

Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

27 September 2020



Readings for
this week:

Ezekiel 18:25-28
Philippians 2:1-11
Matthew 21:28-32



Readings for next
Sunday:

Isaiah 5:1-7
Philippians 4:6-9
Matthew 21:33-43



Liturgical Jottings

Gospel Sequence

For the last two Sundays the Gospel of Matthew gave us two parables addressed to the disciples. This Sunday and the next two have three parables addressed to the chief priests and elders of the people: 26th Sunday: the two son; 27th Sunday: the wicked tenants; and 28th Sunday: the wedding banquet. The religious and civil leaders, especially, must cooperate with God, be true to His Word and be faithful in word and action. Promises can be empty if not put into practice. We are encouraged to attune ourselves to way of the Lord.

Feast of the Feasts

29 Sept: Archangels Ss Michael,
Gabriel & Raphael
30 Sept St Jerome
1 Oct St Therese of Lisieux
2 Oct Guardian Angels

Looking at the Readings

We have heard Jesus warning “***I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you***” to the chief priests, elders, scribes and Pharisees several time in various passages and over numerous occasions in private reading and public liturgy. So the shock factor for us has been greatly diminished. But the leaders and elders of the community, hearing it for the first time, would really be shocked and so react with plots of retaliation. How dare he make the most despicable traitors and grossly immoral people not only comparable to them but precede before of them! Several elders recognised John the Baptist as a holy man. But did they recognise, acknowledge and rejoice in those persons who repented through John’s baptism of conversion?

Matthew includes this parable in his Gospel for the nascent church community of his day. Faults in human nature, erroneous teachings and bad practices tend to re-emerge from time to time in society and church. Also John the Baptist, Christ, apostles and prophets, preachers and teachers, spiritual writers and proverb-smiths repeat similar warnings and the need for conversion of heart and personal integrity.

Our first response to the Gospel is “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!” may our actions be our enduring response and say “Thanks be to God” for our conversion and the conversion of our brothers and sisters.

Prayer for the Week

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. *Psalms 24:4-5*

Season of Creation 4

GREETING: Today, we celebrate the grace of God loving us into existence and giving Earth as our home. As we come to worship, we ask forgiveness for the times we have failed to forgive the people around us.

REFLECTION: Believers remember the loving kindness of God as they use material things in prayerful actions to convey sacred mysteries - signs and symbols. The water of baptism and oils of anointing; bread and wine bringing spiritual nourishment: these are all gifts of Earth and work of human hands.

On the Lighter Side

I have been inundated with “walks into a bar” jokes from various readers. So please be patient and amused with more. A hyphenated word and a non-hyphenated word walk into a bar. The barman nearly chokes on the irony.



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	Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving	Paul Hogarty
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Lina Villani
	Our sick and their carers	Teresa Muto, Timothy Joseph Howell, Lewis Noonan

9:30 am On-Line Mass Sacred Heart

During the six week lockdown period in Victoria you will be able to Celebrate Mass with Fr John Paul on Sundays from 9:30 am via our website.

<http://www.sacredheartparishtatura.com.au/>

WHAT CAN WE DO? – TO CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME.

You are invited to join a 'Zoom' gathering Friday October 9th 2.00-3.00 pm to discuss suggestions and resources for action, for parishes, community groups, families and individuals. To receive zoom link email:

adultfaith@sandhurst.catholic.org.au OR caritasjustice@sandhurst.catholic.org.au.

*An evening 'Zoom' gathering will be offered later in October.

International Week of the Deaf. Theme: Sign Language Rights for All.

The aim of this annual celebration is to promote human rights of deaf people, provide a platform for them to tell their stories and have their voices heard. Holy God, Open our ears to the deaf and hard of hearing. Open our communities to be sacred listening places where all are heard. Amen.

Mary Pianta. Disability Contact Coordinator.

Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honouring each other. Romans 12:10

Spirituality in the Pub has morphed into Spirituality on the Sofa - SOS!

Sydney's Paddington SIP group have invited us to join them online for SOS on **Wed 7th Oct 7.30 – 9pm**. Two notable speakers - **Geraldine Doogue AO**, well-known Australian journalist & broadcaster and **Dr Fr Michael Whelan sm** PP of St Patrick's Parish, The Rocks, Sydney & Director of the Aquinas Academy, will address the topic **20/20 Vision – the 2020 Plenary Council**. Both Geraldine & Michael are founding members of [Catalyst for Renewal](#) – the parent body for Spirituality in the Pub. You are all very welcome to join them - email kmstone@bigpond.net.au to receive Zoom link

Marian Festival

For the last 45 years, the Marian Festival has been celebrated every year in the Bendigo area as a special day of prayers and devotions in honour of Our Lady of Fatima.

The festival has grown in size over time and in recent years hundreds have come from all over the Sandhurst Diocese as well as from Melbourne, Ballarat and Geelong.

This year, because of the lockdown restrictions, the festival will be streamed online so people can participate from at home. It will take place at St Liborius Church, Eaglehawk on Sunday, October 11th. To watch online or to find out more, go to www.bendigofatima.com.

Fr Stephen Bolling

ONLINE RETREATS AND RESOURCES FOR THE SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

3 to 8 Day Online Individually Guided are offered by Australian and overseas spirituality centres, and spiritual directors

- **Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia (JISA) – Campion:** 3 to 8 Day Online Individually Guided Retreats - During Isolation: Skype, Zoom, FaceTime or telephone: 5– 12 October 2020; 9–16 November 2020; 7–14 December 2020. Contact: 1300 EXAMEN (1300-392-636) or info@jisa.org.au
- **Ignatian Spirituality Centre, Glasgow** (search for the centre online)
- **St Beuno's Spirituality Centre, Wales UK** (search for the centre online)
- **Sandhurst Diocese Spiritual Directors in your region:** Email: adultfaith@sandhurst.catholic.org.au