

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

24 SEPTEMBER 2017

us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

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 with favour, O Lord, we pray, the offerings of your people, that what they profess with devotion and faith may be theirs through these heavenly mysteries. 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: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, 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 118:4-5

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Graciously raise up, O Lord, those you renew with this Sacrament, that we may come to possess your redemption both in mystery and in the manner of our life. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

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

HIRED HANDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Hired labourers were among the poorest persons in Jesus' time. They were usually peasants who had lost their ancestral lands through debt. Survival was difficult. They drifted into cities and villages hoping that some rich people would hire them. The sense of honour in their culture prevents them from looking for work; they had to be approached and asked to work.

In the parable, the landowner does not treat the workers in the same way. To those hired first he acts as an employer: he promises the usual daily wage, and at the end of the day he gives them their due. However, to those hired last, the owner chooses to act as a patron: a person of means who treats other people 'as if' they were members of his family. Such treatment is free and gratuitous; it is not 'earned' by the workers.

It is important for the tension of the story that those hired last are paid first: this heightens the expectation of those hired first that they will receive more and intensifies their disappointment when they are treated as 'hired hands' rather than as 'family members'. Because of this they become 'envious'. Literally, the Greek means 'casting an evil eye' on, or desiring, the owner's wealth (i.e., his very vineyard). However, the evil intention does not work because the owner is good and generous.

The parable shows us something about God from the perspective of Mediterranean people. God acts as our 'patron': he deals with us not according to what we truly deserve but according to his gracious mercy, as members of his own family.

FR GIL ALINSANGAN SSP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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MY WAYS ARE ABOVE YOUR WAYS. Those who had laboured in the vineyard all day were angry when the owner paid the latecomers the same wage. Like the story of the prodigal son, this parable reminds us that the kingdom of heaven is not characterised by our limited concepts of justice but by a compassion that knows no limits. May we not be envious at the good fortune of others but rejoice that we too are loved deeply by God.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.

Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord 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. O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. 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.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isa 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near.

Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts.

Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,

to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM

Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18. R v. 18

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day / and praise your name for ever. / The Lord is great, highly to be praised, / his greatness cannot be measured. R.

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, / slow to anger, abounding in love. / How good is the Lord to all, / compassionate to all his creatures. R.

3. The Lord is just in all his ways / and loving in all his deeds. / He is close to all who call him, / who call on him from their hearts. R.

SECOND READING

Phil 1:20-24, 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of



course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf. Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia! / Open our hearts, O Lord, / to listen to the words of your Son. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 20:1-16

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.

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired



THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF ROSE BAY AND DOVER HEIGHTS



Issue 20 25th Sunday 24 September 2017

Thank you for your warm welcome back to the parish. I appreciate your care and prayers. A very special THANK YOU to Father Kelvin Lovegrove and Father Gerald Gleeson for their assistance with the parish during my absence.

CONGRATULATIONS again to the children who made their First Holy Communion. I have kept each of you and your families in my prayers over the weeks of preparation and celebration! I would also like to thank Dominic (Sacramental Co-ordinator) and Thomas (Parish Administration) for their assistance with the First Communion preparation and liturgy.

CONGRATULATIONS to McCauley Primary School on their Centenary celebrations last weekend. It was such an honour to preside at the Eucharistic celebration. Special congratulations to the children on their outstanding participation, prayer, singing and movement and to the teachers, especially Odette Esber, the Religious Education Co-ordinator. We pray that the Lord continue to bless the school community as they continue to participate in the evangelising mission of the Church!

This week we have the annual collection for CATHOLIC MISSION. We welcome 'Thomas' from the Catholic Mission Office who will be speaking at all Masses. Envelopes are available on the seats and entrances to the Church. Your assistance with this collection is greatly appreciated.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Paddy Nolan who was embraced by the Father on Thursday 21st September. Paddy is a well known and loved member of the parish. We thank God for her faith and all that she has contributed to the parish community. May the Lord hold Barry and his children close to his heart at this time. May God give Paddy peace and rest! Paddy's 'Mass of Christian Burial' will be celebrated on Friday 29th September at 10.30am. Parishioners are most welcome to come to this Mass.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place on Sunday 5th November at 5pm, with preparation classes taking place on the two preceding Sundays (22nd and 29th October) at 5:15pm. We kindly request that you arrive at 5pm to these sessions for housekeeping purposes. Finally, if you are yet to enrol and would like your child to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, please complete the enrolment form on our website magdalene.org.au and send the completed form with the required attachments to sacraments@magdalene.org.au. If you have any enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact the parish office at the same email address.

I will be celebrating the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick' next Friday 29th September after the 9.00am Mass.

October is the MONTH OF THE ROSARY. The Rosary will be prayed each day during this month after the 9.00am Mass. The Rosary is an incredible prayer as we ponder with Mary the mystery of the Lord's life, passion death and resurrection. It is a prayer that sustains and nourishes our faith. I ask that we all make an effort during this month to pray the rosary each day, as families and individuals; or 'just a decade' allowing Mary to teach us the meaning of her Son's life for us as we journey together in faith and hope.

May we open our hearts to the Lord this week as we seek to imitate the generosity that is being offered to all!

Father Chris.

Let Us Pray For...

The Sick: Dominic Altachy, Brian Oong, Dorothy Cambell, Barbara Leslie, Bernice Miles, Ross Clifton, Michelle Jones, Janaya Zohs, Georgia Cleaici, Fr Brian Yates, Natalie Connors, Elaine Oong, Harry Vanda, Alan Backman, Mary Marando, Tom Clark, Fabien Drif, Sarah Walke, Renata, Richard Hughes, Lisa Schiafone

The Deceased: Dorothy Elizabeth O'Reilly, Maric Patricia Brown, Jess's Grandpa's and Grandma's, Eileen and Felix Robinson, Rex Branden O'Reilly, Jennifer Gladstone, Patricia (Trish) MacFarlane, Paddy Nolan, Liam Marsden, Domenico and Elena Malzone, Ernesto Dayrit, Francesca Bellanto, Barbara Hall, Bernie Morgan, Fr Frank Furfaro, John Roarty, Christian Manaco Gonzales, John Johnson, Solomon Aguan, Beryl Yip, Sister Pam Corser, Victor Prineas,



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.

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Meditation: "The Root of Violence" (Richard Rohr)



The root of violence is the illusion of separation—from God, from Being itself, from being one with every-one and everything. When you don't know you are connected and one, you will invariably resort to some form of violence to get the dignity and power you lack. Contemplation of the Gospel message gradually trains you not to make so much of the differences, but to return to who you are (your True Self in God) which is always beyond any nationality, religion, skin color, gender, sexuality, or any other possible labels. In fact, you finally can see that they are always and only commercial labels—that cover the rich product under-neath.

When you can become little enough, naked enough, and honest enough, then you will ironically find that you are more than enough. At this place of poverty and freedom, you have nothing to prove and nothing to protect. Here you can connect with everything and everyone. Everything belongs. This cuts violence at its very roots before there is even a basis for fear or greed—the things that usually cause us to be angry, suspicious, and violent.

To be clear, it is inconceivable that a true believer would be racist, anti-Semitic, xenophobic, homophobic, or bigoted toward any group or individual, especially toward the poor, which seems to be an acceptable American prejudice. In order to end the cycle of violence, our fight must flow from our authentic identity as Love.

One of the reasons I founded the Center for Action and Contemplation thirty years ago was to give activists some grounding in spirituality so they could continue working for social change, but from a stance much different than vengeance, ideology, or willpower pressing against willpower. Most activists I knew loved Gandhi's and Martin Luther King, Jr.'s teachings on nonviolence. But it became clear to me that many of them had only an intellectual appreciation rather than a participation in the much deeper mystery. I often saw people on the Left playing the victim and creating victims of others who were not like them. The ego was still in charge. It was still a power game, not the science of love that Jesus taught us.

When we begin by connecting with our inner experience of communion rather than separation, our actions can become pure, clear, and firm. It takes a lifetime, I think. This kind of action, rooted in one's True Self, comes from a deeper knowing of what is real, good, true, and beautiful, beyond labels and dualistic judgments of right or wrong. From this place, our energy is positive and has the most potential to create change for the good. This stance is precisely what we mean by "being in prayer." We must pray "unceasingly" to maintain this posture.

Wait in prayer, but don't wait for absolutely perfect motivation or we will never act. Radical union with God and neighbor is our starting place, not private perfection. Contemplation offers a way to make our action sustainable and lasting over the long haul, without being overly defended or cynical.

St Mary Magdalene Roster - 1st October

1st Oct	8am	10am	6pm
Welcomer	Anna Creagh		
Info Desk		Hazel Mezger	
1st Reader	Barney Remond	Lucille Gravina	Kerry Gazal
2nd Reader	Catherine Remond	Sue Heavener	Lindsay Gazal
Eucharistic Minister	Tina Dahdah Toni Pimenta	Narelle Hills Glenys Granger	Thomas Jones
Acolyte/ Altar Servers	Paul, John, Saxon/ Anthony Wil- liams	Dave Korte/Ella and Abby Adetunji	

St Therese, Dover Heights Roster—30th September

Commentator— Marie Manche
First Reader— Susan Scarf
Second Reader— Robert Penalzoza
Acolyte/Senior Server— Graham Motum
Communion Ministers: Mark McNamara, Matthew Scarf

Announcements



- Congratulations to McAuley Catholic Primary School Rose Bay for Celebrating their 50 YEAR Anniversary.
- First Communion photos will be available in the next couple of weeks. Please forward all enquiries to Giovanni at: info@giovanniportelli.com.au.
- Please pray for Wister Wu and Sarah-Jane Riley who will celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage on the 23rd September.
- Paddy Nolan's 'Mass of Christian Burial' will be celebrated on Friday 29th September at 10.30am. Parishioners are most welcome to this Mass.
- Patricia (Trish) MacFarlane's, funeral will be celebrated Friday 29th September at 2pm. Parishioners are most welcome to this Mass.