

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 15: 26-27

Alleluia, alleluia! / The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, / and you also will be my witnesses. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 10: 26-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Do not fear those who can kill the body.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Reflections on the Gospel

OF WHOM TO BE AFRAID?

As a basic human emotion, fear can go two ways. It can be a safeguard and protection. Or it can be a force that cripples and disables. The key thing is to distinguish well-founded fear from that which is illusory or based on deception. A great part of spiritual direction consists in helping people to recognise their fears and see whether they are based on falsehood or reality.

Today's Gospel addresses challenges believers face in living out and giving witness to their faith. Ringing through it is the refrain: 'Do not fear'. Jesus acknowledges that there will be much that will dismay believers and make them afraid. He urges them to distinguish appropriate from inappropriate fear.

Disciples need not fear persecutors who can only kill the body. Our physical existence is held in God's hands; we are precious in God's sight – infinitely more so than sparrows, none of whose falling to the ground escapes divine notice. In all threats, then, we can be confident that God will see them through to eternal life.

For disciples, the only truly valid fear is that of falling out of God's favour. The warning, 'Fear him, rather, who can destroy both body and soul in hell', may refer, then, to those whose evil influence and deception could bring this about.

God's only desire is to impart to us eternal life. But we can so alienate ourselves from the outreach of divine love as to face eternal loss. It is of such a consequence that people ought truly to be afraid.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

THE SAVING WORD

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

21 JUNE 2020

FIRST READING

20: 10-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of those who are evil.

Jeremiah said:

I hear so many disparaging me,
' "Terror from every side!"
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!
All those who used to be my friends
watched for my downfall,
'Perhaps he will be seduced into error.
Then we will master him
and take our revenge!'
But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;
my opponents will stumble, mastered,
confounded by their failure;
everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be
theirs.
But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with
justice,
who scrutinise the loins and heart,
let me see the vengeance you will take on
them,
for I have committed my cause to you.
Sing to the Lord,
praise the Lord,
for he has delivered the soul of the needy
from the hands of evil men.

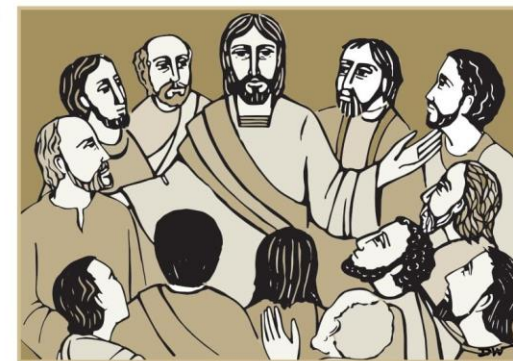
■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PSALM Ps 68: 8-10, 14, 17, 33-35. R. v. 14

R. Lord, in your great love, answer me.

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts, / that shame covers my face, / that I have become a stranger to my brothers, / an alien to my own mother's sons. / I burn with zeal for your house / and taunts against you fall on me. **R.**

2. This is my prayer to you, / my prayer for your favour. / In your great love, answer me, O God, / with your help that never fails: / Lord, answer, for your love is kind; / in your compassion, turn towards me. **R.**



3. The poor when they see it will be glad / and God-seeking hearts will revive; / for the Lord listens to the needy; / and does not spurn his servants in their chains. / Let the heavens and the earth give him praise, / the sea and all its living creatures. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 5: 12-15

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

God's gift to us is nothing like our sin against him.

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic

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

Catholic Parish of St Kevin Eastwood



Deacon: Eddie Ho

Weekend Masses: Vigil Sat 5:30pm,

Sun 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 12noon (Chinese) & 6:00pm

Weekday Masses: Mon – Thurs. 7:30am, Fri 5:00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 5:00-5:20pm

Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Rosary & Novena: Tue 7-7:30pm

Cenacle Marian Movement of Laity: Thu 7pm (Holy Family Chapel)

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 21st June 2020



Recently Deceased: Joseph Cudmore, Betty Lock, Amelia Bostock, Patricia Clarke

Death Anniversary: Peter (Tat Yau) Leung, Geoff Clarke, Young Hwan Ho, Yong Min Ho, Young Seok Seo, Soo Woog Jin, Maria Hur, Felix Beins, Cecile Beins, Jan Brayan, Mary Duck, Ces Regan, Roy & Bessie Landon and deceased members of Landon, Pigott, Stewart families, John & Bonnie Bowdern, Leslie & Isobel Johnson, Patrick Lander

Our Sick: Robert Lauw, Tenille Moujalli, June Phelan and Anne McIntyre, Adhy Guna S., Daisy & Nur Gouw, and Henry Rheinberger

UPCOMING FEAST DAY:

Saints John Fisher & Thomas More 22nd June, The Nativity of St. John the Baptist, 24th June

PARISH NEWS:

- We are open for weekday and weekend Masses at usual times.** Limit of 50 attendees per Mass applies. Private prayer will continue, Mon-Fri, 8am-9am. Please observe the guidelines that we have put in place when attending. Visit our website for updates.
- New planned giving envelopes for the next financial year will be available for collection next weekend. June 27 and 28 will also be the last weekend for receipted Planned Giving Donation for this financial year.** Thank you for your generosity.
- Contactless Donation:** We have installed a new contactless donation device in the foyer. Simply tap your Visa, MasterCard or compatible device and \$5 will be donated to our parish. There is no tax deductibility, receipt or refund available on this donation.
- ST KEVIN'S MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST, Sat 4th July, 7.30am-9am in the Haseler Centre (parish hall):** Every month, we invite all men to enjoy a hot cup & a light breakfast in a friendly environment and offer them an opportunity to talk about their faith and listen to others share their faith experience. Come along! ☺ Lou Youssef 0400 303 733 for info
- ST KEVIN'S MEN'S CHOIR:** "For some time, the idea of forming a men's choir at St Kevin's has been considered. We are now pushing forward. Gentlemen, whether you feel you can sing or not, please come along! Before a date & time can be set for the first gathering and to gauge how many men are prepared to be considered, you are invited to contact Francis David 0421 511 987 or Lou Youssef 0400 303 733. The sound of men singing & giving praise to God can be magnificent! Join us. You are under no obligation."
- Parishioners of St Kevin's made it to the front page of Catholic Weekly last week, June 14 edition.** To read the article 'Over the moon to be back at Mass' go to: <https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/catholic-weekly-newspaper-online/>
- Our weekly Mass recording is uploaded every Sunday at 7.30am in our parish website, YouTube and Facebook page.** See parish bulletin header for URL/web address.
- The parish office is on reduced hours.** Please leave a message at 9874 2533 and we will return your call. Best way to reach us is by email: parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au.

VINNIES WINTER APPEAL 2020:

The St Vincent de Paul Society is calling for donations to the **Vinnies Covid-19 Winter Appeal**, helping people doing it tough in our communities due to Coronavirus. Every dollar you donate will help people feed their families, put petrol in the car and keep warm during winter - more important than ever right now. There are boxes for donations as you leave the church, and envelopes at the sign-in table if you would like to request a receipt. Alternatively, you can donate online at www.vinnies.org.au or over the phone at 13 18 12.

FR MARTIN MAUNSELL'S REFLECTION:

DELEGATING-some challenges!

It was pointed out to me many years ago; "that the mark of human greatness is seen in what people leave behind for others to follow". So, it is a fair comment to make that the trait of great parents is seen in the well-balanced children they have nurtured over time. For a civil leader it is seen in the sense of community they have nurtured based on justice and service for all people who they have been chosen to represent. It is a fair comment to make that most people find delegating authority to others difficult, perhaps for a number of reasons. One of them is often the desire to keep things under their own control, or that they may genuinely lack confidence in delegating authority to people.

As we go through the Gospels Jesus of Nazareth had no problems at all in delegating authority to his followers, from the beginning he surrounded himself with all types of people. Like any great leader he consistently looked more at what people could become under his influence more than where they were at in life. In time he said to them things like this; "Come, follow me and I will make you fishers of men." Of course, he knew in doing this there would be mistakes made, defections and scandals created. Yet he knew not to have a succession plan would be disastrous, the same reality exists now for his followers both individually and collectively!

FAMILY AND FAITH:

On June 26, take part in the #familywintersleepout@home. St Kevin's Primary School are inviting all families in the school and parish community to be advocates for the homeless. To donate: <https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/fundraise-your-way/stk-eastwood-family-winter-sleep-out-1>. See posters for details. Enquiries ☺ Alison Khalil 0438 209 500.

LITURGICAL ROSTERS:

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER – 28th June 2020

(AV Projectionist 9am Mass – M Nassif)

Ministry	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Senior Servers	A Rahme	B Gibson	S Dick	I Ehigibe	A Condoleon
Readers	R: W Yau C: N Brown	R: L Scully C: P Parker	R: V Harvey C: M Young	R: A Maher C: D Li	R: D Lalic C: S Polson

Counters will be advised as needed. Thank you.