

GOSPEL

Mt 5:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Happy are the poor in spirit.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy the gentle:
they shall have the earth for their heritage.
Happy those who mourn:
they shall be comforted.
Happy those who hunger and thirst for
what is right:
they shall be satisfied.
Happy the merciful:
they shall have mercy shown them.
Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God.
Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called sons of God.
Happy those who are persecuted in the
cause of right:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

29 JANUARY 2023

WORKING FOR GOD'S KINGDOM

There is a consistency between the Old Testament reading and the Gospel of today in that they speak of the qualities that should mark the life of faith in the face of difficulty – integrity, humility, truthfulness, and steadfastness. There is a call to hope that despite the presence of obstacles, misunderstanding, and sometimes rejection, God still has the power to intervene in our world. For the people in exile, it was no easy matter to continue to believe that God would intervene to re-establish the faithful in their own land. Would it have been any easier for the people of Jesus' time to hear the words of the beatitudes that proclaimed comfort for mourners, or a sumptuous banquet for those who were starving? There is a fundamental challenge that underlies both these readings: do we really believe that God's kingdom can be established in our midst? Secondly, are we prepared to work to bring that kingdom into reality?

While the Christians of Corinth felt they were living in that reality Paul knew that while there was division the process of conversion still had a long way to go. Paul was convinced that there is no place for competition or envy. He had already used the example of Jesus' humble death to show them that jealousy is misplaced in the Christian community since Jesus displayed his power in humble service. He now goes one step further reminding the Corinthians that their own humble origin is a sign that God's call is best received with humble gratitude.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Zeph 2: 3; 3: 12-13

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

In your midst I will leave a humble and a lowly people.

Seek the Lord
all you, the humble of the earth,
who obey his commands.
Seek integrity, seek humility:
you may perhaps find shelter
on the day of the anger of the Lord.
In your midst I will leave
a humble and lowly people,
and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge

in the name of the Lord.
They will do no wrong,
will tell no lies;
and the perjured tongue will no longer
be found in their mouths.
But they will be able to graze and rest
with no one to disturb them.

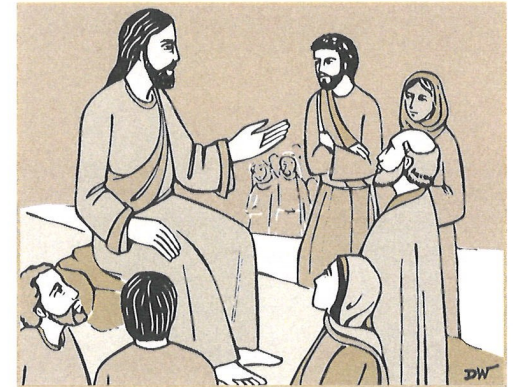
■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 145: 7-10

R. Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! (or Alleluia!)

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, / who is just to those who are oppressed. / It is he who gives bread to the hungry, / the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, / who raises up those who are bowed down, / the Lord, who protects the stranger / and upholds the widow and orphan. **R.**
3. It is the Lord who loves the just / but thwarts the path of the wicked. / The Lord will reign for ever, / Zion's God, from age to age. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 1: 26-31

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

God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning.

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 5: 12

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad:

your reward will be great in heaven.

Alleluia!

Catholic Parish of St Kevin Eastwood

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www.youtube.com/c/StKevinsParishEastwood



www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION AND DEVOTION

Weekday Mass: Monday - 7:30am (Communion Service, except on Feast Days);

Tuesday to Thursday - 7:30am (followed by Holy Rosary); Friday - 5pm

Weekend Mass: Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm (livestreamed); Sunday - 8am, 9:30am, 6pm

CCC Mass: Sunday at 11:30am (English/Cantonese)

Eucharistic Adoration: Friday 4pm-5pm

First Friday Devotion: Monthly at 4pm

First Saturday Mass and Devotion: Monthly at 9am

Exposition and Benediction: First weekend of the month at all Masses

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Friday 4pm-4:45pm and Saturday 4:30pm-5:15pm

SCAN OUR
PARISH
QR CODE TO
DONATE
ONLINE



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time/Year A

29th January 2023

PRAYER REQUESTS:



Deceased: Louise Brooks, John Casey, Francis Murray, Cyril Joseph Smith, Margaret Dunne, Patricia Dunne; Casey, Landon, O'Connor, Pigott and Stewart families; Geoff & Patricia Clarke; Jan Brayan; and all souls in purgatory.

Sick: Burkardt Foertsch, Peter McNamara, Graham Rumble, Ben Isaacs, Harriet D'Souza, Sam Wong, Robert Lauw, Tenille Moujalli, June Phelan, Anne McIntyre, Adhy Guna S., Daisy Gouw, Nur Gouw, Ceferino Ramirez

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS AND MEMORIALS:

St John Bosco 31st January, The Presentation of the Lord 2nd February

PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL:



St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

PARISH NEWS:

- As schools reopen, we wish for all students and teachers, to have an amazing year, full of opportunities for learning, spiritual growth and making friends! May God bless you all on your faith and academic journey!
- We welcome into the family of God, Amelia and Ashton Han! Congratulations for receiving the sacrament of baptism!
- **Funeral Mass for our late Archbishop, George Cardinal Pell, will be held on Thursday 2nd Feb, 11am at St Mary's Cathedral. Open to general public. See poster for details.**
- **On Feb 3, we will have our First Friday Devotion at 4pm. All welcome.**
- **On Feb 4, we will have our First Saturday Mass and Devotion at 9am. All welcome.**
- **Exposition and Benediction every first weekend of the Month at all Masses.**

- **FOSK (Friends of St Kevin's) will be holding morning teas outside the Church on first Sundays in 2023, starting on Feb 5. Please join us after the 9:30am Mass. All welcome.**
- **Monthly Men's Prayer Breakfast: Saturday 4th February in the Haseler Centre. Starts at 7:00am. All are welcome to attend.** For info contact 0400 303 733.
- **MIDWEEK MEN'S PRAYER HOUR (GOSPEL REFLECTION & PRAYERS) FROM NEXT WEEK WILL BE MOVED TO TUESDAY AT 7PM IN THE HOLY FAMILY CHAPEL.** All welcome.
- **CHILDREN'S LITURGY TO RECOMMENCE ON SUNDAY FEB 5, AT THE 9:30AM MASS.** The Children's Liturgy is run by parent volunteers during school term. If you wish to help, email: therese.egan@syd.catholic.edu.au No experience necessary. Resources & support provided
- **LITURGICAL ROSTERS WILL BE UPDATED SOON. Contact the parish office for any changes.**
- **Next weekend is Catechist Sunday.** All catechists are invited to attend the 9:30am Mass on Sunday, 5th February, for the Rite of Commitment and Commissioning.
- **ST KEVIN'S PLAYGROUP will recommence on Wed, 8th Feb, 9:30-11:30am in the Haseler Centre (parish hall).** All parents/carers and little ones are welcome to join in the fun! **COST:** \$3 per session or \$25 for the term. For more info Email: olivia.cullen@syd.catholic.edu.au
- **Next Infant Baptism Info Session will be on Tues 7th Feb at 8pm in the parish office meeting room.** Contact the parish office by email if you wish to attend. Thank you.
- **To parishioners who requested receipts from Vinnies' Christmas Appeal:** Receipts are now available for collection at the back of the church, near the sacristy.
- **Volunteer AV Operators Needed!** Please contact the parish office if you wish to help at Vigil, 8am and 6pm Mass. Thank you!

CATECHIST SUNDAY, 5TH FEBRUARY 2023:



Become a Catechist in 2023! Half of Catholic children in Sydney are in public primary and high schools. Share with them the hope and joy that Jesus brings and become a Catechist! Starting off as a classroom helper, you will receive easy step-by-step lessons and assist children with their activity books. St Kevin's Catechists are assigned to either Eastwood Public School or Carlingford Public School. Visit: <https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org/> to find out more about what catechists do or grab a flyer in the church foyer.

"Being a catechist is the most spiritually fulfilling thing I've done" - Rosemary

Interested? Contact the parish office at 9874 2533 and speak to Lanie, our Catechist Coordinator.

SAFEGUARDING:

To all Catechists, Children's Liturgy Volunteers, Senior Servers, Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and other volunteers whose WWCC will be expiring this year: Approximately three months before your WWCC is due to expire, you will receive an email notification from the Working With Children Check - Office of the Children's Guardian, regarding details on how to renew. Once your renewal application has been processed at Service NSW, you will receive an email with your new WWCC expiry date. Please provide the parish office a copy of this email for verification. For more information go to: <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/renew-working-children-check-wwcc>

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY:



Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police.

If you or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, contact Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office (02) 9390 5810 or E: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support & guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to police.