

GOSPEL

Mk 13:24-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

He shall gather his elect from the four winds.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**



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Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

18 NOVEMBER 2018

THE FUTURE BELONGS TO GOD

As we approach the end of the Church's liturgical year we have a Gospel drawn from the long instruction Jesus gives to his disciples at the close of his ministry in Jerusalem. The instruction looks ahead to the future life of the Church after his death and resurrection. Jesus foresees and foretells a great many trials and temptations that his followers will have to face: the destruction of the Temple and the city of Jerusalem, wars and turmoil on an international scale, the persecution of his followers, and even betrayal and deceit within the community.

The chief purpose of the instruction is to give strength and encouragement to the Church. All the dismaying things that will happen have been foreseen by Jesus. They will not frustrate the final victory when he himself will return in glory to extend God's rule over the universe once and for all.

The Gospel for today describes this climactic moment. It is couched in language and imagery typical of the Jewish worldview of the time known as 'apocalyptic'. Such imagery causes problems if we take it literally and expect things to happen exactly as described. The highly symbolic imagery, however, is not meant to frighten the faithful but to convey a message of assurance and vindication. Things may be tough and dismaying now but, as Jesus' resurrection shows, the future belongs to God, rather than to the forces of death and exploitation.

Understood in this way, the Gospel addresses very fittingly the present uncertain situation of our world and our Church, and the dismay many experience as a result.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

FIRST READING

Dan 12:1-13

A reading from the prophet Daniel

When that time comes your own people will be spared.

'At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 15:5, 8-11

R. Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

1. O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; / it is you yourself who are my prize. / I keep the Lord ever in my sight: / since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **R.**

2. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; / even my body shall rest in safety. / For you will not leave my soul among the dead, / nor let your beloved know decay. **R.**

3. You will show me the path of life, / the fullness of joy in your presence, / at your right hand happiness for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

Heb 10:11-14, 18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

By a single offering he has achieved the eternal perfection of those who are sanctified.

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one



single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 21:36

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man. Alleluia!

St Clement of Rome Church

Address: Egan Drive, Bulleen 3105 - Phone: 9850 3262, Fax: 9850 2550
 Email: bulleen@cam.org.au, Web: www.stclementsparishbulleen.org.au
 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), Assistant Pastoral Associate : Franka Waters
 Parish Secretary: Bernadine De Silva (9850 3262)
 Clifton Centre: Mary Hansen (9850 1860) St Vincent de Paul Helpline (1800 305 330)

ST CLEMENT OF ROME PARISH, BULLEEN WELCOMES YOU TO A VERY SPECIAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

PRESEPIO MUSICALE

WITH MARCO CINQUE, CARMELA DE LOSINNO &
 ANGELO FALCONE

The Banda Musicale Vincenzo Bellini,
 Conductor M. Giuliano Di Lenno

Coro Gruppo Culturale Italiano
 —Daniela Sartor—Alessia Licitra

MC and Compare Cav. Frank Di Blasi, OAM

Friday December 7
 6.45pm at St Clement of Rome Church,
 Egan Drive Bulleen.

Entrance donation \$20.00 per person.

For bookings contact Giorgio Baglieri 0411 662 932 or
 St Clement's Parish Office 9850 3262



Baptism Welcoming

This weekend, we welcome :

Andrew Gourley
 Austin Ioannides
 Allegra Tonizzo
 Sofia Tsoukas

Please pray for these children
 and their families

Thanksgiving Envelopes

Please collect your next set of thanksgiving envelopes starting
 02/12/18 from the foyer. Thank you.

Scripture Studies

Advent Scripture Reflections are scheduled for:

29 November : The fulfilment of the Promise. Am I ready?
 6 December : Living with Integrity. What does it take?
 13 December : The choice to rejoice. Am I willing to make that
 choice?
 20 December : Here I am, I am coming to do your will. How ready
 am I to do God's will?
 All sessions will begin from 7.30pm in the School Library
 Our Theme: Art as the carrier of the Word

Parish Advent Reconciliation Service

This year we will be having two Reconciliation Services.
 Wed 5th Dec at 7.30pm (English)
 Tue 11th Dec after 9.15am Mass (Italian)

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 : Mario Cardamone, Antonio Guarella, Vincenzo Gerace, Sisto Malaspina
 Death Anniversaries : Angelo Fedele, Pacella Family, Jerocchi Family, Maria Deblasiis, Mariano Cerato, Rosa Fiumara,
 Angela Gerosolimo
 Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
 May they rest in peace. Amen

PARISH DIARY

Sun 18th Nov @ 10am—SVDP Meeting in the Clifton Centre
 Fri 23rd Nov @ 9.15am—St Clement's Feast Day School Mass (Grade 6)
 Sun 25th Nov @ 10.00am—Mario & Angela's Café
 Sun 25th Nov @ 12.30pm—Baptisms
 Thurs 29th Nov @ 7.30pm—Advent Reflections in the School Library :The fulfilment of the Promise.
 Am I ready?

Parish Pastoral Council (Parish Leadership Team)

After a lapse of seven years, and after much prayer, consultation and discernment, Mgr. Franco has re-convened the Parish Pastoral Council. Several parishioners have been nominated. The lay-led team has been given the charge of looking after the overall needs of the Parish in four major areas:

Worship and Liturgy
 Mission and Identity
 Social Justice and Outreach
 Education/Formation.

The members are in the process of deep formation and discernment themselves. The final team with the office bearers will be announced shortly after the next meeting.

Reconfiguration of foyer space:

You will notice some changes to the foyer. We hope this will allow us to communicate better with you and to create a more attractive space. Our children are important to us. We have set us a child-friendly space in the back chapel with toys/books for your use. Mass can be heard in the room.

2018 Rerum Novarum Oration

Widening the Door of Hope (A response to the Victorian Assisted Dying Legislation
 Tue 20th November 2018
 At 7.00pm (with light refreshments)
 Location : Mercy Theatre, Australian Catholic University
 115 Victoria Parade Fitzroy
 RSVP/Inquiries : justice@cam.org.au or 9926 5727.

Lourdes Day Mass 2018

Will be celebrated at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sat 1st December 2018 at 10.30am. This is an occasion to come together in prayer with those who are sick, infirm or elderly, and their carers. As many are unlikely to ever visit Lourdes, in a sense, it's like Lourdes coming to them.

RED WEDNESDAY AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL Wednesday 28 November, 7.30pm St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne

Red Wednesday is a global movement to stand in solidarity with those who, even in the 21st century, are imprisoned, persecuted, tortured or murdered for their peacefully-held religious faith. Aid to the Church in Need, together with the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, invites you to Stand Up for Faith and Freedom. Please join us at St Patrick's Cathedral, which will be floodlit in red for the first time as a visible sign of solidarity with those facing persecution.

Liturgy Roster		Sat 5:30pm	Sun 9am
17/18 November	Sacristan	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	COMMENTATOR	Paul Sammut	Tim Landsberg
	Reader	May Teh	Rocco Gagliardi
	Special Ministers	Jaqueline Kha	Trish Atherton
		Cecilia Lam	Grace Canatelli
		Reg Lecordier	Anne Fusca
			Gabriella Grande
			Eleanora Mascitti
			David Mitchell
			Pam Mitchell
24/25 November	Sacristan	Rita Gagliardi	Francis & Gloria Ng
Christ the King	COMMENTATOR	May Teh	Rocco Gagliardi
	Reader	John Bruce	Mark Gregor
	Special Ministers	Maree Marsi	Gloria Ng
		May Teh	Maria Papalia
		Martin Teh	Elsa Waters
			Chris Zordan
			Trish Atherton
			Grace Canatelli
			Anne Fusca
DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL'EUCARISTA
25/11	J. FAGGION L. DEL TONDO	FAM. B. ROMANIN	L. VETTORETTO G. VETTORETTO L. CIAMPA

Sacramental Program 2019

Please register your interest for 2019. The fee to cover all administrative and resource cost is \$200 per sacrament per child. Fees payable on enrolment through the Parish Office. Enrolment forms can be downloaded from the website or collected from the Parish Office.

Confirmation classes commence on Tue 12th Feb 2019
 Last enrolment date : 5th Feb 2019

Reconciliation classes commence on Tue 21st May 2019
 Last enrolment date : 14th May 2019

Eucharist classes commence on Tue 6th Aug 2019
 Last enrolment date : 30th July 2019
 All classes : 4.30pm—5.30pm in the Parish Office.