

## OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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Special Parish Events (Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals) Phone: Bernadette Franc 0427678830

Parish Support - *If you need help with anything, please phone one of our members:*

Gail Hall: 0412 311 586 Bernadette Franc: 0427 678 830

**SUNDAY – November 12<sup>th</sup> 2023**  
32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

Maurice Fay, Monsignor Henry Nolan, Dennis Den-nethy, Tony Liston, Charles Martin Cushing, Mary Brid-get Cushing, Mary Jaensch, Sr Rita Hayes, Kitty Grose, Joy Martin, Glenys Williams, Nora Simpson, William Lindsay, June Crosby(nee Mackie), Mary Cullinan, Kevin O'Brien, James Norby, Verna Loader, Tom Liston, Cissy, deSouza, Colin Williams, Betty Preston, Brian Carrigan, Alma Beer, William Hinchliff, Edith Drew, Terry Stewart, Allan Donavon, Alvie Hannett, Elwyn Clarke, Clair Waites(nee Waller), Truis Verlinden, Mat-thew George, Jack & Joan Hanlon, Ernie Hayward, Patrick Brennan & Margaret Briody.

### **PRAY FOR THE SICK:**

Pat Byrne, Blake Dridan, Shelagh Mulcahy, Fr Adrian McInerney, Graeme Trethowan, Tony Collins, Frank Meehan, Wilma Tiley and all those in need of prayer.

### **ROSTER:**

#### ***Introduction & Reading***

Today: Sue Mahony

Nov 19<sup>th</sup>: Angela Gerrard

#### ***Prayers of the Faithful***

Today: John Jess

Nov 19<sup>th</sup>: Carita Clancy

#### ***Assembly Leaders***

Nov 19<sup>th</sup>: Genevieve Johnston & Sue Mahony

#### ***Special Minister***

Nov 19<sup>th</sup>: Clarrie Johnston

#### ***Music***

Sue Mahony

#### ***Church Cleaning, Linen, Flowers***

12th Nov -19th: Bernadette Franc & Therese Jess

#### ***Church Grounds:***

12th Nov -19th: Bill Franc & John Jess

#### ***Newsletter:***

November Carmel Milenkovic 0407320759

### **MASS TIMES**

Nov 19<sup>th</sup>: **LLA 10.00am**

### **MAJELLAN CHRISTMAS CARDS 2023**

Order now if you would like a set of Majellan Christmas Cards Which emphasize the true meaning of Christmas

\$7.50 per pack of 10 can be ordered at this link <https://majellan.media/product/christmas-cards-2023/>



Congratulations to Jim Mahony as he celebrates his 80th birthday this weekend. Well done Jim and thank you for your contribution over the years to our St. John the Baptist Catholic Community.

### **Prison Sunday – November 12, 2023**

Prison Sunday commenced in 2016, during the Year of Mercy, as an initiative of Pope Francis to observe the Jubilee for Prisoners. "We need to nourish the roots of our hope so that they can bear fruit ... despite whatever evil we have done. There is no corner of our heart that cannot be touched by God's love," Pope Francis said at the time. Each year in November, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Prison Sunday, bringing attention to the plight of prisoners and highlighting the important work that prison chaplains undertake. Resources are available at

<https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Prison-Sunday>

#### ***Prayer for Prison Sunday***

*Let's think of our incarnated brothers and sisters, and let's think about the tenderness of God for them.*

*and pray for them so that they may find, in that window of hope, a way out toward a better life.*

*Pope Francis*

### **AN URGENT PRAYER FOR PEACE**

God of compassion, we turn to you with heavy hearts as we consider the needs of your family.

Israelis and Palestinians, we are all your people, each of us loved by You and called to live in peace and justice.

We lament the dreadful loss of life, destruction of property and loss of human dignity.

We are pained by so much suffering. We beg you to bring healing to this ancient place. Help your people find a way forward.

Enable everyone to look each other in the eye, and embrace each other as sisters and brothers, as they find your image in every face.

We ask that courage and grace will help create a wiser and more gentle future, where everyone has a home.

God of wisdom, come to our aid. Amen.

*By Michael McGirr / Caritas Australia*

**November is the month of remembrance for those that have passed away. We remember our loved ones and all who have gone before us and recall the part they played in our lives. It is a time to remember them and pray for them as we hope they do for us. We have on display our books containing the names of our loved ones and we invite you to add names of your family members of**

*friends who have passed away.*

Alleluia, alleluia! / Be watchful and ready: / you know not when the Son of Man is coming. / Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.*

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.

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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

12 NOVEMBER 2023

## BEING ON THE ALERT

Some thirty years of Christian life and experience separate the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians and the writing of Matthew’s Gospel. When Paul wrote in the late Forties and early Fifties there was a keen sense and expectation that the Lord was going to return at any moment. These earliest Christians were so convinced that this was the case that they were unprepared and ill-equipped to deal with the death of other Christians before the Lord’s return. It is not as though Paul himself had foreseen this difficulty and, as is often the case in his letters, we see how a concrete problem prompts him to further reflection. It is important not to press Paul’s description of the return of the Lord too far. This is theology in the making and Paul himself will continue to develop his thought on these matters (see 1 Corinthians 15).

If Paul’s Christians faced the problem caused by assuming the Lord would return soon, Matthew’s community had to confront another set of circumstances. The fact that by the early to mid-Eighties the Lord had not returned placed another dilemma before them. For Matthew, the problem was that of a community becoming apathetic and seeing its initial enthusiasm and commitment wane. The parable of Jesus about the bridesmaids who fell asleep and missed their opportunity was the perfect means to stress the need for Christians to be prepared as they waited for the Lord’s return.

Christopher Monaghan CP

## FIRST READING

Wis 6: 12-16

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

*Wisdom is found by those who look for it.*

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.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 62: 2-8. 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

1 Thess 4: 13-18

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

*Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.*

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.

*Shorter form, 1 Thess 4: 13-14*