



The Word WEEKLY BULLETIN



Parishes of Holy Spirit, St Anne & St Gerard.

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, 7-8 November 2020

Parish Priest: Fr. Arsenio Tuazon

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

120 Oban Road, Ringwood North 3134

Phone: 0434 224 483

Fax: 9879 0642

Email: Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au

Website: www.holyspiritparish.org.au

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Jacinta Bibby

jacinta.bibby@cam.org.au

PARISH SECRETARIES

Ruth Frangeskakis

ruth.frangeskakis@cam.org.au

Jenny Philp

jenny.philp@cam.org.au

HIGH SPIRITS COORDINATORS

Etta D'Souza

Sundays 4-5:00pm (School terms)

Elma Gama

Sundays 4-5:00pm (School terms)

PARISH HOSTESSES

Mary Yeo and Kerry O'Leary

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL—Holy Spirit

Duncan Arendse —9876 1103

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM plt@holyspiritparish.org.au

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Secretary

ppc-sec@holyspiritparish.org.au

FETE COMMITTEE

John Cilia (Chairperson) -

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: 9876 1509

Fax: 9876 6179

Email: ParkOrchards@cam.org.au

Website: www.cam.org.au/parkorchardswarrandyte

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9am-3pm, closed Mondays.

PARISH SECRETARIES

Ana Saro

Tuesday & Wednesday

Kerry McGowan

Thursday & Friday

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL—St. Anne's

Michael Edmonds—9876 1533

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH EMAIL

Jacinta will continue to make contact with parishioners via email on a weekly basis. If you have not received an email but would like to be included in this distribution list, please email to let us know at Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au. Alternatively, please ring the parish mobile 0434 224 483 to advise us of your email address.

This is a great opportunity to update our data base!

PLEASE NOTE:

IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE PREMIER AND THE BISHOPS OF VICTORIA, WE CAN NOW CELEBRATE MASS IN THE CHAPEL UNDER VERY STRICT GUIDELINES. PLEASE SEE THE NOTICE ON PAGE 2 FOR MORE DETAILS.

Readings, Prayers of Intercession and a Gospel reflection are included in the word, which is available from the parish web site:

www.holyspiritparish.org.au/The-Word-Newsletter

Recorded Masses available at: www.holyspiritparish.org.au/Online-Resources

Important information, Spirit Extra, the Spirit Magazine and other Parish matters are available on the website:

www.holyspiritparish.org.au

THE Parish Office remains closed, however, the staff will be monitoring the phone, mail and emails. Please ring the Parish Mobile number: 0434 224 483 and leave your name and contact number and we will return your call as soon as possible.

Email: ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST— RECENTLY DECEASED:

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH: Gerry McCormack, Anthony Del Sureto, Andrew Bertram, Maria Cataldo, Rosaleen Wier, Andrew Doy, John Street, Teresa Rinarelli, Stuart Hurley, John Pilsbury, Brendan Hardiman, Jackie Zanin and Mary Mulcahy

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING SICK: Ben Lobo, John, Angela Damora, Warren Darbyshire, Claire Snaidero, Stella & family, Deb Neilsen, Pauline Curlis, Sean Hill, Valerie Mason

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

The Word, Spirit Magazine and "Spirit Extra" are available online at www.holyspiritparish.org.au

Dear Holy Spirit Parish,

With the further lifting of restrictions, Fr Arsenio will be able to celebrate Eucharist with a small gathering of **TEN people** under very strict guidelines, these have been approved by Archbishop Comensoli.

Under no circumstances should anyone awaiting test verification, including Clergy (even without presenting symptoms) attend a church or parish setting until a diagnosis is confirmed. Additionally, under no circumstances should anyone attend who is closely connected to people who are awaiting test results or who have tested positive.

The restrictions are as follows:

- You must wear a face mask at all times.
- Sanitize your hands on arrival.

Mass will be celebrated in the Chapel.

The chairs are not to be moved from the pre marked space.

Fr Arsenio will give instructions on receiving Holy Communion during the Fraction Rite.

Communion during covid-19 at this time may only be taken by hand.

It is a priority for us to be as fair to all when booking in for mass, you will need to phone and speak with Jacinta as we have questions and details to obtain from you.

You must live within the 25km radius from Holy Spirit Parish.

All guidelines will be discussed with you when you book in.

The mass times we have at Holy Spirit are:

Wednesday 11th Nov at 9:30am to book please call on Tues 10th between 8:30—10:30am only.**

Friday 13th Nov at 9:30am to book please call on Thursday 12th between 8:30—10:30am only.**

Saturday 14th Nov at 6pm to book please call on Friday 13th between 8:30—10:30am only. **

Sunday 15th Nov at 9am to book please call on Saturday 14th between 8:30—10:30am only.**

**** Please note change of time for bookings****

Please Do Not send an email it is phone bookings Only.

Jacinta Bibby Pastoral Associate Mobile : 0434 224 483



The Ready, Set, Pray! Children's Liturgy of the Word @ Home video series has been created to provide an engaging space for families to encounter Jesus through the Sunday gospel.

Each week includes an invitation for families to create and gather in their own prayer space, to sing, hear the Gospel, pray and respond creatively through an activity.

This weekly resource follows the familiar Children's Liturgy of the

Word format provided in many parishes – but moved to an online setting. It can be used by families in their homes, and also by teachers and catechists.

The series consists of 10 weekly sessions of 15-20 minutes duration, commencing from Sunday 18th October and continuing each Sunday until Christmas. We hope this experience of gathering for prayer will encourage families in this time when they cannot gather for parish celebrations of Eucharist. It is produced by Proclaim: The Office for Mission Renewal at the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

<https://bit.ly/ReadySetPray>

The Parish will rely on continuing contributions through the Thanksgiving program to meet our expenses for day to day operations. If you would like to drop your envelope into the office, please ring to arrange a drop off or pick up time.

This may be an opportune time to change over to Direct Debit or Credit Card contributions. Should you wish to make this change, please call the parish office on **0434 224 483**

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.

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. Don't delay. How is God calling you to use your gifts today? None of us is guaranteed tomorrow.

EVERGREENS

Dear Evergreens,

We have been advised to put our Evergreen activities, (Meetings and Social Activities), on hold during the Coronavirus pandemic. We will advise you when we are able to resume. In the meantime, take good care of yourselves and please continue to support each other (by phone etc.)

If any further information is required, please ring Jean-(9876 2204) or Shirley- (9870 1396)



Parish Zoom Chat with Fr Arsenio

The next fortnightly zoom chat is planned for Wednesday 18th November @ 5 - 5.30 pm

Join with parishioners for a pre-dinner chat on alternate Wednesday evenings.

It's a great chance to see familiar faces and catch up on news.

Holy Spirit Parish's Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6319508706?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6319508706?pwd=WnlNaDZQMzFtMGVvUnV2WDUrelJmQT09)

[pwd=WnlNaDZQMzFtMGVvUnV2WDUrelJmQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6319508706?pwd=WnlNaDZQMzFtMGVvUnV2WDUrelJmQT09)

Meeting ID: 631 950 8706 Passcode: 2p7ssZ

Come alone or bring a family member or friend.

Please call Mary on 0410 654 357 for tech support if needed.

ALL WELCOME

PARISH LETTER & DATA BASE UPDATE

Please remember to advise the parish staff of your current phone and email details so we can update our database. You can either return the data sheet sent to you or email: Ringwoodnorth@cam.org.au
Thank you.

Collection Notice

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

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 or 0434 224 483 .

NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCES

Please remember the following family and friends of our parishioners in your prayers:

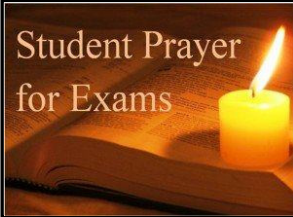
Bill Frangeskakis, Vladas, Elena and Kes Urmelis, Con Canty, Lilian and Raymond Pathe, Colleen & Leo Grasby, Family & Friends of M. Nordio., MaryAnne Scott and Elizabeth Scott, Roland Jacinto, Jane Jacinto, Marie Jacinto, Diana Gonsalves, Joseph Gonsalves, Grenwell Nunez, Belinda Rodrigues, Effe Rodrigues, Violet Demello, Vilma Tinda, Suzie Mascarenhas, Felix Pinto, Catherine Pinto Trevor Dsouza, Souls of the Jacinto, D'Souza, Pinto & Rebello families, Giovanni De Vincenti & Iolanda De Vincenti, Secondo Bettiol & Rosa Bettiol, Margaret Cuskelly and Barry Cuskelly, Yolanda Babanto Ladan, Wilfredo Argawanon Osabel, Vicenta Osabel, Felix Osabel, Carneta Baterna, Donna Carreon, Jesus Argawanon, Romulo Ladan, Eugenia Ladan

Holy Spirit Web Site - www.holyspiritparish.org.au:

Stay in touch with our parish website.

- "News, Events": ref menu
- "Covid 19 News and Updates" (much of which is drawn from Jacinta's weekly email): ref home page & menu
- "How we stay connected", online resources such as Masses, Prayers, Newsletters, Next Zoom: ref home page

Student Prayer for Exams



Loving God,

As our senior students prepare to sit their exams, please allow them to feel the Gifts of the Holy Spirit with them, through Peace, Wisdom and Understanding to complete their final exams.

We ask this in your name Lord. AMEN



SPIRIT EXTRA #12 NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE!

[https://www.holyspiritparish.org.au/Portals/3/Documents/Spirit Extra/spirit extra 012.pdf](https://www.holyspiritparish.org.au/Portals/3/Documents/Spirit%20Extra/spirit_extra_012.pdf)

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH ZOOM ROSARY



Every Tuesday night @ 7- 8 pm

Join with parishioners in prayer and devotion to Our Lady

for the intentions of your own heart, our community, our neighbourhood, our city and our world.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6319508706?pwd=WnlNaDZQMzFtMGVvUnV2WDUrelJmQT09>

Meeting ID: 631 950 8706 Passcode: 2p7ssZ

Hosted by Ambrose & Philomena Cornelio

Prayer requests may be emailed to Ambrose: ambrose_cornelio@hotmail.com for inclusion weekly.

ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND

A PARISH THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER

On the Journey this week: Fr Mark De Battista on the wise and foolish bridesmaid parable and being prepared, alert, and waiting for the coming of the Christ. Plus, Trish McCarthy on the wisdom of tears, giving us healing and joy, and letting us experience a deeper connection to God, and Mother Hilda's advice on how to let God speak to the heart. Plus more great music!

Visit www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email



December Edition Spirit Magazine

Deadline for contributions **TUESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER**

1970 was the year of the Westgate Bridge collapse – Where were you on that fateful day and can you remember your reaction? What other events were significant for you in that year?

Students of all ages – Tell us how feel your current year has been. There are not many people around today who would remember the last pandemic so you are in a very unique time. What has it meant to you? Did you like spending more time at home? Was it good to have a parent/parents around every day?

And, EVERYONE else, tell us your unique story of the year like no other, or the special events and the unique ways you have had to celebrate them. Photos please! Artwork, your learning's from lockdown. We want to hear it all. Thank you for your ongoing support – This is your magazine – We want to hear YOUR story please.

Please send items to: helen@konynenburg.com

RCIA Journey 2020

Next weekend (15 November) will see the reception of our 2 Catechumens, Andrew Mitchell and Sam Philp, after many months of journeying through the RCIA program at Holy Spirit.

When we first met up in October last year, we had little idea of the challenges that would confront us as we moved through the program, but credit to our 2 Catechumens, they stuck through it and carried on to now be well and truly ready to become full members of the Catholic Faith.

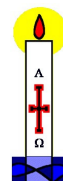
The last third of the journey was completed online because of the COVID restrictions, which did present some challenges but the RCIA team now feels that they are more than ready to become part of the Catholic community.

Our 2 Catechumens deserve all praise and encouragement for their perseverance and single mindedness in wanting to be part of our community.

We would ask the Holy Spirit community to keep these 2 special men very much in our prayers and to welcome them wholeheartedly into our midst.

The RCIA team

Right of Christian Initiation of Adults - 2020 – 21



We, the RCIA team of Tina and Lawry, have just recently commenced a new RCIA journey with our new catechumen Deborah....

As with so many things in 2020, this year's program has started out via Zoom, but we're hoping that if the situation improves, we will be able to start meeting face to face again in the not too distant future.

We ask the Holy Spirit community to please include Deborah in your prayers and thoughts as she embarks on this significant life journey on finding God.

We also ask for your prayers for the RCIA team, as we try to facilitate Deborah's journey via a virtual platform and also a completely new RCIA program (Symbolon), which will no doubt present its own challenges.

The RCIA team (Tina & Lawry)

Are you a Spiritual Leader? – *The Spiritual Leaders Program is a one-year, part-time program held on Friday mornings (and some Friday afternoons). It is suitable for people in outreach ministries and various positions of leadership within their faith community, such as priests, ministers, members of religious Orders, lay ecclesial ministers, community and spiritual leaders, chaplains, pastoral carers, and those in health and education. The program, which commences in Feb 2021, focuses on personal integration of the theory and practice of a contemplative, discerning approach to pastoral ministry. Previous participants have commented that this Program has been transformational in terms of their personal spirituality and their leadership skills. The Program may be available online via Zoom, face-to-face, or a combination of both. Apply to Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation in Malvern, VIC. Fee-Help is available to qualifying participants. Brochure and application form at www.heartoflife.melbourne or tel 03 9890 1101.*



St Vincent de Paul Society

good works

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Once again, we are asking your help to supply Christmas Hampers to the families we visit. Included in this notice is a list of the hampers needed & a list of suggested items for the hampers. We understand what a hard year it has been for everyone but any donations will be greatly appreciated.

If you can't manage a hamper, donations of Groceries (as per list), toys & cash would be wonderful.

If you are able to supply a hamper please contact Joan Ward on

0400 621 022 or email joanward@optusnet.com.au to tell of your selection. It won't be a problem if 2 people select the same family it will all be sorted out when we organize the deliveries.

Time & date for donations to be dropped off will be advised later.

Many thanks

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 |
-
- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <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.

If you have any queries, please contact Joan on:
0400621022 or email: joanward@optusnet.com.au.



Thank you again and best wishes to you from the
St. Vincent de Paul Society

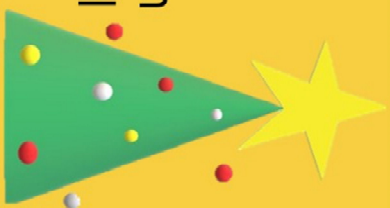
VINNIES HAMPER FAMILY LIST

Adults 1+1 means 1 adult & an older teenager.

NO	ADULTS	Male child	Female child	DETAILS	NO	ADULTS	Male child	Female child	DETAILS
					56	1			DSP (M)
20	1+1	10		Jobseeker (F)	57	1			Pensioner (F)
22	2	12	Baby	Parenting Payment	58	1			DSP (F)
23	1			Jobseeker (M)	59	1+1	13,12		Sole Parent
24	2	5,3		Low Income	60	4			DSP
25	1			Jobseeker (M)	61	2			DSP
26	1			Jobseeker (M)	62	1+2			Low income family
27	1			Jobseeker (M)	63	3+3			Disability Pensioners (M&F) invalid relative (M)
28	1+1			Jobseeker (F)	64	1	2		DSP (F)
29	1			DSP (M)					
30	2			DSP	66	1			DSP (F)
31	1		Baby 2	Jobseeker (M)	67	1+1			DSP (F)
32	1			DSP (F)	68	1			DSP (F)
33	2			DSP	69	1			DSP (F)
34	1			Jobseeker(F)	70	1			DSP (F)
35	1			Age Pension(M)	71	1			DSP (F)
36	2	14		Parenting Payment					
37	2		6,5	Parenting Payment	73	1			Age Pension (F)
38	2			DSP	74	1+2			Jobseeker (F)
39	1			DSP (F)	75	1			Jobseeker (F)
40	1			DSP (F)	76	1			DSP (F)
41	2			DSP	77	2			DSP (F) & son
42	1		5	DSP (F)					
43	1	4		Sole Parent	80	1+1			Jobseeker (F)
44	3			DSP (F)	81	2			DSP
45	1+1	9		Sole Parent	82	3			DSP (F)
46	1			Age Pension (F)	83	1			Jobseeker (M)
47	1			Age Pension (F)	84	1			DSP (M)
48	1			Jobseeker (F)	85	2			DSP
49	1+1			Jobseeker (F)	86	1			DSP (F)
50	2			Disability Pensioner	87	1+1			Carer's Allowance (F)
51	2			Son & Elderly father DSP	88	1+1	14		Low income
52	2+3			Low income family	89	3			DSP (F)
53	1			Jobseeker (F)	90	1			DSP (F)
54	1+1	14	Baby	Sole Parent (F)	91	1	6,2	10	DSP (F)
55	1			DSP (M)					

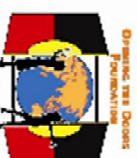


By purchasing a
\$30 Christmas Ornament
you are supporting Aboriginal Children
to reach their full educational potential



OPENING THE DOORS FOUNDATION

Visit www.OpeningTheDoors.org.au/Christmas



Opening The Doors
Foundation
is an Australian
not for profit
organisation

Opening The Doors Foundation Christmas Ornament Order Form

Name
Shipping Address
Postcode
Phone Email



How many \$30 Individual ornaments would you like to purchase?
How many \$360 Christmas Packs (contains 12 ornaments) would you like to purchase?

Postage and Handling Prices

1-6 ornaments	\$10
7 or more ornaments	\$20
Christmas Pack	\$20

Total cost including postage and handling \$

Payment Method

Cardholders Name ☐ Cash ☐ Cheque ☐ Card
Card number Expiry date
Billing Address Postcode ☐ Same as Shipping Address

Please return this order form to the Foundation at:
Opening The Doors Foundation OR enquiries@openingthedoors.org.au
PO Box 1088
THORBURY VIC 3071

For more information go to www.openingthedoors.org.au or visit our Facebook Page.
The purchase of these ornaments is not tax deductible as a donation to charity.

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.

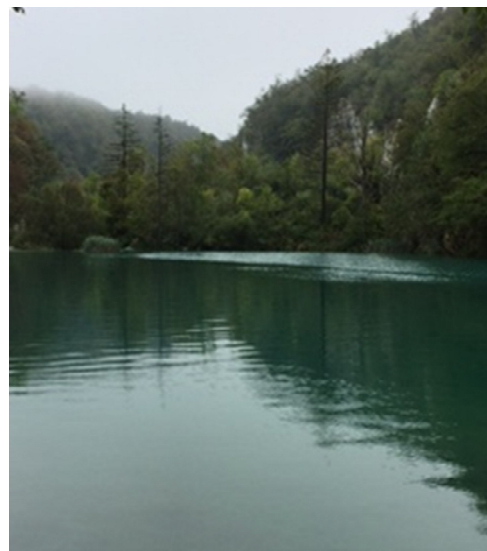
3 Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you. **R.**

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

See Matthew 24.42, 44

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.'

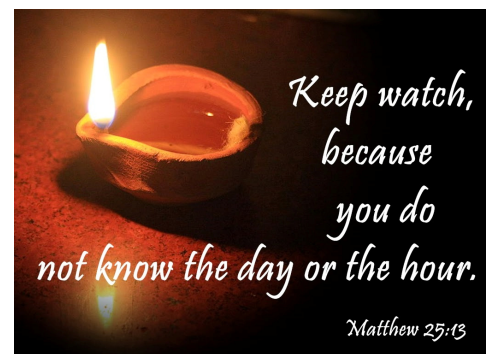
10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut.

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.



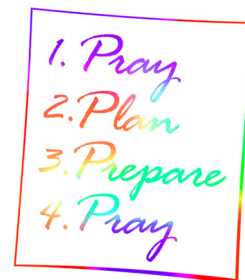
Reflection.

This parable of the bridesmaids who were excluded from the wedding feast and forced to remain locked out in the dark could easily be understood for regarding their sensible companions as a selfish group in refusing to share their oil with them. To our way of thinking the punishment of having the door of the wedding banquet slammed in their face is too severe. And worst they deserved a reprimand for their last minute rush. However the gospel story is not about forgetting to bring along extra oil for the lamp, but about how we view the invitation extended to us all to take our place in the kingdom of God. We only have ourselves to blame if we fail to arrive or are unprepared when the time comes. Being ready beforehand is what matters most and a last minute hurry to get ourselves into spiritual shape is not to be recommended. If we are to have an eternity of joy we shall have to prepare for it whole heartedly.

Admittance to the banquet of eternal life cannot simply be taken for granted. Christ teaches this parable as a warning because the day of the Lord will come with surprising suddenness like a thief in the night. The gospel brings home the importance of being ready and prepared while we wait, by loving God and our neighbour. When the call comes, what will count are the qualities of character we have developed, not the riches we possess or the fortune we have gathered.

Staying awake must be the centre around which our whole being and life rotate.

-Fr. Arsenio



Prayers of Intercession

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.

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.

Loving God, as our senior students prepare to sit their VCE exams, please allow them to feel the Gifts of the Holy Spirit with them, through Peace, Wisdom and Understanding to complete their final exams.

LORD HEAR US.

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 and for students who are sitting exams; strengthen and sustain them. **LORD HEAR US.**

We pray for those who have died recently, those remembered in the November Intentions and those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time: Gerry McCormack, Anthony Del Sureto, Andrew Bertram, Maria Cataldo, Rosaleen Weir, Andrew Doy, John Street, Teresa Rinarelli, Stuart Hurley, John Pilsbury, Brendan Hardiman, Jackie Zanin and Mary Mulcahy. May they rest in the loving arms and peace of Christ. **LORD HEAR US**

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION,

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

St. Alphonsus Liguori

