

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of Heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out.

‘The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

‘Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. “Sir,” he said “you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made.”

‘His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master’s happiness.”

‘Next the man with the two talents came forward. “Sir,” he said “you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master’s happiness.”

‘Last came forward the man who had the one talent. “Sir,” said he “I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back.” But his master answered him, “You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.”

The Gospel of the Lord

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.

BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

This week’s Gospel speaks of how Jesus’ disciples are to conduct themselves as they await the Kingdom of Heaven. In the preceding passages and in last week’s Gospel, Jesus taught that there is no way to predict the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven. His disciples must, therefore, remain vigilant and ready to receive the Son of Man at any time.

Jesus’ parable talks about Christian discipleship using economic metaphors. Before he leaves on a journey, the master entrusts to his servants a different number of talents, giving to each according to their abilities. A *talent* is a coin of great value. Upon the master’s return, he finds that the first and second servants have doubled their money, and both are rewarded. The third servant, however, has only preserved what was given to him because he was afraid to lose the money. He has risked nothing; he did not even deposit the money in a bank to earn interest. This servant is punished by the master, and his talent is given to the one who brought the greatest return.

Read in light of last week’s parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids, this parable teaches that God’s judgment will be based on the service we render to God and to one another in accordance with the gifts that God has given to us. Our gifts, or talents, are given to us for the service of others. If we fail to use these gifts, God’s judgment on us will be severe. On the other hand, if we make use of these gifts in service to the Kingdom of Heaven, we will be rewarded and entrusted with even more responsibilities.

This Gospel reminds us that Christian spirituality is not passive or inactive. Our life of prayer helps us to discern the gifts that have been given to us by God. This prayer and discernment ought to lead us to use our gifts in the service of God and our neighbor. God’s grace allows us to share in the work of serving the Kingdom of Heaven.

ROSTERS FOR VOLUNTEERS 2024

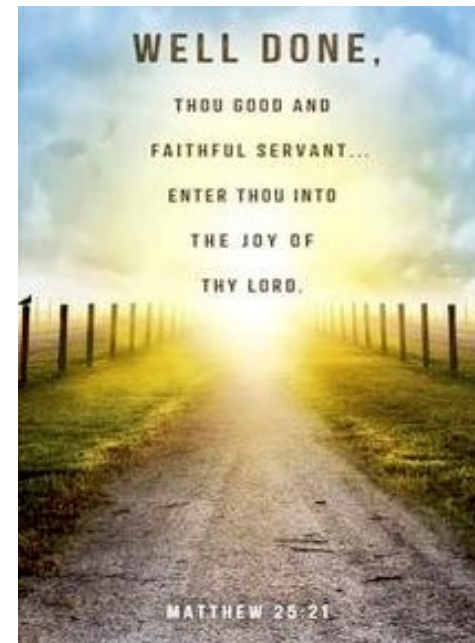
Thanks to all the volunteers who have regularly served our parish in 2023. We are preparing the Roster for 2024. Please contact the parish office, if you need to make any changes, or if you will not be able to stay on the roster. Please contact the Parish Office before Sunday 19th Nov 2023. Ph: (08)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



Parish Bulletin

33rd Sunday Ordinary Time, Year A

18-19 Nov 2023



‘WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT!’

We all have our unique gifts and talents. When we use them well, we enrich our community. We bring joy to ourselves and to others. Let us encourage each other to develop our gifts. Then, together, we will hear our Master say: ‘Well done, good and faithful servants. Come and join in my happiness forever.’

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Jer 29:11,12,14

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

A perfect wife – who can find her?
She is far beyond the price of pearls.
Her husband’s heart has confidence in her,
from her he will derive no little profit.
Advantage and not hurt she brings him
all the days of her life.
She is always busy with wool and with flax,
she does her work with eager hands.
She sets her hands to the distaff,
her fingers grasp the spindle.
She holds out her hand to the poor,
she opens her arms to the needy.
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;
the woman who is wise is the one to praise.
Give her a share in what her hands have worked for,
and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 127:1-5

Response: Happy are those who fear the Lord.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper. **R**
2. Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. **R**
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem all the days of your life. **R**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about ‘times and seasons’, since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, ‘How quiet and peaceful it is’ that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it. But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

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
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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—25-26 Nov2023
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Time	Commentator/Readers
6.30pm Vigil	Josh Page Fil Ciancio Browyn Gleeson
9:30am	Alan Tyson Henry D'Assumpcao Clare Boyle
Children's Liturgy	Tania Loro Montin Angela Mealey
Count team	Andrew Gaal Gail Gaal Saveria Librandi Shane Foley
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	11-12 Nov 2023
Planned Giving (Envelopes & Electronic)	\$578.00
Open Plate	\$427.00
PARISH TOTAL	\$1,005.00

This week's contribution to the Diocesan Presbytery Fund : \$630.00

Ladies Lunch
on last Sunday 12 Nov 2023

Million Thanks and Congratulations to The Knights of the Southern Cross, Hectorville-Tranmere Branch.

The Ladies Lunch has been successfully held at St Joseph's Parish Hall last Sunday. A Big Thank You to the sponsors and the 52 wonderful ladies who attended the lunch. You all made it a meaningful afternoon filled with delicious food and happiness.



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

Death Anniversary:
Giovanni & Carmela Parletta,
Carmine & Carmela Parletta

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
As young people, you are the joyful hope of the Church and of a humanity always on the move. I would like to take you by the hand and walk with you on the path of hope.

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/>

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.

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*.

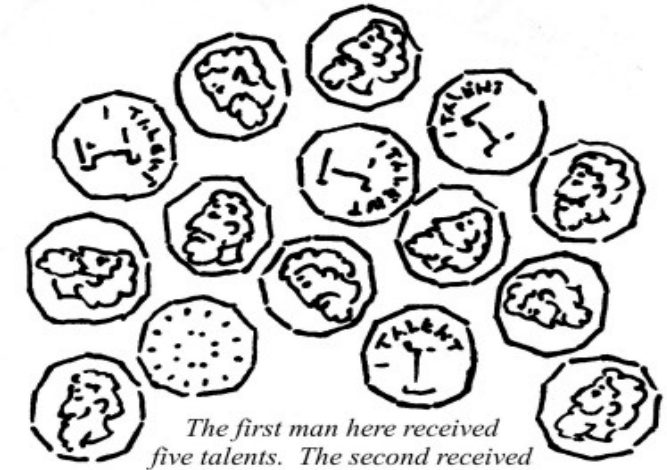
Biblical evidence: 1) 2 Maccabees, 12:46 is the main Biblical text incorporating the Jewish belief in the necessity of prayer and sacrifice for the dead. The passage (2 Mc 12:39-46), describes how Judas, the military commander, "took up a collection from all his men, totalling about four pounds of silver 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

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 19th, 2023



The first man here received five talents. The second received two and the third man one. When the master returned, how many did each man have? Colour them this way to find out:



Colour the coins with faces gold.



Colour the coins with letters silver.



Colour the coin with dots bronze.

Use Your Talents!

God has given each of us talents, or things that we're good at. In today's parable, Jesus tells about a master who gave three of his servants large amounts of money, which were also called talents. Two of the men used the talents and earned more, but one just hid his talent and didn't use it at all. When the master returned he rewarded the men who had used theirs, but punished the man who hadn't.



Play nicely there, boys!

Some people have many talents and can do lots of good things. Other people can only do a few things well. But no matter what you can do, God wants you to do your best.



Hi! Are you new here?

What are some things you're good at? What are some things you are not very good at? Rather than think about the things we can't do, we should be happy to do the things we can, and do them for God! Some people are good at drawing or writing. They can make people happy and teach people about God by drawing pictures or writing stories or letters. Some people are good at talking to people and making friends. They can show God's love and make people happy. Some people have a talent of being patient with others, and show Jesus' love that way. What are your talents? How can you use them to bring people closer to God?



I can give this to Grandma who is sick.

Answers to front page: The first man had ten, the second had four and the third man one.
Answer to picture puzzle: Top, left to right: 6, 2, Middle: 4, 1, Bottom: 3, 5.