

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia! / Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, / you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 11:25-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

I am gentle and humble of heart.

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.****A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

9 JULY 2023

THE GOD OF SURPRISES

In a time of rapid change in the Church one of our community members lamented the fact that 'Just as I got it all worked out, they changed what it was!' Often the word of God has a way of turning our world and expectations upside down. After the exile, the hope for a king from the line of David was rekindled. Zechariah agrees with this hope but his vision of the kingdom that God will establish would have come as a surprise to his contemporaries. Peace will come, but not through the force of arms.

Jesus' own life and message were no less paradoxical. Those who would have been expected to understand were left floundering and confused by his message. On the other hand, those open to the surprising ways of God find in Jesus the one who will gently carry their burdens if they will take on the task of becoming disciples.

Much of Paul's energy was devoted to the formation of Christian communities and it was not uncommon for them to become discouraged when they failed to live up to the demands of the gospel. In the coming weeks, the readings taken from Romans 8 show how Paul both challenges and revitalises the Christian community of Rome. He calls them to live spiritual lives, while also making sure they hear his message of encouragement. There is a firm basis for hope since the Spirit is in us, empowering, enlivening, and transforming us.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Zech 9:9-10

A reading from the prophet Zechariah

See how humbly your king comes to you!

The Lord says this:

'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!
Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!
See now, your king comes to you;
he is victorious, he is triumphant,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
He will banish chariots from Ephraim
and horses from Jerusalem;
the bow of war will be banished.
He will proclaim peace for the nations.
His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,
from the River to the ends of the earth.'

■ **The word of the Lord.****RESP PSALM**

Ps 144:1-2, 8-11, 13-14. R. v. 1

R. I will praise your name for ever,
my king and my God. (or Alleluia!)

1. I will give you glory, O God my King, /
I will bless your name for ever. / I will bless
you day after day / and praise your name for
ever. **R.**

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, /
slow to anger, abounding in love. / How good
is the Lord to all, / compassionate to all his
creatures. **R.**

3. All your creatures shall thank you,
O Lord, / and your friends shall repeat their
blessing. / They shall speak of the glory
of your reign / and declare your might,
O God. **R.**

4. The Lord is faithful in all his words / and
loving in all his deeds. / The Lord supports
all who fall / and raises all who are bowed
down. **R.**

**SECOND READING**

Rom 8:9, 11-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

■ **The word of the Lord.**



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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 12noon (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



Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time/Year A

9 July 2023

PRAYER REQUESTS:



Recently Deceased: Tsu-Sheng Chang Lee, Irene de Silva

Death Anniversary: Robert Paul Cassidy, Fr Kevin O'Grady, Czeslawa Pytka

Deceased: Joan McMullen, John Davidson, Lucy Ng, Cecilia Tan, Selwyn Jackson, Don Raffin, Peter McNamara, Milly Farrell, Marie Cummins, Casey, Landon, O'Connor, Pigott and Stewart families; Geoff & Patricia Clarke; Ron and Jan Brayan

Sick: Noelene Wilkinson, Barbara Hall, 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:

Saint Benedict July 11, Saint Bonaventure July 15

PARISH NEWS:

- **First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Program Information Evening** will be on Tuesday 18th July at 7pm in the church. Parents/carers are invited to attend. Candidate must be in Year 3 or above and has received the Sacrament of Baptism. For more information visit our parish website or Email: parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au.
- **Thank you for your generosity. So far we have raised \$2,263.15 for the missionary works of St Michael Mission Society in Papua New Guinea.** We thank Fr Bogdan Swierczewski CSMA for visiting our parish and sharing the wonderful work of the congregation in PNG.
- **Starting this Sunday, July 9, the Chinese Catholic Community Mass will be at 12noon.**
- **No Parishioner Fitness Class until further notice.** To check when classes will resume, please Contact Michael, Personal Trainer on 8819 2280.
- **Kevinwood Sunday Concert 16th July, 2:30pm in the Haseler Centre (parish hall)** - Come along for a great musical afternoon. Featuring community orchestra, handbells, choral and juniors. Visit kevinwoodorchestra.org for details or contact Suzanne Ph 9874 2809.
- **July-Oct 2023 Liturgical rosters now available for collection at the back of the church.**

- **At the end of 2022-2023 financial year, parishioners donating through the Planned Giving Program can request a tax receipt.** To lodge your request, visit our parish website or fill-out a form in the church foyer. **New set of planned giving envelopes now ready for collection.**
- **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, visit: <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/renew-working-children-check-wwcc> for details on how to renew. Volunteers who just turned 18yo can now apply for WWCC.

On Wed, July 26, is the Feast Day of St Anne and St Joachim and it's Grand-parent's Day here at St Kevin's! Join us for Mass at 9.30am followed by Open Classrooms and Morning Tea in the Parish Hall. Grandparents, Grand-friends (even if they don't have grandchildren at the school) & Parents are all welcome! For catering purposes please scan the QR code and RSVP by Friday 21st July.



Next weekend, July 15 and 16, Catholic Mission will offer you the opportunity to partner with Sr Carolina and the Salesian Sisters in Venilale, Timor-Leste, where you can help continue a life-saving program to address gaps in medical and health care. More info at: catholicmission.org.au/timor. Donation envelopes will be available next weekend. Visit our parish website to watch 'Walk with Timor-Leste on the road to health'.

RCIA PROGRAM STARTING SOON! The Catholic Church has a special way of initiating adults into the Catholic faith. This is called the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**. RCIA is a process of Christian formation offered to those who seek to become Catholic. If you know anyone who is interested to participate in this program, please encourage them to attend a meeting on **Saturday 12th Aug at 3pm, Haseler Centre (parish hall)**. Families and support person welcome to join. There is no pressure or obligation to those enquiring to become Catholic. For more information: Ph 9874 2533 or E: parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au

Brothers in Christ - Men's Ministry: For info contact 0400303733. New members welcomed.

Weekly Men's Prayer Hour & Gospel Reflection

Every Tuesday evening at 7:00pm in the Holy Family Chapel - St Kevin's

Monthly Men's Prayer Breakfast

First Saturday of each month, 7am to 8:30am in the Haseler Centre (parish hall) - followed by First Saturday Mass and Benediction at 9:00am.

St Kevin's Men's Choir: New Members Welcomed.



AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE:

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS & ELDERLY on Sun, July 23. Pope Francis has provided an exhortation on the invaluable presence that our grandparents & elderly provide in the life of the Church. Limited copies available in the church foyer or download from the parish website.

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.