

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia! / All who love me will keep my words, / and my Father will love them and we will come to them. / Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

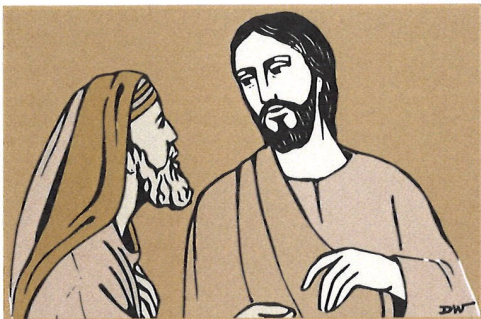
Mt 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.*

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.



### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

29 OCTOBER 2023

## THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

Communities, like the individuals that make them up, cannot exist or grow without reflecting on their stories. In remembering our past, we are reminded of lessons learnt, values shared, and obstacles overcome.

While the setting for the first reading is that of the time of the Exodus it clearly reflects the problems the Israelites faced when they had settled in the land. In order to resolve these problems, they are called to remember that they are a people where every member should be valued, especially those who cannot defend themselves. The other person is precious to God and has a dignity that is to be respected and preserved. They are reminded of their past so as to build a present that is just and equitable.

Jesus in his turn was asked what the most important commandment of the law was. The law of Moses was that formative and guiding tradition that shaped the Jewish people's self-understanding. In a sense, by asking what is the greatest commandment the Pharisees were asking, who are we? Jesus' reply is that we can only be truly ourselves when we can balance a wholehearted love of God with care for our brothers and sisters.

As Paul reflects on the history of the Thessalonian community, he praises God for the way they have overcome numerous obstacles. In the midst of opposition, they remained faithful to each other and to the Lord, so much so that they became a base for Paul's further missionary endeavour in the rest of Greece.

Christopher Monaghan CP

## FIRST READING

Ex 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

*If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.*

The Lord said to Moses, "Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

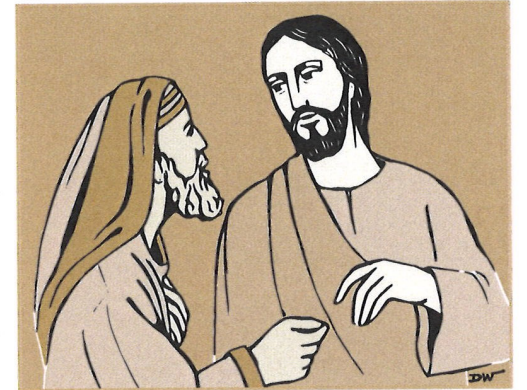
### ■ The word of the Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51. R. v. 2

**R. I love you, Lord, my strength.**

1. I love you, Lord, my strength, / my rock, my fortress, my saviour. / My God is the rock where I take refuge; / my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. / The Lord is worthy of all praise: / when I call I am saved from my foes. **R.**

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock! / Praised be the God who saves me. / He has given great victories to his king / and shown his love for his anointed. **R.**



## SECOND READING

1 Thess 1:5-10

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

*You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.*

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

### ■ The word of the Lord.



## Catholic Parish of St Kevin Eastwood

Parish Administrator: Fr Pawel Kopczynski CSMA

Email: [pawel.kopczynski@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:pawel.kopczynski@sydneycatholic.org)

Assistant Priest: Fr Tomasz Lepek CSMA

Email: [tomasz.lepek@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:tomasz.lepek@sydneycatholic.org)

Deacon: Eddie Ho

Parish Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 10:00am-3:00pm

36 Hillview Rd Eastwood NSW 2122

PO Box 437 West Ryde NSW 1685

Ph: (02) 9874 2533

Email: [parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au](mailto:parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au)

Website: [www.stkevinseastwood.org.au](http://www.stkevinseastwood.org.au)

[www.youtube.com/c/StKevinsParishEastwood](https://www.youtube.com/c/StKevinsParishEastwood)

[www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic](https://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

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## Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time/Year A

29th Oct 2023

### PRAYER REQUESTS:



**Recently Deceased:** Judy Williamson

**Death Anniversary:** Margaret Teutsch, Margaret Raff, Juliana Chong, Fr John Lyne, Gabrielle Maina, Zakia Merhi, Jack Field, Joseph Shek

**Deceased:** Peter Lee & Joyce Minary, 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 Brayon

**Sick:** Sheriden Nemecek, 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

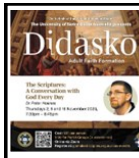
### UPCOMING FEAST DAYS, SOLEMNITIES AND MEMORIALS:

**ALL SAINTS DAY Nov 1; ALL SOULS DAY Nov 2;** St Charles Borromeo Nov 4

### PARISH NEWS:

- **Charitable Works Fund Appeal - Nov 4 & 5.** Help keep alive the vital ministries of the Church in service to those who need it most. Your tax-deductible gift changes lives. Envelopes now available. You may take the envelopes home and bring them back next weekend. Thank you!
- *Welcome into the family of God, Theodore Macdonald. Congratulations on your baptism!*
- **Nov 1 is All Saints Day. Mass Times are at 7:30am, 9:30am (St Kevin's School Mass), 6:30pm**
- **Nov 2 is All Souls Day. Mass Times are at 7:30am and 6:30pm.**
- **All Masses during the month of November will be offered for the repose of the souls of our faithful departed.** November Mass envelopes still available. Names of your departed loved ones will be displayed in front of the altar & prayed for, during November Masses.
- *On Nov 3, first Friday of the month, we will have Mass and devotion starting at 4pm.*
- **Monthly Men's Prayer Breakfast** - The next gathering is scheduled for 7am Sat Nov 4th in the Parish Hall (Haseler Centre). Enquiries 0400 303 733
- *On Nov 4, first Saturday of the month, we will have Mass and devotion at 9am.*

- **On Sun Nov 5, FOSK (Friends of St Kevin) will be hosting morning tea outside the Church after the 9:30am Mass.** Please bring a plate to share. Thank you!
- **Next Baptism Information Session will be on Tues 7th Nov at 8pm** in the parish office. This will be our last session for 2023. Baptism Info Session for 2024 will start in February. To register and for all other queries, please contact the parish office.
- **Liturgical Rosters are now available for collection at the back of the church.** Thank you.
- **SAVE THE DATE: Parish Christmas Dinner on Sat, 2nd December! Details to follow.**
- **Brothers in Christ Men's Choir** - will be Singing at the St Mary's Cathedral Christmas Celebrations- December 19th at 6:30pm.
- **"Terra Australis" will be presented by St Kevin's Young Choristers at the Festival of St Cecilia.** Invitation to young artists who would like to submit drawings about early days of the church in NSW for inclusion in the screen display? Download the story of Terra Australis: <https://kevinwoodorchestra.org/festival-2023/terra-australis> and start drawing. Room for more young singers also.



### ARE YOU KEEN TO EXPLORE MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH, THE SCRIPTURES AND THE TEACHINGS OF THE CHURCH?

Join us for the **Didasko Adult Faith Formation** courses organised by the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney. Next topic will be "The Scriptures," presented to us by Peter Holmes. Peter has lectured in Scripture, Marriage and Sexuality, Theology, and biblical languages. **Our parish has registered for these online courses and invite parishioners and young adults to join us in the parish hall for an in-person gathering. Cost: FREE! Coffee, tea & biscuits provided. TO REGISTER, email: [parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au](mailto:parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au) or Ph: 9874 2533.**

\* **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 fees. Register at: <https://gomakedisciples.org.au/didasko/> or see poster for more details.

### AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE:

- **The Sydney Centre for Evangelisation presents the 2023-24 Summer Series events featuring world-renowned guests: Matt Fradd, Jason Evert, & Dr Christopher West!** For more info and to register, visit <https://sydneycatholic.org/summer-series/>. See poster in the church foyer.
- The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney invites groups of **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS (YEARS 9-12) AND YOUNG ADULTS** to the inaugural Archdiocesan youth conference – **PURPOSE CONFERENCE. Featuring international speakers, Matt Fradd and Jason Evert to be held on Dec 7-8 at Rosebank College, Five Dock.** See posters on noticeboard or visit: [sydneycatholicyouth.org](https://sydneycatholicyouth.org)

### 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](mailto: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.