



Gospel Mt 25:1-13

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

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 of them were sensible: the foolish ones did 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.'

Reflection by Greg Sunter

The three gospel accounts from the final three weeks leading up to the season of Advent all come from Chapter 25 of the Gospel of Matthew. They can be seen together as an extended treatise on living life in response to Jesus' message and preparing for the end of time. This week's gospel starts out as a Kingdom parable and becomes a bit more of a metaphor for living a Christian life.

The gospel parable relates to ten bridesmaids – five foolish and five wise – who are participating in a wedding ritual that involves meeting the bridegroom and escorting him the last part of his way to the wedding reception. The foolish bridesmaids have not brought sufficient reserves of oil for their lamps and have to leave at the critical time to try to obtain more. When they eventually arrive at the reception hall they are turned away because they have shamed themselves as well as the bride and groom by not fulfilling their duty.

Some of the original audience of Matthew's gospel, along with many of the early Christian followers, had an expectation that Jesus was going to return and usher in the end of the world in their lifetime. The message of this gospel is captured in Jesus' final words, 'So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.' The timing of Jesus' coming cannot be predicted and so all Christian believers, like the bridesmaids, need to continue to act with hope and expectation; being prepared for the fact that it may be further off than anticipated. Many early Christians were living their lives as though the world would end at any time. The gospel warns them, and us, to continue to follow the example of Jesus and not to become complacent – expecting that everything is about to come to an end.

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass ©1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc.(ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from *The Psalms, A New Translation*, ©1963 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the *Jerusalem Bible*, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

© 2017 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd
All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.

The Living Word

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

12 November 2023

First Reading Wis 6:12-16

Wisdom is found by those who look for it.

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.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 62:2-8. R. v.2

*(R.) My soul is thirsting for you,
O Lord my God.*

- 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.)
- 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.)
- 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.)

- 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 Thes 4:13-18

Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.

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.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 24:42. 44

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready:

you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!



Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven Georges Hall

Parish Priest: Rev. Peter Krigovsky
Secretary: Mrs. Zenna Azar (Tues 9.30am—5.30pm)

Address: 15 Georges Cres, Georges Hall NSW 2198 **Telephone:** 9727 3759
Website: <http://www.smgh.org.au> **Email:** parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com
Facebook: [fb.me/smgh2](https://www.facebook.com/smgh2) **Streaming:** <https://cutt.ly/StMarys>

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Georges Hall

God and us Together

Principal: Mrs Monica Palmer **Website:** www.stmgeorgheshall.syd.catholic.edu.au
School Tel: 02 9727 0000 **School email:** info@stmgeorgheshall.catholic.edu.au

COVID-19 is still around, Please use sanitiser when you enter the church.

ADDITIONAL NOTICES If you are interested in any diocesan events, please collect a copy of additional bulletin at the back of the church.

2023 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated at 11.30am this Sunday 12th November. Please keep the candidates and their families in you prayers.

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL - the CWF is a centralized fund that supports the charitable and pastoral activities of the Sydney Archdiocese. Our final CWF Appeal for this year is being held this weekend. It is a practical way for each of us to feed the hungry and clothe the naked and to spread the Gospel, and thus be counted among those on the right side at the resurrection and the final judgement. Please pray and reflect and place yourself at the receiving end before you donate, for the measure we use is the same measure that will be used for us. Your donations are 100% tax deductible. Thank you.

NO VIETNAMESE MASS at Georges Hall on Saturday 18th November.

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY PLAY Our parish welcomes children from years K-6 to participate in this year's Christmas play, which will be performed during the Christmas Eve vigil mass at 5pm. Rehearsals will be held at St Mary's school hall Friday afternoons from 3:30-4:30pm on the following dates: 1st, 8th & 15th December 2023, with one dress rehearsal being held in the week leading up to Christmas. If your child is interested please contact the Children's Liturgy Team on nancy.gnk@protonmail.com by 27 November.

ALTAR SERVER ROSTER Our altar servers are growing in number and a roster will be created for those who wish to serve at weekend masses. Altar servers can begin once they have had their First Holy Communion and attended training with Bernie Freeburn. Please contact parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com if your child would like to join the roster. Training will be provided.

ALTAR LINEN AND CLEANING CHURCH ROSTERS Both of these rosters run out at the end of November. If you can

assist on either roster please provide your details on the sheets at the back of the church or email parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com
Many hands make light work!

CHRISTMAS OLDIES LUNCH Our next bus outing will be held on Thursday 7 December - a leisurely drive down the south coast. We'll stop for morning tea and then go on to enjoy lunch at the Illawarra Yacht Club - both at your own expense. Cost \$25 to cover the bus. Please collect an envelope from near the sacristy, complete your details and enclose money to secure your seat, put the envelope in the collection box near the sacristy. Enquiries: Lorraine 9724 9519

MILK FOR MATES For the next 4 weeks, we are asking parishioners to help out the House of Welcome Food Bank by donating 1 litre long life milk. These will be shared amongst the many needy refugee families that visit the H.O.W. Please place your milk in the crates at the back of the church near the side door. Thank you for your kind donations.

BIBLE STUDY All young adults are invited to join us in the Church for Bible study! Next session on Thursday 23rd November at 6:30pm. If you have any questions or for more information, please contact Grace: gracemokdassi@gmail.com

PARISH CENTRE We have asked our Architect to provide a side/street orientational view. Still waiting for the delivery.

NOVEMBER – MONTH OF PRAYER FOR THE DEAD The Holy Mother Church, like a good mother, consecrates the whole month of November to the memory of the dead. This pious practice of praying through an entire month for the dead takes rise from the earliest ages of the Church and was preached with zeal by all the great Church Fathers and Doctors. Praying for the dead is clearly shown in Scripture. The custom of mourning thirty days existed among the Jews. People mourned for Moses for thirty days. Pope St. Gregory the Great established the practice of saying thirty Masses on thirty consecutive days, and they are called Gregorian Masses.

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS Try to pray for the holy souls often. Perhaps include the prayer for the holy souls in your daily prayers: Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

- Remember deceased family members on their anniversary by requesting a Mass to be said for them.
- Include all your deceased friends and relatives in the altar list of the dead in your parish church during November.
- Make little sacrifices for the holy souls during the month of November. Perhaps encourage your children to eat a meal or food they do not particularly like without complaining.
- If it is possible, visit the grave of a friend or relative on their anniversary or during the month of November. If not, perhaps light a candle or say a decade of the Rosary for them.
- If you hear of a tragic accident, pray for the souls of those who have died.
- Pray often to go straight to heaven when you die.

NOVEMBER BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE - is located at the back of the church. Please write the names of your deceased loved ones in this book. In each Mass during the month of November we will pray in the Prayers of the Faithful for all those listed in this book.

NOVEMBER MASS ENVELOPES If you'd like to have a Mass offered for the deceased members of your family, please fill in the November Mass Offering envelope located at the back of the

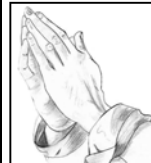
church. It is sufficient to write "Deceased members of Smith's family" instead of listing names of individuals. The individual Masses will be offered on first come first serve basis. You can request a Mass by placing Mass offering envelope on any of the collection plates. Once recorded in the parish bulletin, the envelopes will be placed on the altar during the month of November.

SAFEGUARDING OUR PARISH - Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding Office at 02 9390 5810 or Email: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Our parish has a folder with Safeguarding information in the church for parishioners to view. Check out the latest safeguarding newsletter. A link to the Archdiocese's Child Safeguarding Policy is available from the homepage of our parish website and on display in the folder. Enquiries: Veronica via email: parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com

Check out the latest Safeguarding newsletter-in the folder

Date/Mass	Greeters	Commentator	Proclaimers	Extraordinary Ministers	Acolytes	Altar Servers	Altar Servers
November 11/12 - 32nd Sunday A							
5.00 pm Sat	Lorraine Impala	Abraham Family	Zenna Azar	Eileen Stevenson Annette Simpson	Paul Evans	Gabriel Azar Charlie Delfino	Anthony Torbay
8.00 am Sun		Coorey Family	Goetz Family	Carmen Heredia Veronica Denning	Mike Anderson	Lucas Ross Harry Ross	Nicholas Coorey Gabriel Serratore
10.00 am Sun		Maurice Gill	Rosemary Lim	Gill Cramp Alex Driessen	Andrew Driessen	James Ghanem	
November 18/19 - 33rd Sunday A							
5.00 pm Sat	Chris Lockart	Yvette Nehme	Gina Wheeler	Zenna Azar Annette Simpson	Chaben Azar	Gabriel Azar Charlie Delfino	Anthony Torbay
8.00 am Sun		Goetz Family	Jenny Freeburn	Veronica Denning Karen Worley	Bernie Freeburn	Lucas Ross Harry Ross	Nicholas Coorey Gabriel Serratore
10.00 am Sun		Cramp Family	Alex Driessen	Maurice Gill Gill Cramp	Andrew Driessen	James Ghanem	



Please Remember in Your Prayers Our Sick

Joseph Akkary, Paul Tonkli, Daniel Clarke, Warren Clarke, Azelia Donati, Eileen Ellery, Paul Evans, Kerry Gibbons, Kathleen Gibson, Christine Hughes, Sue James, Barbara Kains, Daniel Matesic, Phillip Nehme, David Sanders, Mary Strambio, Tony Strambio, Cornelius Van Baardwyk

Let us Pray For All Those Who Have Died

Denning & Sanders fmls, Norma Younane, Elias & Elie & Bahia & Nabih Maroun, Wadia & Roumanos Nehme, Martha & Youseph & Chalita & Msseehiye Tannous, Marina Nassar, Newton fml, Ernie & Mavis Primmer, Karen Isreal, Albert & Kathleen Simpson, Gattone fml, Raymond & Linda Hanna, Lise & Henry Goetz, Warren Ashley, Alf Tallon, Sue Gardiner, Jodie & Wendy Lanyon, McHugh fml, Counihan fml, Lucia Zenere, Sayed & Badiha & Ghabach Ghabach, Maria Bui Thi-Don, Dominic-Doan-Duc Tiem, Joseph Nguyen Van Thuy, Maria Hoang Thi Thinh, Andre Doan Viet Dat, Joseph Nguyen Van Phuoc, Antonio & Assunta Ingenieri, Marjorie & Arwoos & William & John & Margaret Moore, Robert Herrick, Heather Loudorf, Thomas & Eileen & Patrisha Roberts, Therese Coleman, Marie & Alfred Carter, Gobo & Sluga & Sain fmls & friends, Antoinette Srouji, Peter Ayoub, Nasta fml, Ball & Shanahan fmls + Mary & Eric, Hans & Tita Studer, Marcia Dimond, Karen & Vicki, Georgette Thomas, Tania Porreca, Joe Bartolo, Joe Feletto, Joe Mammone, Gina Kosabudsky & Mary & Michael & Alex, David Newman, Margaret & Lofty Plowman, Rega fml, Addolorata & Nicola Rega & grandparents fmls, Severina & Rosinella Pezzullo, Garry Wheeler, Jean & Max & Ross Graham, Dumbrell & Waldron & Danaher & Creed & Clements & Hickey fmls, Moreen McGinley, Ellen Carlisle, Catherine Doherty, Bill Quirk, Vince Murray, Bakehouse fml, Marijan & Iva Suto, Marijan & Ivan & Ana, & Mijo & Mate and Suto fml, Ivan Napanj, Sestito fml, Joanna & Giuseppe & Lino & Dawn Sestito, Maria & Vito Sabella, Bronwin Leigh Williams, Kathleen Jones, Stanley Jones, Elsie O'Reilly, Stevenson & Tierney fmls, George Stevenson, Molly & Bill & Michael Tierney, Srs Geraldine & Marie & Joan Harrison, Buckley & Cassar & Eiskine & Galea fmls, Baulman & McCartin & Hughes fmls, Thompson & Shepherd fmls, Matesic & Orlic fmls, Dinka Jurjako, Maria Turcato, Chaben Azar, Emilio & Yousef Nohra, Lamia Saad, George Saad, Rana Saad, Martha Abraham, Nicholas Abraham, George Kheir, Mousa Jubrail Haddad, Claudia Tabares, Concetta Denaro, Heather Denning, Joanna Sestito, Ivy Christina Hurworth, Peter Hurworth, Trevor Newton



Rest In Peace

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.*

MASS TIMES (English):
Vigil Mass 5 pm (Saturday)
Sunday 8.00 am & 10.00 am
Weekdays: Wednesday 6 pm
Mon. Tue. Thu. Fri. Sat. 9.00 am

VIETNAMESE MASS
Vigil Mass 6.30 pm (Saturday)
Sunday 5.30pm

RECONCILIATION
Saturday 4.30pm-4.55pm
or anytime on request

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
Wednesday 5.00pm—6.00pm
Friday after Mass 9am-10.30am

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK
Offered to those in need on 1st Tuesday at 9.00am Mass

Baptisms: Sunday 11.00am
Bookings are necessary

Children first Sacraments:
Please contact Elaine Nehme:
nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au

Parish site maintenance:
John Impala Phone TBA
Ivan Leskur Phone TBA

Parish Pastoral Council:
Bernie Freeburn, Veronica Denning,
Elaine Nehme, Zenna Azar,
Paul Abdul Ahad, Natalie Goetz,
Monica Palmer, Linh Bui,
Jannette Samawi, Grace Mokdassi

Finance Committee:
Bernie Freeburn, Michael Anderson,
Ted Goetz, Veronica Denning, Eileen Stevenson

Golden oldies:
Lorraine Impala

St Vincent de Paul:
Mary Scott

Special Religious Education:
Lorraine Corkeron

Music Ministry: Vivienne Mosely

Youth Ministry: Grace Mokdassi

Children's Liturgy: Nancy Khalil