



**THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A**  
**SUNDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2020**

*Life often demands that we focus on what we deem important, how we spend our time, what sacrifices we are willing to make and how much it will cost. The rules and resolutions we make are often good indicators of what we consider central to our livelihood.*

*Throughout Christian history, people have explored how to live as God's people.*

*Reflecting on the bottom line as committed Christians could not be more relevant in our current political and economic climate.*

*Today's readings reiterate that faithful living means — at rock bottom — loving and caring for one another, especially the most vulnerable.  
The instructions could not be simpler.*

*That we still need to hear this, reminds us that simple does not mean easy.*



We Acknowledge the traditional owners of this land the Awabakal Peoples. And pay our respects to the elders past and present, and any that may be with us today.

**PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM:**

Foundation	Leader	In Office
1. Identity and Community		
2. Worship and Prayer.	Uta France	Mon
3. Formation and Education		
4. Mission and Outreach.		
5. Leadership and Structure.	John France & Juliet Hutchins	Sat & Sun Tues

Email: [morparishplt@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:morparishplt@mn.catholic.org.au)

If you have any concerns or questions you can also talk to any member of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) who are: Mal and Pam Melvey, Kerry Lendon, and Rod Hay.

**PRIEST SUPERVISOR:** Fr Geoff Mulhearn

**PRIEST IN RESIDENCE:** Fr Kevin Corrigan, Sacramental Priest

**Parish Administrative Assistant:** Mrs Rosanna Suckling Mon— Fri 9am-2pm

**OFFICE:** 60 Yambo Street, Morisset, PO Box 87,  
**Office Hours:** 9.00 am to 2.00pm—Monday to Friday  
**Ph:** 02 4973.6859, **Fax:** 02 4973.2937

**Morisset Parish email:** [morparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:morparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

**Morisset Parish Web site:** [www.vianneymorisset.org](http://www.vianneymorisset.org)

**Morisset Parish Facebook :** <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>

**Morisset Parish Bulletin Items:** [morparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:morparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

**Morisset Parish Presbytery:** Ph: 02 4973 1537

(Please submit all Bulletin Notice requests to the parish office by 5pm Wednesdays)

If you would like to receive an electronic copy of our Parish bulletin, please call the parish office or send an email request to [morparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:morparish@mn.catholic.org.au)

**UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :**

Sunday	25th Oct 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	27th Oct 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Sunday	1st Nov 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	3rd Nov 9.30am Liturgy of the Word— Morisset

**EVERYONE** who is not on rostered duties needs to call and book in each week this is due to the governments 4 square metre rule which limits our capacity to only 40 the last thing we want to do is turn people away because they didn't book in and we are at full capacity .

To book for services please call the Parish Office on 02 4973 6859 by Thursday 2pm for Weekend Services and by Monday 12pm for Tuesday Mass. Parish Office Hours are: 9am-2pm Monday to Friday.

**PASTORAL CARE**

If you would like to speak with or see a priest please contact Fr Kevin on 02 4973 1537 .



### **THANK YOU**

For supporting this year's Catholic Mission Church Appeal through your kind gifts and prayers.

Your generosity makes it possible for people, through programs such as the Arrupe Centre, to continue reaching out and empowering people like Chen and his family.

Thank you also to so many parishioners who have become monthly giving partners through our Cambodia Mission Partners program.

For more information about the work of Catholic Mission in Cambodia and around the world, please contact our friendly team at Freecall: 1800 257 296 or [catholicmission.org.au/cambodia](http://catholicmission.org.au/cambodia)

Donations can be made by either of the following methods:

**Church:** place Appeal envelope in 2nd collection bucket, this weekend.

**Free Post:** complete your donation details & return in reply paid Appeal envelope.

**Mobile phone:** texting GIVE to 0488 854 436 (include your parish name in the notes)

**Online:** at [www.catholicmission.org.au/Cambodia](http://www.catholicmission.org.au/Cambodia)

Thank you for your ongoing prayerful and financial support of the work of Catholic Mission.

### **NO TUESDAY MASSES IN NOVEMBER**

There will be no Tuesday Masses during the Month of November whilst Fr Kevin is on leave. A "Liturgy of Word" without communion will be held on each of the Tuesday's in November at 9.30am.

### **aMeN caMiNo**

You are invited to be a pilgrim on the aMeN caMiNo! Using intervals of the Great North Walk, this five-day pilgrimage is a journey through the Watagans, around the lake and the beautiful Hunter beaches. A bush, mountain, beach, city and pub experience.

This is a 'M' (Maitland) 'N' (Newcastle) Camino for 'e' everyone.! Yes! aMeN!

On the **aMeN caMiNo** you will encounter relationship, story, the grace of God in the beautiful landscape of our own backyard. The **aMeN caMiNo** will stretch your body, mind and spirit and provides an opportunity of transformation.

If you are interested in joining the **aMeN caMiNo** in 2021, please fill an expression of interest form by November 30. [https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/media/4437/31816-dio\\_amen-camino\\_flyer-proof01.pdf](https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/media/4437/31816-dio_amen-camino_flyer-proof01.pdf)

**Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>**

### **LITURGY MATTERS: BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY**

One of the key missionary points for parishes is their contact with the dying and the bereaved. The Order of Christian Funerals states that the death of a Christian is a significant event for the entire parish community.

LOUISE GANNON RSJ PUBLISHED OCTOBER 06, 2020

For this reason, since 2000 the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has developed and sustained a process of initial formation and ongoing support for those ministering with the dying and bereaved in their parish. This formation process is known as Stepping Stones.

Stepping Stones runs in response to a need expressed by a parish looking to initiate and/or strengthen their ministry with the dying and the bereaved. It proceeds from the principle that the provision of appropriate formation for the baptised, called to ministry by their community, is a matter of justice and integrity: for the lay minister, for the community and for those with whom they will minister.

The Stepping Stones formation process values:

The dying and the bereaved ...

Reflective ministry ...

The missionary parish working together ...

Over the past 20 years Stepping Stones has been constantly reviewed and developed in light of the signs of the times, our experience of ministry and our growing understanding of the Order of Christian Funerals.

In 2020 the Diocesan Liturgy Council (DLC) is seeking to establish a new forum that will take responsibility for continuing and renewing the Stepping Stones ministry.

This is one of a number of forums the DLC has established to widen the circle of people involved in liturgical ministry. Central to this is the imperative to ensure the vitality of all liturgical ministry into the future. Formation is therefore a key component of all forums as is generational change. The word 'forum' also says something about the way these groups gather and operate.

#### **So, if you have:**

- Passion for the mission of Jesus
- 'Fire in the belly' for bereavement ministry
- Capacity for reflective ministry and discernment
- A desire to accompany parish communities
- An openness to formation
- An ability to think creatively and strategically

then I invite you to read the mandate for the Diocesan Liturgy Forum: Stepping Stones at: <http://mnnews.today/liturgy-matters/2020/52783-liturgy-matters-bereavement-ministry/>

If you feel a call to participate in this Forum, please complete the Expression of Interest electronically by Friday October 30, 2020.

We are hoping to be inundated with interest. While only some people will be able to be appointed to the Forum, we will stay in touch with the wider circle of people who express interest. Together we hope to find ways to strengthen the mission of Jesus by supporting parishes as they seek to engage the whole community in the ministry of consolation: to care for the dying, to pray for the dead, to comfort those who mourn.

**EASING OF RESTRICTIONS**

You may have heard in the media recently about the easing of restrictions for Religious Services and Places of Worship and increasing the number of people who can attend Mass.

***These new restrictions only effect Churches and Places of Worship whose capacity under the 4 square metre rule is greater than 100.***

Our capacities will remain the same until the 4 square metre rule is eased.

**THE DIOCESE OF MAITLAND- NEWCASTLE PRESENTS A RANGE OF FREE PRESENTATIONS AND COURSES THIS NOVEMBER.**

- Nicholas King SJ presents: Bringing The Gospel to Life- Wed., 4 Nov. 6.30pm-8pm
- Communion of Saints: presented by the Formation and Education team over 4 weeks. Commencing Nov 5 to 19. 6.30pm-8pm
- Relationships Matter: presented by the Formation and Education team. Wed.,11 Nov. 7-8.30pm
- Nicholas King presents: Mark- The Strangest Gospel Wed., 18 Nov .6.30pm-8pm
- Q & A with Father Anthony Coloma. Wed., 25 Nov.6.30pm-8pm

To register either scan the QR code or go to Adult Faith Formation page on the Diocesan website.

<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/adult-faith-formation/>



**UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMNITIES**

- SAINTS SIMON AND JUDE— 28TH OCTOBER
- ALL SAINTS— 1ST NOVEMBER
- ALL SOULS— 2ND NOVEMBER
- SAINT CHARLES BORROMEIO— 4TH NOVEMBER
- THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA— 9TH NOVEMBER
- SAINT MARTIN OF TOURS— 11TH NOVEMBER
- SAINT JOSAPHAT— 12TH NOVEMBER
- SAINT ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY— 17TH NOVEMBER
- PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY— 21ST NOVEMBER

**Please pray for those who are sick, in hospital or recovering at home:**

Bruce Gillett, Joan Gillett, Robert Jay.

**Please pray for those who have been called to eternal life may they always be in our prayers.**

**Recently Deceased: Marj Bell**



**PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE BULLETIN**

If you would like the parish to pray for a **family member who is sick, recently deceased or you would like remembered** please call or email the parish office or complete a prayer card for each person and place in the mail box near the parish office door. Cards are available at the back of the church and at the Parish Office. **All prayer requests require permission from a family member or the person. Due to Australian privacy laws.**

**AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

My Jesus,  
 I believe that You  
 are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
 I love You above all things,  
 and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
 Since I cannot at this moment  
 receive You sacramentally,  
 come at least spiritually into my heart.  
 I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.  
 Never permit me to be separated from You.  
 Amen.



<b><u>WEEKEND ROSTERS</u></b>			
		<b><u>THIS WEEK</u></b>	<b><u>NEXT WEEK</u></b>
<b><u>Presiders</u></b>	9.30	Mass	Mass
<b><u>PROCLAIMER:</u></b>	9.30	R Hay	M Shamley
<b><u>PSALMIST:</u></b>	9.30	H White	J Shamley
<b><u>SERVERS</u></b>	9.30	V Paulo	V Paulo
<b><u>AV:</u></b>	9.30	U France	J France
<b><u>SOUND/VIDEO:</u></b>	9.30	J France L Hutchinson G Hutchinson	J France L Hutchinson G Hutchinson
<b><u>SIGN IN</u></b>	9.30	J Douglas	J Hutchins
<b><u>TEMPERATURE</u></b>	9.30	M Foo	P Melvey
<b><u>USHERS</u></b>	9.30	P Melvey K Lendon	K Lendon H White
<b><u>CLEANERS</u></b>	9.30	COVID-19 Safety Team	COVID-19 Safety Team



**REFLECTION-2020 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT.**

At the time of Jesus, the Law consisted of 613 commandments. In today's Gospel when asked 'which was the greatest commandment', Jesus said that the law is summed up in the great commandments to love God, and above all, one's neighbour as oneself.

Jesus' law of love involves sacrifice for us individually and as a nation. Through the acceptance of this teaching we are committing ourselves to being our neighbour's friend.

The implications of this commandment were brought home to me recently, when I heard an interview with Mary McAleese, who served as the eighth President of Ireland from 1997-2011. Mary is a barrister, a former Professor of Law and a Catholic.

Mary lived in Belfast the capital of Northern Ireland as a child growing up, and as she described it, 'it was a divided society', and she talked about the steps that were taken towards the peace process.

She told the story of her Father, who was an old fashioned catholic, but was an equal opportunity employer, and tried very hard to work with his neighbours.

Her father had just bought his first Pub in Belfast, and needed to employ a housekeeper, so he put an 'add' in the local protestant newspaper. A lady who saw the 'add', thinking it was a protestant position, applied for the job and got an interview.

When she arrived for the interview, she noticed a statue of Our Lady in the hallway. 'I think I might have come to the wrong place', she said, 'I am a protestant, and you won't be wanting to employ me'!

Mary's father said, 'The only question we have for you is, 'Do you want to work for us?' The lady accepted the position and gave loyal and faithful service for many years.

Jesus does not promise us that the love of God and neighbour is going to cost us nothing.

The commandment to love seems very simple, but it is the hardest of all to live out.

So, the question for us today then is:

- How do these two commandments sit with us?
- How can I be a good neighbour?

John F

**MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND**

Learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! With Worldwide Marriage Encounter.

November 20 - 22, 2020 at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW

Book online at [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au)

Alternatively contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or [nswbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:nswbookings@wwme.org.au)

***Don't miss out on anything in your Diocese! Go to [mnnews.today](http://mnnews.today) to see updates and read stories about what is happening locally.***

**ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS PREFERRED**

As part of our COVID-19 Safety Plan we are asked to encourage parishioners to contribute to the collections and planned giving electronically. Electronic payments can be made online at: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/about/parish-payments/> . Please note that you need to indicate which collection you would like your payment put into i.e. 2nd Collection to support the Parish or 1st Collection to support the Diocese Clergy Fund, if you want to contribute to both you need to do 2 separate payments. Alternatively you can directly deposit into our bank account please contact the Parish Office for our bank account details.

If you currently are contributing to planned giving using envelopes we are ask that you contact the parish office to make arrangements to switch to Electronic.

**'WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO BE DOING WITH MY LIFE?'**

This is a question that most people must contend with from time to time.

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle offers a variety of ministry services to the local community and many rewarding career opportunities for those who feel called to work in this field. The Pastoral Placement Program offers a yearlong encounter in these ministerial occupations. Pastoral Ministries are calling for applications for the 2021 intake of participants for this unique program.

For more information please go to the Pastoral Placement Website @ <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/pastoral-placement-program/>

Email: [formed@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:formed@mn.catholic.org.au) Phone: 4979 1193

To apply: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/about/careers/> applications close Friday 15 November 2020.

**CATHOLIC CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS.**

Next Sunday 1st November, we celebrate All Saints Day.

**Did You Know? - Halloween.**

Halloween, made popular in the USA, since the 1840s, is observed on the night of October 31st. It takes its name (All Hallowe'en) from being on the eve of the Holy Day of All Saints on November 1 (All Hallows Eve). Halloween had its origin in pre-Christian Times, among the Celts, and there is no direct connection between this day and any Christian tradition. The tricking tradition originated when Halloween was observed as "Mischief Night". Tricks could be blamed on Ghosts, in some places with harmful intent. Traditional practices associated with Halloween are delightful and earthy, but they are not Christian practices. There is no reason, however, why they should not be enjoyed.

John

**OUR PARISH MASS VIDEOS**

We are recording our Parish Masses and uploading them to the parish website at: <https://www.vianneymorisset.org/mass-videos>



# Our commitment

As the Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle I expect you to place the safety, welfare and wellbeing of every child and vulnerable adult at the centre of everything you do in the name of our church. Each one of us is responsible to ensure we are aware of the signs of abuse, that we know how to respond to a disclosure of abuse and we know how to report our concerns. Most importantly, I require every worker in the Diocese to be prepared, should the situation ever arise, to call out the unsafe or abusive behaviour of colleagues and workmates. The conduct we walk past is the conduct we have condoned.

*+ Bill Wright*

The Diocese is committed to:

- ▶ Fostering communities of safeguarding, including open and respectful communication about issues of safeguarding with individuals, families and groups
- ▶ Upholding the dignity and rights of all children and vulnerable adults and seeks to empower them to have their voices heard
- ▶ Training all relevant personnel in safeguarding knowledge and skills including indicators of abuse, supporting people to disclose abuse and reporting abuse
- ▶ Working closely with statutory authorities to report alleged abuse and support them to investigate those allegations
- ▶ Developing our risk assessment and management systems for all diocesan activities and personnel
- ▶ Developing the breadth and depth of our auditing and compliance regimes
- ▶ Implementing and maintaining compliance with the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations and the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards.

“

I call upon each one of you. Every parishioner in our faith communities, each worker in our CatholicCare and other community and family support services, every staff member in our schools and our St Nicholas centres, each cleric and religious conducting ministry amongst us. We must, each one of us, commit ourselves every day, individually and collectively, to safeguard each child and every vulnerable adult with whom we interact. BP BILL WRIGHT



Vicar General  
Fr Andrew Doohan



Chief Executive Officer  
Sean Scanlon



Chancellor  
Fr Matthew Muller



Director  
Pastoral Ministries  
Teresa Brierley



Director  
Catholic Schools Office  
Gerard Mowbray



Chief Operating Officer  
Graham Heath



Director  
CatholicCare  
Gary Christensen



Director  
Office of Safeguarding  
Sean Tynan

# Sunday Readings



## 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

### Opening Prayer

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

Leader: Lord Jesus, you preach the message of love:  
Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: Christ Jesus, you show us what is most important:  
Christ, have mercy.

**All: Christ, have mercy.**

Leader: Lord Jesus, you teach us through your example:  
Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: Lord Jesus,  
help us to show our love for God  
by treating others with compassion,  
respect and kindness.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

Leader: Let us listen to God's Word...

### Monday

**Gospel** Mt 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.*

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

### Tuesday

**First Reading** Ex 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

*If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan,  
my anger will rage against you.*

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

*This is the word of the Lord.*

### Wednesday

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R. v.2

**R. I love you, Lord, my strength.**

I love you, Lord, my strength,  
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.  
My God is the rock where I take refuge;  
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.  
The Lord is worthy of all praise:  
when I call I am saved from my foes. **R.**

Long life to the Lord, my rock!  
Praised be the God who saves me.  
He has given great victories to his king  
and shown his love for his anointed. **R.**

## Thursday

### Second Reading 1 Thes 1:5-10

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

*You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.*

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

***This is the word of the Lord.***

## Friday

### Gospel Mt 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.*

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, ‘Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?’ Jesus said, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.’

***This is the Gospel of the Lord.***

## Closing Prayer

Leader: Lord Jesus,  
May we find the strength to live by  
God’s commandments.  
In your name we pray.

**All: Amen.**

Leader: In the name of the Father...

**All: Amen.**



## Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

### Sunday 25 Oct 2020

## The Introductory Rites

### Gathering

The Lectionary/Roman Missal or a Bible may be placed on a table together with a candle and a cross.

A short hymn might be sung.

### Sign of the Cross

Leader:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All:

**Amen.**

### Greeting

Leader:

Blessed be Jesus who makes us one,  
and strengthens us  
by the power of his Spirit.

All:

**Blessed be God forever.**

### Introductory Remarks

Leader (in these or similar words):

Friends in Christ,  
although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist this day,  
we gather in God's name  
for when two or more come together  
God is always with us.  
We worship in union with the whole Church  
keeping this day of the Lord holy.

## Opening Rite

### LITANY OF PRAISE

Leader:

Before listening to the Word of God  
let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, you are the model for all believers: Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Christ Jesus, you hear the cries of the poor: Christ, have mercy.

**All: Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you command us to love God and each other: Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader:

May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life.

All:

**Amen.**

### Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

God our Father  
you have called us to love you  
with our whole being.  
Help us to live out your commandment of love  
by serving you and loving our neighbour.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

# The Liturgy of the Word

## First Reading

Ex 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

*If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.*

The Lord said to Moses, ‘Tell the sons of Israel this, “You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

“If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

“If you take another’s cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.”

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R. v.2

**(R.) I love you, Lord, my strength.**

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,  
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.  
My God is the rock where I take refuge;  
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.  
The Lord is worthy of all praise:  
when I call I am saved from my foes. **(R.)**
2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!  
Praised be the God who saves me.  
He has given great victories to his king  
and shown his love for his anointed. **(R.)**

## Second Reading

1 Thes 1:5-10

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

*You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.*

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to **Matthew**.

All:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Mt 22:34-40

*You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.*

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

Reader:

The Gospel of the Lord.

All:

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

All are seated.

## Reflection on the Word

A short period of reflection may be observed.

- Q. How might bystanders have reacted to Jesus' encounter with the Pharisees?
- Q. How might loving God with all your heart, soul and mind affect the way you live your life?
- Q. What actions can you take to better recognise the importance of God in your life?
- Q. In your local situation, who are the 'neighbours' not loved as we love ourselves?
- Q. What actions can you take to better love your neighbour as you love yourself?

## Profession of Faith

Leader:

In union with the whole Church  
let us profess our faith.

All:

**I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

*At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.*

**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

Leader: Brothers and sisters, as servants of God, let us bring our prayers before the Lord.

Reader: That the Church will guide all people in the great commandments of love for God and for our neighbour.

*(pause)*

In your mercy:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That nations and governments will act with the word of God in their heart.

*(pause)*

In your mercy:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That neglected or abused children will be rescued by caring adults and raised in love.

*(pause)*

In your mercy:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That our parish community will keep the word of God through love and compassion to our neighbours.

*(pause)*

In your mercy:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That the sick will be find strength in the Lord, especially N.

*(pause)*

In your mercy:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That those who have died will live with Christ forever, especially N.

*(pause)*

In your mercy:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Loving God, you are our mighty strength. Hear our prayers and help us to remain steadfast in our love for you and others. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## GLORIA

Leader:

With peoples everywhere,  
let us glorify our God (in joyful song).

All:

**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.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Leader:

At the Saviour's command  
and formed by divine teaching,  
we dare to say:

All:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.**

## **The Concluding Rite**

### **Blessing**

Leader:

May the Lord be with us  
and protect us  
now and for ever.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All:

**Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

Leader:

Let us go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

All:

**Thanks be to God.**

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