

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready:

you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did not take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, ‘The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him.’ At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, ‘Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out.’ But they replied, ‘There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves.’ They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said ‘open the door for us.’ But he replied, ‘I tell you solemnly, I do not know you.’ So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.’

The Gospel of the Lord

November Masses for deceased



The month of November has traditionally been dedicated to the prayers for the deceased. Please collect the November envelope and write the names of your loved ones you wish to pray for. A daily mass will be offered for them during the month of November.

Vocations Prayer Vigil - Friday 24 November will commence at 5.15pm with the Evening Prayer of the Church and then Mass at the usual time of 5.45pm followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament to conclude with Benediction at 8.15pm. Supper in the hall will follow and conclude the night. All are welcome to join at anytime during the evening to celebrate and discern God’s Call.
Last Pro-Life Mass of this year - Friday 24th November
St Francis of Assisi Church, 59 Newton Road, Newton
7.00pm - Mass
7:30pm - Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Rosary
9.30pm - Solemn Benediction

BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

In this week’s Gospel, Jesus talks about what it means to be prepared to receive the Kingdom of Heaven. This week’s reading follows a series of warnings and predictions by Jesus about the coming of the Son of Man. Jesus wants his disciples to understand that the exact day and time cannot be predicted. He teaches the disciples that they must remain vigilant so that they will not be caught unprepared.

When thinking about the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, it is important to consider the first-century wedding traditions of Palestine. Scholars tell us that it was the custom of the day for young maidens—friends and family members of the bride—to meet the bridegroom when he came to bring his bride to her new home.

As with many of Jesus’ parables, several levels of interpretation are possible. In last week’s Gospel, we heard Jesus warn against following the example of the Pharisees and scribes. If read in the context of early Christianity’s struggle to define itself against Pharisaic Judaism, this parable is a continuing critique of Judaism. It suggests that the Jewish leaders were like the foolish virgins, unprepared to meet Jesus, the bridegroom of Israel.

In the chapter preceding this parable, however, Jesus warns about the destruction of Jerusalem, the tribulation of the end times, and the coming of the Son of Man. When read in this context, today’s parable is a warning to the Christian community to remain vigilant and prepared to receive Jesus, the Son of Man who will return at the end of time. This interpretation is supported by the reference to the delay of the bridegroom. The Christian community for whom Matthew wrote this Gospel was coming to terms with the realization that the promise of Jesus’ return would not be fulfilled within their lifetimes. The question remains for us to ask ourselves, Are we ready to receive Jesus? Will we be prepared to receive him?

ROSTERS FOR VOLUNTEERS 2024

Thanks to all the volunteers who have regularly served our parish in 2023. We are preparing the Roster for 2024. Please contact the parish office, if you need to make any changes, or if you will not be able to stay on the roster.
Please contact the Parish Office before Sunday 19th Nov 2023. Ph: (08) 8431 6932, email: info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au; or in person (Office hours: Tue-Fri 9:30am-12:30pm).



Parish Bulletin

32nd Sunday Ordinary Time, Year A

11-12 Nov 2023

Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.



KEEP YOUR LAMPS BURNING
We human beings need fuel to keep going. Without food and drink we become weak and eventually die. Our spiritual life also needs fuel, namely the body and blood of Christ in the Eucharist. We are nourished also by prayer, the Scriptures, the community and by loving others. If we seek this nourishment regularly our light will be shining brightly when Christ comes in glory.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
Ps 87:3

Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2024

If you have children who would want to enrol in the Sacramental Program in 2024, please contact the Parish Office on 8431 6932 or info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au, on or before Wed 15 Nov 2023.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Wisdom 6:12-16

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
Ps 62:2-8

Response: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

- 1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. **R**
- 2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. **R**
- 3. So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R**
- 4. On my bed I remember you. On you I muse through the night for you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. **R**

SECOND READING
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord’s own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord’s coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them; to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The word of the Lord.

St Joseph's Catholic Church
484 Magill Rd, Kensington Gardens
SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5068

Parish Priest
Fr Roy John Elavumkal SMM
parishpriest@stjosephsparish
tranmere.org.au

Parish Secretary
Pat Kwok – Tue to Fri

Planned Giving Coordinator
Helen Mysak – Monday

WHS Officer
Angela Girolamo – Thursday

Sacristan
Sundays: Terence Yeow
& Roger Worth

Parish Office Hours
Mon to Fri 9:30am – 12:30pm
Ph: (08) 8431 6932
info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

Mass Times

Sunday 9:30 am
Saturday Vigil Mass 6:30 pm
Tuesday to Friday 9:15 am

Confessions

Saturday 6:00 pm

Rosary

Tues to Fri 8:45am

Adoration of the Eucharist
Friday before Mass 8:30am

Novena to St. Joseph
Wednesday after Mass

St. Joseph's Primary School
Principal - Adrian Grbin
Ph: 8431 2834

Knights of the Southern Cross
Michael Boyle Ph: 8337 3270

Parish Pastoral Council
Chair – Alan Tyson
Parish Finance Council
Chair -Edward Konieczny

Child Safe Contact Person
Anne Dudzinski Ph: 0418 847 804

Vinnies Assistance Hotline
1300 729 202 - 9:00am to 4:30pm

Rosters—18-19 Nov2023 33rd Sunday Ordinary Time	
Time	Commentator/Readers
6.30pm Vigil	Annie Marie Platten Chris Platten Giulia Giuliani
9:30am	Stephanie Roach Grace Yeow Maureen Fernando
Children's Liturgy	Suanne Antonetta
Count team	Julie Priem Leo Priem Anne Dudzinski George Dudzinski
Altar and Flowers	Dolores Arboit Christina Wong Sarita Ingham and volunteers
All those who have volunteered please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start time and report to the commentator for that Mass	

SUNDAY COLLECTION SUMMARY	4-5 Nov 2023
Planned Giving (Envelopes & Electronic)	\$388.00
Open Plate	\$396.00
PARISH TOTAL	\$784.00

This week's contribution to the Diocesan Presbytery Fund : \$626.00

MEMORIAL MASS FOR DECEASED BISHOPS, CLERGY & RELIGIOUS Wed November 15 at 5.45pm in St Francis Xavier's Cathedral. All are welcome to attend a Mass in honour of all deceased Bishops, Clergy and Religious in our Archdiocese. For more information contact Archdiocesan Events on 8210 8220 or via email events@adelaide.catholic.org.au.

YOUNG ADULT SUMMER ECO CAMP FEB 7-12, 2024 This four-day event is for students and any young adults (18-35) who have a concern for the care of Earth. Participants will engage with the local natural environment, hear inspiring speakers and have time to reflect and share. Through attentiveness to Earth and each other, it is envisaged that participants will feel empowered to act for the care of our planet with hope. For more details see <https://jisa.org.au/2024-young-adult-summer-eco-camp/>



Please remember in your prayers
We pray for those listed and all the deceased relatives and friends of our Parishioners.

Death Anniversary:
Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; present them to God the Most High.

Sick:
We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish and our relatives and friends who are unwell.

If you know of sick or elderly parishioners who are house-bound or in care and would appreciate a visit, please phone and leave a message with the parish office.

Pope Francis @pontifex
In every personal or social situation or circumstance of our life, the Lord is present. He calls to us to live in our own time, to share our lives with others, to mix in with the joys and sorrows of the world.

MORNING TEA
After Sunday Mass
12 Nov 2023
Please come and join us!

WELCOME
Camilla CAPALDO
To God's family through Baptism

BAPTISM
Our prayers and blessings to you and your family

PRAY FOR THE DEPARTED SOULS

Fr. Roy John Elavumkal SMM

Ancient belief supported by Church tradition: People of all religions have believed in the immortality of the soul and have prayed for the dead: 1) The Jews, for example, believed that there was a place of temporary bondage from which the souls of the dead would receive their final release. The Jewish catechism *Talmud* states that prayers for the dead will help to bring greater rewards and blessings to them. Prayer for the souls of the departed is retained by the Orthodox Jews today who recite a prayer known as the *Mourner's Kaddish* for eleven months after the death of a loved one so that he/she may be purified. 2) First century practice: Jesus and the apostles shared this belief and passed it on to the early Church. "Remember us who have gone before you, in your prayers," is a petition often found inscribed on the walls of the Roman catacombs (*Lumen Gentium*-50). 3) The liturgies of the Mass in various rites dating from the early centuries of the Church include "Prayers for the Dead."

Theological reasoning: According to Rv 21:27: "nothing unclean shall enter Heaven." Holy Scripture (Prv 24:16) also teaches that even "the just sin seven times a day." Since it would be contrary to the mercy of God to punish such souls with venial sins in Hell, they are seen as entering a place or state of purification, called *Purgatory*, which combines God's justice with His mercy. This teaching is also contained in the doctrine of the *Communion of Saints*.

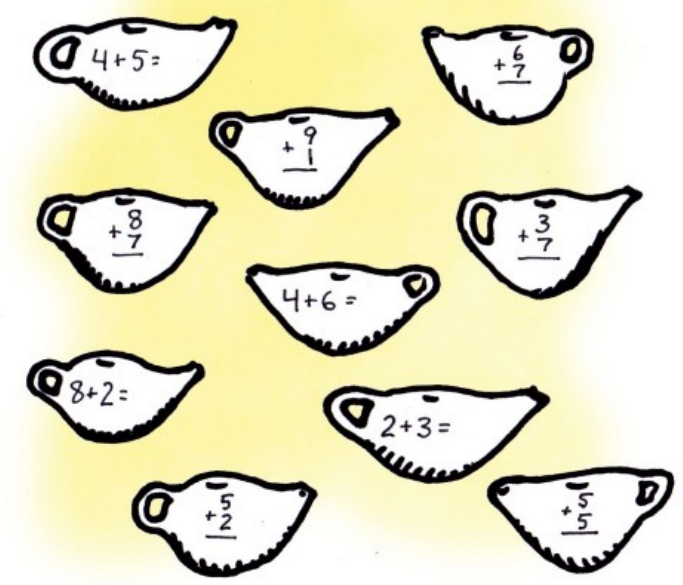
Biblical evidence: 1) 2 Maccabees, 12:46 is the main Biblical text incorporating the Jewish belief in the necessity of prayer and sacrifice for the dead. The passage (2 Mc 12:39-46), describes how Judas, the military commander, "took up a collection from all his men, totalling about four pounds of silver and sent it to Jerusalem to provide for a sin offering" (2 Mc 12:43). The narrator continues, "If he had not believed that the dead would be raised, it would have been foolish and useless to pray for them." 2) St. Paul seems to have shared this traditional Jewish belief. At the death of his supporter Onesiphorus, he prayed: "May the Lord grant him mercy on that Day" (2Tm: 1:18).

The Church's teaching: The Church's official teaching on Purgatory is plain and simple. There is a place or state of purification called *Purgatory*, where souls undergoing purification can be helped by the prayers of the faithful (Council of Trent). Some modern theologians suggest that the fire of Purgatory is an intense, transforming encounter with Jesus Christ and his fire of love. They also speak of Purgatory as an "instant" purification immediately after death, varying in intensity from soul to soul, depending on the state of each individual.

How do we help the "holy souls"? The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* recommends prayer for the dead in conjunction with the offering of the Eucharistic Sacrifice and also encourages "almsgiving, indulgences, and works of penance undertaken on behalf of the dead" (CCC #1032). Let us not forget to pray for our dear departed, have Masses offered for them, visit their graves, and make daily sacrifices for them. God can foresee and apply the merits of our prayers, penances, and works of charity, even years after their death, done for our departed dear ones, in favour of our deceased dear ones, at the moment of their deaths.

The Kids' Bulletin

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 12th, 2023



In today's parable, ten bridesmaids are waiting with their lamps. How many of them brought extra oil? Figure out the problems on each lamp. Colour in the ones that equal 10 to find out the answer!

Always be Ready

Have you ever thought to yourself that it would be better to have fun and be bad now, and then be good later? That's what some of the bridesmaids in today's parable were like. They only brought enough oil for their lamps, and didn't bother to bring any extra. But the other bridesmaids had been wise and took along extra flasks to refill their lamps when it got late. When the bridegroom came, those who hadn't brought extra oil were gone, getting more oil, and missed the feast!



Sometimes people say that they have lots of time to change from their evil ways, so they don't repent right away. This parable shows us that it is very foolish to leave important things until later. Nobody knows when they will die, so we should always be ready.

The oil of the bridesmaids is like the grace in our souls. We need to make sure that our soul always has sanctifying grace, which we need to get into Heaven. We lose that grace when we do a serious sin. That is why if we ever commit a serious sin, we should go to confession as soon as we can so that we will always have grace and be ready for when we die.



Answer to front puzzle: 5 had extra oil. Answer to Word-Find: My soul thirsts for Thee.