

Alleluia, alleluia! / You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. / Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 10: 37-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Anyone who does not accept his cross is not worthy of me. Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Reflections on the Gospel

WELCOMING CHRIST

The attractive themes of 'welcome' and 'hospitality' running through today's readings sit a bit uncomfortably alongside the opening words of the Gospel, where Jesus starkly rules out 'preferring' family members to loyalty to himself.

The warning reflects the situation of the early church, where the experience, or at least the threat, of persecution was very real, and where some members of a family may have been Christian and some not.

In contemporary societies that are either majority Christian or tolerantly post-Christian, we may not face this challenge so sharply. If, however, we are comfortable in our world, largely sharing its values and aspirations, then some aspect of Christ's message is not getting through to us.

At this point, the theme of 'welcome' in the second part of today's Gospel comes into play. In Matthew's Gospel Jesus is from the start 'Emmanuel – God with us' (1:23). This sense of divine presence stands behind the statement: 'Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me; and those who welcome me, welcome the One who sent me'.

The stranger, then, who stands before us comes as an emissary and representative of Christ and, further, of the Father, who sent Christ to be the divine presence in our world. In dealing with this person, we are in some sense dealing with our God.

As never before, save perhaps immediately after World War II, are so many people being displaced through war, tyranny or economic misery. In the light of this mass movement, Christ's words about discipleship and welcome hold fresh challenge.

Brendan Byrne, SJ



THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

28 JUNE 2020

FIRST READING

2 Kings 4: 8-11, 14-16

A reading from the second book of the Kings.

That is the holy man of God, let him remain there.

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.'

One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

■ The word of the Lord.

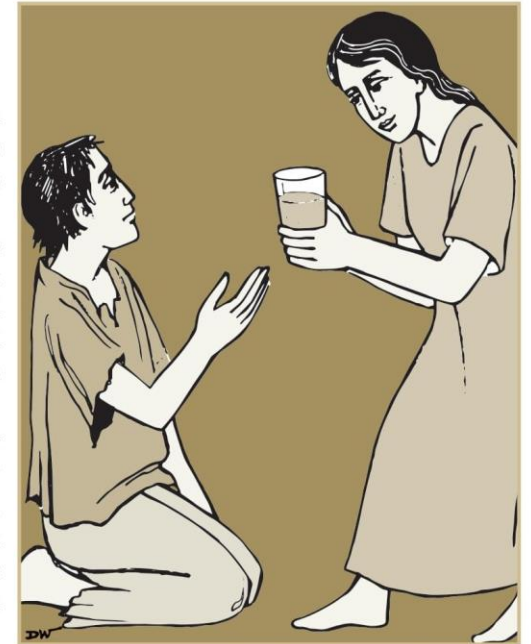
RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 88: 2-3, 16-19. R. v. 2

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; / through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth. / Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, / that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **R.**

2. Happy the people who acclaim such a king, / who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face, / who find their joy every day in your name, / who make your justice the source of their bliss. **R.**

3. For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength; / it is by your favour that our might is exalted: / for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord; / our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 6: 3-4, 8-11

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

Having been buried with him through baptism, we shall walk in a new life.

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

■ The word of the Lord.

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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)

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 28th June 2020

Recently Deceased: Henry Rheinberger, Sarwa Gunawan, Joseph Cudmore, Betty Lock

Death Anniversary: Barbara Kierdal, Geoff & Patricia 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, and Peter (Tat Yau) Leung

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

UPCOMING FEAST DAY:

Saints Peter & Paul 29th June, Saint Thomas the Apostle, 3rd July

PARISH NEWS:

- New planned giving envelopes for the next financial year is now available for collection at the back of the church. This is the last weekend for receipted Planned Giving Donation for this financial year.** To request for tax receipt, visit the parish website home page. Click on the link to request for tax receipt. Alternatively, fill-in a form in the foyer & place it in the box provided. Thank you for your continued support.
- 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.
- Kevinwood is launching its concert series in the Haseler Centre on Sun 5th July** with a lovely programme of music. Physical distancing & contact details will apply in the hall area - for both performers & audience. First half of the programme starts at 2.30pm, featuring Dvorak's New World Symphony. Next half is at 3.45pm, featuring dances from different countries. More info: www.kevinwood.org or ☎ Suzanne Maslen 9874 2809.
- Free exercise class for St Kevin's Parishioners** will resume on **Tues, 7th July at 4.15pm in the Haseler Centre.** Class limited to 20. Physical distancing & good hygiene practices will be observed. For more information ☎ Michael Wilkinson, Personal Trainer at 88192280.
- 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 **Vinnies Covid-19 Winter Appeal**, helping people doing it tough in our communities due to Coronavirus. 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. You can also donate online: www.vinnies.org.au or by phone 13 18 12.

FR MARTIN MAUNSELL'S REFLECTION:

JOY within the CHURCH!

One of the world's great comedians over the last 100 years is the American Groucho Marx (1900-1977). One of his more memorable quotes is *"I was once married before a Judge, but I now wish there would have been a jury so as to inform him not to proceed!"*

This is a true story recalled by a Catholic priest who upon seeing Groucho come out of an elevator spontaneously approached and said; *"I want to thank you for all of the joy you have given so many people for so long."* The reply was *"Father I thank you for all of the joy that people in your position have taken away from so many people!"* I'm sure that sharp comment would have stung!

The point that we need to remember is that *joy* is a gift of the Holy Spirit so there is something terribly remiss if people consistently never experience this quality within a Church. Joy is a quality that comes from within someone and a Christ like priest needs to consistently be joyful in what he says and does. Without a doubt Jesus of Nazareth was consistently an instrument of *joy* in what he said to and with others. I am sure this is what made him so different to the other religious leaders of his time who consistently took themselves and their message too seriously. Jesus in modern terms has left behind a *template of joy* for us to follow!

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE:

Exciting news! Do you have BIG questions about Life? Get ready for Friends. Fun. Free Food. Videos & More! Is it a youth group session? NO, it's a space to ask questions about life about everything and anything! Ryde Gladesville Catholic Parish Youth Office is calling all young people to join us for the movement that is taking the world by storm! To find out more information email: youth@rgcp.org.au or call us on 0405 739 444! Watch the trailer here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fyjL4NsAfM&t=2s>

LITURGICAL ROSTERS:

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER – 5th July 2020

(AV Projectionist 9am Mass – D Muljadi)

Ministry	Vigil	7:30am	9:00am	10:30am	6:00pm
Senior Servers	K Woo	S Coorey	S Dick	D Le	T Jonas
Readers	R: J Murray C: J Murray	R: R Brayan C: M Hill	R: R Tibbertsma C: C Hogan	R: E Fahey C: E Smallhorn	R: A Di Bella C: A Jonas

Counters will be advised as needed. Thank you.