

He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows:

‘Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.’

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

PILGRIMAGE IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL THROUGH GREECE AND TURKEY

11-23 SEPTEMBER 2023

Chaplain:
Fr Michael Goonan SSP,
Editor of *God's Word* and
St Pauls Sunday Bulletins

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

18 JUNE 2023

SIGNS OF GOD IN THE TIMES

Reading accurately the signs of the times and then responding appropriately is seldom an easy matter. In coming to Mount Sinai, the people of Israel have arrived at a decisive moment, as today's first reading notes. They are called to remember how God rescued them and to pledge themselves to be faithful to their covenant relationship. By doing this each member will share in the priestly duties of bringing others to encounter the living God. Faced with the needs of so many people Jesus had also arrived at a moment of decision. The people were in desperate need of shepherds to care for them. His response was to appoint the Twelve to share in his ministry of healing and proclaiming the reign of God.

For Paul, the most important sign of the times was not the fact that all humanity deserved to be condemned as falling short of the mark. Rather, it was God's unexpected response to our need and powerlessness. Paul stresses our desperate plight in order to emphasise the marvellous gift we have been given in the saving death of Jesus. No greater proof could be found to show us God's love for all people than Jesus dying for us while we were yet sinners. From Paul's perspective, there was never a question of us meriting such an act of self-sacrifice. The death of Jesus is an invitation to wonder, hope and joyfully trust that whatever has ruptured our relationship with God has been healed.

FIRST READING

Ex 19: 2-6

A reading from the book of Exodus.

You will be a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation.

From Rephidim the Israelites set out again; and when they reached the wilderness of Sinai, there in the wilderness they pitched their camp; there facing the mountain Israel pitched camp.

Moses then went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel, "You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation."'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 99: 2-3, 5. R. v. 3

R. We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

1. Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth. / Serve the Lord with gladness. / Come before him, singing for joy. **R.**

2. Know that he, the Lord, is God. / He made us, we belong to him, / we are his people, the sheep of his flock. **R.**

3. Indeed, how good is the Lord, / eternal his merciful love. / He is faithful from age to age. **R.**

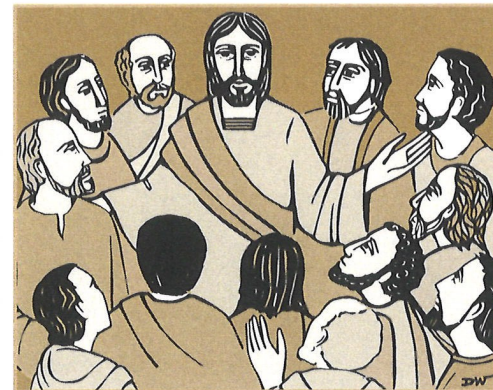
SECOND READING

Rom 5: 6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

We have been reconciled to God through the death of his Son; we are saved by his life.

We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might



be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mk 1: 15

Alleluia, alleluia! / The kingdom of God is near; / repent and believe the Good News! / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 9:36–10:8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

He summoned his twelve disciples, and sent them out.

When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

Christopher Monaghan CP



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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
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Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time/Year A

18th June 2023

PRAYER REQUESTS:



Recently Deceased: Patricia Kune, Angela Di Giorgio

Death Anniversary: Ellen Williams, Francis Murray

Deceased: Selwyn Jackson, Don Raffin, Peter McNamara, Milly Farrell, Marie Cummins, Casey, Landon, O'Connor, Pigott and Stewart families; Geoff & Patricia Clarke; Ron and Jan Brayon

Sick: Irene De Silva, Dennis Ho, Elizabeth Uy Tan, Burkhart Foertsch, Graham Rumble, Sam Wong, Robert Lauw, Tenille Moujalli, June Phelan, Anne McIntyre, Adhy Guna S., Daisy Gouw, Nur Gouw

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS:

St Aloysius Gonzaga June 21, Saints John Fisher and Thomas More June 22,

THE NATIVITY OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST June 24

PARISH NEWS:

- Welcome to all school families participating in our Eucharistic celebration this weekend! We invite you to join us for morning tea after the 9:30am Mass.
- Congratulations to Emma Thomas for receiving the sacrament of baptism this weekend!
- We welcome speakers from **Eastwood Conference of St Vincent de Paul** to tell us more about this year's Vinnies Winter Appeal.
- **Next Friday, 23rd June, we are blessed to have Bishop Danny Meagher as Principal Celebrant of our Confirmation Masses.** Please include all our candidates in your prayer as they prepare to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- **REMINDER: On Fri 23rd June, we will have the Mass, confession and adoration in the morning from 9:30am-11am** to make way for Confirmation Masses at 5pm & 7pm.
- **Next Sat, 24th June, we will have a Mass at 9:30am to celebrate the Solemnity of the Nativity of St John the Baptist.** All are welcome to attend.
- **New rosters now available for collection from the table near the sacristy.** Thank you.

- **JUNE 24 & 25 will be the last weekend for receipted Planned Giving Donation for 2022-2023 financial year.** New set of planned giving envelopes will be issued next weekend.
- **SAVE THE DATE: Nov 10-12, 2023 - Eastwood Community Camp:** Book a campsite or a cabin. Mention 'Eastwood Community Group' when booking via DEL RIO RESORT 4566-4330 so that we are situated together. For information contact Belinda at 0421 669 752.
- **Get a copy of The Catholic Weekly for \$2!** In this week's edition: Walk with Christ 2023: Well over 10,000 hit the streets of Sydney for Corpus Christi!



ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL, June 17/18. As the cost

of living rises so do the calls for assistance from Vinnies. The needs of the people who call on us have become more complex and expensive. Your donation will help us give a hand up to people doing it tough these days. Donate using the appeal envelopes or scan the QR code to access our fundraising page. Vinnies donation buckets are available at the door. Thank you!



MONTHLY MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST: Gentlemen, you are warmly invited to attend the next monthly Men's Prayer Breakfast to be held in the Haseler Centre (Parish Hall) on Sat 1st July, 7am-8:30am. For info: Lou 0400303733.

Men's Retreat: Sep 29 - Oct 1st - Interested? Contact Lou 0400303733.

Weekly Men's Prayer Hour: 7pm Every Tuesday in the Church.

UPCOMING TRAININGS to be conducted by the Archdiocese of Sydney Liturgy Office, Venue: St Kevin's Parish Hall. Copy of Baptism Certificate required. COST: FREE. For details on how to register go to: <https://liturgy.sydneycatholic.org/ministry-training-formation/>

- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMOHC), Wednesdays, July 19, 26 and Aug 2, 6pm-9pm All current EMOHC and Senior Altar Servers who haven't done this course from the Liturgy Office are **strongly encourage to participate**. This course is a pre-requisite to all Senior Altar Servers who wish to take the Acolytes course.
- Acolytes/Senior Altar Servers: Saturdays August 5, 12 and 19, 9am-12pm
- Readers: Saturdays October 7 and 14, 9am-12pm

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE:

- **UPCOMING EVENTS ORGANISED BY SYDNEY CATHOLIC YOUTH (see posters for details):**
June 27th - Purpose Night (for high school students Years 9-12)
July 10-12 - Purpose Camp (for high school students Years 9-12)
Dec 7-8 - Purpose Conference (for high school students Years 9-12 and young adults!)
- **Volunteer Opportunity:** Mary MacKillop Place is looking for enthusiastic volunteers who will welcome & assist visitors to the MMP Museum, North Sydney. Interested? Contact Sr Annie Bond by email: annie.bond@mmp.org.au See poster for more details.

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.

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: safeguarding-enquiries@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.