

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

20 SEPTEMBER 2020

MY WAYS ARE ABOVE YOUR WAYS. Those who had laboured in the vineyard all day were angry when the owner paid the latecomers the same wage. Like the story of the prodigal son, this parable reminds us that the kingdom of heaven is not characterised by our limited concepts of justice but by a compassion that knows no limits. May we not be envious at the good fortune of others but rejoice that we too are loved deeply by God.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.

Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. Lord Jesus, you have revealed yourself as the way to the Father: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You have poured out on your people the Spirit of truth: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the Good Shepherd, leading us to eternal life: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

COLLECT

P. O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isa 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near.

Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts.

Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,

to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18. R. v. 18

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day / and praise your name for ever. / The Lord is great, highly to be praised, / his greatness cannot be measured. **R.**

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, / slow to anger, abounding in love. / How good is the Lord to all, / compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**

3. The Lord is just in all his ways / and loving in all his deeds. / He is close to all who call him, / who call on him from their hearts. **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 1:20-24, 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians
For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living



in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Acts 16,14

Alleluia, alleluia! / Open our hearts, O Lord, / to listen to the words of your Son. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 20:1-16

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he

ST MARTHA'S PARISH STRATHFIELD



Parish Priest: Fr Jacek (Jack) Cichy

Administration Coordinator: Nicolle Mazzaferro (Mon-Thurs) admin@stmarthas.org.au

Administration Support: Larissa Argiro (Fridays) office@stmarthas.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator: Patricia Saad (Fridays) sc@stmarthas.org.au

Safeguarding Officer: Dianne Dawson safeguarding@stmarthas.org.au

Parish Ministries Coordinator: Helen Williamson

Music Ministry: Marcella Ayoub & Agnes Lee

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Rachel Suriano

Youth Ministry: Jessica Gereis youth@stmarthas.org.au



'They all ate and were satisfied' ... Matthew 14

70 Homebush Rd Strathfield NSW 2135

Phone: 9746 6131 Fax: 9764 3040

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Website: www.stmarthas.org.au

Parish Office: Mon- Fri 9.00am-3.00pm



St Martha's School: 9764 1184

Email: info@stmstrathfield.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Judy Gastin

Assistant Principal: Leanne Meehan

REC: Attilia Kazacos

THE PARISH OF ST MARTHA'S ACKNOWLEDGES THE WANGUL PEOPLE AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND ON WHICH THE CHURCH IS BUILT

Vision:

**Welcoming
Eucharistic
Transformed by the Word
Full of Grace
Proclaiming Good News**



Mission:

**Alive with the Spirit
Inspired by St Martha
We Celebrate & Witness
God's love
Using our Gifts & Talents**

MASS TIMES



Tuesdays: 7.30am Wednesdays: 9.10am

Thursdays: 9.10am Fridays: 9.10am

Saturdays: 9.10am, 5pm Vigil Mass

Sundays: 8.00am; 10.00am & 6.00pm

1st Saturday of every month: 8-9am Adoration, 9am Benediction,
9.10am Healing Mass and Anointing of the Sick, followed by
reconciliation

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday after 9.10am Mass or by appointment.

BAPTISM:

Available Every 2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month

Next Preparation Session:

4th October 2020.

Contact Parish office for more information.



MARRIAGES: By appointment only.
(6 months' notice is required).



ROSARY: Tuesday & Saturday after morning Mass, Wednesday, Thursday
& Friday 8.30am and 7.30pm on Fridays in conjunction with Marian
Movement of Priests Cenacle and Divine Mercy Chaplet.

**PRAYER GROUP / ADORATION AT
ST MARTHA'S CHURCH:**

Temporarily unavailable during COVID-19



**Please continue to support the
St Vincent De Paul Society
through the Church Poor Boxes.**

*In the Spirit of St Martha,
let us continue to help others and Carry
Hope Everywhere.*



SAFE GUARDING

**A reminder to parents that the Notice-Board located
at the side entrance contains various resources for
children regarding Safeguarding.**

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY.

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydney.catholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance.

The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Please be aware that if you "TAG" St Martha's in photos on your Facebook page, the images also appear on an "unofficial" St Martha's Facebook page. This "unofficial" page was created automatically by Facebook and is not controlled by St Martha's. We kindly remind you to take care when uploading photos of any children without parent consent.



**Office of the
Children's Guardian**

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

IF YOU PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING MINISTRIES YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN IN - ACOLYTES; READERS; EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS; CHOIR; CHILDREN'S LITURGY (LEADERS & CHILDREN) & SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM (LEADERS & CHILDREN). SIGN IN FOLDERS ARE KEPT IN THE SACRISTY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION.

ALTAR SERVERS ARE NOT PERMITTED IN THE SACRISTY WITHOUT PARENT/TEACHER. THE SIGN IN FOLDER IS LOCATED IN THE CORRIDOR OUTSIDE THE SACRISTY.



MASS INTENTIONS



Recently Deceased: Shirley White, Clare Kenny, Sr Christin McIntosh, Sr Patricia Lindner, Doctor Ron Burke, Francesco & Stefano Colagiuri, Maria Do Thi Men, John Marianos, Simon Raheb, Marie Verschwer, Amirda marie Shanthi, Lorna Redolfi, Gloria & Bill Wallace, Helena Ibrahim, Mick Rigby, Tom Gaha, Maria Casimiro, Sr Maura McAvoy op, Sr Thecla Caruana, Sr Cecily Gaudry, Sr Marie Gaudry, Noeleen Smith, Bernard Nader, Philip Huynh, Mary Bentley

Repose Of The Soul: Elias Nohra, Antonio Sahyoun, Elie Sahyoun, Hortance Fernandez, Joan Ophel, Salvatore Puglisi, Nazih Stanton, John Lahood, Vincent Coorey Elias, Simon Stanton (Snr), Frank Monaghan, Fr Adrian Horgan, Fr Paul Ryan, Br Ray Dowding, Gerald Wilson, John Ferguson, Ken Fraser, Connie Wong, Aldo Amarino, Salvatore (Phillip) Puglisi, William (Bill) & Dorothy Starr, Roger O'Reilly, Stefano, Estelle Thurn, Anne Cecilia Glass, Reginald & Agnes Glass, Gerald & Frances Gleeson, Faado & Alice Herro, Patrick & Janet Reynolds, Jim Reynolds, Ken Rich, Monica & Patrick Ryan,

Anniversaries: Dorothea Starr, Bernard & Mark Kelly, Eric Leahy & Marie Leahy, Joy Quinlan & Kevin Quinlan, Giuseppe & Raffaele Pagano, Mary Campion, John Liu & Mary Liu, Netta O'Hara, Norman Gode, Jan Loney, Harold Crocker, Albert Khoury, Doreen McNamara, Mary Loscocco, Ivan Skuric, Francesco & Maria Colagiuri, Caterina & Matteo Genova, Francis & Roslyn Sinnadurai, John Ferguson, Lough Campion, Antonious Katrib, Julia Georges, Joseph Moussa Tannous, Reg Jones, Clare Kenny,

Sick Intentions: Newborn Alice Ladd needing Open-Heart Surgery, Margaret Davidson with Multiple fractures from car accident, The Ladd Family, Marc Kayrouz, Br Jude Butcher cfc & Peter Starr.

Special Intentions: Father's day Mass for John McManus, Jack Craig, Annie Craig, Eileen Crocker, Bertha & Clem Jones, Deceased Friends & Benefactors of the Dominican Order Phil Robinson, Sarah Argiro, Members of the Lucich & Argiro Families, Members of the Casmiro & Martins Families, Pauline Murphy, John Murphy, Kristian Seric & Family. Deceased Friends of The St Vincent de Paul Society & Benefactors, Holy Souls.

26th & 27th September

| 26th & 27th SEPTEMBER | 5.00PM VIGIL | 8.00AM | 10.00AM | 6.00PM |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| SPECIAL | Tandiono Family | Yvonne Martins | Helen Williamson | Ravi Family |
| MINISTERS | Tandiono Family | Georgette Sahyoun | Jackie Romanous | Ravi Family |
| | | | Rachel Suriano | |
| | 5.00PM VIGIL | 8.00AM | 10.00AM | 6.00PM |
| READERS | Vanessa Carter | Daniel Martins | Anne Marrins | Jenny O'Hehir |
| | Patrick Carter | Sandor Toth | Claudia Elias | Theresa Kuk |
| | 5.00PM VIGIL | 8.00AM | 10.00AM | 6.00PM |
| ALTAR | Patrick T. | Julian M. | Michael S. | Lawrence X. |
| SERVERS | Matthew A. | Lucas M. | Anthony S. | Jayden Y. |
| | Christian S. | Jacob M. | Aidan M. | Volunteer Needed |
| | Nathaniel S. | Volunteer Needed | Volunteer Needed | Volunteer Needed |
| | 5.00PM VIGIL | 8.00AM | 10.00AM | 6.00PM |
| WARDENS | Anne Chow | Phil Robinson | Trudie Rogers | Vince Blefari |

If you are unable to attend your rostered Mass kindly organise a replacement.



First Eucharist Dates for 2020



| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Parent information night | Tuesday 13 October 7pm- parents only |
| Lesson 1 plus commitment mass | Saturday 17 October 3.30pm followed by 5pm commitment mass |
| Lesson 2 | Saturday 24 October 3.30pm followed by 5.00pm mass |
| Lesson 3 | Saturday 31 st October @3.30pm followed by 5.00pm mass |
| Lesson 4 | Saturday 7 November @3.30pm followed by 5.00pm mass |
| Retreat | November 14 2.00pm-4.30pm |
| First Holy Communion Masses | Sunday 15 November 12pm, Saturday 21 November 11am and 22 November 12pm |

said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you, did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Receive with favour, O Lord, we pray, the offerings of your people, that what they profess with devotion and faith may be theirs through these heavenly mysteries. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

All: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray...

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said...

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace.

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Ps 118:4-5

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Graciously raise up, O Lord, those you renew with this Sacrament, that we may come to possess your redemption both in mystery and in the manner of our life. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R. Thanks be to God.

REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL

REFLECTING THE GENEROSITY OF GOD

Today's Gospel is introduced as a parable 'about the kingdom of heaven'. That is, it illustrates the way in which God's rule is reclaiming the world for values that allow people to live lives that are human in the fullest sense of the word.

In the Palestine of Jesus' time, employment was for many a day to day business. Whether labourers got work—and the wage they needed to support themselves and their families—depended on whether they were hired for that day in the marketplace.

The story presupposes a long working day with successive hirings during the day. The 'just wage' agreed upon at the start of the day would have been a denarius, the standard wage for a day's labour. This is in fact what everyone receives, but when those who have laboured since early morning see even the latecomers paid this wage, they expect that in their case 'a just wage' will mean considerably more. Hence their grievance.

Jesus' message is that we cannot simply take the conventional idea of justice and apply it without qualification to God. God is just, but, beyond justice, reserves the right to be overwhelmingly generous as well. If the landowner, out of wider social concern, chooses to be generous and to pay everyone, deserving or not, what social justice today would call a 'living wage', this truly reflects the will and action of God. Aligning ourselves with this view of God has much to do with allowing the values of the kingdom to transform our lives and our world.

BRENDAN BYRNE, SJ

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Trybooking for weekend Masses

- Thank you to all our parishioners for registering for weekend masses.
- Please Ensure that bookings are made in a timely manner to allow for adequate time to print
- Please arrive 20-30 minutes before mass to confirm your details.
- If you fail to come 5 minutes before mass begins your place will be given to a parishioner who is waiting.
- If you require assistance booking for a mass please call the parish office or speak to the wardens at the back of the church. Assistance. <https://www.trybooking.com/BKONZ>



NEW SETS OF WEEKLY PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION IN THE CHURCH.

We encourage all Parishioners to join the giving system by either Weekly Envelope or Monthly Credit Card as this is the main income of the parish, by means of which we run everyday expenses, funds projects and plan for the future. If you would like to join, forms are available in the Church Foyer which can be returned via any collection plate or directly to the parish office.

2019/2020 **TAX RECEIPTS** are now available in the Church Foyer. If you would like your receipt mailed, please contact the parish office on 9746 6131 (option2) or email admin@stmarthasparish.org.au

Holy Land Appeal

Collection for the Holy Land Appeal will be taken this weekend, 19th & 20th September. Your generous donations are very much appreciated.



Confirmation

We would like to welcome Bishop Terry Brady, previously the assistant priest at St Martha's, who is presiding over two sessions of Confirmation in our Parish, on the 18th & 25th September. We wish all receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation every blessing from God.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Therese Kuk who very generously donated all the chocolates for all the fathers at our Father's Day Mass.

FIRE SAFETY

It has come to my attention that our church is lacking of some fire safety regulations.

The Emergency Evacuation Plan is going to be prepared soon and will be visible in certain areas of the Church.



Travel to Rome after Covid- October 2021!!!

Rome Pilgrimages is a Rome tour put together by the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney. Its purpose is to provide pilgrims with the opportunity to deepen one's interior and spiritual life, and to offer a religious and cultural experience.

The cost of the 7-day Pilgrimage is \$2,350.00 based on twin share accommodation. It includes all breakfasts, 3 evening meals, English speaking tour leader and guides, entrance to sites, local transport, taxes and tips. It excludes airfares, some meals and travel insurance. A \$100 discount will be provided to each of our pilgrims for groups of 30+.

Pilgrims stay at **Domus Australia**, offering superior accommodation and a beautiful chapel, in the heart of Rome with opportunities for daily Mass.

For more information, pick up a flyer at the back of the Church or call us today on: 1800 753 959 or email us: pilgrimage@sydneycatholic.org



ROME
ITALY

