

**GOSPEL**

Mt 22:1-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants. "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

*Shorter form, Mt 22: 1-10*

■ **A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

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# Reflections on the Gospel



# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

11 OCTOBER 2020

## INVITED TO THE BANQUET OF LIFE

The parable of the Wedding Banquet symbolises the story of salvation. The banquet represents God's intent for human beings, which is simply to have us as honoured guests at the banquet of life. The bridegroom is Jesus. The servants sent out to issue the invitations are, first, the Old Testament prophets and then Christian missionaries. The response of the king to those who rejected the invitations reflects early Christian belief that the fall of Jerusalem in 70 CE was retribution for failure to accept Jesus as Messiah. The new invitees from the highways and byways are Gentiles (non-Jews) who have joined the Church in large numbers.

We should not too readily identify the king in the parable with God. Jesus takes illustrations from life as it is, using aspects of the way people, including kings, behave to illustrate what he wants to convey.

The parable thus serves as an *explanation* of otherwise disturbing developments. Israel's *No* to the Gospel and the fact that the Church includes bad members as well as good has all been foreseen by the Lord.

What about the poor wretch caught out for not wearing a wedding garment? The wedding garment symbolises transformation of life. You don't have to be good to *get into* the community of the Kingdom: the invitation to the banquet is a great net of grace enclosing all, good and bad alike. But, *once within*, we must allow the grace we have received to transform us and make us worthy of final salvation, God's invitation to the banquet of life.

**Brendan Byrne, SJ**

## FIRST READING

Isa 25:6-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.*

On this mountain,  
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people  
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine  
wines,  
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.  
On this mountain he will remove  
the mourning veil covering all peoples,  
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,  
he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord will wipe away  
the tears from every cheek;  
he will take away his people's shame  
everywhere on earth,  
for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said: See, this is our God  
in whom we hoped for salvation;  
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.  
We exult and we rejoice  
that he has saved us;  
for the hand of the Lord  
rests on this mountain.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22. R. v. 6

**R. I shall live in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is nothing  
I shall want. / Fresh and green are the  
pastures / where he gives me repose. / Near  
restful waters he leads me, / to revive my  
drooping spirit. **R.**

2. He guides me along the right path; / he  
is true to his name. / If I should walk in the  
valley of darkness / no evil would I fear. / You  
are there with your crook and your staff; /  
with these you give me comfort. **R.**



3. You have prepared a banquet for me / in the  
sight of my foes. / My head you have anointed  
with oil; / my cup is overflowing. **R.**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow  
me / all the days of my life. / In the Lord's own  
house shall I dwell / for ever and ever. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Phil 4:12-14, 19-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the  
Philippians

*I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.*

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich  
too. I have been through my initiation and now  
I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach  
or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is  
nothing I cannot master with the help of the  
One who gives me strength. All the same, it was  
good of you to share with me in my hardships.  
In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in  
Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory  
to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Eph 1:17, 18

**Alleluia, alleluia! / May the Father of our  
Lord Jesus Christ / enlighten the eyes of  
our heart, / that we might see how great  
is the hope / to which we are called. /  
Alleluia!**



**Sacred Heart Parish Church**  
 Roman Catholic Diocese of Armidale  
 81 Vivian St. Inverell, NSW 2360 (P. O. Box 107)  
 Email: inverellparish@armidale.catholic.org.au  
 Phone 67221103  
**PRIESTS: FR JAMES POOVATHINKAL MS.**  
 P.P., VF  
 PPC Chair: Mrs Sharon Hollis  
 Holy Trinity Principal: Mrs Jillian Rainger—67224066  
 Parish Secretary: Marion Fitzgerald—67221103. Office Hours  
 Mon & Fri 8am—1pm; Thurs 8am—12 noon

**PARISH MASS TIMES**

**Sacred Heart Church Inverell**  
 Saturday 6.00pm  
 Sunday 9.00am

Monday, Tuesday and 1st Saturday 9.30am  
 Wednesday and Thursday 12 noon  
 1st Friday Mass and Benediction 12 noon  
 First Wednesday Anointing Mass (**suspended**) 12 noon

**McLean Village** Each Friday except 1st Friday 11.00am  
 (**suspended**)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
 Saturday 8.15am - 9.15am  
 Sunday 8.00am - 8.30am

**Tingha** St. Francis' Church Saturday 4.00pm  
**Ashford** St Patrick's Church 1st & 3rd Sunday 11.00am

**Bundarra** St Mary of the Angels 2nd & 4th Sun 11.00am

**Yetman** St Joseph the Worker 5th Sunday 11.30am

**Baptism (Saturday only) 11am;**  
**Marriages and Funerals by Appointment**  
 For emergencies please phone 0428-126703



**PARISH SCHEDULE THIS WEEK**

THE HOLY MONTH OF THE ROSARY

MON 12th Oct Rosary 9.00am  
**Mass 9.30am**

TUE 13th Oct Rosary 9.00am  
**Mass 9.30am**

WED 14th Oct Rosary 11.30am  
**Mass 12 noon**

THUR 15th Oct Rosary 11.30am  
**Mass 12 noon**  
 (Feast of Saint Theresa of Jesus)

FRI 16th Oct **School Mass 9.15am**

SAT 17th Oct **No morning mass**

During Covid 19 restrictions, attendance at weekday Mass fulfils your Sunday obligations.

**OUR VISION AND OUR MISSION**  
 We as a PARISH, try to live out our  
**VISION:** To continually form a Christ-centred community based on the Gospel Values expressed through SERVICE in peace, justice and love.  
**MISSION:** To know Christ more, His life and His teachings. To imbibe Christ's message of love and service. To try to share generously what graces and blessings we have and to be instruments of the Gospel message.

**Mass Intentions for the Week**

**Souls in Purgatory, Geoff & Peg McCosker, Leigh & Chris Walsh, Elizabeth Khoury (niece of Eileen Hanna), Richard Neilson, Patricia Durkin.**

**WE PRAY FOR THE SICK**  
 Wayne Jones, Emma Donaldson, Wayne Lackey, Tony Starr, Mary Kramer, Leo Germany, Baby Isabel Akhil, Terry Hopgood, Joan Hiscox, Paul Saint, Kerrie O'Keefe, Sr Leo (Josie) Clancy, Alana Goldman, Rhonda Lee Watts (daughter of Phyllis Nichols) John Sanders, David Sanders, Rex Parry, Jeanette Rennie, Danny Dickins, Katrina Newbigin, Bob Kneipp. Brian Barker, Dorothy Ball, Denise Taveira, Joanne Essey, Graham Tom, Fred Boight, Agnes Hannigan **and the sick members of our parish whose names are not listed here.**

**We Pray for the Recently Deceased & for the Anniversaries of**  
 Betty Meehan (mother of Di Noble), Dennis Caringal (Brother of Ronnie Redondo) Ron Hedley (brother of Sister Coral), Sister Jan Cetta RSJ, Elizabeth Khoury (niece of Eileen Hanna), Barbara Haefey, Kevin William James, Peter Koch (brother of Pat Bailey), Valerie Beveridge, Malcolm John Lane, Sister Kathleen Price RSJ, Theresa Fitzpatrick (niece of Eileen Hanna) Jeremy Norman Campbell.  
**Eternal life grant unto them Oh Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**

**ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER FOR OCTOBER**  
 Maree Chie & Mary Middleton

**COVID 19 SAFETY PLAN FOR OUR PARISH**  
**Mass attendance and Weddings:** One person per 4 square metre distance. The Sacred Heart Church can accommodate 100 worshippers at a time.  
**Funerals:** up to 50 attendees without the 4 square metre rule, provided 'non-household' contacts can maintain 1.5 metre physical distance. Maximum 100. Please sit in the **Allocated Seats** to observe Social Distancing regulations.  
**Contact Sheets:** placed at each opened entrance to the Church. Parishioners attending the Church are required to record their full names. Visitors are required to record their name and contact details. This is a health tracing requirement in case of a Corona Virus outbreak. The sheets will be removed after each Mass and kept confidential.  
**If you are unwell** please stay at home.  
**If you require Home Communion** contact the office.

**11TH OCTOBER 2020 – 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / YEAR A**  
**HOLY MONTH OF THE ROSARY & CATHOLIC MISSIONS**

**THE HOLY ROSARY AT ALL CHURCH SERVICES DURING OCTOBER**

Every day during the month of October, the Holy Rosary will be prayed 20 minutes before each Mass. All are invited to join in.



**HOME ROSARY**

**Tingha** Bernie & Colleen Graham  
 11 Diamond Street  
**Wednesday 14th October at 4.30pm**  
 (Every Wednesday)  
 (Feast of our Lady of the Rosary)

**Inverell** Fred & Jeanette Rennie  
 48 A Bennett Street  
**Wednesday 28th October at 4.00pm**

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

The Parish Pastoral Council is looking for dedicated parishioners to support the work of Father James and the Parish. Nominations will be called for on the weekends of 10th & 11th Oct, 17th & 18th Oct and 24th & 25th Oct. Nomination forms can be collected from the entry to the Church and submitted to the Parish Office or given directly to Father at Mass times. Elections will be held on the weekend of 31 Oct/1 Nov.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Pastoral Council	Monday 12th October	5.00pm
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Due to Covid19 we have suspended some of our Ministries and reduced numbers rostered in others. Thank you for understanding.

	10th OCT—SAT 6PM	11th OCT—SUN 9AM	17th OCT—SAT 6PM	18th OCT—SUN 9AM
<b>ROSTER</b>				
<b>GREETERS</b>	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS
<b>PROJECTOR</b>	SUE SZUMOWSKI	MARY-JANE GUEST	SIMON SMITH	DIANE BRYANT
<b>READERS</b>	PATSY ARMSTRONG	JILLIAN RAINGER	JO KELLY	MARY-JANE GUEST
<b>COMMENTATOR</b>	MARIE WARD	JENNIFER MONIE	PAT MATHER	MARGARET ROBINSON
<b>GIFTS</b>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>
<b>COMMUNION MINISTER</b>	NOELA TURNER	DAN HANNIGAN	SISTER CORAL	JENNIFER MONIE
<b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>
<b>MUSIC MINISTRY</b>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>
<b>CANTOR</b>				
<b>COLLECTION</b>	<i>Collection baskets</i>	<i>are at each of the</i>	<i>entrances to the</i>	<i>Church. Thank you.</i>
<b>MORNING TEA</b>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>	<i>SUSPENDED</i>
<b>COUNTERS</b>		R & G JOHNSON		GREG FLEMING, GREG CHIE

**CATHOLIC MISSION SUNDAY APPEAL**

**Sunday Mass 18th October** is the Catholic Mission Appeal which focuses on the work of the Church in Cambodia in reaching out to those who have been affected by disability, and giving them hope and support to live a fulfilling life.  
 'For the joy of the Lord is your strength'  
 Nehemiah 8:10  
 Thank you for your support.

**PRAYER TO GOD FOR HELP**

God our Father, Creator of the world, almighty and merciful, out of love for us your sent your Son into the world as the doctor of our souls and bodies. Look upon your children who, in this difficult time of confusion and dismay, turn to you seeking strength, salvation and relief. Deliver us from illness and fear, heal our sick, comfort their families, give wisdom to our rulers, energy and reward to our doctors, nurses and volunteers, eternal life to the dead. Do not abandon us in the moment of trial but deliver us from all evil.

We ask this through the intercession of our Blessed Mother, and Saint Joseph, through Christ our Lord. Amen.