



THE SAVING WORD

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

3 NOVEMBER 2024

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 PS

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!



OUR LADY of MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN

31st Sunday Ordinary - 3 November 2024 - Year B

OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL PARISH HILTON

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OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 9am – 3pm

Thursday: 9am – 12.30pm

MINISTRY TEAM

Parish Secretary: Tereza Camacho

Safeguarding Officer: Brigette Liddelow 0432 908 980

Avila Retirement Village Secretary: Judy Rowlands 0448 205 283

OLMC Primary School Principal: Jayson Peacock 9269 2000

OLMC Primary School RE: Tracey Marsden

Seton Catholic College Website:

<http://www.seton.wa.edu.au/olmc-parish>

REFLECTION: The Path to Heaven.

In the Gospel of Matthew, we hear Jesus say that we must be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect. But then in the gospel of Luke he clarifies what he means by perfection. 'Be merciful as your heavenly Father is merciful.' God's mercy is His perfection. Therefore, we need to change our understanding of what it means to be perfect. Christians will often look at the original state of life in the Garden of Eden and assume that we need to be perfect in the same way that Adam and Eve were perfect, prior to their fall into sin. From this perspective our faith is all about avoiding sin, being perfect and correcting everyone else when they stray from the right path. Yet the strange thing about Christianity is that we are not trying to get back into Eden, the place of perfection it is all about mercy. We enter into Heaven not by proving that we are worthy but by acknowledging that we are not worthy and therefore we are desperately in need of the mercy of God. The more that

we are able to live in mercy both receiving and giving this grace the more we begin in experience the joy of heaven. The Pharisees were continually seeking perfection as though they were fighting in trying to win their way back into the Garden of Eden. Yet Jesus was trying to tell them that Eden was empty and that they were wasting their time. When Jesus celebrated the pitiful effort of the tax collector who was begging for mercy, he was pointing out to us the path that leads to heaven. Through this mercy we end up being in a better place than the Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve knew the love of God, yet they never knew mercy in the way that we are able to know it.

THE ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOR LIFELINK WILL BE HELD NEXT WEEKEND 9-10 NOVEMBER 2024:

Please collect your copy of the Archbishop's Appeal Letter after Mass this weekend, read his message and please give generously to support the valuable work of the Church's social service agencies. You may mail your gift in the reply-paid envelope provided or

return your envelope and donation for a Special Collection which will be held at Mass next weekend. You may also donate (securely) online by credit card: www.lifelink.com.au.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:

Meet every Monday, except for public holidays, between 7 and 8 pm in the first meeting room to the left of the Church. New members are always welcome. Please contact Ian (President) on 0428 121 152 for further information.

2025 COLUMBAN CATHOLIC ART CALENDARS: Are on sale for \$10 each from the Parish Office. The Columban Art Calendar is an iconic Catholic Calendar.


VOTIVE CANDLES: Please be aware that Votive Candles are 30 Cents each. Thank you.

LOST PROPERTY: Dear Parishioners, please do not leave personal affects unattended during Mass and ensure that you collect all your items before leaving the church building.



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MASS TIMES WEEKENDS:
 Saturday Vigil 6pm, Sunday 7.30am & 9am.

MASS TIMES WEEKDAYS:
 Tuesday 9am, Wednesday 9am, Thursday 9am, Friday 9am & Saturday 9am.

RECONCILIATION - Saturday's:
 9.30-10am and 5.15-5.45pm or by appointment.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:
 Wednesday 5.30 – 6.30pm & Friday 9.30 – 10.30am.

MASS INTENTIONS
Saturday 2 November to Friday 8 November 2024
Saturday 2 November
9am: Holy Souls
6pm Mass: For the People
Sunday 3 November
7.30am Mass: Holy Souls
9am Mass: Holy Souls
3 to 4pm: Holy Hour
Tuesday 5 November
9am Mass: Holy Souls
Wednesday 6 November
9am Mass: Holy Souls
Thursday 7 November
9am Mass: Holy Souls
Friday 8 November
9am Mass: Holy Souls

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS: Christine Rhow, Veronica-Marie, Maria, Consiglia Ciavatta, Martin-Joseph, Irwin Beachell, Isabella Da Cunha, Damien-Ivan, Norma Elliott, Rudi Tassell, Steven, Davina, Zoe-Anne, Elisabetta Paddon, Edward Fortune, Kiara-Eve, Beatrice Fernandez, Lisa Bubb, Romilda Marinelli, Aaron LoCicero, Jacqueline Paul, Lou Collova, Anne & Justine Tonti, Greenville Paul, Christine Schwarten Henry, Fr Joseph Angelo, Fr Anibal Da Cunha, Peter Scanlan, June McGinnity, John Brackovich, Alison, Sofia, Rebecca, Fr Liam Keating SMA, Fr Francis Sundararajan, Fr Greg Carroll, Fr Wilson Donizzetti, Bill Watkins, Daniel DiMarco, Joshua Oorschot, Fr John Piumatti, Fr Don Kettle, Mila Hogan, Mara Ravlich, Fr Vittorio Ricciardi, Lloyd Smith, Tegan Colgan.

PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD: We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS: Jesus you are the Good Shepherd who is always mindful of your Church. Watch over those who are Baptised in your name and grant peace and harmony to all families. We ask you to choose from the families of our Parish many priests, deacons, sisters and brothers who will gladly spend their lives making you known and loved.

HOLY TRINITY CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP: Monday night's 7-9pm.



GOSPEL

Mk 12:28-34

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

'LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD'

Have you seen a touch plate, a *mezuzah*, on the door frame of a Jewish house or business, and at the entrance to interior rooms? Maybe you have seen the ritual of touching this when entering any of the rooms. Inside the *mezuzah* is a tiny scroll of parchment inscribed with verses from Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and 11:13-21. These verses contain the words of the *Shema* prayer and the command to 'inscribe them on the doorposts of your house'. In this ritual act of touching, the words of the prayer are brought to mind and heart.

Our first reading today contains these verses from the *Shema* prayer: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.' It is a reminder of the covenant with God. In today's Gospel we hear these words again when Jesus is asked what is the greatest of the commandments: 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' Then Jesus adds a second 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' All of the commandments are summarised in these two. These words were received well by the questioner and Jesus responds, 'you are not far from the kingdom of God'. As we take the words of these two commandments to heart, recalling them and living them, we too can hear Jesus say to us, 'you are not far from the kingdom of God'.

Dr Rosemary Canavan