

33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A Cycle 1

19 November 2023



#### Nothing Less than the Best

Through the parable of the 'Talents' Jesus teaches his followers a great lesson. The disciples are reminded that one day they too will have to give an account of life they received from God. God's grace and gifts can neither be wasted, nor can they remain static, nor be hidden. They have to be put to use for the purpose they have been given and should bear fruits. What is evaluated at the coming of the master is not 'how much' a worker has made but how hard he has worked and how committed he was to the gifts given to him. In the parable, the first and the second servants doubled the amount they received. No doubt these two servants had to exercise considerable shrewdness and astuteness in investing the money. The third servant, showing no imagination or industry, took an easy path and hid the resources given to him. He was found lazy and unproductive and was fired from his job.

For us this parable communicates the message that each one of us is given a share in the mission of Christ. Our failure to live up to the call and produce fruits for the kingdom will invite punishment from God. Though the master does not specify how much we should produce, he does not compromise on anything less than the best from us.

God's Word Fr Johnson Chacko SSP

# World Day of the Poor

This Sunday is the seventh World Day of the Poor, with the theme of not turning away. Pope Francis takes his inspiration from the elderly Tobit, who says to his son, "Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor" (*Tobit 4:7*). Whenever we turn away from those who are poor, we turn away from Jesus himself, who is forever associated with the most vulnerable in society (*Matthew 25: 31-46*). Pope Francis goes on to celebrate the next door neighbours, "ordinary people who quietly make themselves poor among the poor. They do more than give alms: they listen, they engage, they try to understand and deal with difficult situations and their causes." An important theme throughout the papacy of Pope Francis has been the need to do more than just relieve suffering (compassion), but to work to challenge the causes of suffering and do what we can to ensure it does not happen in the first place (justice). We must all deepen our encounter with those who are poor, examining our own consciences about our lifestyles and how our faith is expressed in loving action. Feast Days this Week The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary 21 November St Cecilia 22 November St Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions 24 November

Secular Franciscans We meet on the third Sunday of the month (19 November) at 10:30am in the Reynolds Room. All welcome! Enquiries: 0439 519 018.



Peg Doll Painting is Back! All are welcome to join us for a cuppa, chat and some fun painting. No skills required! Fridays 9:30-11:30am in the Parish Centre.



#### November Mass Envelopes

November is a special time to pray for the Holy Souls. Mass offering envelopes are available and will be placed on the Altar during the month.

# Love & Trust

Jesus' story is not difficult to understand, for the scene is very contemporary. It speaks of a down-to-earth reality about taking responsibility and being accountable to the boss for money or tasks. The initiative one takes will determine the success or failure of the enterprise.

As a parable, however, Jesus' story is saying something more. Matthew touches on the end-time where the master is Jesus, the Son of Man coming back to judge the world. The servants are the disciples entrusted with his work or mission while they await his coming. During his absence, since only God knows the day and hour of his return, the disciples are enjoined to be watchful and to act appropriately as responsible stewards.

Good and faithful disciples imitate God, who is good, and are consistent with their commitment as trusted servants. They will be rewarded with greater tasks and responsibilities as they enter into the joy and abundance of the reign of God. On the contrary, the disciples who do not perceive the love and trust of the master for them and do not appropriately act or take risks in their tasks and responsibilities, due to fear and laziness, cannot come before God's presence.

The parable speaks about discipleship, especially the relationship of trust and love between the Master and disciples, and their commitment to fulfill the tasks and responsibilities entrusted them in the Christian community.

365 Days with the Lord - Fr Gil Alinsangan SSP

# Faith Oriented

Those who read the Scriptures increase their faith. Those who prayerfully and frequently take this book into their hands and make of it their daily bread gradually become faith-oriented in their reasoning, faith-oriented in their judgments and aspirations. They become the kind of people described by the Holy Spirit: "The just person lives by faith."

Blessed James Alberione

### Pray for the Deceased

E very time we pray for a deceased person, or have a Mass offered for them, implicit in our thought is that the deceased might be in Purgatory. Naturally we want those we love to be enjoying God; however, given that we do not have the absolute certainty (except for the canonised) it is precisely for this reason that we pray and offer Masses for them. It is good to think that if a family member is already in Heaven, the Mass can be applied to others who need it. How many of us have visited cemeteries and found abandoned graves! We can be certain that God, as a good Father, is able to distribute those prayers of the living for the dead for whom no one prays any longer and yet, they are in need of prayer. This is precisely what in popular piety has come to be called "prayer for the souls in Purgatory."

We can be certain that, if one of our deceased could ask us for something, they would ask for prayers for their soul. And the Mass being the most perfect prayer, you can have its inestimable value applied to your deceased loved one. There is no greater gift.

Zenit.org Fr Jorge Mujica LC

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# MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY

# **Pastoral Works Appeal Thanks**

Thank you to those who have already donated to our Pastoral Works Broken Bay (PWBB) November Appeal, which in turn supports two main ministries: the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) and Hospital Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care Practitioners.

For the CCD, more than 650 volunteer catechists in our diocese who have received specialised training, provide religious education to nearly 14,000 Catholic students who attend public schools in our local communities.

The Priests and Practitioners in the Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Program visit more than 3,000 individual patients each year. This pastoral work plays such a vital role for those right across our Diocese. Every gift gives you the power to add to the happiness of someone else. Thank you for your generosity.

For further donations, please complete the Appeal envelope and add it to the collection boxes, or go to www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoral works. Please nominate The Entrance Parish when donating online. All donations over \$2 are 100% tax deductible.

# Fr Leonse's Farewell Morning Tea

r Leonse enjoyed a lovely farewell and wishes to thank all for coming.



### Let's Get Moving Senior's Classes

W e still have vacancies for our group exercise classes, catering to all fitness and mobility levels. Designed to improve your cardiovascular fitness, strength and balance in a relaxed and fun atmosphere. Mondays 12.15pm – 1.15pm in the Lecture Room. You can join anytime and one free trial lesson is available for all parishioners. Bookings essential 9481 2659.



Bible Reflection Deepen your knowledge of the Scriptures with our Seminarian Tân. Wednesdays in the Reynolds Room 9:30am.



Nursing Home Mass and Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at Nareen Gardens on Tuesday at 10:30am.



Thank You A special thanks to Des & Anne Little for the great work they did in hosting Fr Leonse's Farewell Morning Tea. A big effort enjoyed by all!

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**Roster** Please let us know of your availability for the extra Christmas Masses i.e. 7pm and 12midnight.

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# THE ENTRANCE PARISH DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

A beacon of Faith, Hope and Love

 PARISH PRIEST & DEAN OF THE CENTRAL COAST Fr Brian Moloney
 ASSISTANT PRIEST Fr Joshi Naduppura

 DEACON Paul Simmons
 SEMINARIAN Tân Nguyen
 PASTORAL ASSOCIATE Colleen Smith

 SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Leanne McGill
 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE MANAGER Karen Green

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#### Mass & Devotions

Sunday Masses Saturday Vigil 5:00pm Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am (11am at Reynolds Court, Bias Ave Bateau Bay) Weekday Masses Monday - Thursday 9:00am Friday 11:45am Saturday 9:00am

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

Liturgy of the Hours Saturday 8:40am Rosary Monday-Thursday 8:35am Friday 11:20am Saturday 9:30am Cenacle Prayer Group Wednesday 9:30am Christian Meditation Friday 10:30am-11:30am Reynolds Room

# 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday

Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 1 Thes 5:1-6

Matt 25:14-30

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Happy are those who fear the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

# Keep Us In Your Prayers There is no gift more precious than prayer - Fr Benedict Groeschel

**Recently Deceased:** Kathleen Desmond, Dallas McDonald, Joseph Timp.

**Remembrances:** In November we especially pray for all the Holy Souls. The Mass intentions are placed on the Altar during the Masses. Please place your envelopes in the November Mass Offering box on the Sanctuary railing. **Sick:** Barbara Greaney, Anne Knoke, Robert Bower, Greg Firns, Michael Webb, Lyle Dunn, Anne O'Rourke, Susan Simmons, Paul Smith, Collette O'Grady, Trish Knoke, Emma Horton, Marc Sabat, Linda Read, Peter O'Grady, Tanya Doorn, Kelly Will, and all with serious illness.

# **Pearly Gates Revisited**





For all your devotional needs...

# **Gift Centre**

New stock coming in all the time - come and see! We are open before and after the 5pm Saturday Vigil Mass and before and after the 9:30am Sunday Mass in the Church foyer. EFTPOS is available. For any enquiries call

#### 4332 2216