THE SAVING WORD

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A — 25 OCTOBER 2026

FIRST READING

Ex 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

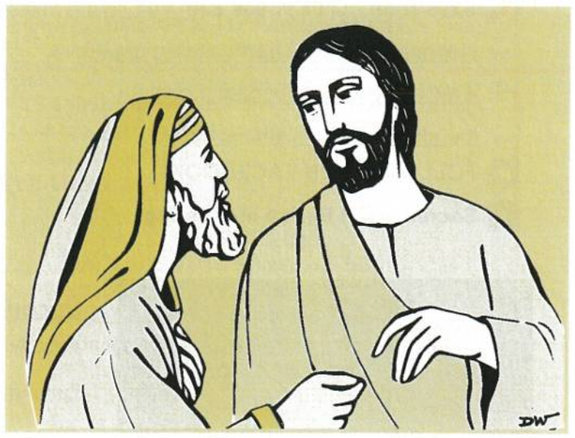
RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51. R. v. 2

R. **I love you, Lord, my strength.**

1. I love you, Lord, my strength, / my rock, my fortress, my saviour. / My God is the rock where I take refuge; / my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. / The Lord is worthy of all praise: / when I call I am saved from my foes. R.

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock! / Praised be the God who saves me. / He has given great victories to his king / and shown his love for his anointed. R.



SECOND READING

1 Thess 1:5-10

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia! / All who love me will keep my words, / and my Father will love them and we will come to them. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

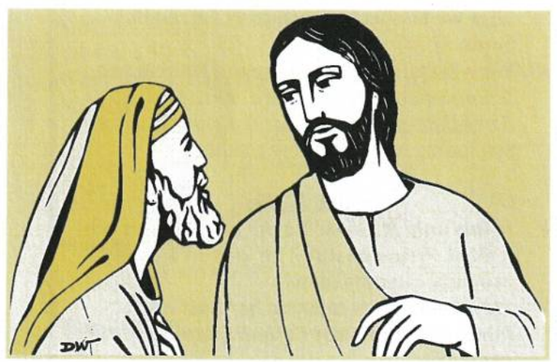
Mt 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**



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Breaking Open the Word

THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

As with last Sunday's Gospel, we find ourselves again on the Temple Mount—the sacred place where the Torah was taught and people were encouraged to live its demands and invitations. As Matthew's Gospel approaches its concluding chapters, however, the Temple also becomes the arena for another trial, continuing from last Sunday. Jesus' religious opponents set theological traps, seeking to expose him as an imposter and false teacher. This time the question concerns the greatest of the 613 commandments discerned in the Torah. It is a formidable test. Throughout his Gospel, Matthew presents Jesus to a Jewish community of followers living decades after the Galilean ministry of Jesus. The teaching Matthew records in the mid-80s CE reaches back to the original teaching of Jesus in the 30s.

Both then and now, Jesus draws upon the Torah to identify the two commandments that stand at the heart of faithful living. The first comes from Deuteronomy: to love God with one's whole being—heart, soul and mind. This command was so central to Jewish faith that it was symbolically carried on the body, clothing and doorposts of the home, and recited frequently each day in prayer. From this all-encompassing love of God flows the second commandment: to love one's neighbour as oneself. The two cannot be separated. Love of God finds its expression in how we love and treat others.

These commandments remain at the heart of our Christian heritage. They continue to shape our relationship with God and with one another, calling us beyond religious observance alone into a life grounded in love.

Fr Michael Trainor

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FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

Sacred Heart Parish Mundaring

"To grow in discipleship of Jesus and go make disciples"

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Katie Hunt:
katie@merussound.com
Or: safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au



Ordinary Time

SUNDAY MASSES:

Saturday Vigil – **6.00pm** @ Sacred Heart

Sunday – **7.30am** @ Our Lady of Good Counsel, Chidlow
– **9.30am** @ Sacred Heart

Weekday Masses:
Tuesday 8.30am
Wednesday 8.00am & **9.00am** Class Mass
Thursday 8.30am
7.00pm Men's prayer group
1st & 3rd wk of the month
Friday 8.30am
9.00am Adoration, Confession
Saturday 8.30am
9.00am Rosary & Cenacle

Reconciliation:
Friday 9.00am (Sacred Heart)
Saturday 9.00am (Sacred Heart)
1st Wednesday of the month 12-1.00pm
(Our Lady of Good Counsel, Chidlow)
Or any time by request

Parish Cuppa:
Mundaring: 1st Weekend of the Month
Chidlow: Following each Sunday morning Mass ALL WELCOME!

For information about Baptism or other sacraments please visit our website, email or phone the parish.

Upcoming Weekday Mass Feasts:

Wednesday St's Simon and Jude, Apostlesp2095

Saturday Morning Votive Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary, p2224 Blue Missal

NEXT WEEKEND:

Saturday **All Saints Vigil** + Parish function

Sunday **Solemnity of All Saints**

Sunday **3pm Blessing of Graves** (and Rosary) at **Mundaring Cemetery**

Monday 9am Mass of **All Souls**

PARISH ACCOUNT DETAILS:
1st Collection: Priest upkeep
'The Roman Catholic Archbishop'
BSB: 086006
A/C #: 985196641

SCAN ME

You can head to our website and securely donate online. Simple and easy.

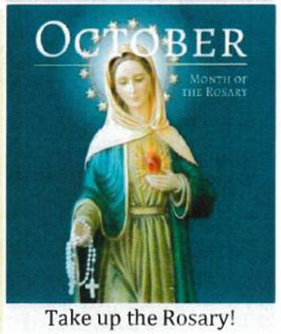
2nd Collection: Parish upkeep
'The Roman Catholic Archbishop'
BSB: 086006
A/C #: 673418807

Card facilities at the back of the Church for your convenience.

PRAYER CORNER

Prayer Intentions for the sick

Trevor Clark
Eric Nordberg
Bonnie Brown
Helen Ball
Nancy Dawes
Andrew Azzaro
Tess Howden
Bill Makely



Take up the Rosary!

NEWS, EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS

A GREAT IDEA FOR NOVEMBER MASS INTENTIONS:

Would you like a Mass or a series of Masses offered in memory of a loved one? Would you like to support missionary priests in persecuted communities to continue the work of the God's Kingdom in places like Syria, Iraq, Mozambique?

You can send an intention along with a stipend in gratitude for their ministry, which is also a practical way to unite yourself to the sacrificial nature of the Mass.

SCAN ME

Flyers are in the foyers, but you can simply scan the above QR or head to their website:
https://aidtochurch.org/ways-to-give/mass-offerings

"We have loved them during life; let us not abandon them in death, until we have conducted them by our prayers into the House of the Lord." - St Ambrose

(Early Christian bishop and mentor to St Augustine)

Help one of the 40000+ poor priests and their needy missionary communities

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NOVEMBER MASSES

Names to be remembered at Masses through the **month of November** can be placed in the box by the statue of Our Lady. While its not always practical to read out every single name or intention, Fr Stephen will be praying for them at the altar in Masses in November.

MEN'S GROUP DINNER

This Thursday Oct 29th, 6pm @ Mundaring Hotel

An open evening and invitation for men to join for Christian fraternity and fellowship.



COFFEE AND CONVERSATION gathering at 1045, after the 930am Sunday Mass:

The Jews would celebrate at Pentecost the giving of the law of God as a great gift! Sometimes it's a challenge for us to find the 'Good News' in the law of God. Come learn about how the 6th and 9th commandment are linked, how to discuss them with others, and what can be the more subtle moral implications and virtues involved in Christian life in this area.

Sacred Heart Parish invites families to celebrate

All Hallows E'en!

Discover the ancient, authentic & beautiful celebration of All Saints

OCTOBER 31st FAMILY EVENT.
Evening Vigil of All Hallows or All Saints.

It's a first Sunday weekend, so feel free to bring something to share. But pray about who you can invite to this fun event. For those being dropped off there is a parent permission form.

WHAT'S ON?

- **7pm** A substantial dinner will be provided with kids getting first dibs on ***PIZZA*** specially brought in. *Yum!*
- Soon after, a **short 15min movie** on the life of St Therese of Lisieux. Children act out all the roles and its very entertaining and edifying for us grown ups too!
- **Dessert** will be served.
- Then a chance to chat about the movie, the feast of All Saints, and be inspired by the surprising and beautiful Christian origins of many traditions right under our noses for this feast!
- People can take home a limited edition traditional soul cake – but as per tradition, after we take a chance to **pray** for the Holy Souls. :)
- We will start to pack up around **815ish**, but before heading home, there are some *Saint-themed* loot bags for the kids. Each treat reminding us of a different saint!

SOME FAQS:

- ***Is this only for kids?*** No. All parishioners are invited. Please do RSVP for kids so we can properly cater for them.
- ***My friend wants to bring her kids and family, but she's not Catholic, can they still come?*** Yes. This is a great event to invite extended family or friends to.
- ***Should I bring something?*** You can bring something to share for dinner as is the 1st Sunday weekend custom, but extra food will be provided for dinner, with pizza brought in specially for the kids.
- ***Can I bring kids/grandkids just from the 7pm dinner onwards?*** Yes. We understand they might be out with friends earlier.

To assist catering, especially for children, **please RSVP to Fr Stephen:**
mundaring@perthcatholic.org.au