

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year C Cycle 1 | 26 October 2025



A Lasting Impression

Today's First Reading is a perfect companion piece to the Gospel parable. In one striking image, the writer says that 'the prayer of the humble person pierces the clouds'. Such a prayer is heard because it comes from the heart. Both the Pharisee and the tax collector believed in the same God, belonged to the same religion and worshipped in the same temple, yet only one went home at peace with God. Why? The tax collector was conscious that he needed God to move forward; the Pharisee, however, seemed so self-sufficient as to merely desire God's approval. Such a belief in God saves nobody. What really matters is how our faith in God affects our view of ourselves and of others. We behave like the God we believe in. The Pharisee believed in a discriminating God who loves good people and hates the bad. The tax collector trusted not in himself or in anything he had done but only in God's mercy. In our daily prayer, do we try to impress God with our achievements, or do we humbly acknowledge God's blessings? *Lord, be merciful to me, a sinner!*

God's Word Fr Joby Mathew SSP

Feast of All Souls 1/2 November

Next weekend we celebrate the great feasts of All Saints on Saturday 1 November and All Souls on Sunday 2 November. At the end of all 3 weekend Masses (Saturday Vigil 5:00pm, Sunday 8:00am and 9:30am) after the final hymn, those who wish can join the celebrant to gather in our Memorial Garden at the side of the church for a prayer at each section and a blessing of the niches as we pray for all our past parishioners. *May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.*

A plenary indulgence may be gained for the dead, once only, by visiting a Church on All Souls' Day and praying the *Lord's Prayer* and the *Creed*, with the usual conditions of receiving Communion and Confession within the week and praying for the Pope's intentions.

PARISH PRIEST & DEAN OF THE CENTRAL COAST: Fr Brian Moloney

ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr Rosan Mathew | DEACON: Rev Paul Simmons

DEACON: Rev Tony Hoban | PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Colleen Smith

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Leanne McGill | PROPERTY MAINTENANCE MANAGER: Karen Green

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Our Lady of the Rosary Parish

Facing our Needs

In our Gospel today, Jesus paints a picture of stark contrast. A proud Pharisee stands tall and dismissive of his neighbours, including the tax collector, who is kneeling. One seems puffed up, the other almost shrinking. The Pharisee is presumably wishing to be elevated onto a plinth and the tax collector is perhaps hoping for the earth to swallow him up. We can deduce this from their words. The Pharisee is boastful and long-winded. The tax collector is brief, humble, to the point.

The most telling detail is what we hear of the Pharisee immediately before he opens his mouth. In our translation we have him "standing by himself". Some authorities have pointed out that a more accurate way of putting it is that he addresses the prayer to himself. In other words, God is not at all involved in this conversation. The Pharisee is like a perfectly formed, self-contained loop. Even if we were to run with the translation we have been given, it is quite clear that this one is on his own. There is no need for God. The Pharisee's only need for others is as people who will act as examples of moral imperfection who will, by comparison, make him appear more praiseworthy.

The tax collector, on the other hand, cannot even look to heaven. This very detail shows that the wretch knows God is there and, far from excluding God from the conversation, speaks from his heart. Describing himself as "a sinner", simply and without fanfare or excessive grovelling, he declares that he has not lived up to the ideals he holds.

Good people, given the chance, respond generously to situations of want. Outstretched hands cement community bonds in a reflection of God's nature. Jesus himself was sent into this world as God's gesture of love towards needy humanity.

Yet facing our own neediness is not easy. It requires us to admit that we do not have it all together. When we continue to muddle on, avoiding the embarrassing task of asking for help, we run the risk of isolating ourselves from others. We become a self-contained unit, sticking out like a sore thumb and creating discord, not harmony with others. Jesus invites us to approach God in our need, admitting, perhaps, the humiliating truth that we are not the finished product. Friends can only help if we are willing to admit we need it and are open to receive such help. In the same way, God wants to help us but can only do so if there is an opening for a response. Otherwise, our prayer can resemble the Pharisee's. We will only be talking at God, not inviting a response.

Sunday Living Word Majellan Family Media

Pastoral Works Broken Bay Appeal

We need your generosity and support for our Diocese of Broken Bay Pastoral Works (PWBB) Appeal to be held on the weekend of 8/9 November. The Appeal supports various charities in our Diocesan community, particularly the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) and the Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Program. PWBB also supports St Lucy's School and St Edmund's College for students with disabilities, and the Ephpheta Centre supports the deaf community. These ministries need our community's generosity as they get little or no Government funding. Please consider donating to help us reach this year's goal. You can donate at any time, not only during November. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Envelopes will be available on the pews.

Masses: Saturday Vigil 5pm | Sunday 8am & 9:30am | Reynolds Court 11am | Maronite Mass 5pm Weekday Masses: Monday Communion Service 9am | Tuesday - Thursday 9am | Friday 11:45am

Saturday 9am | Reynolds Court Wednesday 10am

Reconciliations: Saturdays 9:30am - 10am | 4pm - 4:30pm

Liturgy of the Hours: Saturday 8:40am | Cenacle Prayer Group: Wednesday 9:30am

Rosary: Monday-Thursday 8:35am | Friday 11:20am | Saturday 9:30am **Christian Meditation Group:** Friday 10:30am-11:30am Reynolds Room



A Beacon of Faith, Hope & Love

Night of Light Invitation

All families are invited to celebrate the Night of Light next Friday 31 October at 6pm in the Church grounds. Celebrate the true Christian meaning of All Hallow's Eve (Halloween), before the feast of All Saints. Free entry, BBQ dinner, games, craft, activities, treats and prizes for best Saint costume. Make this a memorable night for your children – encourage them to dress as their favourite Saint or in white. Everyone else attending please wear white as a reminder that this is a Night of Light! Please RSVP to 4332 2216 by 27 October.



Weekend Event Photos



Public Square Rosary attendees at The Entrance Mall.



Anne-Maree James-Yates 50 Years of Music.













100th Anniversary of 1st Church celebrations.

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Ecc 35:12-14, 16-19 | 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18 | Lk 18:9-14

Entrance Antiphon: Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the

Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.



Our Lady of the Rosary Parish

Parish Volunteers' Thank You

Fr Brian would like to thank all of our Parish Volunteers, from Readers to Cleaners, Choir to Floral Team, and all in between. Your hard work is appreciated and all you do to make this a great parish community. Come along on Friday 14 November at 5pm to the parish centre for drinks and nibblies. You know you deserve it! Please RSVP by Friday 7 November to the sheets on the Church tables or call the parish office on 4332 2216.

Please Note

Welcome!

This weekend we have the Reception of the Vainkolo, Valenti, Smith, Wigg and Hughes families whose children are being Baptised in the near future.

Congratulations on your 60th Wedding Anniversary!

Congratulations to Des and Anne Little on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 30 October 2025!

Feast Days this Week

Sts Simon & Jude, Apostles, 28 October, All Saints 1 November.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

1st Saturday 1 November Adoration will be held following 9am Mass for 1 hour, concluding with Benediction.

Nursing Home Mass

Mass will be celebrated for residents at Bupa Bateau Bay on Tuesday at 10am.

Keep Us in Your Prayers

Recently Deceased: Fr Paul Foley, Kitty Dowse, Denis Flood, Sam Mifusd, Bill McGuiness, Leo Moore, Craig Boys, Richard Falzon, Tita Bilaw, Katherine Mendiola, Elvie Lozada.

Funerals: The funerals of Kitty Dowse and Craig Boys were held during the week. Please pray for Kitty, Craig and their families.

Anniversaries: Steven Whitehead (1st), Mary Rosewarne, Bruce Parry, Frank Grech, Duke Leonidas, Ivan Naraj, Mario Galasso, George Santarossa.

Remembrances: Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Margaret Pizzuto, John Giutronich, Sam & Carmen Ghirxi, Martin Ghirxi, Mario Cauchi, Delma Clarke, Neville Allen, Bernadette O'Neill (birthday), and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Sick: Donny Daniels, Julie Fletcher, Lynette Falken, Walter Knoke, Carl Sanchez Jnr, Teddy Williams, John Cox, Abigail Holt, Linda Read, Pat McCudden, Rod Slater, Pam Elliott, Janine Harpley, Rosanna Natali, Patrick Yeo, Stjepan Tuka, Pauline Fowler, Anne Knoke, John McClement, Emma Horton, Kelly Will.

Welcome Newly Baptised: Mateo Hartge.

Mass Intentions in November are placed on the Altar during the Masses. Please place your envelopes in the November Mass Offering box on the Sanctuary.



Welcome!

We are open on Saturdays before and after the 5pm Vigil Mass and Sundays before and after the 9:30am Mass. Also weekdays by appointment. You'll find us in the foyer of the Church.

Enquiries: 4332 2216