

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.**

*All who exalt themselves shall be humbled and all who humble themselves shall be exalted.*

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# Reflections on the Gospel

## ASSURING A PLACE IN THE HEAVENLY BANQUET

The practice of looking for and maintaining honour under the rule of reciprocity is reflected—and censured—in today's Gospel. Jesus speaks of how guests choose places of honour at table; of a list of guests drawn up according to bonds of friendship, family ties, or economic status; of the practice of reciprocating in kind. Jesus then urges his elite audience (a leading Pharisee and his guests) to reject the conventional Mediterranean custom and to enact a new ethos of the Kingdom. People should seek the benefit of God's favour rather than that achieved by following social norms. And God does not act in the way a gracious Mediterranean host does.

Jesus criticises the social convention of inviting friends and relatives only. True, there are legitimate reasons for inviting kinsfolk and neighbours for celebration. However, Jesus urges his audience to extend their hospitality to new groups: "the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind". These are the people who are on the fringes of or outside the village community. The challenge of Jesus is therefore more acute: people must go beyond not only the lines of kinship and close alliance, but also the lines of ritual and social purity. What is to be avoided is selfishness, which excludes the less fortunate people and the expectation of the reward that comes with reciprocity.

Ultimately, the reason behind this change of ethos is the host of the eternal banquet: God. God wants everyone to have a place at the banquet in his heavenly kingdom. To miss out on that banquet is the greatest tragedy. The people at the margins of society have a powerful patron: God. To include them in a table fellowship here on earth is to assure oneself of a place of honour in heaven.

Fr Gil Alinsangan SSP

**JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY  
RESOURCES**  
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# THE SAVING WORD

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time / C

28 August 2016

## FIRST READING Sir 3:17-20, 28-29

**A reading from the book of Sirach**

*Humble yourself and you will find favour with the Lord.*

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver. The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud man's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him. The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

## RESP PSALM Ps 67:4-7, 10-11. R. cf. v. 11

**R. God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.**

1. The just shall rejoice at the presence of God, / they shall exult and dance for joy. / O sing to the Lord, make music to his name; / rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. **R.**
2. Father of the orphan, defender of the widow, / such is God in his holy place. / God gives the lonely a home to live in; / he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. **R.**
3. You poured down, O God, a generous rain: / when your people were starved you gave them new life. / It was there that your people found a home, / prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. **R.**

## SECOND READING Heb 12:18-19, 22-24

**A reading from the letter to the Hebrews**

*You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God.*

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or



the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 11:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

Take my yoke upon you;  
learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.  
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), **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)**



Congratulations & Welcome to God's Family at St Clement's Parish Josephine Medcalf baptised this weekend.

**Sacramental Program:** We ask you to consider being a catechist for 2017.  
**Confirmation: Saturday 22 October 2016 at 2.30pm and 5.30pm.** With the new appointments of bishops to different locations, our children will be confirmed by Mons. Franco instead of Bishop Mark Edwards.  
 Enrolments for 2017 have begun. If you wish your child to be part of our Sacramental Programme, please email [Cecilia.Tan@cam.org.au](mailto:Cecilia.Tan@cam.org.au) or refer to the parish Website [www.stclementsparishbulleen.org.au](http://www.stclementsparishbulleen.org.au).

**Altar Servers:** Altar Servers: Parents and grandparents encourage your children to be part of this wonderful ministry. Contact: Chris Zordan (98505874) or Cecilia @ [Cecilia.Tan@cam.org.au](mailto:Cecilia.Tan@cam.org.au) or pick up an enrolment form from the foyer.

**Scripture Studies:** Our study and group sharing takes place in the context of prayer and meditation, using the *Lectio Divina* method. Come for some or all the sessions. Italian speaking participants please bring a Bible in Italian. Our next session is: **8th September at 7.00pm** in the Clifton Centre.



## 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.

- September 18: Liturgical/Celebrations (Sacristans, Altar Servers, Readers and Commentators; Music Ministry; projectionists)
- October 16: Administration and Service (Finance Committee/Collectors and Counters/those who clean or do maintenance work; wash linen; arrange flowers; Serve morning tea; FCI)
- December 5: Volunteer Sunday/Outreach: Mass and BBQ.



## 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 : Mary Zotti, Francesco Lepore, Guido Lucci**  
**Death Anniversaries : Oreste Donchi, Jessie Mort, Angelo Del Tondo**  
**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.**  
**May they rest in peace. Amen.**

## PARISH DIARY

Tue 30th Aug @ 4.30pm—Confirmation Classes in the Clifton Centre  
 Fri 2nd Sept @ 9.15am—Fathers day school Mass  
 Sat 3rd Sept @ 10am—Hope Ministry in the Parish Office  
 Sat 3rd Sept @ 4.30pm—Music Rehearsal  
 Tue 6th Sept @ 4.30pm—Confirmation Classes in the Clifton Centre

**Collections Last Weekend**  
 1st Collection (Thanksgiving)  
 Actual — 1,962  
 2nd Collection (Presbytery)  
 Actual — 1,047  
 Many thanks & every Blessing!

## The Archbishop's Father's Day Collection next weekend:

This is the annual collection for retired and sick priests. Please give generously as they have given to us through their selfless care of God's people.

## Why is it Important to Preserve the Marriage Act?

Date : 20th September 2016

Time : 7.30pm

Venue : Clifton Centre, St Clement of Rome, Bulleen

Please check the flyer on the notice board for details.

Ministry	Working with Children Check	Police Check
Finance Committee	No	Yes unless appointment prior to 2007.
Counters	No	No (Not necessary but collection and counting to be done in teams with at least 2 present even in the sacristy.)
Catechist	Yes	Yes
RCIA	Yes	No
Sacrament Preparation Team	Yes	Yes
Children's Liturgy	Yes	Yes
Liturgy Team	Yes	Yes, unless appointment before 2007.
Welcomers	Yes	No
Music Ministry	Yes	No
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	No so long as volunteers are not alone with children in the sacristy.	No
Money Collectors	Yes	No
Readers	Yes	No
Sacristans	No if working as a team	Yes
Volunteer church cleaners	Working while no public access to church is possible.	No
Voluntary gardeners	Yes unless rostered for fewer than 5 days per calendar year.	No
Home visitations and communion to the sick.	Yes	Yes
Home Ministry	Eventually, Yes, with home visitations; funeral and support group; hospitality group.	Yes
Drivers of the frail, elderly and ill to and from Mass and other local shopping journeys	Yes, unless it is a personal favour and not part of parish on a rostered basis	Yes, unless appointment prior to 2007
Volunteers serving meals from parish premises including morning tea or FCI meetings	Yes	No

## Hope Ministry:

Our next session is on **Saturday, 3 Sept 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:

3 September: Developing Skills for Ministry

17 September: Grief Minister as Spiritual Guide

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.

## Piety Stall:

2017 Columban Art Calendars for sale: \$10 each. Limited numbers available.

Melbourne Catholic: Please buy a copy for yourself or as a gift for someone. \$4

Liturgy Roster		Sat 5.30pm	Sun 9am
27 <sup>th</sup> /28 <sup>th</sup> August	<i>Sacristan</i>	Rita Gagliardi	Francis & Gloria Ng
	<i>COMMENTATOR</i>	Paul Sammut	Christine Landsberg
	<i>Reader</i>	Rocco Gagliardi	Tim Landsberg
	<i>Special Ministers</i>	Elroy De Witt	Trish Atherton
		Rita Gagliardi	Grace Canatelli
		Loretta Galante	Anne Fusca
		Corinne Goh	Fulvia Gerasolimo
		Miriam Ho	Gabriella Grande
		Cecilia Lam	Eleanora Mascitti
		Reg Lecordier	Sylvia Mascitti

**A very important concern: Working with Children Check and Police Checks:** Please use the following guide to determine if you need to apply for a Working with Children Check and/or a Police check. The parish will reimburse volunteers who apply for these documents. This is a matter of urgency with checks to be completed and sent to the Archdiocese as soon as possible.

It is important that the Parish follows these protocols and from January 2017, all parishes must comply by Law, the Child Safety Standards. Please refer to the following link regarding the new legislation to which the Parish must comply.  
<http://www.cam.org.au/Professional-Standards/Child-Protection-legislation.aspx>

We ask for volunteers who are computer literate to leave your contact with the parish office so a day and time can be organized for updating the records of all volunteers, including the renewal of both the WCC and the Police Check. Please check the parish website for the documents relevant to the Professional Standards/Child Protection legislation. A hard copy of the documents is available in the office.