

ST JEROME'S CATHOLIC PARISH

VISION: "To be an active faith community centred on Jesus Christ, which unites everyone to build a better world"



32nd SUNDAY - ORDINARY TIME YR A – 8th November 2020

Parish Priest: Fr Vijay D'Souza CRS
E: johnson.dsouza@perthcatholic.org.au
Assistant Priest: Fr Pierangelo Borali CRS
E: pierbora@gmail.com

Parish Office: 36 Troode Street, Munster
Phone: 9418 1229
Secretary : secretary@stjeromesparish.org
Website: www.stjeromesparish.org

FIRST READING: *Wisdom 6:12-16*

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim.
By those who love her she is readily seen,
and found by those who look for her.
Quick to anticipate those who desire her,
she makes herself known to them.
Watch for her early and you will have no trouble;
you will find her sitting at your gates.
Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on
the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you.
She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of
her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every
thought of theirs coming to meet them.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Ps 62:2-.R.v.2*

R: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
For you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you like a dry,
Weary land without water. **R.**

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. **R.**

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
My mouth shall praise you with joy. **R.**

On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
In the shadow of your wings I rejoice. **R.**

SECOND READING: *St Paul to the Thessalonians 4:13-18*

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died.

At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Mt 24:42,44cR. V.2*

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Be watchful and ready:

You know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: *Matthew 25:1-13*

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The Kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed, the other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour."

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Father's message

Taking steps as mature disciples - "Stay awake."

Yes, because it is easy to postpone what matters, distracted as we are by the innumerable beautiful opportunities offered by God's world. Because it is easy to be lulled into the idea that we have time, and we postpone what matters the most. The reality is that we don't. **The reality is that we are always short of time.** We all know that. We all acknowledge that we are busy, that we do not have enough time. Last week we said that **saints are mature disciples.**

The five sensible bridesmaids are disciples who take steps to be mature as for their stage in life. Their oil is the life-skills they developed as disciples - skills that make them ready to seize the opportunity that comes their way.

I mentioned that I would explain further what we mean by clericalism, by clergy and laity at the same time.

Clericalism - an obstacle to be mature disciples. It is convenient and deadly for both, clergy and laity.

Convenient for the clergy: they are not held accountable (they are held holy by default) and have the final say.

Convenient for the laity: they are not required to take responsibility. "Pray, pay and obey". They can remain "infants" in the faith.

Deadly for the clergy: 1, they are expected to have competence and skills and efficiency no single man can muster alone. 2, lack of accountability paved the way to unchecked abuses.

Deadly for the laity: their baptismal gifts are never expressed - they cannot experience the power of God in them, only admire it in priests. They are held as "infants".

Examples of mature steps:

- Shaping our organisational structure
- Appraisal of the priest and the community
- Mentoring one another in the faith - "Companion disciples"
- Taking part in the formation of forming intentional disciples
- Reaching out to our Neighbourhood

All this is in the making - watch this space. A step can be taken, this week, towards shaping the organisational structure of our community.

The time is now. It is urgent that we take steps towards further maturity.

Help shaping the structure of the parish by writing the description of your role or the needs you see.

Celebration of the Solemn Vows of Brother Sheldon Burke

It is with great joy that I inform you all that on the 21st November, the Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, I will make my Solemn Profession with the Somascan Fathers. Due to the restrictions of COVID, this occasion is not possible to be a public event, however, I invite you all to join me via the live-streaming on the day which will be available via **the Somascan Movement Australia Facebook Page at 10.30am on Saturday 21st Nov.** In your charity, please pray for me.

God bless you! Br Sheldon Burke.

WEEKDAY MASS:

Monday to Friday - 7am and 9am
Saturday - 9am

WEEKEND MASS: Saturday - 6pm Vigil

Sunday - 8am, 10am and
6pm (Youth Mass)

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 10.00 – 11.00am and
5pm -5.30pm
Or on Request at any time

Parish Office Hours:

Wednesday & Friday 9am to 2.30pm
Thursdays 9am to 12pm

Religious Co-ordinator

Soly Fernandez

E: re_coordinator@stjeromesparish.org

Safeguarding Officers

Judy McShane & Anne Strafela

E: safeguarding@stjeromesparish.org

Parish Pastoral Council

Secretary: Ann Taylor

E: ppcsecretary@stjeromesparish.org

THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH ON HEAVEN

1023 Those who die in God's grace and friendship and are perfectly purified live for ever with Christ. They are like God forever, for they "see him as he is," face to face: By virtue of our apostolic authority, we define the following: According to the general disposition of God, the souls of all the saints . . . and other faithful who died after receiving Christ's holy Baptism (provided they were not in need of purification when they died, . . . or, if they then did need or will need some purification, when they have been purified after death, . . .) already before they take up their bodies again and before the general judgment - and this since the Ascension of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ into heaven - have been, are and will be in heaven, in the heavenly Kingdom and celestial paradise with Christ, joined to the company of the holy angels. Since the Passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, these souls have seen and do see the divine essence with an intuitive vision, and even face to face, without the mediation of any creature.

1024 This perfect life with the Most Holy Trinity - this communion of life and love with the Trinity, with the Virgin Mary, the angels and all the blessed - is called "heaven." Heaven is the ultimate end and fulfillment of the deepest human longings, the state of supreme, definitive happiness.

1025 To live in heaven is "to be with Christ." The elect live "in Christ," but they retain, or rather find, their true identity, their own name. For life is to be with Christ; where Christ is, there is life, there is the kingdom.

1026 By his death and Resurrection, Jesus Christ has "opened" heaven to us. The life of the blessed consists in the full and perfect possession of the fruits of the redemption accomplished by Christ. He makes partners in his heavenly glorification those who have believed in him and remained faithful to his will. Heaven is the blessed community of all who are perfectly incorporated into Christ.

LIFELINK APPEAL – 14/15 NOVEMBER 2020

This annual appeal of the Archbishop towards the assistance of people in need in our archdiocese will be launched over this weekend of 7/ 8 November and will take place over the following weekend, 14/15 November.

Thank you to Mrs. Helen O'Toole

Mrs. Helen O'Toole has been the Principal of our school over 10 years. She has done a great service to our community and achieved many goals in our parish life. As I came into this parish, she has made so comfortable and welcoming at the school community. End of this year She is retiring from her service as the principal. We would like to acknowledge and appreciate her tremendous work and wish to thank her during the mass on **Sunday 15th November 10.00am**. Please join us in thanking her.



The annual BUSY BEE to clean and prepare the church for the Advent and Christmas Seasons is scheduled for Saturday 14th of November

A list of jobs will be placed in the foyer next week. Our aim is to get as many families as possible to come along and help, so that we can finish the allotted tasks within two to three hours. Please fill in your name on the list if you can assist.

Thank you!

RED WEDNESDAY

On 25 November the Pontifical Foundation Aid to the Church in Need is asking Catholics around the world to commemorate Red Wednesday and pray in solidarity with those who are persecuted and suffer unjustly for their faith. Find out more: www.redwednesday.org.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH:

Benji Kentwell, Matilda De Santos, Sister Renee Quadros, Salvatore Lazzara, Alessio De Souza,
John Alvarez, Marina & Rita Papalia, Sid Gaspar, Lucia Merenda,
Madeleine Lombardo & Maria Fernandez.

(Please advise the parish office if any of these names need to be removed.)



Recently Married:

Michael Albanese and Sandra Martinez



Recently Deceased:

Ruza Euvela
Anna Antoniette Angela Buontempo
Rosario Agostino Ninone

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 07/11/20	6pm	Soul of Laurretta Yon Soul of Ken Orr Soul of Jose Francisco Figueira	Tue 10/11/20	7am 9am	For all souls in purgatory Soul of Maria Matilde Abreu (x Geraldton)
Sun 08/11/20	8am	Soul of Jerry Abreu Soul of Peter Godinovich Souls of Domenico & Giovanna Spina Soul of Maria Matilde Abreu (X-Geraldton) Souls of Nicolantonio & Catarina Morolla	Wed 11/11/20	7am 9am	Int. Dina Basilio Int. of Freitas & Yukos Families Soul of Maria Matilde Abreu (Geraldton) Soul of Jose Martinho Garces
	10am	Soul of William Bradley Intentions of Jason Mark Phillips Int. Salvador Neves Basilio & Maria Basilio	Thur 12/11/20	7am 9am	Int. Katherine Basilio Soul of Maria Matilde Abreu (Geraldton)
	6pm	Soul of Ted Baars Thanksgiving Int for Troy Coelho			
Mon 09/11/20	7am	Soul of Wlliam Bradley Int Adelaide Basilio	Fri 13/11/20	7am 9am	Soul of Maria Matilde Abreu (Geraldton)
	9am	Soul of Maria Matilde Abreu (X Geraldton) B'Day Int. Andy Ullaga B'Day Int. Vince Monastra	Sat 14/11/20	9am	Soul of Maria Matilde Abreu (X geraldton)

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