



# The Word WEEKLY BULLETIN



Parishes of Holy Spirit, St Anne & St Gerard.

**Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, 11-12 November 2023**

**Parish Priest: Fr. Arsenio Tuazon**  
**Pastor Emeritus: Fr. John Dupuche**

## CATHOLIC DEAF APPEAL

### HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

120 Oban Road, Ringwood North 3134

Phone: 70369395

Email: [Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au)

Website: [www.holyspiritparish.org.au](http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au)

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, closed Mondays

### PASTORAL ASSOCIATE (Wednesday to Friday)

Jacinta Bibby [Jacinta.bibby@cam.org.au](mailto:Jacinta.bibby@cam.org.au)

### PARISH SECRETARIES

Ruth Frangeskakis [ruth.frangeskakis@cam.org.au](mailto:ruth.frangeskakis@cam.org.au)

Jenny Philp [jenny.philp@cam.org.au](mailto:jenny.philp@cam.org.au)

### HIGH SPIRITS COORDINATOR

Elma Gama

### PARISH HOSTESS

Mary Yeo

### MASS TIMES:

Wednesday & Friday 9:15am

Saturday 6pm

Sunday 9am & 5pm

### SCHOOL PRINCIPAL—Holy Spirit

Duncan Arendse —9876 1103

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Secretary [ppc-sec@holyspiritparish.org.au](mailto:ppc-sec@holyspiritparish.org.au)

### FETE COMMITTEE

Adam Stone (Chairperson) - [fete@holyspiritparish.org.au](mailto:fete@holyspiritparish.org.au)

### PARISH OF ST GERARD AND ST ANNE

St Gerard's: McCulloch Street, Warrandyte 3113

St Anne's: 54 Knees Road, Park Orchards 3114

Phone: 7064 3922

Email: [ParkOrchards@cam.org.au](mailto:ParkOrchards@cam.org.au)

Website: [www.cam.org.au/parkorchardswarrandyte](http://www.cam.org.au/parkorchardswarrandyte)

### PARISH SECRETARY

Kerry McGowan

### Office Hours:

TUES 1.30pm to 3.45pm

WED 1.30pm to 3.45pm

THURS 11.30am to 3.45pm

FRI 12.30pm to 3.45pm

### Masses:

Tuesdays

9am St Gerard's Warrandyte

Sundays

10:30am—1st Sunday of the month @

St Anne's, every other Sunday at St Gerard's.

### SCHOOL PRINCIPAL—St. Anne's

Michael Edmonds—9876 1533

**IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST—RECENTLY DECEASED:** Gina Bettiol, Rebecca

**ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH:** Maria Di Gregorio, John Hogan, Andrew Doy, John Street, Teresa Rinarelli, Stuart Hurley and John Pilsbury

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING SICK:** Angela Damora, Stella & family, Sean Hill, Valerie Mason, Adrian Ness, Carol Vallance, Chris Neate, Edna Danelutti, Helen, Justine, Christian Heskett, Will Laussen, Darren Brock, Kerry McIntyre, Lyn Read, Heather Doy, Evelyn Reinecke, Melanie Saba, Arthur McConnell, Penny Mifsud, Patricia Higgins, Stephen Cass, Robin Walsh, Christine Iezzi, Kellie Nagle

**Readings this week:** Wisdom 6:12-16; Thess 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13

The Word, Spirit Magazine and "Spirit Extra" are available online at [www.holyspiritparish.org.au](http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au)

## Holy Spirit Parish Vision

At Holy Spirit Parish, we are an inviting community inspired by the Holy Spirit; welcoming everyone to worship, grow, belong and serve together as Disciples of Christ.



**Holy Spirit is a child safe parish. At Holy Spirit we hold the care, safety and well being of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our parish.**

**Upcoming Event: Ron Huntley Sunday 26th November 10:30am. See full details on page 3.**

### EVENTS THIS COMING WEEK - 13th - 19th November 2023

#### MONDAY

#### TUESDAY

9.15-10.00 am Meditation, Holy Spirit Chapel  
8.00 pm Charismatic Prayer Group, Holy Spirit Chapel

#### WEDNESDAY

9.15 am Mass, Holy Spirit Chapel  
6.00 pm Rosary via Zoom

#### THURSDAY

10.00 am Men's Chat Group, Mary Bresnan Room  
7:30pm Choir, Holy Spirit Church

#### FRIDAY

9.15 am Mass, Holy Spirit Chapel

#### SATURDAY

6.00 pm Vigil Mass, Holy Spirit Church

#### SUNDAY

33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
9.00 am Mass, Holy Spirit Church  
5.00 pm Mass, Holy Spirit Chapel  
4.00-5.00 pm High Spirits, Mary Bresnan Room

### ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 18th-19th November 2023

#### Mass Coordinators:

6.00 pm: Sean Collins

9.00 am: Bill Lanigan

5.00 pm: Volunteers

#### Lectors:

6.00 pm: Ambrose Cornelio

9.00 am: Don Schroder

#### Welcomers:

6.00 pm:

9.00 am: Don Schroder

Ministers of Communion: 6.00 pm: Barry Ward 9.00 am: Don & Jocelyn

Tea and Coffee: 9.00 am: Ann Fantin & Emma D'Aristotle

### Holy Spirit Web Site - [www.holyspiritparish.org.au](http://www.holyspiritparish.org.au):

Stay in touch with our parish website.

- "News, Events": ref menu
- "How we stay connected", online resources such as Masses, Prayers, Newsletters, Next Zoom: ref home page

**Parish Database Update** Please remember to advise the parish staff of any changes to phone and email details so we can update our database via email to [Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au) or phone 7036 9395.



#### **HOLY SPIRIT PARISH ZOOM ROSARY**

**Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm—Meeting ID: 631 950 8706 Passcode: 2p7ssZ**

**Hosted by Ambrose & Philomena Cornelio**

**Prayer requests may be emailed to Ambrose: [acornelio@connecteast.com.au](mailto:acornelio@connecteast.com.au) for inclusion weekly.**

**Charismatic Prayer Group** Tuesdays @ 8pm in the Holy Spirit Chapel for prayer, praise and worship and fellowship. If interested, contact Jacek on 0490 884 914 or Ann on 0437 127 326.

**Tuesday Meditation** Tuesdays @ 9:15am in the Holy Spirit Chapel (not during School holidays). Please contact Len on 0401 519 727 if you have queries.

**Proclaim 2023** Over three days (16-18 November) join together with parishes from across the Archdiocese of Melbourne to be inspired, engaged and equipped to go out and proclaim the joy of the Gospel into your local community. Hear from inspiring local and international people including Archbishop Peter A Comensoli, Fr Rob Galea, Kym Keady, Karen Doyle, Ron Huntley and more. Encounter Jesus through prayer, music and fellowship and participate in workshops to equip ourselves for mission!

Register: <https://proclaim.melbournecatholic.org>.

Use the discount code: parishmember to access the special registration price for parishioners.

Enquiries: (03) 9926 5761 or [proclaim@cam.org.au](mailto:proclaim@cam.org.au)

**PROCLAIM**  
16-18 NOVEMBER 2023





# Holy Spirit on the *move*

## MAKING FAITH MATTER!

*How do we have a flourishing community at Holy Spirit?*

*Why would I want to join this community?*

*Why do I stay?*

**Sunday 26 November 2023, 10.30am - 12pm/ 1-2pm**  
**Parish Centre, 120 Oban Rd, Ringwood North**

**All are welcome!**

**Free ticketed event, limited seats available.**

**Register via QR Code or <https://www.trybooking.com/CMKUA>**  
**by 20 November 2023.**

**Enquiries: [ppc-sec@holyspiritparish.org.au](mailto:ppc-sec@holyspiritparish.org.au) or 0422508637**

*"Dear friends,*

*Engaging, dynamic and passionate is Ron Huntley. There is a certain charism, vibe, and energy when you listen to him. I've been privileged to be part of his leadership coaching cohort for parish renewal initiated by the Animation team of Melbourne Archdiocese. He made a lasting impact, brought great joy, dynamic refocus, and high hopes on my ministry. It fueled my deeper understanding of parishes, cultures, and people in a vision rooted with a personal encounter with Jesus. Be part of his exciting visit to our parish. Holy Spirit is on the move!"*

Fr Arsenio Tuazon, Parish Priest

### Format

- Welcome & Prayer
- Ron Huntley addresses the whole community
- Lunch
- Ron Huntley addresses the Parish Pastoral Council, Alpha Team, School Executive & Staff, Ministry Co-ordinators, School Board, Parents and Friends Association.

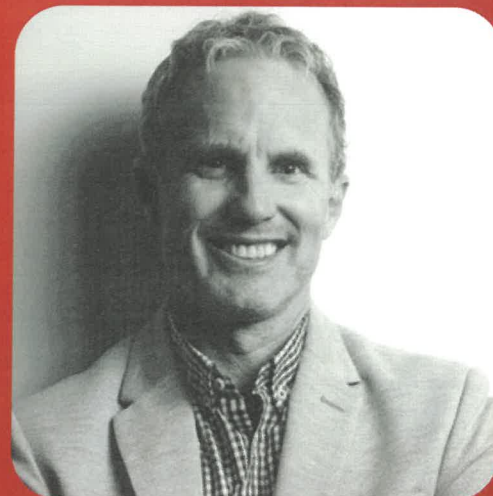
### The Holy Spirit Parish Vision

At Holy Spirit Parish we are an inviting community inspired by the Holy Spirit welcoming everyone to worship, grow, belong and serve together as disciples of Christ.

# YOU ARE INVITED



**Holy Spirit Parish**  
1972 - 2022



**Ron Huntley**

Based in Canada, Ron Huntley works internationally with church leaders to achieve fruitful parish missionary renewal. He is driven by a deep love for Christ, God's people and the Catholic Church. A speaker, author and podcast host, Ron's primary passion is coaching parish priests and their teams to lead parishes that transform lives. Hear Ron speak of how parishes are making disciples and transforming lives around the world, through reliance on the Holy Spirit and great leadership principles.



## NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCES

During the month of November, the Remembrance book with names of those who have died, will be placed on the altar and all will be remembered in our prayers. If you would like to register the names of your loved ones who have passed into God's loving care to be included in the Remembrance Book for the month of November, please email or ring the Parish Office [Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au) or 70369395.

Please pray for the following during the month of November:

Con Canty, Lilian & Raymond Pathe, Colleen & Leo Grasby, Christine Knights, Anna Cholewa, Michael Cholewa, John Bzostek, Dolek Bzostek, Maryna Bzostek, Zbeysio Janigacz, Kazek Janigacz, Marisa Janigacz, Relatives & Friends of the Scicluna Family, & the Camilleri Family, Liam Collins, Lesley Linnell, Sydney Linnell, Lola Austen, Alberto Klancic, Amedeo Matassa, Relatives & Friends of the D'Assisi family & the Stranges family, Relatives & Friends of the Esposito family, Relatives & Friends of the Cinque family, Relatives & Friends of the Morrison family & the Ryan family, Amleto Boncristiano, John Stuart, Elva Stuart, John Tay, Betty Tay, Maria Koh, Theresa Chong, Late parents of Malcolm & Patricia Westwood and their siblings who have gone to rest. David, Erin & Percy Stewart, Jeremy, Rosemary & Ivan Scheffer, June, Leo & Peter Taffe, Len & Patricia O'Sullivan, Jan & Ted McAuliffe, Keith Delzoppo Helen Hannay, Joanne Nolan, Gerry Lambe, Damien Hill, Dan Holland, Tim Holland, Eli Sutton, Chris Ross, Sylvia Punjer, Sylvia Rowe, Roger Clarke, Ian Palmer, Berry Scott, Ken McCormack, Jack & Marie Cridland, Brian Hegarty, Antoni & Stefania Wierzbicki, Feliks & Olga Gawel, Jozef Farbotko, Teresa Panek, Peter Lesic, Family & Friends of the Smith family, Mary & Thomas Rooney, Florence & Joe McKeown, Barry Rooney, Ann McVeigh, Tom Rooney, Catherine & Michael Quaile, Pat McKeown, Wilfredo Osabel, Yolanda Osabel, Ronelio Gelig, Donna Carreon, John and Anthony North, Bill Frangeskakis, Vladas, Elena & Kes Urmelis, Lucy Koh, Maria Menezes, Simon Bonnici, Family & Friends of the Borg & Bonnici families, Family & Friends of the Nordio & Benedet families, Family & friends of the Quinlan family, Peter Higgins



## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS DAILY REFLECTIONS 2023.

"The Sign" is an 80 page booklet containing short, spiritually rich, daily reflections from the beginning of Advent through to the Baptism of the Lord (8 January 2024).

It also features beautiful religious artworks from the masters, with enlightening "Artwork Spotlight" reflections written by Monsignor Graham Schmitzer.

Copies of the booklet are available for parishioners for personal reflection. A donation for the booklet would be appreciated.

All parishioners are invited to a **Mass of Anointing** followed by light lunch & Carol singing on **Friday 1st December** at 11am in the Church. This will be a pupil free day, so there will be ample parking onsite for anyone attending the Mass.

Please note that 9:15am Mass will not be celebrated in the chapel on that day.

For catering purposes, we will need to know numbers. Please fill in the sign up sheet on the word table or contact the Parish Office: [ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au) or 70369395 by Wednesday 29th November.

*LORD, My God, I called to you for help and you healed me. Psalm 30:2*



## LADIES CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Welcoming all Ladies and Friends from Holy Spirit Parish Community to our Christmas Lunch to be held on Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> November at "The Coach" 33 Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood. at 12pm.

If you would like to be part of our Kris Kindle we would love you to bring along a gift around the value of \$10 with the theme being "Christmas" anything that relates to Christmas.

We would appreciate if you could RSVP by the 21<sup>st</sup> November to Maureen Taffe mobile 0422508637 or email [maureentaffe@hotmail.com](mailto:maureentaffe@hotmail.com)

**2024 COLUMBAN CALENDARS** are available for purchase from the Church foyer. Beautiful calendars as always and would make an ideal Christmas gift. The calendars are \$10.00 each and there is a box on the table where you can deposit the money. Proceeds go to support the work of the St Columbans Mission Society.



## CATHOLIC DEAF APPEAL

This weekend we have a collection for "Catholic Deaf".

The origins of the John Pierce Centre (JPC) date back to 1935 when Father John Pierce was appointed as the first Chaplain to the Catholic Deaf Community in Victoria by Archbishop Mannix.

Today the JPC operates as an independent not for profit company limited by guarantee and maintains its links with the Catholic Church as a member of Catholic Social Services Victoria. The Catholic Church supports JPC by providing the premises of our Deaf Community Centre and by funding for the cost of the Lay Chaplain, religious and pastoral care services.

JPC receives no government funding but receives generous donations, bequests and grants from philanthropic organisations to fund its work each year. The services of the JPC are available to all Deaf people and include family support programs, counseling and adult education opportunities.

## December Edition – Spirit Magazine – Deadline 14<sup>th</sup> November.



Due to exceptional circumstances, we missed out on publishing the September edition of The Spirit magazine, so we now need a "bumper" Christmas issue.

Please compile your stories with photos (ensure you have permission to publish if submitting photos of others), and what you and your families have been enjoying, despairing of, since our last edition.

**STUDENTS - FETE DAY - COMMUNITY** – All of these and more – But if that is too hard, what about finishing one of these sentences:

*If I had known then, what I know now, I would have.....*

*If I had known then, what I know now, I would not have.....*

Please take the time to be a part of this special edition.

Email: [thespirit@holyspiritparish.org.au](mailto:thespirit@holyspiritparish.org.au), @hmvkme, or drop copy to the parish house if easier.

Thank you.

As part of our commitment to the **Safety of Children and Vulnerable people** in our parish, it is a requirement of the Archdiocese for all parish clergy and parish staff yearly, and volunteer's every three years to complete online training and resigning of Code of Conduct. To make this easier for all we are hosting a group training session at the parish on:

**When: Thursday 23rd November 2023**

**Time: 1-2:30pm**

**Where: Holy Spirit Parish House**

**RSVP: Friday 17th November 2023**

**This session will be run by Brech Burgess our Eastern Region Co-ordinator**

When registering we will require your name, email address and current working with children card number. If you know of anyone wanting to join a parish ministry please share this invitation to training with them.

Please contact Jacinta to register or if you have any questions at: [ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au)



REMEMBER  
CELEBRATE  
IMAGINE



CATHOLIC  
THEOLOGICAL  
COLLEGE



UNIVERSITY  
OF DIVINITY

## 2023 Knox Public Lecture

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm

Live videostream via Zoom

**"Truth and Peace: Timeless Twins"**

Presented by Dr Susan Connelly RSJ



To book scan the QR code or go to [trybooking.com/CMYVM](https://trybooking.com/CMYVM)

Enquiries: +613 9412 3333 : [vi.panganiban@ctc.edu.au](mailto:vi.panganiban@ctc.edu.au) : [ctc.edu.au](https://ctc.edu.au)

Collection Notice For information on the Parish's policies regarding information collection and privacy please refer to: [www.holyspiritparish.org.au/Collection-Notice](https://www.holyspiritparish.org.au/Collection-Notice)

## CHRISTMAS 2023 HAMPERS & CHILDRENS GIFT WISH TREE

Please select a family from the lists on the table at the back of the church, include your name and contact no. and then take the family no. pack from the trays.

If you wish to provide gifts specifically for children, age & gender tags can be found on the Gift Wish Tree at the back of the church.

Please bring your hamper to the Parish House on Friday 8 December before 3:00 pm OR drop it into the Church on Friday 9 December between 4.00 PM - 7.00PM.

If you are unable attend Mass and still wish to provide a hamper, please contact Sue Egan on 0434224483 or Kevin O'Callaghan on 0411280775 and we will allocate a family to you.

### Christmas Hamper Suggestions

<input type="checkbox"/> Sweet Biscuits	<input type="checkbox"/> Pasta Noodles	<input type="checkbox"/> Vegemite
<input type="checkbox"/> Breakfast Cereals	<input type="checkbox"/> Pasta Sauce	<input type="checkbox"/> Honey
<input type="checkbox"/> Muesli Bars	<input type="checkbox"/> Potato Chips	<input type="checkbox"/> Jam
<input type="checkbox"/> Lollies	<input type="checkbox"/> Corn Chips	<input type="checkbox"/> Nutella
<input type="checkbox"/> Tinned Fruit	<input type="checkbox"/> Salsa	<input type="checkbox"/> Sultanas
<input type="checkbox"/> Sugar	<input type="checkbox"/> Savoury Biscuits	<input type="checkbox"/> Dried Apricots
<input type="checkbox"/> Baked Beans	<input type="checkbox"/> Rice	<input type="checkbox"/> Milo
<input type="checkbox"/> Tinned Spaghetti	<input type="checkbox"/> Le Snack Cheese	<input type="checkbox"/> Tea
<input type="checkbox"/> Tomato Sauce	<input type="checkbox"/> & Biscuit dip	<input type="checkbox"/> Coffee
<input type="checkbox"/> Tinned Tuna/Salmon	<input type="checkbox"/> Soup	<input type="checkbox"/> Cordials
<hr/>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Toothpaste	<input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush	<input type="checkbox"/> Soap
<input type="checkbox"/> Comb	<input type="checkbox"/> Hair Brush	<input type="checkbox"/> Face Washer

To add that extra touch of Christmas you may wish to include Christmas Cake, Christmas Pudding, Mince Pies, bonbons and one or two small decorations. Please do not include your name on any greeting card or tag. You can however write 'From the Parishes of Holy Spirit, St. Anne & St Gerard if you wish.



Advent Workshop  
*Using Art to Explore the Advent and Nativity Gospels*  
with Fr Elio Capra



*Do you struggle to read scripture?*

Using art, Fr Elio will lead us to discover a fresh perspective on the familiar Advent and Nativity Gospel stories.

**Monday November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm**  
Coghlan Centre, St John the Evangelist Parish  
494 Whitehorse Rd, Mitcham.

**Bookings**

Online: <https://www.trybooking.com/CMODP>  
Parish office: 9401 6366 or [mitcham@cam.org.au](mailto:mitcham@cam.org.au)

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people for the positions of:

**Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne**

- Discipleship Specialist – University Discipleship, Melbourne
- Discipleship Internship Programme
- Assistant Sacristan, St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne
- Deputy Director, Proclaim Office for Mission renewal

**Catholic Development Fund**

- Manager, CDF Pay Support
- Relationship Support Officer

**Parish Positions**

- Administration Assistant- St Ignatius & St James, Richmond
- Stewardship Administrator - St Simon's Parish, Rowville
- Mission Support Leader, Operations - St Gregory's the Great (Doncaster) and St Kevin's (Templestowe)
- Parish Secretary, St Thomas Mores Parish, Hadfield
- Parish Secretary- St Luke's Parish, Wantirna
- Parish Secretary – St Macartan's Catholic Church, Mornington
- Pastoral Worker - St Judes and St Simons Parish, Scoresby and Rowville
- Parish Secretary – Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish, Sunbury
- Parish Coordinator - St Joseph's Parish, Malvern, Holy Eucharist & St Mary's Parish, Malvern East & St Roch's Parish, Glen Iris

**Other Positions**

- Administration Assistant - Corpus Christi College

Further details of the above positions can be found on the Archdiocese website at:

[Job vacancies | Melbourne Catholic](#)

**On the Journey this week:** Fr John Corrigan says we need to resemble the wise bridesmaids and remain vigilant, Mother Hilda says St Gertrude's story is a great example if we feel life is one big mess. Fr Tony Percy uses the first reading from the Book of Wisdom to give his definition of wisdom, Byron & Francine Pirola on changing attitudes and behaviours in a marriage, and Fr Mike Delaney wonders how much other people's comments influence our opinion of those we meet. Plus, more great music! Visit [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au) or [www.itunes.jcr.org.au](http://www.itunes.jcr.org.au) where you can listen anytime

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:**

### ***Celebrant:***

*Wisdom is a grace of God that gives us understanding and insight and the power to live life well. This grace is found most fully in Jesus. With this in mind, we bring our prayers to the Lord for his blessings on the world.*

### **Reader:**

Lord, we give thanks for our community of Holy Spirit. May we continue to strengthen the bonds of Faith, Family and Friendship that we have treasured so much to be a flagship of your Kingdom to the world.

**LORD HEAR US.**

We pray that God will give us wisdom, knowledge and insight into the truth and that we may learn from our experiences and decisions each day.

**LORD HEAR US.**

Lord, give us the courage to live each day to the full. Don't let us be consumed by what may have happened in the past, but help us to embrace the present and look to the future with anticipation.

**LORD HEAR US.**

Lord, comfort all who must wait; for parents of sick children, for those in prison, for the unemployed, for students who are sitting their exams—strengthen and sustain them.

**LORD HEAR US.**

For the poor and malnourished; that God will open our hearts to the needs of all those who are suffering. **LORD HEAR US.**

We remember those who have died defending our country. May we never forget their courage and the sacrifice they made so that we can live in a peaceful and democratic society. **LORD HEAR US.**

We pray for those who have died recently Gina Bettiol and Rebecca, all who have died in the Gaza and Ukraine wars, those remembered in the November Intentions, and those whose anniversaries of death occur about this time: Maria Di Gregorio, John Hogan, Andrew Doy, John Street, Teresa Rinarelli, Stuart Hurley and John Pilsbury.

May they rest in the loving arms and peace of Christ.

**LORD HEAR US.**

### ***Celebrant:***

*God of goodness, you are generous in what you give us. Help us to know what is of lasting value in life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## **REFLECTION: 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*"Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour." - Matthew 25:13*

Many of us have put off doing something because we think we are too busy. We've all said, "I'll do it later when I have time." Unfortunately, too many of us apply this attitude to our Faith. Jesus' call is urgent, in the here and now, in your current circumstances. How is God calling you to use your gifts today? Don't delay. None of us is guaranteed tomorrow.



## FIRST READING

Wisdom 6.12-16

*Wisdom is found by those who seek her.*

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

12 Wisdom is radiant and unfading,  
and she is easily discerned by those who love her,  
and is found by those who seek her.

13 She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.

14 One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty,  
for she will be found sitting at the gate.

15 To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding,  
and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,

16 because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,  
and she graciously appears to them in their paths,  
and meets them in every thought.

The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 63.1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-7 (R.1a)

**R.** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1 O God, you are my God, I seek you,  
my soul thirsts for you;  
my flesh faints for you,  
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. **R.**

2 So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,  
beholding your power and glory.

3 Because your steadfast love is better than life,  
my lips will praise you. **R.**

4 So I will bless you as long as I live;  
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

5 My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips. **R.**

6 I think of you on my bed,  
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

7 for you have been my help,  
and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy. **R.**

## SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 4.13-18

*Through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.*

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

**13** We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.

**14** For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.

**15** For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died.

**16** For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

**17** Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever.

**18** Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia

Be watchful and ready:

you do not know when the Son of Man is coming

Alleluia

## GOSPEL

Matthew 25.1-13

*Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.*

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

When talking about his coming in glory, Jesus spoke this parable to the disciples:

**1** "The kingdom of heaven will be like this.

Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.

**2** Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.

**3** When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them;

**4** but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.

**5** As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept.

**6** "But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'

**7** Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps.

**8** The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'

**9** But the wise replied,

'No! there will not be enough for you and for us;

you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'

**10** And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came,

and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut.

**11** "Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.'

**12** But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.'

**13** Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The gospel of the Lord.