity within the world-wide Church. The Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference (ACBC) is an example of this mutual support in our country.

PC2020 was instigated by ACBC. (Actually, we are confident it was instigated by the Holy Spirit, through ACBC.) But it is not an "event" just for bishops and other clerics. It is a process in which the laity, who make up more than 99% of the membership of the Church, have been called to be active and to take important roles.

Let's stay excited about PC2020!

Gerard Hore

HELP RAISE AWARENESS AND EMPOWER WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD

You're invited to:

A PICNIC IN THE PARK

Come and join women from around the Diocese for a relaxing afternoon in the park.

Sit and chat with friends or meet new ones.

Date: Saturday 9th November

Time: 2 - 4pm

Place: Botanic Gardens, Cnr Lindsay and Campbell Sts, Toowoomba

Details: Please bring a plate to share and a picnic rug or chair. Water and cold drinks provided.

A gold coin donation for Women for the World would be appreciated

For more details please contact Catherine on 4638 7977 or 0429 479 681

To learn more about Women for the World visit: www.womenfortheworld.org.au

NOTICES



WHAT'S NEWS

CARE & CONCERN HEALING MASS

Invitations to the Care & Concern Healing Mass on the Thursday 14 November are available to be collected from the foyer. If you have been accidentally overlooked, please contact the office on 4639 4688 to arrange your invitation.

CHILDREN FOR CHRISTMAS EVE LITURGY

Christmas Eve Mass at St Theresa's has a special role for children. Any families with children or relatives visiting with children who will be attending St Theresa's Christmas Eve Mass and would like to participate in the Liturgy. A sign up sheet is now in the foyer, or contact Monica at the office PH: 4639 4688, Email monica@sttheresas.org.au

SINGERS AND MUSICIANS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

In our planning for Christmas liturgies we are interested in any musicians and singers who would like to play/sing at Christmas Eve and/or Day mass. If you are interested please let the parish office know or write your name on the list, in the foyer, at the Church with your contact details.



Choir practice will start Sunday 10 & 24 November after 9.30 am Mass. Additional practices will be held in December, dates yet to be finalised.

SPRED INFORMATION EVENING

SPRED...because no one should feel like a stranger in their own house
 SPRED aims to support the religious, spiritual, social and emotional wellbeing of people with an intellectual disability by offering appropriate spiritual and religious experiences for faith development. Being a part of a SPRED group provides a bridge for persons with an intellectual disability that facilitates their full participation in the liturgical life of the Church.



INVITATION TO FIND OUT MORE...

DATE: Wednesday, 6th November 2019

TIME: 6:30pm – 7.15pm

WHERE: SPRED Centre, 34 Hume Street Toowoomba
 Ph. 4632 8427

SPRED is having a friend to walk beside you in the everyday happenings of life, which is exactly where God is to be found. Could you be a friend to someone in SPRED? Why not come along to the information evening to find out more.

LITTLE BLUE BOOKS FOR ADVENT

Little Blue Books are available in the foyer for daily Advent reflections. Cost is \$2.00 per book.

NOVEMBER DOMESTIC VIOLENCE APPEAL

Once again Joann Hodal has generously volunteered to collect and organise the domestic violence packages from St Theresa's.

Toiletries, toothpaste and personal hygiene items etc are ideal donations. Cash donations are also gratefully accepted.

Baskets will be available in the foyer for you to place your donations or they can be left at the parish office.

The office is closed on a Wednesday.



SOCIAL JUSTICE MELBOURNE CUP FUNDRAISER

Date: 3/11/19 Sunday

Time: 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Where: St Anthony's Parish Centre, Toowoomba

All are invited to attend the annual Pre Melbourne Cup Fundraiser hosted by the Social Justice Commission. All funds raised are donated to The Dignity Project. See flyer in the foyer. Tickets also available online at www.trybooking.com



THANK YOU FROM CATHOLIC MISSIONS

Thank you for supporting this year's Catholic Mission Church Appeal through your kind gifts and prayers, and for reaching out to children and communities in need in Ghana and throughout the world.

Your generosity makes it possible for programs such as the Nazareth Home for God's Children to provide love and support for children rescued from life-threatening situations. If you are yet to return your Appeal envelope to the Parish, please do so over the coming weekends and the Parish will pass it on to Catholic Mission.

For more information about the work of Catholic Mission or the Extraordinary Missionary Month this October, please contact our friendly team on the number below, or at catholicmission.org.au/about-us/ contact.

Freecall: 1800 257 296/ catholicmission.org.au/Ghana

GOSPEL REFLECTION GROUPS

Gospel Reflection groups meet on Thursday at 5.30pm on Thursdays and Friday morning at 9.30am.

We will meet in the parish centre foyer everyone welcome. If you have any further questions, please contact Monica at the office.

Ph; 4639 4688, email: monica@sttheresas.org.au

CHILDREN'S ROSARY AT ST PAT'S

Children's Rosary at St Patrick's Cathedral Sunday 10 November at 2pm. This international prayer group is open to all school age children.



CONTACTS

Parish Priest:

Fr Brian Noonan ph:4696 7094
e-mail: brian.noonan@sttheresas.org.au

Pastoral Associate

Monica Brennan
Ph.: 4639 4688 Fax 4639 6538
e-mail: monica@sttheresas.org.au

Parish Secretary:

Janet Weier
Ph.: 4639 4688 Fax: 4639 6538
e-mail: office@sttheresas.org.au

Church: Cnr Campbell & Curzon Sts, Toowoomba

Office: 55 Curzon Street, Toowoomba

Parish Website www.sttheresas.org.au

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr Brian Noonan, Michael Murtagh, Tim Burgess, Gay Jorgensen, Vanessa Horton, Bernadatte Zimbwa, Gailene Jurgs, Matt Boyd, David Wilson, Monica Brennan.

Finance Committee

Fr. Brian Noonan, Pat Morton, Warren Dredge, Ray Taylor, Shane Blakeley, Brian Wilson, Pat Richardson, Alfia Ginardi.

Liturgy Team

Fr. Brian Noonan, Jan Mayo, Peter Kenny, Carole Rogan, Libby Rosentreter, Monica Brennan, Suzanne Cavanagh.

Musicians

Norma Kenny, Kathy Sternes, Elizabeth Stewart, Libby Rosentreter.

Baptism Team:

Cath Kelly, Jenny Ryan, Tracy George, Bernadette Hede, Alison Daniel, Anne Anderson, Jan Watkins, Maureen Burke, Angela Irvine, Mary Otto, Jane Burgess, Catherine Cooper.

Sacramental Team:

Monica Brennan, Vanessa Horton, David Wilson, Gay Jorgensen.

Consolation Team:

Fr Brian Noonan, Lyn McRae, Peter Kenny, Bette Flamsteed, Pam Merritt, Alf Mason, Moya Schaefer, Josephine Nolan, Liz Phelan, Monica Brennan

Welcome & Hospitality Team:

Paul & Kathryn Marangelli, Carole Rogan, Maureen Burke.

Family Groups:

Contact Parish Office 4639 4688

Care & Concern Team

Coordinator: Pamela Merritt



NOTICE

DATES TO REMEMBER FOR NOVEMBER

Sunday	3 November 6-9pm St Anthony's Parish Centre. Social Justice Melbourne cup fundraiser
Wednesday	6 November Council of Priests, Stanthorpe.
Saturday	9 November 2-4pm Botanic Gardens. Picnic in the park. Caritas Women of the World focus
Sat/Sun	9/10 November Scrolling of Names at both Masses
Thursday	14 November 10.30am Anointing & Healing Mass
Saturday	16 November Diocesan Pastoral Council Roma
Sunday	17 November World Day of the Poor
Friday	29 November 10.30am Releasing of Memories liturgy St Theresa's Chapel

RESOURCE: NATIONAL PRAYER CAMPAIGN FOR DROUGHT (ACBC)

The Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference has launched a National Prayer Campaign for Drought, with a focus on prayer for "the gift of rain", for those affected by the drought and for the provision of practical support services. The campaign will run during the month of November.



Second & Fourth Tuesdays /month

St Vincent de Paul St Theresa's Conference, 4pm, Contact 0408 808 437

First Tuesday/month

Care and Concern Meeting, 9.30am Parish Office.

First Wednesday /month

Parish morning tea at 9.45am, Cobb & Co Museum

Second Sunday

Mad Toowoomba Group from 7.00pm at St Anthony's. Parish Centre. (Grade 7-12 people) PH: 4636 0461

