

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Do not fear those who can kill the body.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Receive, O Lord, the sacrifice of conciliation and praise and grant that, cleansed by its action, we may make offering of a heart pleasing to you. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray...

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said...

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace.

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Ps 144: 15

The eyes of all look to you, Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Renewed and nourished by the Sacred Body and Precious Blood of your Son, we ask of your mercy, O Lord, that what we celebrate with constant devotion may be our sure pledge of redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ☩ and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R. Thanks be to God.

REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL

DO NOT BE AFRAID OF THOSE WHO KILL THE BODY

Today's Gospel is part of Jesus' mission-sending discourse. Jesus tells his disciples, now functioning as apostles, that the mission is not for the fainthearted. Some people will reject them; others may even try to have them killed. But they should not be afraid of those who kill the body; they cannot kill the soul.

In this saying, we may have a glimpse of the Greek distinction between the immortal soul and mortal body. But it is perhaps better to see 'body' and 'soul/life' as two aspects of the one human being, not two parts. The saying is thus interpreted: human beings cannot kill life itself – real life, that is. Only God can destroy the body and the life given it. The 'one who can destroy' refers to God and to no one else, not even the devil. The Jewish rabbis would put it thus: the killing by a king of flesh and blood is not an eternal killing, but the killing performed by the King of all kings is; he kills, for this age and the age to come.

Matthew shares the latter Jewish notion – espoused in the books of Daniel, Maccabees, Wisdom – that the end of the body is not the end of life, because God will give a new body which will live in God's kingdom. The interest here is not the depiction of the state after death, but to call men and women to be without fear in this life, because there is only one who deserves to be feared: God himself. 'Fear of God,' however, is not an anxiety which is often irrational. Fear is a rational avoidance of what can really cause harm – a loss of trust and devotion to God and in Jesus, his Son.

FR GIL ALINSANGAN SSP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

25 June 2017

DO NOT BE AFRAID. In the face of many attacks Jesus courageously proclaimed the Good News of the kingdom. His courage stemmed from his firm belief in the Father's love for him. Likewise, the prophet Jeremiah was not destroyed by intense opposition because he knew that his cause was with God. May we also be courageous witnesses to the values of the Gospel knowing that God's love for us far outweighs any opposition we may encounter.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 27: 8-9

The Lord is the strength of his people, a saving refuge for the one he has anointed. Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage, and govern them for ever.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. Lord Jesus, you have revealed yourself as the way to the Father: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You have poured out on your people the Spirit of truth: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the Good Shepherd, leading us to eternal life: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

COLLECT

P. Grant, O Lord, that we may always revere and love your holy name, for you never deprive of your guidance those you set firm on the foundation of your love. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

FIRST READING 20: 10-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.
He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of those who are evil.

Jeremiah said:

I hear so many disparaging me, 'Terror from every side!' Denounce him! Let us denounce him!' All those who used to be my friends watched for my downfall, 'Perhaps he will be seduced into error. Then we will master him and take our revenge!' But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero; my opponents will stumble, mastered, confounded by their failure; everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs. But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice, who scrutinise the loins and heart, let me see the vengeance you will take on them, for I have committed my cause to you. Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.

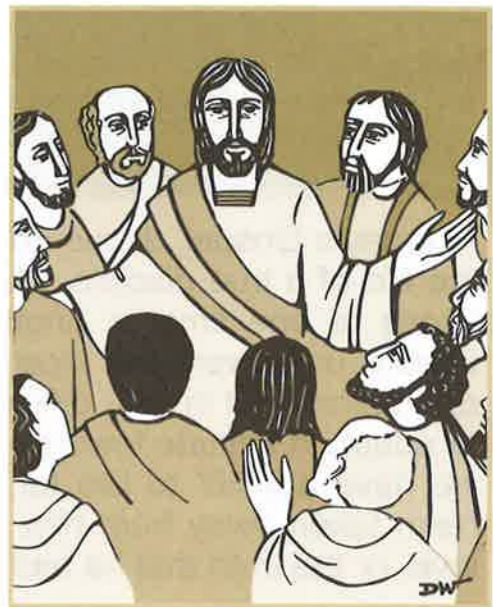
The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 68: 8-10, 14, 17, 33-35. R. v. 14

R. Lord, in your great love, answer me.

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts, / that shame covers my face, / that I have become a stranger to my brothers, / an alien to my own mother's sons. / I burn with zeal for your house / and taunts against you fall on me. **R.**
2. This is my prayer to you, / my prayer for your favour. / In your great love, answer me, O God, / with your help that never



fails: / Lord, answer, for your love is kind; / in your compassion, turn towards me. **R.**

3. The poor when they see it will be glad / and God-seeking hearts will revive; / for the Lord listens to the needy; / and does not spurn his servants in their chains. / Let the heavens and the earth give him praise, / the sea and all its living creatures. **R.**

SECOND READING Rom 5: 12-15

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.
God's gift to us is nothing like our sin against him.

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 15: 26-27

Alleluia, alleluia! / The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, / and you also will be my witnesses. / Alleluia!



THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF ROSE BAY AND DOVER HEIGHTS



Issue 7

12th Sunday

25 June 2017



Reflection



In today's Gospel, Jesus advises his close followers that suffering is to be expected in the life of a true disciple. Anyone who is serious about doing God's work will find the Cross at one time or another. During the Second World War, a man called Victor Franke underwent the most severe form of persecution in a concentration camp. He discovered that in very difficult circumstances, the only freedom one has is the freedom to adapt an attitude towards the situation, and this is what he did. He discovered that if we have a WHY to live for, we can live the HOW. Everything the world values had been taken away from him. But no one could take from him the memory of his wife's love, or the truth that he had a loving Father in heaven that cared for him.

He found little spaces in his days in prison when he became more aware of the tender care of his heavenly Father. And thus, he endured the war, strengthened by his ordeal, learning valuable lessons for himself and for others. After the war, Victor Franke wrote down his reflections in a small book called "The search for meaning". Jesus tells his disciples that however much they feel damaged, harassed, and even persecuted in the fulfilment of the Christian duties, there is within them a kernel of life which withstands all storms and which survives into eternal life. "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body" or the more superficial aspects of life.

Our true lives are indestructible – a bit like plants growing on waste ground. Storms can come and batter them to the ground: sun and wind can burn and beat until only a sorry mess remains, yet weeks later, the plants are standing erect and tall, swaying carelessly in the breeze. Why? Because below the surface the roots sleep in our undisturbed kernel of life, waiting to flower and grow into the fullness of both earthly and eternal life. God is always close to the broken hearted. He dwells unscathed in the heart that is most bruised.

Let Us Pray For...

The Sick: Barbara Leslie, Bernice Miles, Ross Clifton, Michelle Jones, Paddy Nolan, Janaya Zohs, Georgia Cleaici, Fr Brian Yates, Natalie Connors, Elaine Oong, Harry Vanda, Alan Backman, John Johnson, Mary Marando, Tom Clark, Fabien Drif, Sarah Walke, Renata.

The Deceased: Moira Gannon, Vincent Purcell, Joan Lovegrove, Jack Zucco, John Costello, Mary Ellen George, Bruce Conolly, Domenico & Elena Malzone, Billy Dolan, Adrian Lee, Marie Turnbull, Sonya Lineham, Mark McGowen, Anne Pohlmann, John Fenech, Nell Moylan, Norman and Josephine Slattery, John Chaplan, Richard Charles Leo Carroll, Fritz Shroader, Leith Myerson, Monsignor John Walsh, Maria Lydia Fretas, Cezat and Teofila Buer, John Jodeph Cannon.



Weekly Liturgies

Sunday Mass
St Mary Magdalene: 8am, 10am, 6pm
St Therese (Sat night vigil): 5pm
Weekday Mass
St Mary Magdalene, Rose Bay: Tue-Fri 9am
Confession
Tues-Fri after 9am Mass (or by appointment)
Eucharistic Adoration
Friday 8:30am-9am
Rosary after 9am Mass.

St Mary Magdalene, 835 New South Head Rd, Rose Bay NSW : ABN - 78134 879 965
St Therese, Cnr, Napier St and Dover Rd, Dover Heights NSW : ABN - 96464 703 191

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Message From Pope Francis

The following reflection arises from a series that Pope Francis did on Christian Hope – an underlying theme of today's Gospel. Christian hope! It is very important, because hope never disappoints. Optimism disappoints, but hope does not! We have such need, in these times which appear dark, in which we sometimes feel disoriented at the evil and violence which surrounds us, at the distress of so many of our brothers and sisters. We need hope! We feel disoriented and even rather discouraged, because we are powerless and it seems this darkness will never end. We must not let hope abandon us, because God, with his love, walks with us. "I hope, because God is beside me": we can all say this. Each one of us can say: "I hope, I have hope, because God walks with me". He walks and he holds my hand. God does not leave us to ourselves. The Lord Jesus has conquered evil and has opened the path of life for us. Let us allow the Lord to teach us what it means to hope. Therefore let us listen to the words of Sacred Scripture, beginning with the Prophet Isaiah, the great Prophet of Advent, the great messenger of hope.

In the second part of his Book, Isaiah addresses the people with his message of comfort: "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned" (Is 40:1-2, 3-5). God the Father comforts by raising up comforters, whom he asks to encourage the people, his children, by proclaiming that the tribulation has ended, affliction has ended, and sins have been forgiven. This is what heals the afflicted and fearful heart. This is why the Prophet asks them to prepare the way of the Lord, to be ready to receive his gifts and his salvation. For the people, comfort begins with the opportunity to walk on God's path, a new path, made straight and passable, a way prepared in the desert, so as to make it possible to cross it and return to the homeland. Life is often a desert, it is difficult to walk in life, but if we trust in God it can become beautiful and wide as a highway. Just never lose hope, just continue to believe, always, in spite of everything.

When we are before a child, although we have many problems and many difficulties, a smile comes to us from within, because we see hope in front of us: a child is hope! And in this way we must be able to discern in life the way of hope which leads us to find God, God who became a Child for us. He will make us smile, he will give us everything! It is the little ones with God, with Jesus, who transform the desert of exile, of desperation and loneliness, of suffering, into a level plain on which to walk in order to encounter the glory of the Lord. We have come to the 'point': let us be taught hope. Let us be confident – each one knows what desert he or she is walking in – it will become a garden in bloom. Hope does not disappoint!

St Mary Magdalene Roster—2nd July

2nd July	8am	10am	6pm
Welcomer	Anna Creagh		
Info Desk		Sue Heavener	
1st Reader	Michael Aaron	Sandra Power	Kerry Gazal
2nd Reader	Danuta Aaron	Colleen Goodwin	Lindsay Gazal
Eucharistic Minister	Lucie Priestly Tina Dahdah	Narelle Hills Glenys Granger	Thomas Jones
Acolyte/Altar Servers	Paul, John, Saxon/ Anthony Williams	Tricia/Harriet Cassidy, Jess Toomey	

St Therese, Dover Heights Roster—1st July

Commentator— Trish Persson
First Reader— Rob Brian
Second Reader— Gabrielle Scarf
Acolyte/Senior Server— Mark McNamara

Announcements



- Welcome to Father Kelvin Lovegrove as he cares for the Parishes over the coming weeks.
- Welcome to the **Honeybees Gospel Choir**, Winter Solstice Concert, 25th June 3.30pm.
- CATHOLICARE.....** You can help refugee families fleeing war by donating to our 2017 EOFY Appeal. Call us on 131819 or visit our website at www.catholiccare.org. CatholicCare Sydney: Helping families live and thrive.
- Australian Catholic Youth Festival** This 3-Day festival will be held in Sydney 7-9 December 2017. The event will attract 15,000 young people and is for young people aged Year 9 to 30 years. It's a Catholic Festival a bit like World Youth Day! We look forward to the whole Parish Community being involved. For more information, see our website www.acyf.org.au
- HOLY FATHER'S UPCOMING APPEAL:** The annual Holy Father's Appeal will be held next weekend. Through this appeal you will become a vital partner of Pope Francis in his mission to deliver corporal works of mercy to where they are needed the most, anywhere in the world. Please consider giving your generous support. Thank you.