

GOSPEL

Mt 21:28-32

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.*He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

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. Grant us, O merciful God, that this our offering may find acceptance with you and that through it the wellspring of all blessing

may be laid open before us. 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: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.**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** cf. Ps 118:49-50

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. May this heavenly mystery, O Lord, restore us in mind and body, that we may be coheirs in glory with Christ, to whose suffering we are united whenever we proclaim his Death. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

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****DOING THE FATHER'S WILL**

In Middle Eastern culture like that of Jesus' time, honour is of paramount value. Honour is the public acknowledgement of the person's worth. On the other hand, shame is something that must be avoided.

In the context of this culture, the son who says 'yes, sir', when asked to work in the vineyard is the one who behaves properly; he is a good son. Remember that the dialogue takes place in public, and is heard by the villagers. Both father and son gain respectability by the response. Never mind if the son never went; it is unlikely that the neighbours would check the subsequent behaviour of the two sons. The other son responds shamefully by saying, 'I will not', and publicly humiliates his father. The villagers will immediately say that this son is not good, and they will deny the father's claim to honour.

Notice that what Jesus asks about the parable is not which of the sons behaved honourably, but 'Which of the two did his father's will?' In the kingdom of heaven, this is what really counts.

Jesus then points out that tax collectors and prostitutes rank with that son who initially says no and but eventually does his father's will. They did the 'Father's will' when they heeded John the Baptist's call to repentance. On the other hand Jesus' temple opponents are like the 'yes' son. They publicly honour God but do not do what pleases him. They did not believe John the Baptist, even claiming that he was possessed by the devil. They questioned his authority to baptise. They did not honour God who sent John to prepare for the coming of Jesus.

FR GIL ALINSANGAN SSP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TEWNTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

1 OCTOBER 2017

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY. We cannot spend all of our lives blaming others for what has happened to us. At a certain stage we must accept responsibility for our own lives and deeds. Sometimes we need to admit, 'I have done wrong. I am sorry. God, help me to do right in future.' Change is always possible. If we have the desire, God will guide us in the right path.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Dan 3:31, 29, 30, 43, 42

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

GREETING

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

R. Amen.

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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.
All: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, (striking the breast) through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

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

R. Amen.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

V. Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.**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 manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven.

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**

Ezek 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel
The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

The word of the Lord.**R. Thanks be to God.****RESP PSALM**

Ps 24:4-9. R. v. 6

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. **R.**2. Remember your mercy, Lord, / and the love you have shown from of old. / Do not remember the sins of my youth. / In your love remember me, / because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**3. The Lord is good and upright / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path / he teaches his way to the poor. **R.****SECOND READING**

Phil 2:1-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.**R. Thanks be to God.****GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Jn 10:27

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



THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF ROSE BAY AND DOVER HEIGHTS



Issue 21 25th Sunday 1 October 2017

Message from Our Shepherd - Fr Slattery

THANK YOU for your generous assistance with the parish annual CATHOLIC MISSIONS APPEAL and making Thomas from the Mission Office so welcome.

A VERY HAPPY FEAST DAY TO ALL THE PARISHIONERS AT ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX, DOVER HEIGHTS. May St Therese continue to teach us all the beauty of her 'Little Way' of love and humility as we journey together building the Kingdom of God'.

Let us keep in our prayers the repose of the souls of Paddy Nolan and Trish Mac Farlane who were farewelled from the parish last Friday. May they enjoy the Lord's eternal embrace and may God give their families comfort and peace.

Thank you for your feedback at weekend Masses about Christmas Mass Times. It is good to get immediate feedback on key decisions that impact on the parish.

I am happy that parishioners support the idea of meeting together for coffee once a month straight after the 8.00am Mass on the **SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH** (on the 1st Sunday we have baptism Preparation). It is a great opportunity for us to get to know each other and to discuss any concerns or issues that anyone wishes to raise along with building the bonds of friendship and care for each other. So, let us get together after the 8.00am Mass on Sunday 8th October!! Everyone is welcome!!

The **Second Rite of Reconciliation** will be celebrated twice in Advent, on Wednesday 20th December after the 9.00am Mass and at 7.30pm in the evening. The 2nd Rite is a communal celebration of the Lord's mercy with individual confession and absolution.

A celebration of the **SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION** will be celebrated on Sunday 5th November at 5.00pm. The preparation classes will take place on the two preceding Sundays 22nd and 29th October. Please arrive at the Church at 5.00pm for these sessions. If you would like to enrol your child (Year 2 and above) please complete the enrolment form on the PARISH WEBSITE: magdalene.org.au and send the completed form with the required attachments to : sacraments@magdalene.org.au . Please contact the parish office with enquiries or if you require further information.

Miffy Lau has kindly accepted the role of co-ordinating the Children's Christmas Mass at 6.00pm on Christmas Eve 24th December. I ask that the children and parents support her in this role so our children have a wonderful experience and memory of our Christmas Eucharistic celebrations. More information will be presented in the bulletin.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. Let us all make an effort to pray this beautiful prayer together as families, as small groups and privately. The Rosary will be prayed after the 9.00am Mass during October. Please come and join us!!

Just a reminder that **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** is held every Friday 8.30am - 9.00am. A wonderful time to allow the Risen Lord be close to us. Everyone is warmly welcome!

WE are currently in need of more volunteers to serve Mass at 8.00am, 10.00am and 6.00pm. If your child has made their First Communion and would like to volunteer, please contact the parish office.'

The next **PARISH FINANCE MEETING** will be held on Tuesday 10th October at 6.00pm in the Parish Centre.

Each week in October the Australian Bishops have asked us to pray for all families. There will be a special prayer in the bulletin each week.

Let us pray that each of us says yes to the invitation each day to build the Kingdom of God. *Fr. Chris.*

Let Us Pray For..

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

The Deceased: Harry Yip, June Nicholson, Kathleen Byron, Trish Mac Farlane, Paddy Nolan, Liam Marsden, Domenico and Elena Malzone, Ernesto Dayrit, Francesca Bellanto, Barbara Hall, Bernice 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.

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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Gospel Reflection

The setting of today's parable is Jesus speaking to 'the chief priests and the elders of the people'. A great deal has happened in the story since last Sunday's gospel, but it has not been reported in the Lectionary. Jesus is now in Jerusalem. He has entered the city (Matthew 21:1-11) and taken possession of the Temple, driving out all who would make his House a robber's den (Matthew 21:12-17). The crisis point of Jesus' ministry has arrived. He will enter into conflict with the established religious authorities, forcing them to exercise judgment upon themselves.

He tells 'the chief priests and the elders of the people' a parable of two sons, one of whom says he will not work in the vineyard, but eventually does and the other who is full of promises, but does not act to make the promises a reality. As always with Jesus' parables, the sting is in the tail of the story, as he asks his critical listeners: 'Which of the two did the father's will', but he had already warned them that this question would be posed. The story opened with Jesus' earlier question: 'What is your opinion?'

They rightly choose the former son as the one who 'did the will of his Father'. Jesus has led his audience, so critical of what he has said and done, especially in his driving out of the vendors from the Temple (see vv.12-17), to make their own decision on the way to do the Father's will. It is not a question of mouthing the right words and going through the right rituals; one is called to do what the Father wants.

Jesus continues his discussion with the religious and political leaders of Israel by pointing to those people who had come before him, but whom these established authorities rejected, starting from John the Baptist. He was not believed, even though he came preaching the way of righteousness. Not only did he preach righteousness, however; he lived it. Jesus describes him as 'a pattern of true righteousness'. This man who both preached and lived righteousness was killed, but the broken people, the tax collectors and the prostitutes accepted what he had to bring. They believed him, repented, and thus entered the kingdom of heaven. But not even the wholeness given to the broken has touched the hearts of the establishment. They saw it happening, but did not themselves repent.

Jesus is attacking the so-called 'religious people' who go through the motions of being God-directed people, mouthing the right words and performing the right rituals, but not putting their lives where their words are. In the Western world, Christian standards had gradually become the accepted values. In our rapidly changing and increasingly secularised world they no longer play this role in society at large. It is only through lives which speak to a society in danger of losing its soul that Christianity will give evidence of the kingdom. If we Church-goers, who listen to the gospel, are not doing what we are saying, where can the so-called sinners of our time place their hope and trust? This is a challenge to go to the maverick fringe of society, joining the tax collectors and prostitutes as they make their way into the kingdom.

Prayer for Marriage

Today and throughout all this week we pray for all marriages and families in Australia. *Heavenly Father, grant that our families may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic Churches. Make us ever more mindful of the sacredness and beauty of the family in God's plan.*

St Mary Magdalene Roster - 8th October

8th Oct	8am	10am	6pm
Welcomer	Maureen Coffey		
Info Desk		Sue Heavener	
1st Reader	Danuta Aaron	Nicholas Carney	Marget Douglas
2nd Reader	Michael Aaron	Colleen Goodwin	Thomas Jones
Eucharistic Minister	Lucie Priestly	Sue Heavener	Ann Kirkjan
	Carmen Kapfenstein	Glenys Granger	
Acolyte/Altar Servers	Paul, John, Saxon/Anthony Williams	Dave Korte/Tilly Power & Harriet Cassidy	

St Therese, Dover Heights Roster—7th October

Commentator— Kate Cosgrove
First Reader— Patti McGowen
Second Reader— Graham Motum
Acolyte/Senior Server— Danny Au-Yeung
Communion Ministers: Marie Manche, Barry McGowen

Announcements

- **The Archdiocese of Sydney App.**
The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney had released a Smartphone App (for iPhones and Androids only) for parishioners in the Archdiocese, featuring parish Mass times, the latest news from the Archdiocese of Sydney and the Catholic Church in Australia, information about upcoming Archdiocese events, as well as announcements from the Most Rev Anthony Fisher OP, Archbishop of Sydney. The App is available to download for free - search for "Archdiocese of Sydney" in the Google Play and App stores.
- Please pray for Tran Nguyen and Adrian Sobal who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage Saturday 30th September.
- Planned giving receipts have been posted for 2017 financial year. Tax deductibility is only available (as per new government regulations) from July 1st 2016 till the 30th June 2017.
- The only donations that are tax deductible are Charitable Works and the Father's Day Appeal. The receipts for these have also been posted.