

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of God is living and active;  
it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.  
Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*God will see those who cry to him vindicated.*

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. 'There was a judge in a certain town' he said 'who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, "I want justice from you against my enemy!" For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, "Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death."'

And the Lord said, 'You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

# Reflections on the Gospel



# THE SAVING WORD

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time / C

16 October 2016

## CONSISTENCY AND

### PERSEVERANCE IN PRAYER

The parable of the Persistent Widow is unusually explicit in describing the judge: he neither fears God nor respects any human being. In effect, though this man is not religious, yet he is incapable of shame. However, this unscrupulous judge meets his match in a rare character: a widow who, far from being timid and helpless, keeps on coming to him asking for a just decision against her adversary. Because she gives him so much trouble, the judge finally acquiesces, "or she will persist in coming and worry me to death" or "lest she end up giving me a black eye", that is damaging to his reputation. Although the judge has no regard for humans, he is defensive of his reputation and his office as judge. Otherwise, he will be removed.

This parable is told by Jesus so that his disciples may pray always without becoming weary. The comparison which moves from the lesser character to the greater has a crystal-clear lesson. If the dishonest judge is able to give justice, how much more speedily will God respond to the petitions of his elect! But there is a twist on the assurance: God's mercy and succour are not in doubt, but are there any "widows" among the listeners who cry out to God "day and night"?

*When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?*

The mention of the Son of Man coming points to Jesus' *parousia* at the end of time. In between now and the *parousia* believers may become discouraged and may "give up" in their struggle to remain faithful, in the seeming "absence" of Jesus. Hence, the parable points to the need of consistency and perseverance in prayer. Consistency in prayer shows faithfulness. And God, the just judge, knows those who love him.

Fr Gil Alinsangan SSP

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY  
RESOURCES

Available at  
[www.stpauls.com.au](http://www.stpauls.com.au)



## FIRST READING

Ex 17:8-13

A reading from the book of Exodus

*As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage.*

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile, will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand.' Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses' arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm till sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PS

Ps 120. R. cf. v. 2

**R.** Our help is from the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.

1. I lift up my eyes to the mountains: / from where shall come my help? / My help shall come from the Lord / who made heaven and earth. **R.**
2. May he never allow you to stumble! / Let him sleep not, your guard. / No, he sleeps not nor slumbers, / Israel's guard. **R.**
3. The Lord is your guard and your shade; / at your right side he stands. / By day the sun shall not smite you / nor the moon in the night. **R.**
4. The Lord will guard you from evil, / he will guard your soul. / The Lord will guard your going and coming / both now and for ever. **R.**



## SECOND READING

2 Tim 3:14-4:2

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

*This is how the people of God become equipped and ready for every good work.*

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures – from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

■ The word of the Lord.

## A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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# St Clement of Rome Church

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Office Hours: Monday—Friday 9:00am-3:00pm



Parish Priest : Monsignor Franco Cavarra (Parish Office 9850 3262) or (Presbytery 9850 6073)  
Italian Chaplain: Fr Vito Pegolo (0419 736 890), School Principal: Mr Michael Heenan (9850 1216)  
Pastoral Associate: Cecilia Tan (9850 3262), Parish Secretary: Bernadine De Silva (9850 3262)  
Communion to the Sick: Trish Atherton (9850 2746), Clifton Centre: Mary Hansen (9850 1860)  
St Vincent de Paul Helpline (1300 305 330)

## Sacramental Program:

Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on Saturday 22 October 2016 at 2.30pm and 5.30pm.

Car parking will be a challenge and we ask all who come early to park in the lower car park and leave the spaces nearest the Church for older parishioners.

Parishioners who normally attend the 5.30pm Mass on Saturday, please take note of these events. You may wish to attend Sunday Mass at 9am just for the weekend of the 22nd of October. Grateful thanks to all for your kind attention.

### Baptism Welcoming

This weekend, we welcome :  
**Frankie Beckwith**  
**James Caruso**  
**Charlize Tahatis**  
Please pray for these children and their families



### World Mission Sunday—

A special collection will take place on the 29th & 30th weekend. Appreciate your contribution.

### All Saints—Tuesday 1st November

Mass will be held at 9.15am in English.

### All Souls—Wednesday 2nd November

Each year during the month of November and on this day we especially commemorate the memory of our loved ones. Mass will be held at 9.15am. All are welcome to join us.

### Commissioning of volunteers to the different Ministries

The Mission Jesus takes flesh in the following ways within the context of the Parish community. Here are some questions to prompt reflection and dialogue.

- Identity and Community: How engaged are we in building up a community of faith and hospitality?
- Worship and Prayer: Do we try to understand the reason and purpose of why we gather for prayer and worship? In what ways does our Eucharist sustain us individually and as a community?
- Formation and Education: Do we make time to learn more about our faith through the opportunities offered such as the RCIA, the Scriptural Study Group, the Hope Ministry? Do we offer our own wisdom and understanding and share faith with our children and families in the Sacramental and Baptism programs?
- Mission and Outreach: Do we take Jesus' message seriously to transform society by acts of mercy and justice? Are we welcoming? Do we take time to know others who are new to the parish?
- Leadership and Structure: Are we content with leaving the work of exercising leadership to others? Are we committed to the welfare growth of this parish?

The Parish, the living Body of Christ at Bulleen is so because of the gifts and talents of many volunteers. Over the coming weeks we will be incorporating a Commissioning Rite during the Saturday 5.30pm and Sunday 9.00am Masses. All volunteers and those who would like to be initiated into the different Ministries will be invited to come forward at the appropriate time after communion and take their place at the front of the Altar. Fr. Franco will lead you in a simple prayer and bless you. May this simple rite of acknowledgment and witness draw us to a greater appreciation of the gift and life that is in the Parish.

- December 5: Volunteer Sunday/Outreach: Mass and BBQ.

**Mario & Angela's Café this Sunday:** You are all invited to come for morning tea after the 9am Mass in the Clifton Centre on Sun 23rd Oct. Thank you.



**MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS**  
Mass Times: Sat 5:30pm (Vigil), Sun - 9am, 11am (Italian) & 6pm (Maronite Community Mass)



Tues 9:15am (Italian), Wed-Sat 9:15am. Eucharistic Adoration: Tues-Fri 8-9am (in the Chapel)  
Reconciliation: Sat 10am (and on request). Marian Devotions: Sat 8.40am.

Baptisms: Welcoming (3rd weekend) & Baptism (4th weekend) every month. Weddings: By Appointment.

Recently Deceased : Ninette Buhagiar, Angela Lorandi

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

## PARISH DIARY

Tue 18th Oct @ 4pm —Confirmation Rehearsal in the Church  
Sat 22nd Oct @ 2.30pm—Sacrament of Confirmation  
Sat 22nd Oct @ 5.30pm—Sacrament of Confirmation  
Sun 23rd Oct @ 10am—Mario & Angela's Cafe

Collections Last Weekend  
1st Collection (Thanksgiving)  
Actual — 2,407  
2nd Collection (Presbytery)  
Actual — 1,194  
Many thanks & every Blessing!



St. Clement of Rome Parish

invites you to:

“Beginning the New Liturgical Year with Matthew”

Two sessions on the Advent Sunday Readings.

Thursday 24 November 2016 (Advent 1 & 2)

Thursday 8 December 2016 (Advent 3 & 4)

7.00PM - 9.00PM

The Clifton Centre, St. Clement of Rome Parish, Egan Drive, Bulleen

Presenter: Fr. Chris Monaghan, cp.



Father Chris Monaghan cp. a Passionist priest, studied at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome. He is the current President at Yarra Theological Union. He has taught at YU and the Archdiocese of Melbourne since 1987 in the area of New Testament studies.

All are welcome to Chris' talk and the Parish Run Programme beginning in February 2017. Contact: Mark Gregor (Coordinator) markgregor@bigpond.net.au or Cecilia Tan (Pastoral Associate)@Cecilia.Tan@cam.org.au

### Liturgy Roster

Sat 5.30pm

Sun 9am

15 <sup>th</sup> /16 <sup>th</sup> October	Sacristan	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	COMMENTATOR	John Bruce	Tim Landsberg
	Reader	Linda Cultrera	Rocco Gagliardi
	Special Ministers	Martin Teh	David Mitchell
		Warwick Wright	Pam Mitchell
		John Bruce	Gloria Ng
		Linda Cultrera	Elsa Waters
		Rene De La Cruz	Chris Zordan
		Elroy De Witt	Trish Atherton
		Loretta Galante	Anne Fusca

22 <sup>nd</sup> /23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Sacristan	Rita Gagliardi	Francis & Gloria Ng
	COMMENTATOR	Paul Sammut	Rocco Gagliardi
	Reader	May Teh	Fulvia Gerasolimo
	Special Ministers	Linda Cultrera	Anne Fusca
		Rene De La Cruz	Fulvia Gerasolimo
		Elroy De Witt	Gabriella Grande
		Loretta Galante	Eleanora Mascitti
		Rita Gagliardi	Silvia Mascitti
		Corinne Goh	Gloria Ng
		Miriam Ho	Maria Papalia

### Remembering our deceased loved ones.

The Catholic tradition offers us November, which begins with All Saints Day and All Souls Day as the Month of special remembrance for those who have died. All Saints Day, 1st November is a day of Solemnity and we are encouraged to attend Mass. All Souls Day commemorates all the Faithful departed. To highlight the communion with those who have gone before us, a special Remembrance Book will be placed near the Altar and you are invited to write the names of your deceased loved ones clearly in the book in preparation for November. Those who wish to have Masses offered are asked to place the offerings in the envelopes available in the Foyer. Thank you.



### Piety Stall

Weekday Missals : Weekday Missals are for sale at a very good price of \$50 and can be used right through to 2023! Please purchase one from the bookshop if you attend Weekday Masses. We have only 6 copies available. We will not have the paperback versions from 2017 onwards as they are not cost-effective and good for only one year.

Melbourne Catholic—Latest edition is now available for \$4.

Music Practices—Will take place every Saturday at 4.30pm in the Church except 22/10/16 due to children receiving the sacrament of confirmation.

### Hope Ministry:

Our next session is on Saturday, 5th November at 10.00 in the parish office. Through prayer and meditation, we have explored the different topics in a non-threatening, safe and supportive environment.

- Understanding grief
  - The meaning and place of lament
  - The Sacredness of Memories.
  - Grief and the Community
  - Understanding grief as transitions
- The following are the scheduled sessions over the coming weeks:
- 5 November: Grief Minister and the Grieving Child
  - 12 November: Importance of Rituals and celebrations
  - 26 November: Liturgical celebrations
  - 3 December: Grief Minister as Compassionate Listener
- All are welcome to attend some or all of the sessions.

### A Beautiful Evening of Liturgical Music and Prayer with Br. Michael Herry FMS

When : Wed 19th Oct  
Time : 7.30—9.15pm  
Where : St Kevin's Parish, 26-44 Herlihy's Road, Lower Templestowe.  
Please check the Notice Board for details.

### Next week in Australia we mark Anti-poverty. (16<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> October)

Many Catholic agencies work tirelessly for the alleviation of poverty here in Australia and around the globe. The Victorian Council of Churches' (VCC) Social Question Commission will mark Anti-poverty week by coming together and praying in an Ecumenical liturgy in the St Mary MacKillop Chapel at ACU. ALL are WELCOME to attend.

Details:  
Time: 1.00pm – 1.30pm  
Date: Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016  
Place: St Mary MacKillop Chapel, Daniel Mannix Building, ACU (enter via 8 Brunswick St Fitzroy)  
Light Refreshments afterwards.  
RSVP/ Inquiries; justice@cam.org.au