



St Patrick's Parish Gosford

The Communities of St Patrick's East Gosford,
St Francis of Assisi Somersby & Holy Trinity Spencer
Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.



THE PERFECT TRUST OF JESUS CHRIST

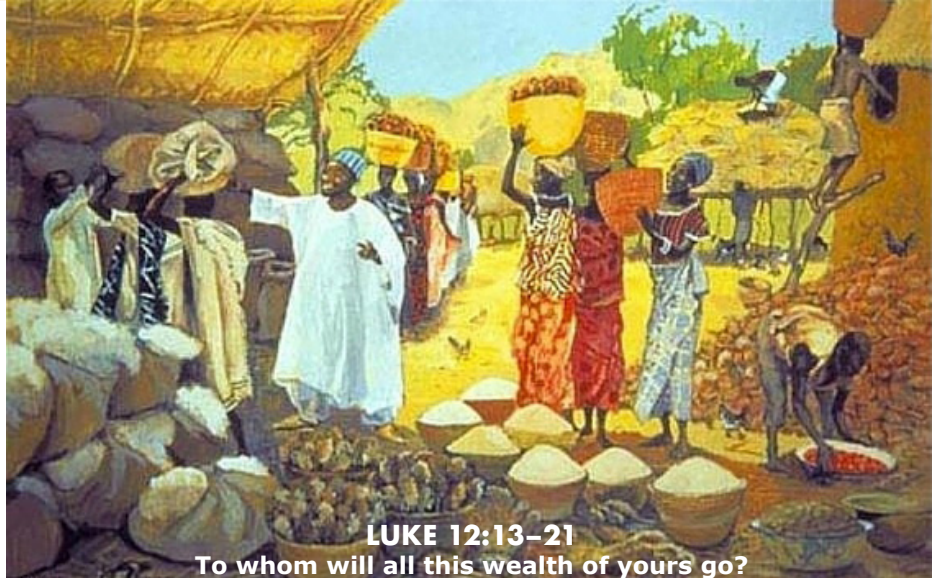
Trusting in the Lord is the only path to life, and nowhere is this seen more fully than in the life and work of Christ. In his life, he trusted the Father totally, even to his death; through his work on the cross, his resurrection, and his ascension he offers us new life, pouring his Spirit into our hearts. In a culture of misplaced trusts, broken promises, and damaged lives, only Jesus is unshakable, unchangeable, unbreakable, and worthy of all our trust. Only he trusted the Father perfectly with all his heart, making straight the path for our salvation so we too would trust him. Through him, God offers healing, wisdom, and love to the world, if we only acknowledge him in all our ways. How can we lead a life of happiness?

ARCHBISHOP FISHER WRITES:

A bill is due to be debated in NSW Parliament on Tuesday which, if passed, would see **abortion made legal in NSW up until birth.**

The bill was only announced a week ago, and then pushed for debate and vote as a priority, meaning that the general public, and those concerned about abortion in this state, were denied the opportunity to make their views known to their MPs.

It should come as a surprise to no one that there are strong views in the community regarding vulnerable human life. But it seems that those behind this bill, with the assistance of leaders in the



LUKE 12:13-21

To whom will all this wealth of yours go?

main political parties, are determined to stop the people from NSW having their say on this important matter.

Despite the lack of consultation and the rush through Parliament, it appears that co-ordination was occurring in secret for a long time in a co-ordinated effort that involved representatives from most political parties.

No other state has acted so swiftly and with such lack of consultation when it comes to abortion legislation. Both Tasmania and Victoria spent many months consulting the public and debating their laws in parliament.

As concerning as the process is, the proposed change to the law is even more troubling.

If passed, the bill would allow abortion right up to birth, for any reason, if two doctors agree.

It makes no mention of, nor provides any support for women who find themselves distressed and unsupported in their pregnancy, and feel as if they have no option other than abortion.

It provides no protection for women experiencing violence (According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Personal Safety Survey, 48 per cent

[Continued on Page 7](#)



FR FRANCIS JORDAN SDS

"Patience for your own good – sacrifice for the good of others – Remain so happy and Courageous."



POPE FRANCIS' AUGUST 2019 INTENTION

Families, Schools of Human Growth.

That families, through their life of prayer and love, become ever more clearly "schools of true human growth."

A warm welcome to our parishioners and visitors who are celebrating the Eucharist with us this weekend at St Patrick's Parish.

76 York St East Gosford NSW 2250

Tel: 4325-1042 ♦ email: patsgos@acs.net.au ♦ Web: www.bbcatholic.org.au/gosford



ST PATRICK'S PARISH GOSFORD

PASTORAL CARE

Fr Grzegorz [Greg] Skulski SDS

Parish Administrator

Email: greg@sds.org.au

SALVATORIANS

Society of the Divine Saviour

<http://www.sds.org.au>

PARISH OFFICE

Secretary:

Colleen Kirk Mon – Thurs: 8:30am – 4:30pm
Friday: 8:30am – 1:00pm

Bursar:

Sacramental Programme

Coordinator:

Email: franceshanna@yahoo.com Ph: 0427 773 317

Catechists' Coordinator: Alain Corne

Email: saintpatscdd@acs.net.au

Wed: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Thurs: 9:30am – 1:30pm

Youth Ministry: Matthew French
Ph: 0411 792 587

Media Coordinator: Tom Croll

Thursday: 9:00am – 2:00pm
Email: tcroll@photom.com.au

VOLUNTEER ROLES

Office Admin:

Denise Jay
Judith Myers
Maria Andrzejewska
9:00am – 3:30pm

Friday:

AV Presentation:

Bob Smith
Peter McLean
Greg McBride

Caretakers:

Ron Begg
John Malicki

Gardeners:

Trevor Byrne
Joyce Byrne
Victor Camilleri
Barbara McCarthy
Ph: 4322 0250

Seniors' Ministry:

School Principals

St Patrick's Primary: Mrs Cheryl Walsh 4325 1159

St Joseph's College: Mr Tony McCudden 4324 4022

St Edwards College: Mr Mark Bonnici 4321 6400

St Peter's College: Mr Tim Hilderbrandt 43512344

Christian Brothers' Community

Frederick Street, East Gosford

Br Peter Hester cfc [Community Leader]

Br Rod Shoebridge cfc

MONDAY, AUGUST 5 - DVD MOVIE SCREENING

In the Jordan Room after 9:00am Mass

COME TO THE STABLE

Starring Loretta Young and Celeste Holm

Armed with faith alone, determined to fulfil a promise made to God for saving a hospital from destruction during World War II, Sister Margaret (Loretta Young) and Sister Scolastica (Celeste Holm) arrive in Connecticut with the dream of building a children's hospital.

CHURCH OPEN DAILY 8:30AM – 4:30PM.

STANDARD WEEKDAY MASSES

Gosford:

Monday:	9:00am	Wednesday:	11:30am	Friday:	12 noon
Tuesday:	9:00am	Thursday:	9:00am	Saturday:	9:00am

WEEKEND MASSES

Gosford:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm Sunday: 7:30am Children's Liturgy:
9:00am During 9:00am Mass
6:00pm Each Sunday of School Term.

Somersby, 30 Lutana Road: Saturday Vigil: 6:30pm

Spencer, Wiseman's Ferry Rd: 1st Sunday Monthly: 4:00pm

OTHER MASSES

Filipino Mass 2nd	Korean Mass Monthly:
Sunday Monthly:	[Enq: Peter 0409-
12 noon	508-123] 6:00pm

ADORATION IN OUR CHURCH

Before the Blessed Sacrament

Mon: 8:30am – 9:00am Wed: 11:00am – 11:30am Fri: 12:30pm – 3:00pm

Tues: 8:30am – 9:00am Thur: 8:30am – 9:00am Sat: 8:00am

RECONCILIATION – 1ST RITE

Gosford:

Mon-Thur: during Adoration - see above.

1st Friday of Month Prior to Mass 11:30am

Other Fridays After Mass 12:30pm

Saturday: 8:30am and 4:30pm.

Sunday: 7:00am and 5:30pm

St Francis of Assisi 30 Lutana Road, Somersby:

Saturday after Vigil: 7:30pm

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

After weekday Masses to 3:00pm and to 1:00pm Fridays.

ROSARIES

Weekday

Monday, Tuesday Thursday	8:05am
Wednesday	10:35am
Friday	11:35am

Saturdays Monthly

8:05am: 1st – For Priests & Religious.
8:05am 3rd Saturday – For Mothers & Abortion.
8:05am 4th Saturday – For Persecuted Christians and their Persecutors.

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

Last Wednesday of each Month at 12 noon

ADORATION AT BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL

Located on Chapel Lane at the Admin Centre

Monday to Thursday 8:30am – 3:30pm

Friday 9:00am – 3:30pm

GROUP MEETINGS

Bible Study Lectio Divina / Christian Unity / Christian DVD:

Mondays at 9:30am twice monthly,

Wednesday at 10:00am in the Jordan Room.

Bible Study Monday 7:00 pm in the Jordan Room

RCIA: in Admin Centre 7:30pm Tuesdays.

Contact the Parish Office to register interest.

menALIVE:

7:30pm commencing with Mass

1st Tuesday of Month

9:00am 4th Tuesday Monthly

in Jordan Room

Cancer Prayers:

Grief & Loss, Prayer & Support:

1st Thursday Monthly 2pm in Jordan Room

Craft Group - Friday each week of School Term

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE SHOP

After 9:00am Mass in the Jordan Room.

All proceeds to Charities



IN YOUR PARISH OF ST PATRICK'S THIS WEEK

Sunday August 4	7:30am 9:00am 10:00am 4:00pm 6:00pm	Mass Mass Baptism Mass at Spencer Mass followed by Youth Group meeting after 6:00pm Mass.
Monday August 5	8:30am 9:00am 9:30am 7:00pm	Adoration. Mass. DVD screening after 9:00 am Mass, in the Jordan Room. Bible Study Meeting in the Jordan Room.
Tuesday August 6	8:30am 9:00am 7:30pm	Adoration. Mass. Mass followed by menAlive meeting in Jordan Room.
Wednesday August 7	11:00am 11:30am 12:00pm	Adoration. Mass. OLPH Novena. Please place your intentions into the basket in the Foyer prior to Mass.
Thursday August 8	8:30am 9:00am	Adoration. Mass
Friday August 9	9:30am 12:00am 12:30pm 12:45pm	Craft Group in Jordan Room. Mass. Adoration in St Patrick's from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm. Catechists meeting in Jordan room
Saturday August 10	8:30am 9:00am 10:15am 5:00pm 6:30pm	Adoration. Mass. Choir Practise in Church. Mass Mass at Somersby

PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES, JULY 27

RING THE BELL Win at all cost was not the answer
Rob though it was.

NEXT MOVIE NIGHT - 31st Aug.

Movie:- **RING the BELL** (G)

Ring The Bell shares the story of a slick, big city sports agent Rob Decker who seems to have it all. But on his latest mission to sign a high school baseball superstar, Rob becomes stranded in a small town where the simplicity of life and the faith of the people stand in stark contrast to his own fast-paced, win-at-all-costs mindset. Torn between these two worlds, will Rob have the courage to let faith transform his life? This heartwarming story of redemption is sure to entertain!"



- ♥ COME AND JOIN US IN THE JORDAN ROOM LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH. STARTING AT 7.00PM
- ♥ SHARE A SATURDAY NIGHT RELAXING WITH FRIENDS FROM OUR OWN COMMUNITY
- ♥ ENJOY A POT LUCK DINNER AND A MOVIE AFTER; WE ARE USUALLY FINISHED BY 10.00PM.
- ♥ WE MAKE IT EASY TO MEET NEW FRIENDS.

Pot Luck Dinners: Simply bring something to the quantity of what you would normally prepare for yourself, to share with all, for either the Main Meal, the Desert, or towards Tea, Coffee, Hot chocolate after dinner while we watch the movie with biscuits or nibbles.

While at the Movie
Enjoy a Pot Luck
Dinner.

Simply bring something of the quantity you would normally prepare for yourself, to share with all, for either the Main Meal, the Dessert, or towards tea, coffee, hot chocolate after dinner while we watch the movie with biscuits or nibbles.

KIDS CORNER
PINT SIZED
PADDIES
NEXT EVENT IS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9.

In the School Hall 7:00 pm on 2nd and 4th Friday of each Month.

Parents of Primary School Children contact Melissa Monaghan and book your youngsters in for a few hours of fun in a spiritual environment.

Enquiries to Melissa 0434 251 481

ST PATRICK'S PARISH YOUTH GROUP

YOUTH GROUP MEETING

Tonight, August 4 after 6:00 pm Mass in the Jordan Room. Pizza, food, games, memes and more. Exploring the Catholic faith through talks, small groups, prayer and bible study, all as part of a stable community of young people. Good Music. Quality Banter.

We encourage students of St Josephs and St Edwards colleges to join in after 6:00 pm Mass.

A great opportunity to meet other young Catholic guys and girls

in high school.

Stay after Mass tonight!

CAN YOU HELP

YOUTH BAND

The Youth Band is welcoming new members, so if you are musically inclined, why not join the band. If you are interested, make contact with one of the existing band members or Parish Office.

CATECHIST CORNER

Our Catechist team will be meeting for the 12 noon Eucharist on Friday 9 Aug followed by a lunch get together in the Jordan Room (say 12.45pm). Please bring something to share.

Thanks & blessings, Alain

CHORISTERS DESPERATELY NEEDED

Our choir which now sings at the Vigil Masses twice monthly and the 9am Masses at least twice monthly, is in desperate need of new members - but especially male members as they are currently down to only a few men in the group. Don't be shy, it's a great supportive group and you'll have a joyous time singing for the Lord! If you are interested, please call Avril on 0414 092 883.

CANDLE MINISTRY

We would like to thank Kathy Parkhouse for her commitment to this ministry over many years, but sadly she has to withdraw and will be missed! Clem and Marie, ever conscientious, have pulled themselves out of retirement until we find a replacement for Kathy. Is there anyone who would be willing to devote some time to this ministry? If so, please contact the office on 4325 1042.

OUR ALTAR SOCIETY IS IN NEED OF YOUR SUPPORT.

Your commitment to the Altar Society would only be about two hours once a month and no particular artistic ability is required. To know more, please contact the Parish Office.

SENIORS MINISTRY

HELP IS DESPERATELY NEEDED!

We need a lady to join our team who visit seniors once a month at Orana Retirement village. You will be matched with another lady and together to visit old folk at Orana.

MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY GROUP

7:00pm in the Jordan Room, all are welcome.

SPIRITUAL HEALING APPOINTMENTS

Sr Margaret Scully rsc

Sr Margaret will be in the Parish on **Saturday August 24** and is available for spiritual healing appointments. To book some time with Sr Scully please phone 9810 2499 to make an appointment.

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

FEAST DAY TUESDAY AUGUST, 6 2019

Our divine Redeemer, being in Galilee about a year before His sacred Passion, took with him St. Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, Sts. James and John, and led them to a retired mountain. Tradition assures us that this was Mount Thabor, which is exceedingly high and beautiful, and was anciently covered with green trees and shrubs, and was very fruitful. It rises something like a sugar-loaf, in a vast plain in the middle of Galilee. This was the place in which the Man-God appeared in His glory.

Whilst Jesus prayed, he suffered that glory which was always due to his sacred humility, and of which, for our sake, He deprived it, to diffuse a ray over His whole body. His face was altered and shone as the sun, and his garments became white as snow. Moses and Elijah were seen by the three apostles in his company on this occasion, and were heard discoursing with him of the death which he was to suffer in Jerusalem.

The three apostles were wonderfully delighted with this



glorious vision, and St. Peter cried out to Christ, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. Let us make three tents: one for thee, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" Whilst St. Peter was speaking, there came, on a sudden, a bright shining cloud from heaven, an emblem of the presence of God's majesty, and from out of this cloud was heard a voice which said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him" The apostles that were present, upon hearing this voice, were seized with a sudden fear, and fell upon the ground; but Jesus, going to them, touched them, and bade them to rise. They immediately did so, and saw no one but Jesus standing in his ordinary state.

This vision happened in the night. As they went down the mountain early the next morning, Jesus bade them not to tell anyone what they had seen till he should be risen from the dead. <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/calendar/day.cfm?date=2018-08-06>

Excerpted from Butler's Lives of the Saints, Benziger Bros. ed. [1894]

ST MARY MACKILLOP

MASS OF THE SAINT, THURSDAY AUGUST 8 SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Colossians 3:12-17; Matthew 6:25-34

Reading the Gospel in the context of this feast, it is difficult to step aside from the life experience of Mary Mackillop to offer an objective commentary. So much of this text speaks to the spirituality and also the struggle of this great Australian Saint.

It is important to place this short text within its wider literary context as a part of Matthew's great Sermon on the Mount, which begins in Matthew 5. Here, as Matthew describes it, Jesus goes up a mountain and sits down. By this action Matthew indicates Jesus' role as a teacher in the tradition of Moses. As Moses delivered the Law on Mt Sinai, now Jesus teaches the values for his community: the poor are considered blessed, as are those who seek peace, and those persecuted for the sake of righteousness.

The Sermon continues with Jesus reinterpreting the Mosaic Law, placing more emphasis on the inner attitudes a person has and not simply on external actions. This reinterpretation takes the form, 'you have heard it said ... but I say to you'.

Chapter 6 then moves into teaching on prayer and fasting. In all these ways, Jesus teaches his disciples that what matters is the attitude one has towards others, towards wealth and especially towards God. This attitude is summed up in the first beatitude – to have a poverty of spirit that lives with utter confidence in God's gratuitous love. Today's Gospel then follows.

This passage goes into more detail about what poverty of spirit looks like. Jesus uses many images to teach

his disciples the foolishness of anxiety. God's generosity in nature should lead them to trust God's generosity towards them. The birds of the air are fed; the flowers in the field are arrayed in splendid colours. For disciples, the true treasure is the life of God. This is to be the primary concern.

This section within the Sermon on the Mount is referred to as the 'teaching on anxieties'. Scholars note that there is here an essential paradox between two different horizons – the present and the future. In the present disciples are counselled – 'be not anxious'; and for the future, 'seek first the Kingdom and righteousness of God'. Security in this world seems to be only possible through having sufficient wealth for food and clothes. This can create an illusion that life is under control. Jesus' teaching is a reminder that such a sense of self-sufficiency is an illusion. Life is not under my control. Life is utterly gift of God, and so the only truthful way of living is to live within the graciousness of God and let go the illusions of management.

When reflecting on the Religious Congregation she founded and its difficulties, Mary Mackillop spoke in words that reflect



Jesus' teaching on anxiety.

'Don't be troubled about the future of the Institute; I am not. He Whose work it is will take care of it.'

The passage from Colossians, chosen for this Feast, expresses the Christian virtues that were obvious in Mary MacKillop's life – compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience. Above all, Mary exemplified the virtue of patient forbearance and forgiveness in her dealings with Church authorities. She suffered through excommunication with dignity and faithfulness to the church, while also being a woman of courage and single-minded determination to provide education for those in need. There is much in her life to celebrate and give thanks for – and much to emulate.

* The Greek term *basileia* is usually translated as reign or Kingdom of God. This can suggest a spatial reality rather than a relational concept. I use the term 'kingdom' in an attempt to show that Jesus' teaching about the *basileia* is not about a political or spatial concept but rather a new relationship with God. © Mary Coloe

<https://liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2019Aug08/0/ComMaCol>

ACCOMMODATION NEEDED BY A FEMALE PARISHIONER

Do you have a one-bedroom flat or granny flat available to rent to a female parishioner? If so, please contact the Parish Office, and Colleen will put you into contact with the parishioner.

THANK YOU

To all those who help with the sale of Donuts at Last Weekends Masses. All donuts were sold, so we are now a little closer to funding our youth for the Aust Catholic Youth Festival in Perth.

BUSH DANCE - SOCIAL EVENING

**A DATE TO BOOK INTO YOUR CALENDAR
SEPTEMBER, 14 2019, MORE DETAILS NEXT
WEEK.**

Join us for Breakfast after Mass



**St Patrick's Parish
Fundraising
Breakfasts are
coming back!**

**Join us in the Jordan
room on the first
Sunday of the month
after the 7:30am and
9am Masses**

**Bacon/sausage and
egg sandwich \$5
Coffee \$4 Tea \$3
Hot Choc \$4**



YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

MASS INTENTIONS

Date	Mass	Intention
Sat 3/8	9:00a Gosford	+ Remembrance CARL, LOUISE & ANTHONYO'MALLEY-JONES
	5:00p Gosford	+ Anniversary YVONNE KEEVERS
	6:30p Somersby	+ Remembrance PRUDENCE POTESTAS
Sun 4/8	7:30a Gosford	+ Anniversary JOSIE MAIR
	9:00a Gosford	+ Remembrance Leo Fry
	4:00p Spencer	Parish Intentions
	6:00p Gosford	Personal Intentions of ANDREW & FAMILY "THANKSGIVING TO JESUS & MOTHER MARY"
Mon 5/8	9:00a Gosford	"THANKSGIVING FOR THE LORD'S BLESSINGS"
Tues 6/8	9:00a Gosford	FOR THE PERSONAL INTENTIONS OF THE MURPHYS
Wed 7/8	11:30a Gosford	+ Anniversary GEROG FREDIANI
Fri 9/8	12:00n Gosford	Recently Deceased LISA HENNESSY
Sun 11/8	9:00a Gosford	Parish Intentions

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Kellie Nevin, Bob Smith, Charlie Sammut, Rachael Lees, Brian Graham, Arlene Peters, Kath Ryan, John Burg, Peter & Lena O'Donovan, Tina Learwood, Allan Francis, Brian Loo, Bev Meehan, Michael Graham, Glenn Mills, Frank McGuinness, Angela

Tel: 4325-1042 ♦ email: patsgos@acs.net.au ♦ Web: www.bbcatholic.org.au/gosford

Cunningham, Simon Low, Christopher Graham, Frances Cannon, John Riley, Margaret Gunnison, Sonia Cummings, Anna-Marie Rowan, Melita Waters, Judy Wennerbom, Helen Bligh, Scott McKinnon.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Lisa Hennessy, Andrew Murphy, Bob Skewes, Nelson Fernandes, Douglas Fitte.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Sylvia Downes, Yvonne Keevers, Norman Curran, Josie Mair, George Frediani, Mark Bevillicua, Mila Farthing, Rose Stringer, Frederick Dwyer.

REMEMBRANCES:

Deceased members of 'FOSS', Rose Stringer, Frederick Dwyer, Leo Fry, Helen Clement, Keevers, Knight & Merchant Families, James Ewington, Prudence Potestas, Carl, Anthony & Louise O'Malley Jones. Daryl Collins, Michael Kokegei.



Matthew 5:4
**Blessed are those who
mourn, for they will
be comforted.**

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

PS 69:2,6

O God, come to my assistance;

O Lord, make haste to help me!

You are my rescuer, my help;

O Lord, do not delay.

FIRST READING

ECCL 1:2; 2:21-23

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

What do people gain by all their work?

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity!

For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. V.1

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'

To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night.

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades.

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

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.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands.

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

SECOND READING

COL 3:1-5, 9-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Seek the things that are above where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication, impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

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

LK 12:13-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

To whom will all this wealth of yours go?

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied, 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do; I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years

to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

WIS 16:20

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

COMMENTARY

BY MARY COLOE PBVM

Where is your treasure?

Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11; Luke 12:13-21

Today's Gospel gives us some insight into the concerns of Luke's community living towards the end of the first century. The issues of money, possessions and inheritance reflect the wealthier urban context of Luke's community rather than the rural village life of Jesus' mission. These same issues are very relevant for us today. How does a Christian live within the complex world of economics and global profit?

Jesus' words offer much wisdom. Security, and I would add happiness, does not come in owning more and more possessions. Security lies elsewhere. Having possessions is not the problem in this passage; it is insatiable greed in wanting more and more. This is the point of the parable.

Matthew's Gospel teaches the same point this way: 'Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.' (Matt 6:21) So today might be well spent reflecting on these questions: 'Where is my treasure?' 'What is it in my life that I really value?' 'Where does my heart lie?' Where the parable speaks of harvests and barns, translate this into your own circumstances, a second car, a mobile phone, a bigger ..., the latest ..., a better ...

Sometimes life itself forces a person to reflect on the point of today's Gospel – a person hears s/he has a malignant tumour, or a failing heart. At these crisis times we can quickly re-evaluate the priorities in life, sometimes regretting that this lesson is learnt with little time left. Today, with life and time still available, check up on your true wealth, your real security.

Using the images and terms of his age Paul addresses much the same issue in this section from Colossians. Paul says, focus on God – this is to be your treasure. Anything that gets in the way of this wealth needs to be cut out from your life. At the heart of both readings lies the question of where to find true happiness, and deep inner peace. These passages remind me of a story told by the Indian Jesuit priest Anthony De Mello –

'The Diamond'

'The sannyasi had reached the outskirts of the village and settled down under a tree

Your Roster – August 11, 19th Sunday Ordinary Time Year [C]					
MASS	VIGIL 5:00	7:30am	9:00am	6:00pm	Somersby -6:30
DATE	10.08.19	11.08.19	11.08.19	11.08.19	10.08.19
Audio/Visual	Robert Biviano	Mark Fawkner	Emily Torres Machuca	Thomas Werner	Melissa Monaghan
Acolytes	Peter Young Gerard Nicholls	Gerard Price John Ryan	Peter Julius Peter McLean	Ange Stitt Patrick Nicholls	Altar Society: Vicki Muscat
Lectors	Val Dibben Bridget Sharp	Ron Begg Sheila Evans	Chris Paget Kaitlyn Crawford	Chris Golden Barbara McCarthy	Joanne Comensoli Sarah Xuereb
Commentator	Terry Cooke	Ron Begg	John Miller	Corrie Dunn	Mary Luci
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COUNTERS August 5 Fiona Eaton, Lyn Beglin Margaret Hunter August 12 Wendy Stringer Dianna Addis	ALTAR LINEN P/up August 5: Hazel Walsh Ret'n August 9:	ALTAR SOCIETY Fran Thompson Barbara Mills Audrey Morris	CHILDRENS LITURGY Joanne Ford Katie Moss	PARISH BUS Driver: John Donnelly Helper: Brenda Donnelly	HOSPITAL VISITATION August 11 Barbara Mills Peter Mills

for the night when a villager came running up to him and said, "The stone! The stone! Give me the precious stone!"

"What stone?" asked the sannyasi.

"Last night the Lord Shiva appeared to me in a dream," said the villager, "And told me that if I went to the outskirts of the village at dusk I should find a sannyasi who would give me a precious stone that would make my rich forever."

"The sannyasi rummaged in his bag and pulled out a stone. "He probably meant this one," he said, as he handed the stone over to the villager. "I found it on a forest path some days ago. You can certainly have it."

"The man gazed at the stone in wonder. It was a diamond, probably the largest diamond in the whole world, for it was as large as a person's head.

"He took the diamond and walked away. All night he tossed about in bed, unable to sleep. Next day at the crack of dawn he woke the sannyasi and said, "Give me the wealth that makes it possible for you to give this diamond away so easily."" (Anthony de Mello, The Song of the Bird, Anand: HIS, 1983 pp 182-83.)

This parable by Tony de Mello expresses the heart of Jesus' teaching that all one has and is, is gift. That real wealth lies in the abundant love of God – of living within and from that abundance. Such a person is never poor, and is always able to live generously. What does such inner wealth look like?

Inner peace – generosity of spirit and goods – lack of envy – compassion for the neediness of others whose emptiness is insatiable and can never be filled – hospitality and freedom to act on behalf of the vulnerable and oppressed. Having nothing, the 'poor in spirit' have nothing to lose.

NEXT SUNDAY

SUNDAY, AUGUST, 11

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

1st – Wis 18:6-9
2nd – Heb 11:1-2, 8-19
Gospel – Luke 12:32-48

TUESDAY AUGUST 6

Transfiguration of the Lord.

THURSDAY AUGUST 8

St Mary of The Cross, virgin

SATURDAY AUGUST 10

St Lawrence, deacon and martyr

Continued from Page 1

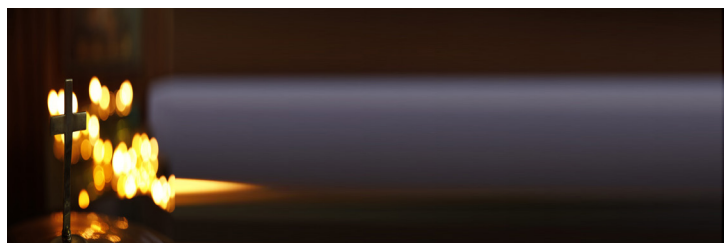
of women who report violence from a former partner were abused during pregnancy, as are 18 per cent of women who report violence from a current partner.)

It will leave unborn children and distressed pregnant women even more at risk.

It will require Catholic (and other) doctors and hospitals to collaborate by either taking part in the abortion or referring to someone who will, so it is another attack upon the conscience rights of Catholics and others.

Politicians have been given a conscience vote on this issue, and there is still time to make your views known. I encourage everyone to phone their local MP on Monday or Tuesday.

You may contact the Premier's office on 8574 5000 or email her at willoughby@parliament.nsw.gov.au, or the State member for Gosford, Leisl Tech at gosford@parliament.nsw.gov.au or 4342 4122.



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reduce the cost to the Parish.
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the cameras and installation.

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