THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B 13 OCTOBER 2024

FIRST READING
Wis 7:7-11

A reading from the book of Wisdom

In comparison to wisdom, I held riches as nothing.

I prayed, and understanding was given me;
I entreated, and the spirit of Wisdom came to me.
I esteemed her more than sceptres and thrones;
compared with her, I held riches as nothing.
I reckoned no priceless stone to be her peer,
for compared with her, all gold is a pinch of sand,
and beside her silver ranks as mud.
I loved her more than health or beauty,
preferred her to the light,
since her radiance never sleeps.
In her company all good things came to me,
at her hands riches not to be numbered.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
Ps 89:12-17. R. v. 14

R. **Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!**

1. Make us know the shortness of our life / that we may gain wisdom of heart. / Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? / Show pity to your servants. R.

2. In the morning, fill us with your love; / we shall exult and rejoice all our days. / Give us joy to balance our affliction / for the years when we knew misfortune. R.

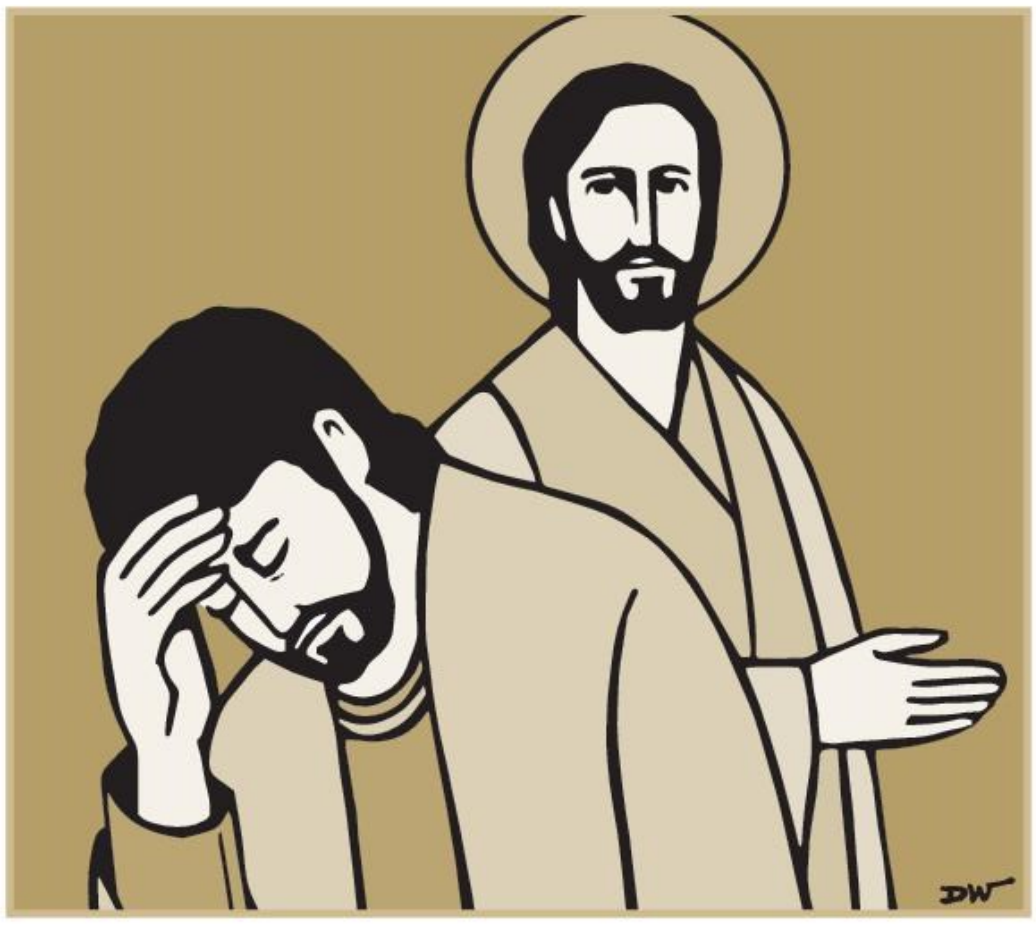
3. Show forth your work to your servants; / let your glory shine on their children. / Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: / give success to the work of our hands. R.

SECOND READING
Heb 4:12-13

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

The word of God discerns the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

The word of God is something alive and active: it cuts like any double-edged sword but more



finely: it can slip through the place where the soul is divided from the spirit, or joints from the marrow; it can judge the secret emotions and thoughts. No created thing can hide from him; everything is uncovered and open to the eyes of the one to whom we must give account of ourselves.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Mt 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!
Alleluia!

GOSPEL
Mk 10:17-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Go and sell whatever you have and come follow me.

Jesus was setting out on a journey when a man ran up, knelt before him and put this question to him, 'Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: You must not kill; You must not commit adultery; You must not steal; You must not bring false witness; You

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF
ST JOSEPH'S, ELSTERNWICK & HOLY CROSS, CAULFIELD SOUTH

PARISH PRIEST: Rev Fr Leenus Neetany SAC
Permanent Deacon: Rev John Lam
Parish Coordinator: Joanna Lam
Phone: 95238407 / 95285988
Mail: PO Box 664, Elsternwick, VIC 3185
Email St Joseph's: elsternwick@cam.org.au
Email Holy Cross: caulfieldsouth@cam.org.au

ST JOSEPH'S, ELSTERNWICK
71 Orrong Road, Elsternwick, VIC 3185

Mass
Friday 10:00am, Saturday 6:30pm and Sunday 10:30am

Reconciliation
Friday after Mass, Saturday 6:00pm

Thanksgiving & Special Collections - 2 weeks
Church: $TBA Presbytery: $TBA
Special Collection: -

Next Week's Roster
Lector - Saturday: M Ellis
Lector - Sunday: M Nelson
Counters: No Counting

HOLY CROSS, CAULFIELD SOUTH
707 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield South 3162

Mass
Thursday 10:00am and Sunday 9:00am

Reconciliation
Thursday after Mass

Thanksgiving & Special Collections - 2 weeks
Church: $TBA Presbytery: $TBA
Special Collection: -

Next Week's Roster
Lector: D Duffy

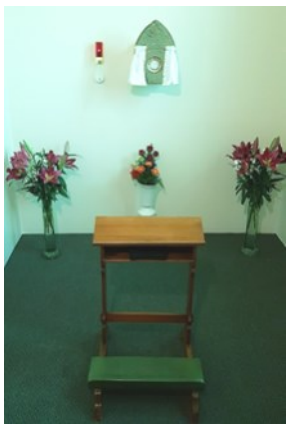
ST ANTHONY'S, GLEN HUNTLY
74, Grange Road, Glen Huntly 3163
In Residence: Fr Pat Jackson SAC, Br Lindsay Rust SAC

Mass
Monday - Saturday 9:15am
Saturday 6:00pm
Sunday 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm

Reconciliation
30-minutes before all Masses & Saturday 9:45-10:10am

Upcoming Week's Liturgical Calendar
Tue 15 Oct: St Teresa of Jesus
Thu 17 Oct: St Ignatius of Antioch
Fri 18 Oct: St Luke Evangelist
Sun 20 Oct: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Perpetual Adoration Chapel



Archbishop Peter Comensoli blessed our Perpetual Adoration Chapel on Sunday 2nd December 2018 to commemorate the special centenary celebration of St Joseph's Church.
The Chapel can be accessed 24/7 using a security tag.
Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to apply for a tag.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (Ps.129:3-4)
If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

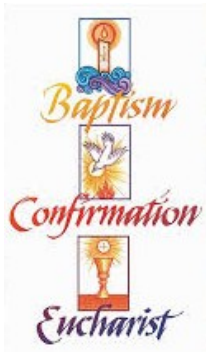
COMMUNION ANTIPHON (cf. Ps 33:11)
The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

PLEASE PRAY FOR
Those who are ill: **Richard Grant, Paulette Dobbin, Eamonn Whelan, Tony Messina, Steve Genge & family, Jenny, John Tempany**
Recently Deceased: **Bill Hockings, Felix John Joseph**
Death Anniversary & Remembrance: **-**

Welcome back Fr Leenus
We welcome back Fr Leenus after his month-long holiday to India.
Despite heavy rains, he had an enjoyable time with his family, and thanks everyone for all the good wishes and prayers.

Trivia Lunch @ Holy Cross Parish Hall
Join us on Wednesday, 16th October at 12-noon.
Bring your own lunch and enjoy the trivia session and a catchup. All are welcome.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



For those who have registered for RCIA classes, Fr Pat Jackson & Team will be conducting the sessions on Saturdays from 4:00 pm - 5:15 pm, commencing 19th October.
The first session will be held at St Joseph's Presbytery, Elsternwick.
If you know of anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith, please contact Fr Pat, Fr Leenus or our Parish Offices.

All Souls Day - Saturday 2 November

A book will be placed on the altar rail in front of Our Lady's statue.
Please write the names of your deceased family and friends to be prayed for on All Souls' Day.
Envelopes for the November offering for Masses for the faithful departed are available in the church foyers. These can be placed in the weekend collections.
November is a special time to pray for the dead. A plenary indulgence may be gained for the dead by visiting a church on 2 November and praying the Lord's Prayer and the Creed.
Three conditions are required for gaining the indulgence: sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer for the Pope's intentions.

Mass Hosted by Young Adults

The Young Adults (ages 18-35) of all three Parishes will host the 5pm Sunday Mass at St Anthony's Church on 20th October 2024. Mass will be followed by Fellowship (and light snacks).

Please extend an invitation to all youth and young adults you know to come along.

Annual Spring Plant Sale at St Anthony's

Upcoming plant sale on Sunday 27 October.

You can help right now. Please pot any plants or seedlings, (flowers, vegetables or ground cover) now, for sale in October.

Have you plants to donate but can't look after them? Bring them up to the church where we will care for them. Need transport? We can also collect. Not a gardener? Maybe donate some potting mix, or perhaps a voucher from Bunnings or Botanical Creations?

For more information please ring the Parish House and leave a message for Veronica 9401 6336.

Crib

There are 7 travelling Cribs seeking a stop over for 2 days at family homes in the Parishes and Schools of St Anthony's, St Joseph's and Holy Cross commencing 1 December until Christmas Eve.

A timetable will be available for booking the Crib. Representatives of each Parish and School will meet together shortly.

Spiritual Retreats at Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, East Melbourne

The Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre will begin a series of reflection nights and retreats commencing with a Reflection Day focusing on the central theme of the Year of Jubilee 2025 on Monday 28 October (9:30am—3:15pm)

Hearing the Audacious Call to be Pilgrims of Hope facilitated by Mark Walsh. The day will include times of contemplation using scripture and times of prayer. *www.mmhc.org.au/spiritual-retreat*

Venue: Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, 362 Albert Street, East Melbourne.

St Thérèse of Lisieux's 'Little Way of Love'

The Catholic Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga warmly invites you to "Paint & Pray" on Saturday, 16th November 2024, at St Joseph's Church and Hall, 45 Stanhope Street, Malvern.

Commencing with Mass at 9.30am followed by morning tea, a short talk by Fr Thomas McFadden OFM Cap, and a painting session and small group discussions.

The event will conclude at midday with the Angelus. Tickets are $30, or $20 for League Members.

RSVP by 13 November or before tickets sell out!

To book go to https://www.trybooking.com/CUHSJ or email info@cwlvicww.org.au.

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus,

Christian discipleship, following Jesus is not cheap grace. You get the impression from the rich young man, with money jingling in his pockets, that with a bit of flattery he could buy eternal life. "Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He had everything, but he wanted what he saw in Jesus.

Jesus was someone to whom he could entrust his essential questions and who would give a true answer. Yet when the answer came, the young man went away sad; he couldn't get away quick enough. Let's look at what went wrong?

Jesus takes seriously the young man's question: "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus listens with the heart, and cuts through the flattery: "No-one is good but God alone." The only object in this dialogue of salvation is the One who saves, God himself.

So, Jesus probes further with a challenge: "You know the commandments!" The young man has kept the law meticulously. Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him. In scripture, Jesus' look had a profound depth. He was able to see what people could become. That look was an invitation, a call. With words sharp as a scalpel, Jesus gets to the heart of this man's life. It's a direct challenge. "You lack one thing: Go, sell everything your own and give your money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."

"Take all that you have, and spend yourself and your possessions on others. Then you will find true happiness here and in eternity." Jesus' words are cardio-mimetic, they mirror the condition of our soul; they did that for Francis of Assisi. Sir Kenneth Clark, while making the television series, Civilization, had a profound spiritual experience in a church in Rome. He thought of his reputation in the BBC, the reaction of his colleagues if he became a Christian and he closed the door.

Fr Pat.

Q: Who in the Bible knew the most people?

A: Abraham knew a Lot.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE
THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION.

From 25th September to 3rd November you're invited to take part in an international campaign against abortion.

For 40 days, volunteers fast and pray from home or near a Melbourne abortion facility.

For details of location and other information, visit www.40daysforlife.com/en/melbourne.

Your donations are gratefully accepted and will go to local pregnancy support 40 Days for Life Melbourne BSB: 063 167 ACC: 11053337

Commissioning of Ministers to the Sick

The Ministers of Holy Communion to the Sick and Elderly will be commissioned at the weekend Masses at both our Parishes on 26 and 27 October.

Please keep our sick and elderly in your prayers.

must not defraud; Honour your father and mother.' And he said to him, 'Master, I have kept all these from my earliest days.' Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him, and he said, 'There is one thing you lack. Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' But his face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth.

Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!' The disciples were astounded by these words, but Jesus insisted, 'My children,' he said to them, 'how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' They were more astonished than ever. 'In that case' they said to one another 'who can be saved?' Jesus gazed at them. 'For men' he said 'it is impossible, but not for God: because everything is possible for God.'

Peter took this up. 'What about us?' he asked him. 'We have left everything and followed you.' Jesus said, 'I tell you solemnly, there is no one who has left house, brothers, sisters, father, children or land for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who will not be repaid a hundred times over, houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and land – not without persecutions – now in this present time and, in the world to come, eternal life.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Shorter form: 10:17-27

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Breaking Open the Word

'FOR GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE'

Many of us find it impossible to see the eye of a needle and the previously discarded needle threader is once again an essential tool. Indeed, many no longer bother with sewing or darning. So, the idea of a camel squeezing its gangly legs and neck and robust body through a tiny aperture is just absurd, never mind impossible. But wait, could that 'eye of the needle' be an opening enabling passage among rock formations, offering a possibility akin to an Indiana Jones adventure in the desert? No, it's not.

If we begin with the wisdom of the first reading, 'I prayed, and understanding was given to me; I called on God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me' we have some perspective on today's Gospel. If we team this with the words of Hebrews 'the word of God is living and active' we take another step on the journey. The Gospel begins with Jesus proceeding on a journey and we might contemplate elements of synodality with prayer, calling on God and travelling with the spirit of wisdom on a journey. Any of us could be that person who seeks the answer to the question of eternal life. We all lead good lives. This person fails the discipleship request to sell everything and give the proceeds to the poor. Is entering the kingdom of God so impossible? No, 'for God all things are possible'. Our journey with God, in prayer and with the spirit of wisdom in the company of others on the mission to which we are called, is the way of life that leads to eternal life. Let's go!

Dr Rosemary Canavan