



Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C, 26th October 2025

The call to 'Encounter Jesus' is both an invitation and a mission.

We are an open, welcoming community that seeks to share the life and love of Jesus with every person we encounter.

As a community, we strive to create those spaces where anyone can freely encounter the person of Jesus.

We are further challenged to encounter Jesus in each other, in the world and in the life of the Church.

St Joseph's Catholic Church

📍 140 Wangi Rd, Toronto 2283

☎ 4943 4153

✉ stmarythecross@mn.catholic.org.au

🌐 www.torontoparish.org

Weekend Mass Times: Sunday 9am

Reconciliation:

Before Mass on Sundays

This Week at St Joseph's

Sun	26 th :	Mass - Toronto	9:00am
Tue	28 th :	Mass - Booragul	9:00am
		Mass - Morisset	9:30am
Wed	29 th :	Mass - Boolaroo	9:00am
Thu	30 th :	Mass - W/Bay	9:30am
Fri	31 st :	Mass - Toronto	9:30am
Sun	2 nd :	Mass - Toronto	9:00am

The Church will be open from
8:30am to 4:00pm daily.

Parish Office Hours

St Mary of the Cross Parish Hub

Phone: 02 4943 4153

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am to 4pm.

7 Milson Street, Charlestown.

Emergency after hours:

0493 969 362

Parish Priest:

Fr Darryl Mackie

Assistant Priests:

Fr Raphael Madukwe

Fr Paul Kamau CSSp

Fr John Purnell

Parish Administration:

Maryanne Barry

Vimal Valiyaveetil

Bridget Voigt



We acknowledge the Awabakal
people as traditional custodians
of this place.

Dear Parish Family,

...the Lord hears the cry of the poor....

This week's theme flows on directly from last week with Jesus' teaching about prayer. While last week's passage emphasised the need for persistence, this passage is about the way in which we come before God.

Jesus' parable about a Pharisee and a tax collector tells us something about the stereotypes that existed at the time but also about their roles in society. The Pharisees were entrusted with explaining God's Law...in fact it was up to them to show the people how to live the right way. Their occupation required that they have a good education and with that brought prestige and power. On the other hand, the tax collectors were usually fellow Jews collecting for Rome from their own people. The Romans weren't stupid; they knew that the one who takes your money is the one who is despised the most - so they were happy to let them do this for them. They themselves also lived off a percentage of the collection. They were treated as traitors and low life collaborators of Rome.

The gospel begins firstly with a description of Jesus' audience — they're on the side of the Pharisee; they think he's doing the right thing by doing everything right under the Jewish law. But it's his prayers — yes, he addresses God but then starts praying for himself and how good he is, he's focusing his attention on HIM. The tax collector however knows that his job makes him disliked he is willing to go to prayer making no claims to God but instead asking for God's mercy. The Lord hears the cry of the poor ...those who in a prayer of dependence and trust in God is what true prayer is!

When on retreat recently, our retreat director Bishop Greg Homeming, who was a Carmelite monk before becoming the Bishop of Lismore, invited us to not just sit with the scriptures but to place ourselves into that moment, to think and to feel what might be happening for Jesus, for the disciples, for those around him and then for us. Imagine what it must have been like listening to these prayers, how might we be feeling? For me when doing this exercise ...it reminded me that in our prayer before God - we are naked — there are no masks...we are who we are and in this, we are in the presence of God who loves us unconditionally.

I admit that I drew comfort from Bishop Greg's words on the retreat when he mentioned that sometimes he even finds prayer hard... I find prayer hard sometimes! Often when there are so many things happening around us; the distractions; tiredness...I'm sure it must be the same for you at home... As Bishop Greg said then these distractions and obstacles are the very things that make us and are part of our lives and therefore should be part of our prayer. Now that's comforting.

Talking further about prayer, next weekend we begin the month of November which traditionally we remember those loved ones who have gone before us. Over our Masses next weekend, we will be remembering those who have gone before us in the past year since we last celebrated All Souls Day. If you wish to have any names mentioned next weekend, you need to please advise the office by Wednesday of this week. Other names will be mentioned throughout the month of November, with all the names being placed on the altar during Masses.

Have a good week everyone.

Fr Darryl Mackie

Parish Priest

First Reading

Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

The prayer of the humble will penetrate the heavens.

The Lord is a judge
who is no respecter of personages.
He shows no respect of personages to the
detriment of a poor man,
he listens to the plea of the injured party.
He does not ignore the orphan's supplication,
nor the widow's as she pours out her story.
The man who with his whole heart serves God will
be accepted,
his petitions will carry to the clouds.
The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds,
until it arrives he is inconsolable
nor will he desist until the Most High takes notice
of him,
acquits the virtuous and delivers judgement.
And the Lord will not be slow,
nor will he be dilatory on their behalf.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:2-3, 17-19, 23. R. v.7

(R.) 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

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

All that remains is the crown of righteousness reserved for me.

My life is already being poured away as a libation,
and the time has come for me to be gone. I have
fought the good fight to the end; I have run the
race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is
to come now is the crown of righteousness
reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous
judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to
me but to all those who have longed for his
Appearing.

The first time I had to present my defence, there
was not a single witness to support me. Every one
of them deserted me – may they not be held
accountable for it. But the Lord stood by me and
gave me power, so that through me the whole
message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to
hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth.
The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on
me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom.
To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

2 Corinthians 5:19

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The publican returned to his home justified; the pharisee did not.

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people
who prided themselves on being virtuous and
despised everyone else, 'Two men went up to the
Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax
collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this
prayer to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not
grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of
mankind, and particularly that I am not like this tax
collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on
all I get." The tax collector stood some distance
away, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven;
but he beat his breast and said, "God, be merciful
to me, a sinner." This man, I tell you, went home
again at rights with God; the other did not. For
everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but
the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Universal Prayer

Presider: Let us turn to God in prayer, for the Lord hears the cry of the poor.

Reader: We pray that the Church will always rely on God's mercy and goodness, avoiding self-righteousness and arrogance. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray that those who are in positions of power and authority will come to the aid of the displaced, the despised and the oppressed. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray that victims of abuse will find comfort and security in our faith community. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for our faith community; may we keep the faith and show humility and concern for others. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for the sick; God grant them strength, consolation and peace in their time of need. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray that those who have died will be brought safely into God's heavenly kingdom, to be 'at rights with God'. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We offer up the prayers of this faith community: May we be comforted by the knowledge that our petitions are always heard by God. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Presider: God of the poor and humble, the prayer of those who serve God pierces the clouds. Turn your ear to our pleas, and grant that we may always trust in your steadfast love and mercy. We make our prayer in Jesus' name.

All: Amen.

WE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Sick List: James Bennett, Silvi Bennett, Dakai Smith, Scott Massey, Peter Corcoran, Maya Kelly, Paul Whitelaw, Simon Morrice, Victor Andres Guerrero Luhing, Margaret Sheridan, Judy Blissett, Judy Fisher, Jenny Moles, Sarah Hill, Brian Coogans, Graham Sneesvy, Judith Kilburn, Keith Hughes, Kath Brooks, Brett Sulman, Peter Mason, Amanda Sevil, Ella Hammond, Barrie Jenkins, Gerry Owen, and Monica LoCascio.

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Kenneth Sevil, Anne Reghenzani, Ruth Fahey.

If you would like a loved one remembered in the Anniversaries, please let the Parish Office know by Thursday morning.

Living Prayer

This month we take the time to remember those who have died, those people we have loved and who have loved us. May their souls rest in peace in the presence of our loving God.

We pray that we remain steadfast in faith during times of hardship and trust in God's ultimate presence and protection during times of turmoil.

We pray to our God of love and compassion for forgiveness of sins, peace in our hearts and healing in our lives.

We pray that, through the sacrament of the Eucharist, Christ nourishes our spiritual hunger and thirst and heals our brokenness.

We pray that, despite all the noise in our lives, we manage to find a place of stillness and quiet where we can hear God's voice with clarity in a gentle whisper.

Blessed Mary of the Rosary pray for all the Holy Souls.

Join us for our next

**Praise & Worship
experience!**

SCAN HERE



FOR TICKETS

Sun 2 November | 3-5pm

Holy Family Merewether Beach school hall

All are welcome! (Children under 16 years old must be supervised)

COST: FREE, however donations are welcome at the event.



**REAL
women**

placing value on
womanhood

Placing Value on Womanhood

Date: Monday, 17 November 2025

Time: 7.30 pm - 9.15 pm

Place: St Mary's Catholic Church Hall

Cost: Donation of \$15 per person

**Booking will open at St Mary's Hall, Warners Bay
on Saturday 18 October 2025 10am to 12pm**

**If you would like to do a direct deposit
please contact Sue or Marie.**

**Bookings may also be made by phone
Phone: Sue - 0417 091 255 or
Marie - 0429 191 245**

CatholicCare Christmas Hamper Drive

CatholicCare are once again hoping to distribute Christmas hampers to those in need this year. You can help by donating any of the items listed below:

- Christmas pudding/fruit cake
- Long life custard
- Fruit mince pies
- Shortbread / other sweet biscuits
- Chips, popcorn, savoury biscuits
- Chocolates, lollies, sweet treats
- Bon bons
- Candy canes

Remembrance Mass

*Friday 7th November 7pm
St Joseph's Kilarney Bay*

In Loving
MEMORY

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS



We invite you to this special Mass when we remember our deceased family and friends.

Before Mass you will have the opportunity to write the names of your loved ones on a card that will be carried in during the Entrance Procession and placed at the foot of the cross.

These will remain there for the month of November and remembered in our prayers each time Mass is celebrated.

Mass Collection

Purple Collection supports our Clergy:

BSB: 066 739

Account Number: 100003439

Account Name: CBA

Reference: *Your Surname.*

Green Collection supports our parish:

BSB: 066 739

Account Number: 100003443

Account Name: CBA

Reference: *Your Surname.*

Donations to support our parish can also be made via the eftpos machine at the back of the church.

Bunnings BBQ Volunteers Needed

The parish will be holding another Bunnings BBQ on Saturday 1st November at Glendale. Funds raised will help support our Toronto Community Kitchen. If you would like to volunteer to do a 2 1/2 or 3 hour shift please let either Gloria Peacock or Maryanne Cartwright know today or tomorrow.

Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. – Mt 11:28

Come and join us for prayer, reflection, and adoration.

When: Thursdays, 6:30pm

Where: St Michael the Archangel, Booragui



MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON

Tuesday 4th November 2025

Ticket Price: \$50.00 per person

Ticket Price includes:

**Glass of bubbles or punch
2 course meal with nibbles
(Main and Dessert)
Can bring your own alcohol**

**Large screen to watch the race
Raffle, Fashion, Sweeps
and Lucky Door Prizes**

Starting from 11.30am

St Mary's Church Hall Warners Bay

RSVP

SUE CAMPBELL - 0417 091 255

MARIE OSBORNE - 0429 191 245

JOAN WILSON - 0487 813 297

ROBYN SPINKS - 0412 234 435

Safeguarding Promoter

Can you help? As part of our parish's commitment to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, we need a couple of volunteers. How much commitment? Weekly at Mass ensure that our commitment is up on the overheads and the brochures in the Church are accessible. Every 6 months we hold a regional meeting to discuss and raise issues relevant to the region – this can be done online or at the Hub in Charlestown. Yearly the Diocese holds a Safeguarding Promoters networking workshop. If you can help please email the Hub.