

**GOSPEL**

Mt 21:33-43

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 leased his vineyard to other farmers.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son" he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone.  
This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

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. Accept, O Lord, we pray, the sacrifices instituted by your commands and, through the sacred mysteries, which we celebrate with dutiful service, graciously complete the sanctifying work by which you are pleased to redeem 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: 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** Lam 3:25

**The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P. Grant us, almighty God, that we may be refreshed and nourished by the Sacrament which we have received, so as to be transformed into what we consume. 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 in peace.

**R. Thanks be to God.****REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL****A WARNING TO LEADERS**

In Jesus' time many vineyard owners were rich absentee landlords. They had properties in Israel but lived in Rome or other big cities (the parable states that the landowner 'went on a journey'). On the other hand, tenant farmers could hardly make ends meet: they had to pay the rent on the land to the landowner, pay taxes to the state, and the social dues (gifts). Faced with such burdens they were naturally frustrated, desperate, and on occasions driven to violence. The story could have been a warning to the absentee landlords against pushing their tenants to the edge. The parable as it now stands is directed to Jesus' opponents. The object of criticism is no longer the landlord, but the 'violent and greedy tenants' who do not give God his due. The parable harps back to Isaiah's 'Song of the Vineyard' (Isaiah 5:1-7). But while in Isaiah, the problem was with Israel itself, in Jesus' parable it now lies with the leadership of the people. The chief priests and the Pharisees realise that Jesus is directing the parable against them and they want to arrest him, but they refrain because of Jesus' popularity with the people.

The parable may as well be directed to Matthew's own community. Leadership has been transferred from the scribes and the Pharisees to the leaders of the Judeo-Christian community. But, they too, are to take care that they produce proper fruit, otherwise the vineyard will be taken away from them and given to others more worthy.

FR GIL ALINSANGAN SSP

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

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# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

8 OCTOBER 2017

THE FRUITS OF THE KINGDOM. The tenants in today's Gospel had received much from the landowner who had established the vineyard. It was only fair that he should receive a share of the fruits of the crop. Likewise, we have received much from Christ whose grace produces in us the fruits of truth, goodness, purity, love, honour and virtue. We pay our dues to Christ when we share these fruits with others.

**INTRODUCTORY RITES****ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** cf. Esth 4:17

**Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.**

**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.

P. You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

P. You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy.

**R. Christ, have mercy.**

P. You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: 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. Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. 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 5:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
*The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.*

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.

He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too.

He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me.

What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done?

I expected it to yield grapes.

Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.

I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it.

Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant.

He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.****RESP PSALM** Ps 79:9, 12-16, 19-20. R. Isa 5:7

**R. The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.**

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt; / to plant it you drove out the nations. / It stretched out its branches to the sea, / to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **R.**

2. Then why have you broken down its walls? / It is plucked by all who pass by. / It is ravaged by the boar of the forest, / devoured by the beasts of the field. **R.**

3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, / look down from heaven and see. / Visit this vine and protect it, / the vine your right hand has planted. **R.**

4. And we shall never forsake you again: / give us life that we may call upon your name. / God of hosts, bring us back; / let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Phil 4:6-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

*Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.*

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God****GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** cf. Jn 15:15

**Alleluia, alleluia! / I call you friends, says the Lord, / because I have made known to you / everything I have learnt from my Father. / Alleluia!**



# THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF ROSE BAY AND DOVER HEIGHTS



**Issue 22                      27th Sunday                      8 October 2017**

This week we begin our 'get together' for a coffee after the 8.00am Mass. Everyone is welcome. I would like this to be a regular event on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

It is great to get together after Mass and have a chat and share our stories. This is what happened in the earliest celebrations of the weekly Eucharist. I appreciate the time to get to know in a more personal way the members of our parish community.

Please remember in your prayers Beverly Lindley, the mother of Tim, who died suddenly last Sunday. May she enjoy the embrace of our God who is love. Let us keep Tim's family in our prayers.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held each Friday 8.30am – 9.00am.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. Parishioners are welcome to pray the Rosary after the 9.00am Mass Tuesday to Friday.

The Parish Finance Committee will be meeting on Tuesday 10th October at 6.00pm in the Parish Centre.

There will be a Christmas THANK YOU MORNING TEA after the 10am Mass on Sunday 3rd December. If you would like to assist with this event, kindly write your name, phone and email on the list at the back of the Church.

The 2nd Rite of Reconciliation in preparation for Christmas will be held on Wednesday 20th December at 9.30am and 7.30pm.

May we support and encourage each other as we strive to produce the fruits of the Kingdom of God!

*Fr Chris.*

## A Word From Pope Francis (continued over page)

The gospel places us before a drama, not of the people — for the people understood that Jesus was a great prophet — but of the leaders of the people, and some of the priests of that time, of the doctors of the law, and of the elders whose hearts were not open to God's word. In fact, they heard Jesus, but rather than seeing in him God's Promised One, or rather than considering him to be a great prophet, they were afraid of him.

Essentially, they thought: "This man is a revolutionary, let us stop him in time, we must stop him!". Therefore, they sought to capture him, and they sought to put him to the test so that he would fall and be captured; it was a persecution against Jesus. But why this persecution? Because these people were not open to God's word; they were enclosed within their egoism.

It is within this context that Jesus tells the parable. God gave as an inheritance a land with a vineyard which he had planted and tilled with his own hands. In fact, we read in the gospel that the householder planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower. They are all things which he did himself, with great love. And then he let the vineyard out to tenants.

This is exactly what the Lord has done with us. He has lent us life, and with it the promise that he would come to save us. Yet this people saw a profitable business venture in it: the vineyard is beautiful, let's take it, it's ours! Thus, as the gospel tells us, the season of fruit drew near, and the householder's servants went to get his fruit. But the tenants, who had already placed themselves as masters of the vineyard, said: no, let us cast them out, this is ours!

### Let Us Pray For...

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

**The Deceased:** Beverley Lindley, 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, Dorothy D'Mestre, Mary Dunne, Joan Quinn, Pamela Shiels, John Fenech, Ethell Purcell, Patricia Scharrer, John Jodeph Cannon, Cezat and Teofila Buer.



### 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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## A Word From Pope Francis

*This parable recounts the drama of this people and of us all. They made themselves masters of God's word; and the word of God became their word, a word fashioned according to their own interests, their own theologies, their own ideologies... everyone interpreted it according to his own will, according to his own interests; and they murdered to maintain this. In fact, this is precisely what happened to Jesus. The chief priests and the Pharisees understood that he was speaking about them when they heard this parable, and thus they sought to capture him and have him killed.*

*Yet in this way the Word of God becomes dead, it becomes trapped and the Holy Spirit becomes locked up in the desires of each of them. The same thing happens to us when we are not open to the newness of God's word, when we are not obedient to God's word. Disobeying the word of God is like trying to say: this is no longer God's Word: now it is ours.*

*As the word of God died in the heart of these people, it can also die in our hearts. And yet the word does not end there, for it is alive in the heart of the simple, the humble, the people of God. In fact, those who were seeking to capture Jesus were afraid of the people because they considered him to be a prophet. The simple crowd followed Jesus because what Jesus said did them great good and warmed their hearts. They didn't use the Word of God for their own interests. Rather, they listened and sought to be better.*

*What can we do so as not to kill the Word of God, so as not to make ourselves masters of this word, to be docile, and not to lock up the Holy Spirit? Two simple ways: humility and prayer.*

*The people who would not accept God's word but rather said 'this is God's word, but I interpret it according to my own interests' were certainly not humble. They were proud, self important, they were the supposed 'doctors'. They were people who "believed they had the power to change the meaning of God's word.*

*However, he said, there were also good and humble priests, humble Pharisees who received the Word of God in the right spirit; for example, the gospels speak about Nicodemus. Therefore, the main disposition one needs in order to listen to God's word is humility, since without humility one cannot welcome and receive God's word.*

*The second disposition needed is prayer. The people of whom the parable speaks did not pray, they didn't need to pray: they felt quite secure and strong, they felt that they were gods.*

*Therefore with humility and prayer let us go forward in listening to God's word. Thus, what happened to these people will not happen to us: we will not kill in order to defend a word which we believe to be God's word but which in reality is actually a word we have utterly altered.*

*Let us ask that the Lord grant us the grace of humility to look upon Jesus as the Saviour who speaks to us: he speaks to me! Each one of us ought to say: he speaks to me! When we read the Gospels: he is speaking to me! Let us open our hearts to the Holy Spirit, who gives power to these words and to pray, to pray much that we might all be docile to receive this word and to obeying it.'*



### St Mary Magdalene Roster - 15th October

15th Oct	8am	10am	6pm
Welcomer	Elizabeth Moore		
Info Desk		Hazel Mezger	
1st Reader	Eveline Giusti	Stuart Green	Frances Walsh
2nd Reader	Margaret Mayo	Hazel Mezger	Sara Watson
Eucharistic Minister	Tina Dahdah Toni Pimenta	Jay Gilbert Anthony Gilbert	Thomas Jones
Acolyte/ Altar Servers	Paul, John, Saxon/Harry & Darcy Moffet	Dave Korte/ Jessica Toomey & Maya Mabee	

### St Therese, Dover Heights Roster—14th October

**Commentator—** Patti McGowen  
**First Reader—** Maureen Brian  
**Second Reader—** Tony Carroll  
**Acolyte/Senior Server—** Marie Manche  
**Communion Ministers:** Gabrielle Scarf, Mary Sriskandarajah

### Announcements

*Today and throughout this week we pray for all families in distress.*  
Heavenly Father, grant healing to all families in distress, especially those burdened with strained relationships. Draw close to all families who have experienced violence, upheaval, illness or division: May all who have been wounded find ready comfort and healing.

Over the coming months I will be forming a new Parish Pastoral Council using the guidelines outlined by the Australian Bishop's Conference therefore the current Parish Pastoral Council will no longer be meeting. On behalf of the Parish, I would like to thank the Parish Pastoral Council for their outstanding ministry and the enrichment of the Parish Community over many years.

Let us keep in our Prayers those who have died in the recent Las Vegas shootings along with those who are injured and their families.