

in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia! / My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; / I know them, and they follow me. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 21:28-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

1 OCTOBER 2023

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY

While we are familiar with the notion of personal responsibility, it may come as a surprise to learn that it took some time to fully develop in the Old Testament. While the prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel were not the first to invent the concept, they are major contributors to its development. In Ezekiel 18, the prophet is trying to convince the people of Israel that while it might seem harsh that each person is held responsible for their sins, there is also the possibility to change one's life. God will respect this change of heart and reward it.

As Jesus teaches in the Temple, he challenges the Jewish authorities to understand that what Ezekiel had spoken of continued to be true. Tax collectors and prostitutes took the opportunity that John the Baptist's preaching provided – to take responsibility for their lives and change. The parable of the two sons is a pointed commentary not only on the openness of sinners to John the Baptist but also on the opposition of the Jewish authorities. In the next few weeks, the lines of demarcation between Jesus and the authorities will continue to intensify.

The Christians of Philippi are encouraged by Paul to take responsibility for the building up of their community, a community which is to be marked by unity, and a profound valuing of the other person. He reminds them of a hymn they know well, a breathtaking hymn that talks of the sublime example of Jesus' humility and love which is the model for all Christian life.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Ezek 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 24:4-9. R. v. 6

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. **R.**
2. Remember your mercy, Lord, / and the love you have shown from of old. / Do not remember the sins of my youth. / In your love remember me, / because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**
3. The Lord is good and upright / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path / he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

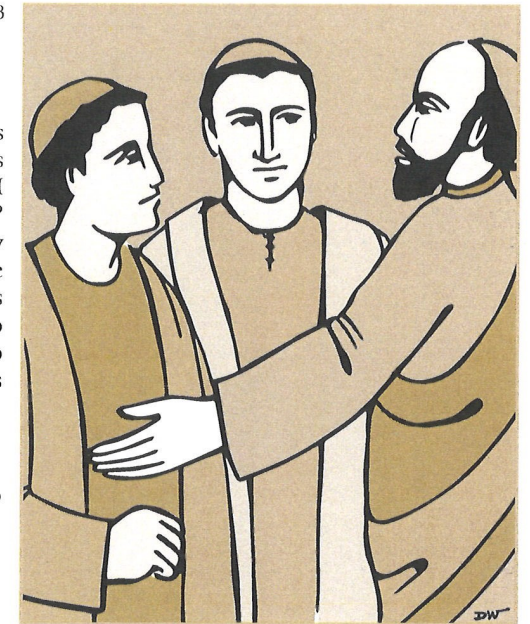
SECOND READING

Phil 2:1-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one



thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,
yet he did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings



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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
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ONLINE



Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time/Year A

1 Oct 2023

PRAYER REQUESTS:



Death Anniversary: Lindsay & Les Hendry, Ben Isaacs, Mary & Joseph Maher, Joe Merhi, James 'Jim' Lander, Emmanuel Velasco, Lee Kokwa

Deceased: Fr Kevin O'Grady, Pieter Tibbertsma, John Davidson, Lucy Ng, Cecilia Tan, Jan Kierdal, Selwyn Jackson, Don Raffin, Peter McNamara, Milly Farrell, Francis Murray, Marie Cummins; Casey, Landon, O'Connor, Pigott and Stewart families; Geoff and Patricia Clarke; Ron & Jan Brayan

Sick: Paul Celler, Dave Isaacs, Terence Cahill, Barbara Hall, Elizabeth Uy Tan, Graham Rumble, Sam Wong, Robert Lauw, Tenille Moujalli, June Phelan, Anne McIntyre, Adhy Guna S., Daisy Gouw, Nur Gouw

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS, SOLEMNITIES AND MEMORIALS:

The Holy Guardian Angels Oct 2, Saint Francis of Assisi Oct 4, Our Lady of the Rosary Oct 7

PARISH NEWS:

• **October is the Month of the Holy Rosary:** Parishioners are invited to join the St Kevin's school community to pray the Rosary every Tues at 2:20pm in the church starting Oct 10. This would be wonderful time to learn how to pray the rosary and be guided along. We also have a parish group that prays the Rosary after the weekday morning Masses at 7:30am.

• **The Rite of Acceptance for our RCIA participants will be on Sat, 14th October Vigil Mass.**

• **On Sun 8th Oct, we will be having a morning tea outside the Church after the 9:30am Mass to celebrate FR TOMASZ' BIRTHDAY!** Join us! If you can, please bring a plate to share. Thank you!

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!

• **SAVE THE DATE: Parish Christmas Dinner on Sat, 2nd December! Details to follow.**

• **NEXT BAPTISM INFORMATION EVENING WILL BE HELD ONLINE VIA ZOOM on Tues 3rd Oct at 8pm.** Please register your attendance by email: parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au.

• **On Oct 6, first Friday of the month, we will have Mass and devotion starting at 4pm.**

• **On Oct 7, first Saturday of the month, we will have Mass and devotion at 9am.**

• **Next Men's Prayer Breakfast will be on Saturday 7th Oct at 7am in the Haseler Centre.**

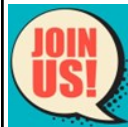
• **Life, Marriage and Family Sunday:** We invite married couples and their families on any of the weekend Masses on Oct 21 & 22 to receive a blessing in thanksgiving for the gift of marriage & family life.



• Volunteer AV Operators needed. Interested? Email: parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au

• **Liturgical Readers Training:** Sat Oct 7 & 14, 9am-12pm, Haseler Centre. Contact the parish office or register at: <https://liturgy.sydneycatholic.org/ministry-training-formation/>.

• **ST KEVIN'S PLAYGROUP** meets every Wednesday from 9:15-11:15am in the parish hall during school terms. For more information email: olivia.cullen@syd.catholic.edu.au



ARE YOU KEEN TO EXPLORE MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH, THE SCRIPTURES AND THE TEACHINGS OF THE CHURCH? Join us for the **Didaskō Adult Faith Formation** courses organised by the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Parish Renewal Team, together with the University of Notre Dame Australia. **Our parish has registered for these online courses and we encourage parishioners and young adults (18yo and up) to join us in the parish hall for an in-person gathering, with reflection and discussion. Cost: FREE! Coffee, tea & biscuits provided. TO REGISTER, Ph: 9874 2533 or email the parish office: parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au.** The monthly topics include:

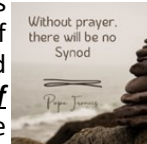
- * 2023 **THU OCT 5, 12 & 19, 7:30PM-8:45PM: INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY**
- * 2023 Thu Nov 2, 9 & 16, 7:30pm-8:45pm: The Scriptures
- * 2024 Mon Mar 4, 11 & 18, 7:30pm-8:45pm: Foundations of Theology
- * 2024 Mon Apr 15, 22 & 29, 7:30pm-8:45pm: Introduction to Christology
- * 2024 Thu May 9, 16 & 23, 7:30pm-8:45pm: Moral Theology

If you wish to take the online course privately, the cost (per short course) will be \$35 pp + booking fee. Register at: <https://gomakedisciples.org.au/didasko/> or see poster for more details.

Ageing Well Masterclasses at St Charles Borromeo Ryde, 2a Charles St. Starting Tues 10th Oct, 10:30am-12pm. COST: Free! RSVP: email: office@rgcp.org.au or Ph9807 2966. See poster for details. Ageing Well is a collaboration between CatholicCare, Catholic Healthcare and Grief Care.

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE:

WITHOUT PRAYER THERE WILL BE NO SYNOD: In a letter addressed to bishops and eparchs from all over the world, Cardinal Mario Grech, General Secretary of the General Secretariat of the Synod, invites the faithful from around the world to **prayerfully participate in the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops** that will open in the Vatican on Oct 4. Cardinal Grech reminds everyone that the Synodal Assembly is above all a spiritual event of prayer and listening to the Holy Spirit. To find out what Synod is about, visit: <https://www.synod.va/en.html> Let us pray the 'Adsumus Prayer'- prayer of invocation to the Holy Spirit for an ecclesial assembly of governance or discernment (thus synodal). See prayer poster in the church foyer.



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'll be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to police.