

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Jn 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia! / My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; / I know them, and they follow me. / Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**

Mt 21:28-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

 **The Gospel of the Lord.**

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

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# Reflections on the Gospel



# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

27 SEPTEMBER 2020

**THE PATIENCE OF GOD**

The parable about two sons in today's Gospel can be understood on various levels. In Jesus' own context it probably served to defend his practice, shocking to the religious authorities, of celebrating the discovery of God's mercy with those considered outcasts and sinners.

At a deeper level, the parable shows that what God looks to—and can wait for with infinite patience—is the *final* outcome in people's lives. God can put up with an initial *No*, and many other *No*'s besides, on the way to a final and lasting *Yes*.

From the human angle, people who appear religious and obedient from the start may never have sufficiently plumbed the depth of God's mercy to know God as God really is. Conversion at depth and the knowledge of God that goes with it overflows into a pattern of life truly reflecting God's grace. But a hard, judgemental attitude to others may indicate lack of true conversion and knowledge of God: something that may leave such people waiting at the door, while those whom they thought far less worthy enter into the fullness of life before them.

What ultimately determines fitness for eternal life is conformity of the human heart to the heart of God. None of us could ever amass sufficient good works to merit even a second of life with God. That life will be God's gift in abundance if only we have grown—sometimes in the course of a very winding and to-and-fro journey—into the capacity to receive it.

**Brendan Byrne, SJ**

**FIRST READING**

Ezek 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel  
*The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.*

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

 **The word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 24:4-9. R. v. 6

**R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. **R.**
2. Remember your mercy, Lord, / and the love you have shown from of old. / Do not remember the sins of my youth. / In your love remember me. / because of your goodness. O Lord. **R.**
3. The Lord is good and upright / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path / he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

**SECOND READING**

Phil 2:1-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the  
**Philippians**

*In your minds you must be the same as  
Christ Jesus.*

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common



purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,  
yet he did not cling  
to his equality with God  
but emptied himself  
to assume the condition of a slave,  
and became as men are;  
and being as all men are,  
he was humbler yet,  
even to accepting death,  
death on a cross.  
But God raised him high  
and gave him the name  
which is above all other names  
so that all beings  
in the heavens, on earth and in the  
underworld,  
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus  
and that every tongue should acclaim  
Jesus Christ as Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

 **The word of the Lord.**





**Sacred Heart Parish Church**

Roman Catholic Diocese of Armidale  
81 Vivian St. Inverell, NSW 2360 (P. O. Box 107)  
Email: inverellparish@armidale.catholic.org.au  
Phone 67221103

**PRIESTS:** FR JAMES POOVATHINKAL MS. P.P., VF  
PPC Chair: Mrs Sharon Hollis

Holy Trinity Principal: Mrs Jillian Rainger—67224066  
Parish Secretary: Marion Fitzgerald—67221103. Office Hours  
Mon & Fri 8am—1pm; Thurs 8am—12 noon

**PARISH MASS TIMES**

**Sacred Heart Church Inverell**

Saturday 6.00pm  
Sunday 9.00am

Monday, Tuesday and 1st Saturday 9.30am  
Wednesday and Thursday 12 noon  
1st Friday Mass and Benediction 12 noon  
First Wednesday Anointing Mass (suspended) 12 noon

**McLean Village** Each Friday except 1st Friday 11.00am  
(suspended)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday 8.15am - 9.15am  
Sunday 8.00am - 8.30am

**Tingha** St. Francis' Church Saturday 4.00pm  
**Ashford** St Patrick's Church 1st & 3rd Sunday 11.00am

**Bundarra** St Mary of the Angels 2nd & 4th Sun 11.00am

**Yetman** St Joseph the Worker 5th Sunday 11.30am

**Baptism (Saturday only) 11am;**

**Marriages and Funerals by Appointment**  
For emergencies please phone 0428-126703



**PARISH SCHEDULE THIS WEEK**

MON 28th Sept Rosary 9.00am  
**Mass 9.30am**

TUE 29th Sept Rosary 9.00am  
**Mass 9.30am**  
(Feast of Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels)

WED 30th Sept Rosary 11.30am  
**Mass 12 noon**

*October is the Holy month of the Rosary*  
*October is the month of Catholic Missions*

THUR 1st Oct Rosary 11.30am  
**Mass 12 noon**  
(Feast of St. Therese of the Child of Jesus)

FRI 2nd Oct Rosary 11.30am  
**Mass & Benediction 12 noon**  
(Feast of the Holy Guardian Angels)

SAT 3rd Oct Rosary 9.00am  
**Mass 9.30am**

**OUR VISION AND OUR MISSION**  
We as a PARISH, try to live out our  
**VISION:** To continually form a Christ-centred community based on the Gospel Values expressed through SERVICE in peace, justice and love.  
**MISSION:** To know Christ more, His life and His teachings. To imbibe Christ's message of love and service. To try to share generously what graces and blessings we have and to be instruments of the Gospel message.

**Mass Intentions for the Week**

**Thanksgiving for Sisters of Mercy in our Diocese of Armidale (1879-2020), Susan Spackman, Barbara Haefey, Mary Perrin, Jim Sweeney, Barry Gaukroger, Richard Neilson, Peter Koch, Pat Clancy, John Lennon, Lurline Mary Perrett, Patricia Durkin, Anne Migheli, Paul McCosker.**

**WE PRAY FOR THE SICK**  
Wayne Jones, Emma Donaldson, Wayne Lackey, Tony Starr, Ron Hedley (brother of Sr. Coral) Mary Kramer, Leo Germany, Baby Isabel Akhil, Terry Hopgood, Joan Hiscox, Paul Saint, Kerrie O'Keeffe, Carmel Hooper, Sr Leo (Josie) Clancy, Alana Goldman, Rhonda Lee Watts (daughter of Phyllis Nichols) John Sanders, David Sanders, Rex Parry, Jeanette Rennie, Danny Dickins, Katrina Newbiggin, Bob Kneipp. Brian Barker, Dorothy Ball, Denise Taveira, Joanne Essey, Graham Tom, Fred Boight, Agnes Hannigan **and the sick members of our parish whose names are not listed here.**


**We Pray for the Recently Deceased & for the Anniversaries of**  
Barbara Haefey, Kevin William James, Peter Koch (brother of Pat Bailey), Valerie Beveridge, Malcolm John Lane, Sr. Kathleen Price RSJ, Theresa Fitzpatrick (niece of Eileen Hanna) Jeremy Norman Campbell.  
**Eternal life grant unto them Oh Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**

**ALTER SOCIETY ROSTER FOR SEPTEMBER**  
Pat Mather, Judy Harris and Yvonne Campbell

**COVID 19 SAFETY PLAN FOR OUR PARISH**  
**Mass attendance and Weddings:** One person per 4 square metre distance. The Sacred Heart Church can accommodate 100 worshippers at a time.  
**Funerals:** up to 50 attendees without the 4 square metre rule, provided 'non-household' contacts can maintain 1.5 metre physical distance. Maximum 100. Please sit in the **Allocated Seats** to observe Social Distancing regulations.  
**Contact Sheets:** placed at each opened entrance to the Church. Parishioners attending the Church are required to record their full names. Visitors are required to record their name and contact details. This is a health tracing requirement in case of a Corona Virus outbreak. The sheets will be removed after each Mass and kept confidential.  
**If you are unwell please stay at home.**  
**If you require Home Communion contact the office.**

**27TH SEPTEMBER 2020 – 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / YEAR A**  
**MIGRANT SUNDAY**

**THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION THIS SUNDAY**  
We congratulate all the students in Groups 3 who are taking the Sacrament of Confirmation this Sunday, and we welcome all the families who are supporting them in their faith journey. Please keep them in your prayers for this holy occasion.



**MIGRANT SUNDAY—27th SEPTEMBER**  
'Migrants are our brothers and sisters in search of a better life, far away from poverty, hunger, exploitation and the unjust distribution of the planet's resources which are meant to be equitably shared by all.'  
POPE FRANCIS


**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS**  
The Parish Pastoral Council is looking for dedicated parishioners to support the work of Father James and the Parish. Nominations will be called for on the weekends of 10th & 11th Oct, 17th & 18th Oct and 24th & 25th Oct. Nomination forms can be collected from the entry to the Church and submitted to the Parish Office or given directly to Father at Mass times. Elections will be held on the weekend of 31 Oct/1 Nov

**PRAYER TO GOD FOR HELP**  
God our Father, Creator of the world, almighty and merciful, out of love for us your sent your Son into the world as the doctor of our souls and bodies. Look upon your children who, in this difficult time of confusion and dismay, turn to you seeking strength, salvation and relief. Deliver us from illness and fear, heal our sick, comfort their families, give wisdom to our rulers, energy and reward to our doctors, nurses and volunteers, eternal life to the dead. Do not abandon us in the moment of trial but deliver us from all evil. We ask this through the intercession of our Blessed Mother, and Saint Joseph, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Liturgy Committee	Saturday 10th October	8.30am
Pastoral Council	Monday 12th October	5.00pm

**HOME ROSARY**  
**TINGHA** Bernie & Colleen Graham  
11 Diamond Street  
**Wednesday 30th Sept at 4.30pm**  
(every Wednesday)



**INVERELL** No Home Rosary this week

**Women's Breakfast Friday 9th Oct 8.00am**  
2nd Friday of the month at the Bridge Coffee Lounge. Please phone Ann Barry on 67222858 or Marj Manuel on 67224772.

Due to Covid19 we have suspended some of our Ministries and reduced numbers rostered in others. Thank you for understanding.

	26th SEPT—SAT 6PM	27th SEPT— SUN 9AM	3rd OCT—SAT 6PM	4th OCT— SUN 9AM
<b>ROSTER</b>				
<b>GREETERS</b>	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS
<b>PROJECTOR</b>	NOELA TURNER	RHONDA MCGREGOR	SR. CORAL	PAULA GIRLE
<b>READERS</b>	MARIE WARD	MARGARET ROBINSON	NOELA TURNER	GERRY TAVEIRA
<b>COMMENTATOR</b>	PATSY ARMSTRONG	ROSIE LONG	JENNIE MONIE	JUDY HARRIS
<b>GIFTS</b>	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
<b>COMMUNION MINISTER</b>	RODNEY MOFFITT	JUDY HARRIS	ANTHONY MICHAEL	MARGARET ROBINSON
<b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
<b>MUSIC MINISTRY</b>	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
<b>CANTOR</b>				
<b>COLLECTION</b>	Collection baskets	are at each of the	entrances to the	Church. Thank you.
<b>MORNING TEA</b>	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
<b>COUNTERS</b>		J. FRATER & D. HANNIGAN		L.MACDONALD & P. GIRLE