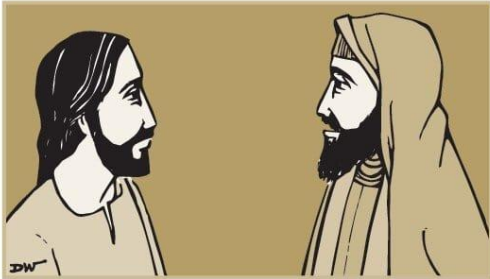


A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

This is the first commandment, and the second is similar to it.

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

31 OCTOBER 2021

GETTING TO THE HEART OF THE MATTER

All too often Christians fall into the trap of characterising the Jewish faith as being legalistic. It is a judgement that is both unfair and inaccurate. It is true that Jesus engaged in sometimes heated debates with other interpreters of the Jewish Torah (Law), and this is reflected in the gospel tradition. At the same time, the gospel tradition attests that, apart from the regulations concerning ritual purity, Jesus agreed with many of his contemporaries about the key values that lay at the heart of their religion.

Poised to enter the promised land after forty years of wandering in the desert Moses takes the opportunity to remind the people what will be required to flourish in the future. Their loyalty to God will be measured by the degree to which they write God's law in their hearts. This is the compass that will guide them in the years ahead and nurture their relationship with the living God.

The great first-century Rabbi Hillel was challenged to explain the Torah while standing on one foot. His reply was "Don't do to others what is repugnant to you. All else is commentary." Asked by a scribe to articulate his view of the greatest commandment Jesus highlights Moses' instruction to love God with all one's heart, mind, and strength adding the command to love our neighbour as ourselves. Hillel, like the ten commandments, focused on avoiding harming others. Jesus' genius can be seen in phrasing it positively in terms of love – our best compass and guide.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Deut 6:2-6

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy
Hear Israel, you shall love the Lord with all your heart.

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.

'Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

■ 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.**

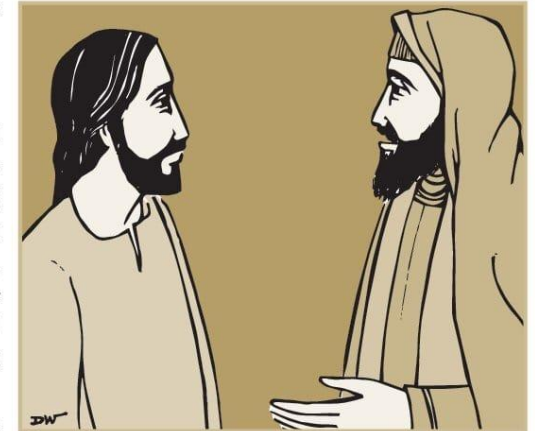
2. Long life to the Lord, my rock! / Praised be the God who saves me. / he has given great victories to his king / and shown his love for his anointed. **R.**

SECOND READING

7:23-28

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews
This one, because he remains for ever, has an eternal priesthood.

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ,



because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him.

To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

■ The word of the Lord.

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!

Parish Priest: Fr Martin Maunsell

Deacon: Eddie Ho

36 Hillview Rd (PO Box 234) Eastwood NSW 2122

P 9874 2533 F 9874 5739 E parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au

Website: www.stkevinseastwood.org.au

YouTube: www.youtube.com/c/StKevinParishEastwood

Facebook: www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic

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

Catholic Parish of St Kevin Eastwood



Vigil Mass: Saturday at 5:30pm

Sunday Mass Times: 8am, 9:30am, 11:30am (Chinese) & 6pm

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

Holy Rosary: Mon – Thu after 7:30am Mass

Eucharistic Adoration: Fri 4:00pm

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

Cenacle Marian Movement of Laity: Thu 7pm

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

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time – 31st Oct 2021

Recently Deceased: Maureen Hendry

Our Deceased: Thelma Coe, Jack Field, Paoloni family, Rina Rovere, Livia Bosi, Lindsay & Les Hendry, Margaret Ellem, Geoff & Patricia Clarke, Jan Brayan, Arch Stewart, John Casey, Roy & Bessie Landon and O’ Connor, Landon, Stewart, Pigott and Casey families. Lastly, please pray for all the souls in purgatory.

Our Sick: Stephanie Thielbeer, Sam Wong, Donald Mees, Agnes, Robert Lauw, Tenille Moujalli, June Phelan, Anne McIntyre, Adhy Guna S., Daisy Gouw, Nur Gouw

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS:

ALL SAINTS DAY 1st Nov; ALL SOULS DAY 2nd Nov, St Charles Borromeo 4th November

PARISH NEWS:

- **New Senior Server, Reader and Eucharistic Minister rosters are now available for collection on the table at the back of the church, next to the sacristy.**
- **St Kevin’s School Gate 4 will be open for church parking on Nov 1 - All Saints Day Mass and Nov 2 – All Souls Day Mass, 7:30am-8:00am.**
- **Mid-Week Men’s Prayer Hour:** Each Wednesday night at 7:30pm, men from the parish gather in the Holy Family Chapel for Gospel reflection & prayer for an hour. All welcomed.
- **Men’s Choir:** On Saturday November 6th at the 5:30pm Vigil Mass, the St Kevin’s Men’s choir will be praising the Lord in Song.
- **Friday 12th Nov, the usual 5pm Mass will move to an earlier time at 7:30am to make way for Confirmation Masses at 5pm and 7:15pm. There will be No Eucharistic Adoration on that day.** We apologize for the inconvenience.
- **The next Charitable Works Fund Appeal will be on Nov 21.** Help support the work of our ministries. This is your charity, the charity of the Sydney Catholic community & our parish.
- **All Masses during the month of November will be offered for the repose of the souls of our dearly departed. November Mass envelopes are now available.**
- **To all 2021 First Holy Communion Candidates:** We are pleased to announce that Holy Communion Masses will be on Sat 4th Dec and Sun 5th Dec, at 3:30pm. To submit your Mass preference, go to: <https://www.stkevinseastwood.org.au/holy-communion/>
- As we reopen our doors to all parishioners, we ask that we all follow the guidelines displayed in our church foyer. Also, we ask that doors and windows be opened during Mass to optimize ventilation. HELP KEEP OUR CHURCH COVIDSAFE. Thank you.
- **For pastoral care emergencies, please contact Fr Martin directly at 0414 841 928.**
- **We thank all the parishioners who are continuously supporting our parish financially.**
- **The parish office will be open at different times, please call, or leave a message at 9874 2533 before coming in or E: parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au**



A MESSAGE FROM OLIVIA CULLEN, ST KEVIN’S FAMILY EDUCATOR:

The school and parish community are invited on Thu 4th Nov for an ‘All Souls Family Prayer Night.’ Platform: ZOOM - Meeting ID: 631 5856 8988 Password: Hope. Evening comprises of:

- **Session 1: 7.30pm - 8.00pm:** Gather your family, light a candle, and join us for a time of scripture, prayer, and reflection as we remember our loved ones who have died. Bridget Sakr- Founder of HeartFELT will be leading a reflection during this time of family prayer.
- **Session 2: 8pm- 8.30pm:** Join us to hear Bridget Sakr’s testimony of faith, loss, and hope, including how the tragic loss of her daughter, Veronique at Oatlands, inspired her to create HEARTfelt, an online prayer group that connects families experiencing grief and loss.

FR MARTIN MAUNSELL’S REFLECTION:

An IRRESISTIBLE FORCE!

Sir Henry Parkes (1815-1896) was the editor of the Sydney broadsheet/newspaper - *The Empire*. On August 15, 1859, he published these words; “If Captain James Cook discovered Australia, if John Macarthur planted the first seeds of our extraordinary prosperity and if Ludwig Leichardt explored the unknown interior, it was Caroline Chisholm (1808-1877) who did much more, she was the one who truly colonized Australia.” What an extraordinary tribute for anyone to be given!

Sarah Goldman is a well-regarded ABC and BBC journalist, and she has written a biography on Caroline Chisholm it’s called *An Irresistible Force*, during the lockdown I have read it and been so inspired by this woman. There are 2 insights that I would like to share from this book;

- Caroline came to Australia for 6 years as a migrant and during that time she saw terrible poverty in Sydney and Melbourne, so she immediately went about assisting up to 11, 000 fellow migrants to find employment and adequate shelter. She was also happily married and in time gave birth to 8 children.
- The 1850’s was a time of bitter Christian sectarianism; Caroline was a devout Roman Catholic yet somehow she still convinced the fiery Presbyterian leader John Dunmore Lang and the Anglican bishop William Broughton to support her work.

Jesus of Nazareth spoke about people like Caroline Chisholm in these words; “others gave what they had to spare but she gave all she had.” (Mark Chapter 12 verse 2)

NEXT WEEK’S ROSTER – 7th Nov 2021

(AV Projectionist 9:30am Mass – D Muljadi)

Ministry	Vigil	8:00am	9:30am	6:00pm
Senior Servers	R Guo	R Lock	D le	J Bosco
Readers	R: S Fernando C: C Small	R: K Patterson C: P Porta	R: L Butler C: M Young	R: C Arputhanathan C: D Arputhanathan
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	F Reay A Mazzei	A Blomfield D Macedo	J Raad S Youssef	E Lobo J Chang