

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

15 November 2015

WAITING IN JOYFUL HOPE

On the penultimate Sunday of the liturgical year, the Church invites her children to focus on the *eschaton*, on the last realities: death, afterlife, judgement, reward and punishment. The Bible teaches that everything in the present order of this world will pass away. But God will establish something new and definite. The "old heaven" will be taken away and replaced with a new one. The Israelites believed that eschatology would usher in the "the end times" and a new order would follow, brought about by the Messiah, the glorious agent of God. In Jesus' time, people believed that eschatology would involve the overthrow of the Roman power which was subduing the nation of Israel. The dead would then be raised up, and a glorious life would follow.

Saul of Tarsus, while still a Pharisee, considered that the early Christian preaching that Jesus was raised by God from the dead was absurd and a great lie. If Jesus were indeed the Messiah, then the *eschaton* had arrived! But where were the glorious signs? The Romans continued to oppress the people. Corruption, injustice, and oppression still reigned. And how could Jesus be the Messiah when he died on the cross? God's curse rests on him who hangs on a tree (*Deut 21: 23*).

But on the way to Damascus, Saul was "arrested" by Christ. Saul saw him as the Glorious One, and immediately realised that what the believers preached about him was true: that Jesus is indeed the Messiah, and that the *eschaton* has begun.

And yet the glorious signs of eschatology are not yet fully realised. That will happen only on the Day of the Lord – the *Parousia* – when Christ will come again. Until that day, the Christians are living in an interim period. They are assured of God's salvation, but they must work out this salvation with fear and trembling (*Phil 2: 12*). But the surety of Christ's coming should fill them with hope.

Fr Gil Alinsangan SSP

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.

RESP 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

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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)

RCIA : 'Welcoming God'

God comes to us disguised as our life is a maxim which is thoroughly Catholic. This is a belief that within our own story, with all of its longings and limitations, its dreams and its pain, its pettiness and occasional grandeur lies the whisper of a Gentle God speaking a word of love to us. That Whisper comes from the deep core of our life calling us to all the fullness of who we can be. (Tony Doherty : So you're seeking to renew your Faith)
Come on Thurs 19 Nov at 7pm to the Parish Office where the RCIA team will explore issues arising from the recent Synod on the Family as a way of understanding how we can welcome God.

ST CLEMENT'S FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS

SCHOOL FETE—11AM—2PM FRIDAY 20TH NOV
FEAST DAY MASS—11AM SUNDAY 22ND NOV
FEAST DAY BYO MULTI-CULTURAL LUNCH—SUNDAY 22ND NOV

Baptism Welcoming

This weekend we welcome :
Sienna Lizzi, Chelsea Considine, Isabella Mercuri, Eleanor & Julian Keenan and their families.
Let us remember them in our prayers.



Wishing you every blessing for the Christmas Season



Christmas Mass Time Table - 2015

Friday 18th December
7.30pm Parish Reconciliation Service

Thursday 24th December
5.30pm Family Mass, 8.00pm Italian Vigil, 11.30pm Carols and 12.00 Midnight Mass

Friday 25th December
9.00am Mass & 11.00am Mass in Italian

Weekend Masses as per usual

St Clement of Rome Catholic Parish, Egan Drive, Bulleen
Parish Priest : Monsignor Franco Cavarra - Tel : 9850 3262

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS

Mass Times: Sat 5:30pm (Vigil), Sun - 9am, 11am (Italian) & 5.30pm.

Tues 9:15am (Italian), Wed-Sat 9:15am. Eucharistic Adoration: Tues-Sat 8-9am.

Reconciliation: Sat 10am & 6:30pm, Sun 10am (and on request). Marian Devotions: Sat 8.40am.

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

Recently Deceased : Violet Warren

Death Anniversaries : Nicola Nicolazzo, Eleonora Giacobbe, Carmen Imperatrice

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

PARISH DIARY

Sun 15th Nov @ 10am—SVDP meeting in the Clifton Centre
Thurs 19th Nov @ 9.15am—Communion Service
Thurs 19th Nov @ 7pm—RCIA meeting in the Parish Office
Sat 21st Nov @ 5.30pm—Baptisms
Sun 22nd Nov @ 11am—Feast Day Mass
Sun 22nd Nov @ 12.30pm—Baptisms
Sun 22nd Nov @ 1pm—Feast Day Multicultural Lunch in the Clifton Centre
Sun 22nd Nov @ 5.30pm—Baptisms

Collections Last Weekend

1st Collection (Thanksgiving)

Actual — 2,344

2nd Collection (Presbytery)

Actual —1,116

Many thanks & every blessing!

YEAR OF MERCY (8 December 2015 to 20th November 2016)

Preparations are being made for the Parish to engage as fully as possible with the Jubilee Year of Mercy. The theme for the year is: "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." We are invited to receive blessing and pardon from God who consoles, pardons and instills hope. The official proclamation (bull of indiction) of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy is entitled *Misericordiae Vultus* ("The Face of Mercy") it explains how Jesus Christ in word and action reveals the mercy of God. The document can be accessed on:
https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/bulls/documents/papa-francesco_bolla_20150411_misericordiae-vultus.html
IMPORTANT:



*We have obtained 100 copies for the Newspaper for the Jubilee from the Archdiocese. Please take one for each family. The Paper contains interesting articles, puzzles and reflections to cater for all members of the family in preparation of the Year of Mercy.

*Pilgrimage to St. Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 13 December 2015, from 2.30pm where a special holy door of Mercy will be opened by Archbishop Hart.

St. Clement of Rome Parish invites you to:
"ADVENT : AN INTRODUCTION TO THE YEAR OF MERCY"
Thursday, 10 December 2015
7.30PM -9.00PM
The Clifton Centre, St. Clement of Rome Parish, Egan Drive, Bulleen
Presenter: Fr. Chris Monaghan, cp.
RSVP BY FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER 2015
(03) 98503262 OR Cecilia.Tan@cam.org.au

Children's Sacraments :

Enrolments for 2016: We have started taking enrolments for 2016. Please contact the Parish Office or email Cecilia.Tan@cam.org.au
The sequence for the Sacraments for 2016 are as follows: Term One: Reconciliation; Term Two: Eucharist; Term Three: Confirmation.
Duration of Preparation of each sacrament: 10 weeks. Classes will be held every Tuesday after school from 4.00pm to 5.00pm.
Children's Liturgy: Every 2nd and 4th Weekend of each month except during school holidays.
Catechists: If you would like to share your faith with young children, do consider becoming a catechist to help our children grow in their faith through the Sacramental Program.
Email Cecilia.Tan@cam.org.au

LITURGY ROSTERS

	Sat 5.30pm	Sun 9am	Sun 5.30pm
14 th /15 th Nov	Sacristan Rita Gagliardi	Francis Ng	Jan McQueen
	COMMENTATOR May Teh	Mark Gregor	Jan McQueen
	Reader John Bruce	Yamna Taouk	Maria Papalia
	Special Ministers Reg Lecordier	David Mitchell	Loretta Galante
		Maree Marsi	Pam Mitchell
		May Teh	Gloria Ng
			Italo Rigoni
			Nerina Rigoni
			Elsa Waters
			Chris Zordan
21 st /22 nd Nov	Sacristan John Bruce	Francis Ng	Jan McQueen
	COMMENTATOR John Bruce	Yamna Taouk	Jan McQueen
	Reader Rene De La Cruz	Grace Cannatelli	May Teh
	Special Ministers Maree Marsi	Chris Zordan	Miriam Ho
		May Teh	Trish Atherton
		Martin Teh	Anne Fusca
			Rita Gagliardi
			Fulvia Gerasolimo
			Gabriella Grande
			Eleanora Mascitti

Feast Days (16th—21st Nov)

Monday—St Margaret of Scotland—W
St Gertrude—W
Tuesday—St Elizabeth of Hungary
Wednesday—The Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts Peter & Paul, Apostles—W
Saturday—The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Music for Christmas

We are looking for musicians and singers of all abilities to join with our Sunday Evening group to sing at Midnight Mass with Carols beforehand. Practices are from 8pm in the Church on Friday evenings. Please contact Jan McQueen on 0435951774 for more info.