

St Thomas the Apostle Parish Camp Hill



No. 44

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

08 November 2020

Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

The three gospel accounts from the final three weeks leading up to the season of Advent all come from Chapter 25 of the Gospel of Matthew. They can be seen together as an extended treatise on living life in response to Jesus' message and preparing for the end of time. This week's gospel starts out as a Kingdom parable and becomes a bit more of a metaphor for living a Christian life.

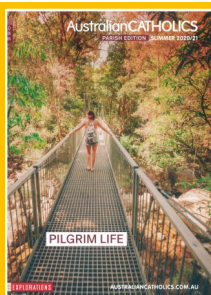
The gospel parable relates to ten bridesmaids – five foolish and five wise – who are participating in a wedding ritual that involves meeting the bridegroom and escorting him the last part of his way to the wedding reception. The foolish bridesmaids have not brought sufficient reserves of oil for their lamps and have to leave at the critical time to try to obtain more. When they eventually arrive at the reception hall they are turned away because they have shamed themselves as well as the bride and groom by not fulfilling their duty.



Some of the original audience of Matthew's gospel, along with many of the early Christian followers, had an expectation that Jesus was going to return and usher in the end of the world in their lifetime. The message of this gospel is captured in Jesus' final words, 'So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.' The timing of Jesus' coming cannot be predicted and so all Christian believers, like the bridesmaids, need to continue to act with hope and expectation; being prepared for the fact that it may be further off than anticipated. Many early Christians were living their lives as though the world would end at any time. The gospel warns them, and us, to continue to follow the example of Jesus and not to become complacent – expecting that everything is about to come to an end.

Living the Gospel – Living in hope.

A feature of Christian faith is an approach to life that views the future with hope. In our world today many people look to the future with distrust and even fear. As Christians, we look forward with hope. When change occurs, some allow that change to happen to them whilst others engage in the change process and approach it with hope and expectation. Today's gospel reminds us to be ready for what the future holds; to look with hope towards what lies ahead, but to ensure that we've prepared ourselves properly. The future can only be viewed with expectant hope if we've done the proper preparation!

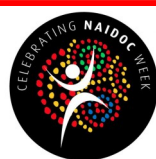


AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS MAGAZINE

The Australian Catholics magazine is once again available in the church. Copies will be placed in the newsletter stand at the exit to the church.

The Summer 20/21 edition explores the theme 'Pilgrim Life' and how our life journeys can inevitably lead us into a deeper relationship with God, and how important it is to remain open to that possibility.

Please feel free to take a copy.



**Always Was,
Always Will Be.**
8-15 NOV 2020

From 8-15 November 2021 we celebrate NAIDOC Week. Each year, NAIDOC Week honours the history, culture & achievements of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples. It is celebrated not only in our Indigenous communities, but by Australians from all walks of life.

NAIDOC Week is a great opportunity to participate in a range of activities and to support your local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. For information and ideas on how to be involved, go to:

<https://www.naidoc.org.au/>

Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st reading: Wisdom 6:12-16 *Wisdom is found by those who look for it.*

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 *Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.*

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13 *Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.*

Parish News & Notices



Lord Mayor's Christmas Party

St Thomas' Care & Concern Group have once again secured two tables at the **Annual Lord Mayor's Christmas Party** on **Thursday 3rd December @ 9am**.

The group will meet in the parish carpark at 8.30am for taxi transport.

Seats are limited so please **RSVP to the Parish Office ASAP** to reserve your place.

Held in God's Loving Hands – A Quiet Weekend Retreat for Women

What do God's hands look like? How can we reimagine our lives held in lovingly cupped hands and held close? Comfort, compassion, mercy, nurture, deep love... A weekend opportunity for women to leave behind the chaos and clutter of life & enter into quiet in community and a time of prayerful reflection. Facilitated by Grace Harwood (Dragonfly Ministries) 2 opportunities to choose from:



♥ Friday 11 December 6pm - Sunday 13 December 3pm OR

♥ Friday 15 January 6pm - Sunday 17 January 3pm

At: Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Wellington Street, Ormiston
Cost: \$370 (\$340 pensioners, f/t students & unemployed) includes accommodation, meals, resources, facilitation. Additional \$30 fee for those with special diets.

To register/enquire: Grace - grace@dragonflyministries.net.au or 0409 524 283

Pray to be ever ready for
God's will - even when
it takes you by surprise

~ St Mary MacKillop ~



CONTACT DETAILS:

31 Perth Street, Camp Hill 4152
PO BOX 685 Coorparoo QLD 4151

T: 3398 1154

E: stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au

W: camphillcatholicparish.org.au

F: <https://www.facebook.com/StThomasCatholicParishCampHill/>

Office hours

8:30 am - 1:30pm: M/T/Th/F

PARISH TEAM:

Parish Priest - Fr Christopher Obi
obic@bne.catholic.net.au

Children's Ministry Coordinator

Sr Analissa Balderama at
cmc.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Secretary

Ms Lisa Moroney
stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au

Praise with Song

Our St Thomas' Music Ministry invite you to join us each Sunday morning from 8am for 15-20 minutes of 'praise with song' before Mass.



We will be singing new hymns and old favourites. This is not a choir - everyone is welcome to join us to prepare for worship with uplifting and prayerful song.

We hope to see you there!

UPDATE from St Vincent de Paul

St Thomas's St Vincent de Paul is very thankful for your generous food donations which are being well-received by those we help and enabling our funds to go a little further. We now have ample pasta and rice but could still use more canned pulses and vegetables. Long life full-cream milk would also be very helpful as a donation.

Craft for Causes Deliver

The wonderful Craft for Causes Committee has donated boxes of food for this appeal. They have also given us a generous monetary donation despite the stall not being on during this Covid year. Thanks a million Angela McPherson and all Committee members for being such a great blessing during this torrid year.

Many thanks from SVDP Camp Hill Conference

#ITSINTHE Bag Share the Dignity

Donate November 20th - 29th 2020

Our parish has always generously supported Share the Dignity appeals. This year they are once again running their 'It's In the Bag' appeal for donations of handbags filled with essentials for women in need. You are welcome to fill a bag and drop it at a Bunnings store from 20-29th November OR you can now **Sponsor a Bag** and they will put it together for you.

For information go to: <https://www.sharethedignity.org.au/>

PALMS AUSTRALIA ORIENTATION COURSE — JANUARY 2021

Palms Australia places Australians with communities that request their particular expertise to help develop the skills of local people. Palms will enter its 60th year with an **Orientation Course** in **January 2021**. A fresh group of skilled and committed applicants will be thoroughly prepared for this cross-cultural mission in remote parishes, schools and communities as soon as international travel resumes. If you are interested in learning more please visit www.palms.org.au.

We remember in our prayers

The sick: Joan Scott, Humberto Villalta, Nes Mustafa, Joan Burlew, Betty Smith, Jolanda Villalta, Dan Bishop, Shirley Murphy, Olive Kiely, Sue Douglas, Tom Grant, Lauren Balcombe, Fr Ted Houlihan, Lola Radford, Sonia Mendez, Fr Ron Mollison, Cletus Obi, Mark, Marjorie Cusack, Joe Sherlock, Sue Lamb, Teresa Pokoj, Peter Owen, Jacob Mu

Recently deceased: Bill Castley

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Harold Homann, Margaret McCann, Helen Malcolm, Leonardo Mariano, Leonard Smith, Mary McMahon, Arthur (Jim) Poole, Leo Shipperley, Cliff Dennis, Marie Holdsworth, Harold Gilder, Margaret Kilmartin, Joyce Ireland, Patricia Hodges, Anna Graham, Patricia Peake, Norman Corrie, Reg Gamble, Shelia O'Donoghue, Brieon Down, William Bozier, Moira Murphy, Rose Knauth, Genevieve Phelan, Grace Spann, Stephen Lam, Robert Rafter, Luigi Marinucci, John Fry, Janina Pokoj, Eugene Vidulich, Elva Hargraves, Celie Cosgrove & Basil Nolan

