

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

14th - 15th November 2020

First Reading: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

Give her a share in what she has worked for.

A perfect wife - who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her; from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 127:1-5. r. v.1

R/ Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it. But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation: John 15:4.5

Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Because you have been faithful over a few things; enter into the joy of the Lord.

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one: each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."

The Gospel of the Lord



Sacred Heart Parish

Preston

322 Bell St, Preston 3072

Parish Contacts: Phone: (03) 9480 3398 Or (03) 9484 2124
Email: preston@cam.org.au Website: www.sacredheartpreston.com.au



Office Hours:
Tues to Fri: 10.00am - 12.30pm

Parish Priest:
Fr Jan Szweda, SVD

Assistant Priest:
Fr Aloysius Nato, SVD

Italian Community Chaplain:
Fr Albano Da Costa, SVD
Ph: 0478 963 248

Parish Office: Cristina Agius

School Principal: Mark Tierney
School Phone: 9487 1001

Sacrament Co-ordinator:
Ylenia Useli
shpcatechists@gmail.com

Child Safety Officers:
Kay Dufty: 0431 376 212
Robert Dullard: 0433 401 958

Child Safety Committee:
Robert Dullard (Chair)

Parish Council Members:
Catherine Zanatta (chairperson),
Kay Dufty (secretary), Tony Eley,
Gerard Grant, Ophelia Swai,
Anisasio (Pauline) Veamatahau,
Mark Tierney, Ben Fortuna and
Natalie Baran

Parish Finance Committee:
Peter Constable (Chair)
Ph: 0425 779 831

St. Vincent de Paul Society:
Stephen Costello (President)
Ph: 0432 405 417

Parish Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses:
Saturday: 6:00pm
Sunday: 9:00am (Italian),
10:30 am, 6:00 pm

Weekday Masses:
Monday to Friday: 9.10am
Healing Mass: 1st Thursday of
the month at 1.30pm

Devotional Practices:
**Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament:** Wednesday after
9.10am Mass
Holy Rosary: Thursday (English)

Reconciliation:
Weekdays: 30 minutes before
Mass or by appointment

Baptisms & Weddings:
By appointment only

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Do not Fear but have Faith

Pope Frances

Before setting off on a journey, a man gives his servants talents, which at that time were coins of considerable value: he gives five talents to one servant, two to another, one to another, to each according to his ability. The servant who had received five talents was resourceful and he traded with them, earning another five. The servant who had received two behaved likewise, and acquired another two. However, the servant who had received one dug a hole in the ground and therein hid his master's coin.

Upon the master's return, this same servant explained to him the reason for this action, saying: Master, I knew you to be a hard man. I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground (Lk 24-25). This servant did not have a trusting relationship with his master, but was afraid of him, and this hindered him. Fear always immobilises and often leads to making bad choices. Fear discourages us from taking the initiative; it induces us to take refuge in secure and guaranteed solutions, and thus end up not accomplishing anything good.



To move forward and grow on the journey of life, we must not have fear; we must have faith.

This parable helps us understand how important it is to have a true concept of God. We must

not think that he is a cruel, hard and severe master who wishes to punish us. If this mistaken image of God is within us our life cannot be fruitful, because we will live in fear and this will not lead us to anything constructive. On the contrary, fear paralyses us; it causes our self-destruction. We are called to reflect in order to discover what our idea of God really is. Already in the Old Testament he revealed himself as "a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness" (Ex 34:6). And Jesus always showed us that God is not a severe or intolerant master, but a father full of love, of tenderness, a father full of goodness. Therefore, we can and must have immense faith in him.

Jesus shows us God's generosity and care in so many ways: with his words, with his gestures, with his welcome toward everyone, especially toward sinners, the little ones and the poor. But he also does so with his admonitions, which show his interest so that we do not pointlessly waste our life. Indeed, it is a sign that God has great esteem for us: this awareness helps us to be responsible people in all our actions. Therefore, the Parable of the Talents reminds us of a personal responsibility and of a faithfulness that even becomes the ability to continually set out anew, walking new paths, without "burying the talent", that is, the gifts which God has entrusted to us, and for which he will call us to account.



NAIDOC Week

8-15 November 2020:

Always was, Always will be

The National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) theme this year is 'Always was, Always will be'.

'Together in the Spirit' was the theme for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday - celebrated in July this year - and it is still an important concept to focus upon during the rescheduled NAIDOC week.

Today we acknowledge the ancient cultures of our First Nations here in Australia. We celebrate that God has always been present with, and loved, our First Peoples. So often others have decided what they thought best for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. As Catholics, moved by the principles of the dignity of all human beings as equals, we undertake to support and walk with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander brothers and sisters. They need to determine their own destiny. We offer support in this self-determination out of a profound love and respect based on our Christian belief.

Our First Nations Peoples face many challenges, including generational trauma.

- In Christ we find hope and know that God walks with us.
- As the First Peoples of this land they hold a special place in our hearts.
- There is much that we can learn from them. We need to listen.
- Christ brings all cultures to fullness. Christ reached out to others; he did not just wait for them to come to Him. Following His example we reach out in love and mutual respect to our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island brothers and sisters.

Prayer for Reconciliation

God of all creation, as we journey together in this Great Southern Land, we pray for healing, forgiveness and unity, creating a path of good will, with justice and compassion. Jesus, through the power of your love, you have given us the courage, wisdom and strength to share our gifts and talents in humility.

In peace and understanding we reconcile with each other. Creator Spirit, we come together in prayer and thanksgiving for the many blessings we have received.

Allow your Spirit to watch over us and give us strength to walk together as one. Amen

Sacred Heart Mass Times

Saturday: 6:00pm

Sunday: 9:00am (Italian), 10:30 am, 6:00 pm

Monday to Friday: 9.10am

Since only 10 people are permitted to attend Mass, registration is compulsory by calling Fr Jan on 0400469540 or Fr Aloysius on 0428715282

Together in mission and hope

New Archdiocesan Website

Earlier this year, the Archdiocese began a review of our overall online presence with a view to improving the Archdiocesan, agency and parish websites. Our websites have been running on aging and numerous platforms which have raised a multitude of issues, and limited our ability to provide ongoing support for parishes and agencies. COVID-19 has proven just how integral both physical and online connections are to our mission as Church.

Today, we are very pleased to formally present: www.melbournecatholic.org

This project has been an opportunity for us - together - to create a new and more intentional digital footprint into the future.

Please be encouraged to take up this invitation. ENJOY!

Farewell!

Fr Ennio's Retirement

After 11 years of service to the Italian Community in our Parish, the SVD Superior, considering Fr. Ennio's age (born 1932), has transferred him to the retiring home of the SVD in Sydney. He will move to Sydney after the farewell mass in the parish in the second week of December.

Fr. Ennio will celebrate his farewell mass in the parish on Sunday 6th December at 9 am.

The community thanks you Fr. Ennio for all that you have given to the parish community and for being a blessing for everyone.

Fr. Albano da Costa SVD, who speaks Italian, has been appointed to replace Fr. Ennio.

First Holy Communion

As churches have been reopened and we can have 20 worshippers present at Mass from Monday onwards, plans to celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion have been made as follow: Reconciliation weekday evening before the end of the month of November, First Holy Communion in two groups: Sunday 29th November and 6th December at 12 noon. At this stage, only family of children receiving Holy Communion and their teachers will attend these Masses.

Online Masses

St. Patrick's Cathedral - Live Streaming at:

<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

Monday- Friday: 1pm, Saturday: 8am, Sunday: 11am

TV Masses

Channel 44 (31)

Live telecast from St. Patrick's Cathedral, Sunday at 11am



Sacred Heart

Christmas Gift Appeal 2020

For some years thanks to the generous assistance of parishioners, our Sacred Heart Community has collected Christmas food items and delivered hampers to families and individuals who members of our St Vincent de Paul team have visited throughout the year and who continue to struggle with living costs.

Due to the current restrictions we will need to adopt a different approach from previous years. This year parishioners are invited to:

* Donate a gift card of \$10 or more (Coles or Woolworths - for a family to purchase Christmas food items or a Kmart, Toys R Us or other Card as a gift for a family member) or

* Give a cash donation.

Please place your card or donation in an envelope labelled "Christmas Gift Appeal" with contact details of the donor if you require a receipt. You may either deliver your gift to the Presbytery or contact Moira McMahon on 0439 619 623 or Pauline O'Day on 9484 2445 to arrange collection of your donation.

News from St Vincent de Paul



1. The St Vincent de Paul Society Preston Conference has a new President. Pauline O'Day has finished her term of office. On behalf of the parish we thank Pauline for her dedication and commitment in her leadership role and service to the needy persons and families in our parish and beyond. Stephen Costello has been elected the new president. Congratulations and good wishes to Stephen. As we will always have the poor among us we pledge our continued support and prayers for the members and work of the Vinnies.

2. Vinnies Shops are now opened. If you have goods you wish to donate, it is recommended that you contact the store before you present goods as there are presently limitations on the types of goods that can be received and the times that they can be accepted.

Vinnies Wood Street Shop, Phone: 9478 6845

Columban Calendars 2021

Orders for the 2021 Columban calendars are now being taken. If you wish to order a calendar for yourself or as a Christmas gift for a family member or friend, please ring Pauline O'Day on 9484 2445 or Stephen Costello on 0432 405 417.

Collections

1st Collection: \$1290.00

2nd Collection: \$450.00

Mission Sunday: \$220

Donations: \$150.00

Thank you for your kind generosity!



WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick

Dhea Abenir, Anthony, Lopisoni Amato, Peter Bourke, Pasquale Curcio, Anthony Joseph, Ray Mc Veigh, John Plum & Bronislawa Slobodzian

We Commemorate

Antonio & Rachela Ciavarella, Frank & Antonio Mendolicchio, Vince Capobianco, Elsa, Graziano, Raffaele, Isa, Mario, Orfeo & Rino Bergamin, John, Alfonso, Dino & Natalina Bernardini, Teresina & Valter Di Stefani, Carlo, Duilio, Livio & Pasqua Trentin and all deceased members of the Ottaviano Bertonecello & Carlo Trentin families.

O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon him.
May he rest in peace. Amen.

Reaching Beyond 2020



People of all trades and professions are being requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and the skills of their people. Restrictions this year have made communities' needs acute, but your assistance will help to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. Palms Australia will provide you with thorough preparation to ensure your readiness as travel resumes, and support on assignment. Visit www.palms.org.au or talk to Roger on 0431 995 058, or email palms@palms.org.au

Why do we wear the red poppy on Remembrance Day?



During the First World War, poppies were among the first plants to blossom on the devastated battlefields of northern France and Belgium, inspiring the famous poem by Colonel McCrae 'In Flanders Fields'. Since 1920, the red poppy has been used as a symbol of commemoration for soldiers who have fallen in times of war. We should feel proud when we wear a red poppy. Not only does it show we care for our past but it also shows that we care for the service and ex-serving community today.

Church Safety and Hygiene Regulations

As restrictions have started to ease in Metropolitan Melbourne, we are now able to gather in limited numbers to celebrate the Eucharist in church. I want to assure you that all measures to keep us safe have been put in place. Everyone is to wear a face mask throughout the Mass or other celebrations. All hygiene and distancing regulations are to be observed at all times. I kindly ask for your understanding and cooperation. Please note that you must register for Sunday Masses by calling Fr Jan on 0400469540. Thank you, Fr Jan