

## ST. TIMOTHY'S PARISH NEWS

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## 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C 26 - 27 OCTOBER 2019

Parish Priest / Administrator: Fr. Tony Kerin EV

Secretaries: Millicent (Tuesday: 9am-4pm, Friday: 1pm-5pm),

Corrie (Wednesday-Thursday: 9am - 3pm)



I am really glad I am not like that tax collector.

### Living the Gospel – Competitive prayer!

For the Pharisee, his prayer is a competition. He prays aloud so that others can hear him and be impressed. Perhaps he thinks that God is as impressed as those who look up to him? His prayer is also an opportunity to make himself look good at the expense of another. Certainly, prayer is a time to celebrate with God our triumphs and successes, but above all it is an opportunity to be truly honest with God and with ourselves. The Pharisee's prayer names very good actions and attitudes. What's wrong with his prayer? Where in today's world do you see examples of the Pharisee's attitude?

### From the perspective of ... The Tax Collector

Wouldn't you know it? I thought the Temple would be quiet at this time and I snuck in the back to whisper my prayer to God. But one of the great men, a Pharisee, was there praying. He proudly declared before God his good works. Every word he spoke reminded me of how I fail time and time again to do what is right with God. I realised that I didn't belong in that place. My prayer went out of my head and I muttered a few simple words. Why would God listen to me, a sinner? The prayer of the tax collector is the most honest of prayers. This honesty is what is impressive; not the competitive showing off.

### Gospel Focus – At rights with God

We are told that the tax collector, after his simple prayer, went home 'at rights with God'. What does it mean to be *at rights with God*? It is nothing more and nothing less than the entire Judeo-Christian story. The story of the Old Testament is the story of God calling the people to live in right relationship with God and with one another. The Gospels are the story of Jesus calling all people to a richer understanding of his compassionate Father so that they may once again be *at rights with God*. The story continues and it is our constant challenge to be at rights with God also.

The only attitude on our part, that opens a genuine meeting with God, is one of humility. We should stand naked before the Lord, aware that there is nothing we can bring to God that is not, in the first place, his gift. All that we bring before him that is truly our own is our sinfulness. Faith, is an obedient openness to God's coming in our lives. Prayer should be the living expression of this faith, teaching to trust in the Father who will show his care for us – whatever the difficulties we may have to face. (John Thornhill sm)

**Greg Sunter** worked in Catholic Education (Brisbane) and most recently as a member of the Religious Education team and Mission and Formation team. He is the author of books on adolescent faith, is a regular speaker at youth and evangelisation conferences, and is a retreat and reflection facilitator and presenter

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION CORNER

“...for whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.” (Luke 18:14)

Pride and ego is the root cause of most of our sins. Thinking your time is so valuable, your talent is better than anyone else and your money gives you status is another way of making those things “gods” before God. Remember all those gifts were God-given. Instead we should be humbled by God’s abundant generosity and our hearts should overflow with gratitude.

## VERMONT CHILDREN CENTRE

Vermont Children Centre on the premises of St Timothy School will be opening soon. A funded Kindergarten program will be available. Expressions of interest are being taken. Please call: Celine on (03) 98075208

## **THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL OF EVANGELISATION** is conducting

### **THE LIFE OF MOSES**

WHICH WILL BE HELD AT ST. CLARE’S HALL  
(ACCESS FROM KILLARA STREET, BOX HILL NORTH)  
2-5 NOVEMBER 2019, 9.00 AM - 5.0 PM

The course will take participants through the Schools of Pharaoh, of Midian and of the Desert, to learn specific spiritual and leadership lessons.

RSVP by 28 October. \$80.00 p.p. or \$60.00 concession. Promo Code Gospel for 10% discount for online booking at <https://www.trybooking.com/BCEEY>

### **ROSTERS:**                      **6:00PM**                      **9:30AM**

#### **EUCHARIST MINISTERS**

◆ This Week	S. Samarasundera M. Italiano	L. Cigana D. Hickman A. Yee
◆ Next week	P. Naughtin Sr June	E. Mendes C.L. Tay A. Benedict

#### **PROCLAIMERS**

◆ This Week	C: H. Lobo P: P. Kelly	T. Fernandes A. Lee
◆ Next week	C: P. D’ Cruz P: R. Grealy	B. Ross B. McKenna

#### **COUNTERS**

This Week: Adrian Farrell  
Next Week: Mary Choy / Eileen Tam

### **SACRAMENTS: Contact Parish office for Enquiries & Arrangement**

- ◆ **Baptism:** 1st Sunday of the Month (9:30 AM Mass )
- ◆ **Reconciliation**
- ◆ **Marriage**
- ◆ **Anointing of the Sick**
- ◆ **Funerals**



### **2019 FIRST EUCHARIST, RECONCILIATION & CONFIRMATION**

- ◆ For children attending St. Timothy’s school, preparation for these three sacraments is through the school.
- ◆ For children not attending St. Timothy’s school, preparation and enrollment is through the Parish Office every Tuesday-Thursday: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Friday: 1:00 to 5:00 PM

## **FEASTS OF THE WEEK**

- ◆ 1 November - All Saints’ Day  
(Vietnamese Mass at 7:30 PM)
- ◆ 2 November - All Souls’ Day  
(Vietnamese Mass at 7:30 PM)

Thank You

for your  
kindness  
generosity



### **ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

Just a short note to acknowledge the very generous donation we recently received from the **WHITEHORSE COMMUNITY CHEST APPEAL**. St Timothy’s Conference of St Vincent de Paul received \$3000 from the Community Chest in 2019 and this grant will go a long way to support the people we assist in our area. Our Conference encourages support for the Whitehorse Community Chest Appeal that opens in early May each year.

### **UPDATE ON WORK WITH CHILDREN CHECK**

Thank you to our volunteers who have now complied with the application and/or submission of their Work With Children Check (WWCC).

For others who have yet to comply, the Parish Office is happy to assist. For seamless application we will need

1. Photo ID proof: drivers license **or** passport **or** proof of age obtain from Vic Roads or participating Australia Post (Proof of Age is in absence of a passport or driver’s license) **and**
2. One other ID proof: birth **or** marriage, **or** Australian citizenship certificate **or** Medicare **or** pension card.

WWCC is a state mandated requirement for employees and volunteers of a Religious organisation.

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

Catherine Choy, Cameron Coney, Val Lee, Dullantha Wilarachchi, Maurice Michael, Edgar Francis Fernandes, Paul Curry, John Hicks, Frank Stewart Wattie, Maria Cassano, Stan Brown, Vita Boccaccio, Anna Boccaccio, Eloide Leonardi, Laura Ciritelli, Antonio Villani, Val Lee, Adzel Turcido, Marijan Brysha, Brendan Cleary, Augustine Rozario, Charles Van Haltren.

### **MASS TIMES:**

- ◆ Saturday: 6:00 PM
  - ◆ Sunday: 9:30 AM
  - ◆ Indian Mass: 12:00 NN every 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month
  - ◆ Mass in Vietnamese : 5:00 PM (All Sundays)
  - ◆ Adoration 7:30 PM every 1st Friday of the month
- VIETNAMESE ENQUIRIES: AHN LOC 0434 239 212 or ANH TOAN 0422 295 115.**

### **WEEKDAYS:**

- ◆ 2nd Tuesday of the month, 10:30am (Strathdon)
- ◆ 4th Tuesday of the month, 10:30am (Livingstone)
- ◆ Wednesday & Thursday, 9:15 am
- ◆ 1st Wednesday of the month, 10:00am, Anointing Mass
- ◆ Every Friday, 10:00 am



### **CHURCH CONTINUES TO STRENGTHEN CHILD SAFETY PRACTICES**

On 22 October last year, Prime Minister Scott Morrison and then-opposition leader Bill Shorten delivered apologies on behalf of the Australian people to those who were sexually abused as children. They followed the final report of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, published in December 2017.

Archbishop Coleridge, the president of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, said the Church has made significant progress in responding to the royal commission into child sexual abuse. The Church's ongoing response to its "shameful" history has marked major milestones in the past year. He pointed to some important achievements and initiatives in the time since the Prime Minister's apology.

"Of the 35 Catholic dioceses, all but one has joined the National Redress Scheme, fulfilling a commitment made during the royal commission," he said. "That means more than 99.5 per cent of diocesan ministries, including parishes and diocesan schools, are participating in this important initiative. The remaining diocese plans to join the scheme soon."

In May, the Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia approved the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards, which complement and augment other safeguarding standards in place across the country. "Catholic Professional Standards Limited, which developed the standards with key stakeholders, including children, has begun the process of auditing dioceses, religious congregations and other Church entities to assess how well they comply with those standards," Archbishop Coleridge said.

### **CHURCH ANNOUNCES NATIONAL DROUGHT PRAYER CAMPAIGN**

The Church in Australia is dedicating the month of November as a time to pray for those affected by crippling drought conditions and to pray for the gift of rain. Source: *ACBC Media Blog*.

Parishes, schools, families and other Catholic communities across the country are being encouraged to participate in the National Prayer Campaign for Drought, which also invites people to provide assistance to those most in need.

Wilcannia-Forbes Bishop Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE oversees a diocese that covers about half of New South Wales, including some of the most drought-affected areas in the country. He said the month of prayer is an additional response to the local work being done in affected communities.

"Some of our Catholic ministries, along with other faith-based, charitable and government organizations, are doing remarkable work, supporting people with material needs, offering financial support and responding to people's psychological and spiritual needs," Bishop Macbeth-Green said.

"The National Prayer Campaign must be truly national, noting that the whole country suffers when there is a drought – especially one of this magnitude. The Church needs to be an example of recognizing that reality".

### **POPE: SHARE CHRIST'S LOVE WITH ALL**

Jesus Christ desires that all people know him and his love, and every Catholic has the mission of sharing this love with the world, Pope Francis said at Mass for World Mission Day.

"Those who bear witness to Jesus go out to all, not just to their own acquaintances or their little group. Jesus is also saying to you: 'Go, don't miss a chance to bear me witness!'" the Pope said.

"My brother, my sister, the Lord expects from you a testimony that no one can give in your place," he continued. "May you come to realise what that word is, the message of Jesus that God wants to speak to the world by your life. lest you fail in your precious mission."

He told Catholics to consider whether they take the time to have a personal encounter with the people they run across in their daily lives. "Do we accept the invitation of Jesus or simply go about our own business?" he asked.

The instruction Catholics have received from the Lord to "make disciples" is simple, he said, but care must be taken to make people "his disciples, not our own".

### **VATICAN SENDS MESSAGE OF PEACE TO HINDUS**

Christians and Hindus must show the world that peace is possible, a Vatican official said in a message for the Hindu feast of Diwali that will begin this Sunday.

They must resist pessimism and instead draw from and add to the "a hidden sea of goodness" that convinces many men and women around the world that peace and brotherhood are possible, the message signed by Cardinal Miguel Ayuso Guixot, president of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue said.

The commitment to kindness and goodness "is growing and leads us to hope in the possibility of building, together with the followers of other religions and all men and women of good will, a world of solidarity and peace".

Cardinal Ayuso expressed his hopes that the Diwali "festival of lights" would bring joy to Hindu families and that it also would "strengthen your spirit of fraternity with one another."

### **ROAD BUILT BY PONTIUS PILATE UNCOVERED IN JERUSALEM**

A 2,000-year-old "lost" street built in Jerusalem by Pontius Pilate has been uncovered for the first time since the city was sacked by the Romans in 70 AD.

The ancient walkway most likely used by pilgrims as they made their way to worship at the Temple Mount was first discovered in 1894 by British archaeologists in the "City of David" within the walls of Jerusalem. The road ascends from the Pool of Siloam in the south to the Temple Mount. Both monuments are hugely significant to followers of Judaism and Christianity.

Researchers have now found more than 100 coins beneath the paving stones that date the street to around the year 31AD. The finding provides strong evidence that the street was commissioned by Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor of the province of Judaea, best known for being the official who presided over the trial of Jesus and ordered his crucifixion.

## **INTRODUCTION TO MASS:**

The hypocrisy of virtue. It is easy for religious people to fall into a kind of self-righteousness. They know what commitment demands and distance themselves from what they think might threaten their resolve; and then they pass judgment on those who do not share their values or their success. Jesus extols the humility of the one who admits one's failings and can accept the implications of that admission and who turn to God in that need. If we are too full of ourselves, there is no room for God's grace to work in us.

## **PENITENTIAL RITE:**

Lord Jesus, you humbled yourself for our sake.

Lord, have mercy: **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ Jesus, you teach us to pray.

Christ, have mercy: **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you bring us safely to your heavenly kingdom.

Lord, have mercy: **Lord, have mercy.**

## **FIRST READING:** *Ecc 35: 12-14, 16-19*

God judges all equally and cannot be bribed, and in particular ensures justice for the poor and outcasts. Neglect of these needy ones exposes the community as neglecting its relationship with God.

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

**Response: The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. **(R.)**

2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The just call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. **(R.)**

## **SECOND READING:** *2Tim 4: 6-8, 16-18*

Paul is aware that his days are numbered. He has completed his service to God and is confident and trustful that God will continually guide him to safety into the kingdom of heaven.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

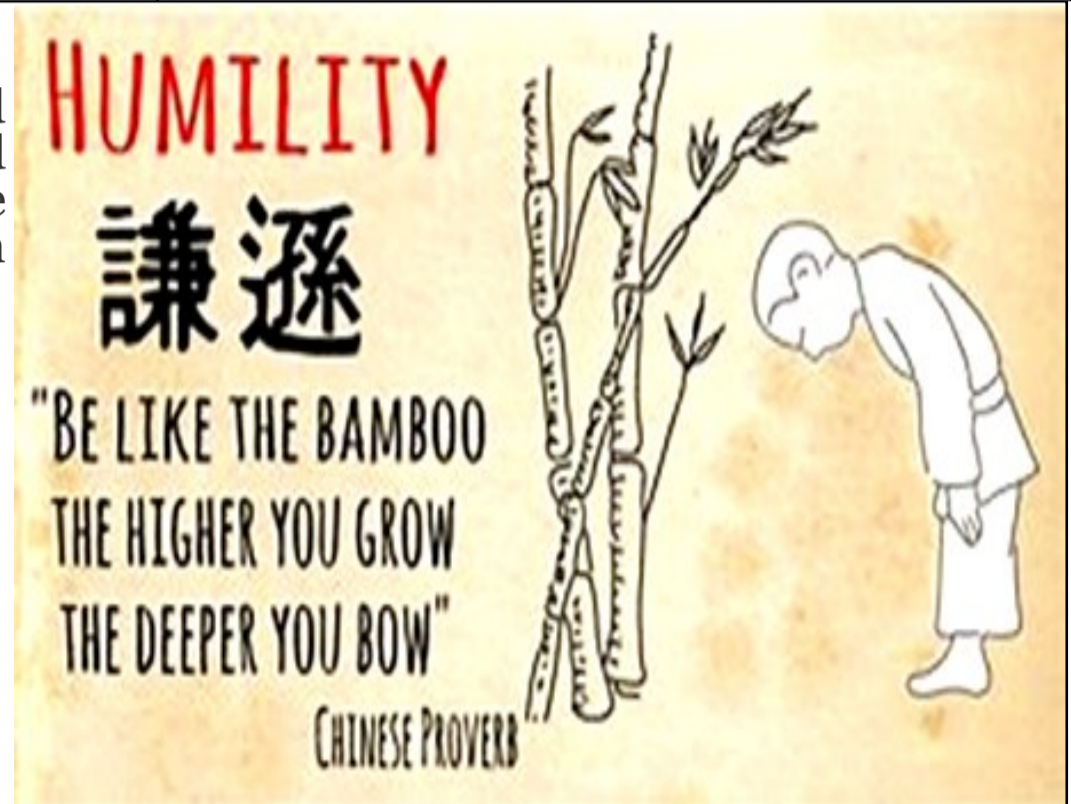
**Alleluia! alleluia!**

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

**Alleluia!**

## **GOSPEL :** *Luke 18: 9-14*

To the Pharisee life is a competition in virtue. The Pharisee reports to God his virtuousness to bolster his image while putting down others. The tax collector, by contrast, stands down the back pleading that God be merciful to him, a sinner. The one who came to God's house in his own eyes a sinner went home with God's favour ('justified'); the one so sure of his virtue went home without it.



**NEXT WEEK: 31st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**FIRST READING: WISDOM 11:22 - 12: 2; SECOND READING: THESSALONIANS 1: 11- 2: 2; GOSPEL: LUKE 19: 1-10**