

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

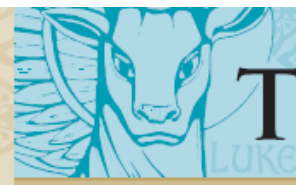
■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

20 FEBRUARY 2022

A HEAVENLY IMAGE

Both today's first reading and Gospel passage deal with what is the appropriate response to those who seek to harm us. Saul set out to destroy David and now as he sleeps his life is in David's hands. Will David return violence for violence, death for persecution? Everyone can cite the wounds they have received, the wrongs they have endured as a justification for retaliation and vengeance. The problem with giving violence in response to violence is that the vicious cycle never finishes – one violent act leads to another. Like David, Jesus knew that it is only by being able to forgive that this cycle can be stopped. At the heart of the Gospel is the call to a love that counters hurt, misunderstanding, oppression, and persecution with forgiveness and generosity.

As Paul continues to unfold his arguments for the bodily resurrection of Christians, he compares two Adams. The first Adam is found in the book of Genesis and the second is the risen Lord Jesus. For Paul, it is eminently reasonable that since we have borne the image of the first Adam by having a body, we will also bear the image of the second Adam by sharing in the bodily resurrection. The Corinthians knew that they had been baptised into the death and resurrection of Jesus, but Paul knew that they had not fully entered into the life of the resurrection. This would only come about when they had received their glorified bodies at the end of time.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

1 Sam 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice.' David answered Abishai, 'Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 102: 1-4, 8, 10, 12-13. R. v. 8

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, / all my being, bless his holy name. / My soul, give thanks to the Lord / and never forget all his blessings. R.
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, / who heals every one of your ills, / who redeems your life from the grave, / who crowns you with love and compassion. R.



3. The Lord is compassion and love, / slow to anger and rich in mercy. / He does not treat us according to our sins / nor repay us according to our faults. R.

4. As far as the east is from the west / so far does he remove our sins. / As a father has compassion on his sons, / the Lord has pity on those who fear him. R.

SECOND READING

1 Cor 15: 45-49

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 13: 34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!

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YouTube: www.youtube.com/c/StKevinsParishEastwood

Facebook: www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic

Catholic Parish of St Kevin Eastwood



Deacon: Eddie Ho

Vigil Mass: Sat 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 and Reconciliation: Fri 4:00pm

*Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 4:30-5:00pm

Cenacle Marian Movement of Laity: Thu 7pm

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – 20th Feb 2022

Recently Deceased: June Long, Minerva Santos

Our Deceased: Joan McMullen, Arch Stewart, Lewis Saunders, Casey, Landon, Pigott, O' Connor and Stewart families; Geoff & Patricia Clarke, Jan Brayan, Menezes & Lobo family; and all the souls in purgatory.

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

UPCOMING FEAST DAY:

Chair of Saint Peter 22nd Feb; Saint Polycarp 23rd Feb

ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2:

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. Masses will be at 7.30am and 6pm. Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday right after the 5pm Mass during Lent.

PARISH NEWS:

- **COVID19 UPDATE: QR code sign-in no longer required. FACE MASKS are still required in places of public worship until further notice.** When possible, please keep a safe distance from people not living in your household. Kindly open doors & windows during Mass to optimize ventilation. Please use the disinfectant wipes to clean your seats as you leave.
- **Sadly, Fr William Chow has been assigned to another parish, St Felix de Valois, Bankstown** and to thank him for his service & support to our parishioners during his time here at St Kevin's, we will have a Farewell Morning Tea on Sun, 27th Feb after the 9:30am Mass.
- **From 7th March, we will have Liturgy and Holy Communion every Monday at 7:30am.** Weekday Masses will be celebrated from Tues-Thur at 7:30am and on Friday at 5pm.
- To help us prepare & reflect on the scriptures during Lent, parishioners are invited to join our **Parish Lenten Group to be led by Fr Pawel, starting 3rd of March at 6pm in the Church.** We will use the *Lenten Companion 2022* provided by the archdiocese. All welcome.
- **New Rosters Now Available For Collection.** To selected parish volunteers who will be receiving the *Volunteer Registration – Acceptance Form and the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney (CAS) Code of Conduct*, together with their roster, please return the completed forms in the parish office letter box near the reconciliation room in the church. These forms are required by the CAS Safeguarding Office. **To those who are yet to complete the Online Safeguarding Induction Training or those who need to do a Safeguarding Refresher (CAS requires safeguarding refresher training every 3 years.) you will receive a letter with the link to register.** Alternatively, the parish is also offering face to face training. To register please call the parish office ☎ 9874 2533.
- **To all volunteer Catechists, Children's Liturgy Coordinators, Senior Servers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Readers whose WWCC has expired or**

will be expiring this year, and to those volunteers who just turned 18yo: Please visit: <https://ocg.nsw.gov.au/working-children-check/applicant> for details on how to apply for or renew your WWCC. Once your application has been processed, please forward your WWCC number and Expiry Date to the parish office for verification. WWCC is a mandatory requirement for all child-related volunteering roles in the parish.

- **World Day of Prayer Service 2022:** Prayer gathering of different denominations in our community. **The service will be held at St Philip's Anglican Church, Shaftsbury Rd cor. Rutledge St. Eastwood on Fri, 4th Mar at 10am. For info ☎ Sandra Youssef 0412 990 718.**
- **Online Information Evening for Parents/Carers** regarding enrolment to our Sacrament of First Reconciliation and Holy Communion Program will be on Wed, 23rd Feb at 7pm. Children must be in Year 3 or above and baptised Catholic. **For details on how to join the meeting go to: <https://www.stkevineastwood.org.au/reconciliation/>**

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE:

- **Lenten Companion 2022 Now Available:** 'Mercy and Healing Await - Come Back to Me!' This free booklet contains Gospel readings for the Sundays of Lent until Easter Sunday, and spiritual reflections on the Gospels by Dr Peter McGregor, Prof Renee Kohler-Ryan, and Fr James Baxter OP and others. For individual or group, in-person or online. Also available to download on the Go Make Disciples website at www.gomakedisciples.org.au The Parish Renewal Team is providing training for those keen to lead a group in their parish. To register go to: <https://www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events/>.
- **LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - Signing ePetition - Please unanimously reject the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021, it's not too late!** Scan the QR code to sign the ePetition. Closes 24th April. For Info: <https://www.no euthanasia.org.au/>



PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL 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.

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER – 27th Feb 2022

(AV Projectionist 9:30am Mass – M Nassif)

Ministry	Vigil	8:00am	9:30am	6:00pm
Senior Servers	R Guo	R Lock	D Ie	J Bosco
Junior Servers	J Mourani S Garcia		A Butler E Butler	C Brix-Nielsen A Brix-Nielsen
Readers	R: I Mourani C: C Mourani	R: K Patterson C: P Porta	R: L Butler C: M Young	R: C Fernandez C: S Fernandez
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	V Mourani A Mazzei	A Blomfield D Macedo	J Cruz M Cruz	J Chang E Lobo

