

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia! / God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; / and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 18:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

■ **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-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

10 SEPTEMBER 2023

CONCERN FOR OTHERS

From time to time, we hear family counsellors speaking of the need for 'tough love', the sort of love that expresses itself by dealing head-on with the problems we are tempted to ignore. Often, we would do anything to avoid the risk of upsetting the other person. Of course, we all know that the problems are there but how do you go about confronting them in a constructive way? The readings for today give us some useful and powerful orientations.

As the people of Israel set up sentries to warn of the impending invasion by the Babylonians, Ezekiel was reminded of his own moral obligations as a sentry. His role was to speak the hard words of warning that would cause his contemporaries to rethink their values and get their inner house in order.

Matthew's own community had a process for naming issues and correcting them that respects both the individual and the community. If there is a problem in the community, its resolution needs to start on an individual level. Later, if it is necessary, the problem can be dealt with at the group level.

Paul highlights the obligation we have to each other in mutual love. Whether we warn each other as Ezekiel was called to do or correct someone, as was necessary in Matthew's community, it must come from our concern and love for the person. As he knows all too well it is only love that will not cause our brother or sister harm.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Ezek 33:7-9

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his death.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 94:1-2, 6-9. R. v. 8

R. O that today you would listen to his voice!

Harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; / hail the rock who saves us. / Let us come before him, giving thanks, / with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; / let us kneel before the God who made us / for he is our God and we / the people who belong to his pasture, / the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

3. O that today you would listen to his voice! / 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, / as on that day at Massah in the desert / when your fathers put me to the test; / when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R.**

**SECOND READING**

Rom 13:8-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Love is the fulfilment of the Law.

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

■ **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
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Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time/Year A

10 Sept 2023

PRAYER REQUESTS:



Recently Deceased: Anthony Wilson, Margaret Jaji

Death Anniversary: Filippo & Lucia Graziano, Rocco 'Roy' Mesiti, Jean Lee, Sandra Wehbe, Terry Magill, Reginald Broderick, John Tai

Deceased: Maria del Jesus Almos, Dahlia Guise, Ben Isaacs, Joseph Wehbe, John Davidson, Lucy Ng, Cecilia Tan, 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 Brayen

Sick: 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:

St John Chrysostom Sept 13, The Exaltation of the Holy Cross Sept 14, Our Lady of Sorrows Sept 15, Saints Cornelius and Cyprian Sept 16

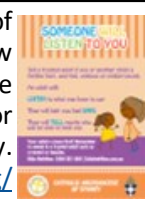
PARISH NEWS:

- We welcome into the family of God, Nathan Dela Cruz! Congratulations on your baptism!
- **Next weekend, 16th & 17th Sept,** First Holy Communion candidates and their families will be joining us at the 5:30pm Vigil Mass and on Sun 9:30am Mass. Parishioners are more than welcome to attend and witness our parish children receive the Eucharist for the first time! However, feel free to attend a different Mass time if you wish to avoid a big crowd.
- **KEVINWOOD CONCERT-** Sun 10th Sept, 2:30pm Haseler Centre. Programme includes the beautiful Peer Gynt Suite, a crazy Benjamin Overture. Visit: www.kevinwoodorchestra.org
- **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/>
- Thank you to the **CAS Parish Renewal Team - Sr Anastasia Reeves OP and Helen Wagner** - for leading our Parishes for Mission Day held last Sat 2nd Sept. Together, we can all be

missionary disciples! We also thank Fr Pawel for making this Mission Day possible, and to Fr Tomasz, and all the parishioners who participated & brought a plate to share. We were joined by parishioners from Holy Name of Mary, Hunters Hill with Fr Brian Wilson & Fr Aliko, and St Dominic, Flemington with Fr Joseph. Photos now available on the parish website.

- If you wish to pray for Year 12 students preparing for their HSC exams, we have **prayer bookmarks available in the church foyer**, or pass this on to someone who needs it more.

Safeguarding Sunday, 10th Sept 2023: This weekend the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney and our Parish celebrates Safeguarding Sunday. To help us reflect on how we can listen to the voices of Children and Young people, the Safeguarding Office has developed two new resources: 'Someone will Listen to You' poster for children, and a [resource pamphlet for Adults at Risk](#) within our community. These resources can be accessed here: <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/safeguarding-and-child-protection/>.



St Padre Pio Glenmore Park invites you to attend a Solemn Procession with the Relic of St Padre Pio at 10am followed by a Solemn Feast Day Mass. See poster for details.

BREAKFAST FOR THE HOMELESS: To help St Patrick's with their mission of feeding the homeless, we are still collecting non-perishable items such as long life milk, juice boxes, cereal, coffee, tea, rice, pancake mix, biscuits, cooking oil, tinned beans/corn/tomatoes etc. Kindly place donated items in the plastic tub in the church foyer. To know more of what's involved, watch this video: <https://youtu.be/kX4MbNusbC4?feature=shared>. Thank you!

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE:

- **The Inaugural 'Catholic Men's Conference' – BE NOT AFRAID** is a one day conference for men (age 18+) happening on Sat 16th Sep, 8am-4:30pm at St Mary's Cathedral Hall. The conference will include breakfast, coffee/tea, talks by guest speakers, adoration, confession, mass, lunch and an exclusive invitation and announcement to the men on the day. Cost: \$55, Concession \$45. CLERGY and SEMINARIANS are FREE. To book, visit: <https://www.trybooking.com/CKKFO> More details on the parish website.
- **Life, Marriage and Family Sunday:** All families are invited to the 10:30am Mass at St Mary's Cathedral on Sun 22nd Oct, with an opportunity for renewal of marital promises and a special blessing for families. Join us after Mass at the Cathedral Hall to witness & celebrate couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries. Please note: Certificates will be presented to couples who are celebrating 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60+, 70+ anniversaries this year. Registrations are essential to receive a certificate. RSVP no later than 6th October at <http://www.trybooking.com/CJTNF>.

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.