

SUNDAY MASS

ENTRANCE ANTI-PHON:

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

FIRST READING: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 128.

RESPONSE:

Blessed are all who fear the Lord.

1. Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways!

By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be blessed and prosper. **R**

2. Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive around your table. **R**

3. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion. May you see Jerusalem prosper all the days of your life! **R**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! Abide in me, and I in you, says the Lord; he who abides in me bears much fruit, Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

COMMUNION ANTI-PHON:

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Live the Word

Mon 20 Nov Liturgy of the Day

1 Maccabees 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-64; Psalm 119; Luke 18:35-43 Allow the story of Barthelemy and his encounter with Christ to become a model of how to come to Jesus in prayer. Imitate him in his weakness, openness, confidence and perseverance.

Tue 21 Nov Presentation of Our Lady

Zachariah 2:10-13; Luke 1:46-55; Matthew 12:46-50 This feast "honours not so much an event in the life of Mary, as the gratuitous action of God's grace in choosing Mary to be the mother of the Lord and her total availability to God's plan." – Fr Sean Wales in 'O Mother Bless!'

Wed 22 Nov St Cecilia, VM

2 Maccabees 7:1, 20-31; Psalm 17; Luke 19:11-28 Jesus teaches us about giving from our personal poverty. Of course, he was referring to whatever we consider to be meager about our ability to share. Give, trusting that God will provide us with enough to share.

Thu 23 Nov (St Columban, Ab)

1 Maccabees 2:15-29; Psalm 50; Luke 19:41-44 "Biblical justice is not about 'getting what you deserve'; rather, it's making right what was done wrong, restoring what had been destroyed ... bringing balance and wholeness back to the community." – Shane Claiborne

Fri 24 Nov Ss Andrew Dung-Lac Pr & companions, Ms | Maccabees 4:36-37, 52-59;

1 Chron 29; Luke 19:45-48 We do not have the right to judge the hearts of others, but when we see objective evil and disorder within our world and even within our Church, we must cry out against it.

Sat 25 Nov (St Catherine of Alexandria, VM)

1 Maccabees 6:1-13; Psalm 9; Luke 20:27-40 Reflect today, upon the final day. The minds and hearts of all will be seen in the light. Those who have lived lives of fidelity will rejoice as they see God's justice. If this day is one that frightens you, consider the reasons why.

Sun 26 Nov CHRIST THE KING

Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17; Psalm 23; Matthew 25:31-46 "When we learn to see the hand of God in the overall scheme of things, we can resist the temptation to despair and cynicism and respond in faith, hope, and love to God's ongoing self-revelation." – Catholic Link

(KEY: **SOLEMNITY:** FEAST; Memorial; (Optional Memorial) V=Virgin; M=Martyr; Ab=Abbot

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Catholic Link

GOD WHO HEALS

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year A
Divine Office: Week 1 • 19 November 2023

The Sacrament of the Sick

One of the Gospel readings for the Rite of Anointing the Sick is Luke 7:18-23. John the Baptist sends two of his disciples to Jesus to ask, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus answers: "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the good news proclaimed to them."

The Gospel scene unveils two worlds, the world within which we live, which is marked by the "path of suffering" (as Pope Francis writes in *Amoris Laetitia* on the challenges all families must endure), and the hidden world of the kingdom of heaven. Jesus encounters all kinds of human suffering: Peter's sick mother-in-law; the grief of those who lost loved ones like Jairus, Lazarus' sisters and the widowed mother in Naim; the despair of the father whose child was epileptic; the anxiety of parents when their children go in search of a new life (cf. the parable of the prodigal son). All these Gospel narratives remind us that Jesus does not narrate an abstract humanity but human suffering in all its physical and emotional aspects.

Sick persons being anointed, on hearing those sacred words from Luke can understand at a personal level that they share in the suffering of humankind. Like others, they cannot escape a fragile body which is prone to illness, disease and the inevitable ageing process. They grasp the truth that mortality is not a remote idea but a reality.

Regardless of past fame, power or wealth, all accomplishments fade into insignificance. Chronically ill people gain a personal insight into the words of Jesus: "What profit is there for one to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?" (Mk 8:36).

Luke 7:18-23 also points beyond present suffering to the kingdom of heaven. As Jesus restores sight to the blind, enables the lame to walk and raises the dead, he reveals that the kingdom of God is manifest in himself, even as those who are suffering are grappling with life's deepest questions. Since God, the origin and author of life, is incarnate

in Jesus, death and disease have no place in his presence. This explains his words to the daughter of Jairus, "Little girl, I say to you, arise!" The Scripture scholar, Joseph Fitzmyer SJ, notes that Jesus speaks to her as though she were alive and not dead, because he is the very source of life itself. Likewise, the Gospel text proclaimed during the Rite of Anointing opens a window into the new life of the kingdom of heaven. The Book of Revelation sums it up with the comforting words: "(God) will wipe every tear from their eyes and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning or crying or pain anymore." (Rev. 21:4).

The Church's Rite of Anointing the Sick continues the healing presence and power of Jesus in the proclamation of his Gospel and in the administration of his Sacraments. Through these, Jesus invites the sick person to trust in him even now, and to remain focused on his kingdom.



Image by Falco from Pixabay

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33rd Sunday of the Year A
18th/19th November 2023

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Deacon: Rev Dcn Michael Brooks
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Date		Intentions	
Saturday 18th	17h30	33rd Sunday of the Year	Peter Palmgren RIP
Sunday 19th	09h00	33rd Sunday of the Year	Missa pro Populo
	17h30	33rd Sunday of the Year	Catherine Ryan RIP
Monday 20th		No Mass	
Tuesday 21st	08h00	Presentation of Our Lady	Dimitra Cousins RIP
Wednesday 22nd	08h00	St Cecelia	Patricia Ryan RIP
Thursday 23rd	08h00	Mass of the Day	Jay de Moor RIP
Friday 24th	09h30	St Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions	Mortuary List
Daily	18h00	Prayer & Rosary on Zoom	
CONFESSION		Saturdays 16h30-17h15	Or by Appointment

Prayer Intentions: For all in need of our prayers and their families:

Gian Paolo Barzon, Joan Gold, Basil Hotz, James-Dean Neill, Felicitas Aguila, Elizabeth Manyundwa, Neves Rodrigues, Diedre Scodeller, Corlize Lauff, Connor Young, Allen Galvin, Keith Urry Snr, James-Dean Neill, Malcolm Asher, Mgr. Andrew Borello, Fr. Stan Botha, Fr. Douglas Wiseman, Fr. Eddie O'Neil, Lucinda Bromfield, Neva Bruce-Brand, William De Villiers, Elijah, Joan Gold, Sarah Glenday, Cecco Giovannini, Derek Kudsee, Brendan Bosson, Brenda Robb, Margaret Savage.

BAGS OF LOVE

Feed a family this Christmas.

This will be our 21st year when we support needy parishes with some cheer, warmth and love. Fill a bag from the shopping list provided, or make a donation (costing of shopping list items is R320) to parish account, REF BAGS OF LOVE. It is also a lovely way for children to get involved. Thank you for your generous support.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Families who would like to participate in the lighting of the Advent candles on the 4 weekends of Advent, please sign up on the list at the back of the church.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS NATIVITY PAGEANT

Saturday 16 November 5.00pm

All Children welcome to participate
We need 14 main Characters and lots of angels and shepherds.
Please put your child's name down on the board in the foyer.

TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS CARDS

We will be selling traditional Christmas Cards in the parish this year. R20 each. Proceeds will go to HUNGER IS REAL We have a beautiful range of classic cards. Why not revive an old tradition this Christmas!

Sagra – Celebrating Africa!
Friday 24 November

Last chance to get your tickets!!
Entry and Raffle Tickets
on sale after all Masses
or from the office.

We still need salads, puddings and people to help set up and clean up
Please sign up on the board.
♥ Any help greatly appreciated ♥

PRAYER FOR PEACE

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy;
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen

JOIN US ONLINE

Live-Stream: All Masses EXCEPT Saturday:
<https://bit.ly/YouTubeConstantiaCatholic>
Daily Rosary: At 18h00 every evening:
<http://bit.ly/ConstantiaZoom>
Please see our emailers and website for regular updates.
www.constantiacatholic.com

NAME TAG SUNDAY

This weekend: Sat 18 /Sun 19 Nov
Please write your name on a label when you arrive at church and wear it at ALL MASSES this weekend.
Let's get to know each other by name!

TEA AFTER 9AM MASS

All Most Welcome!

Sunday, 19 Nov – Name Tag Sunday
Thank you to Kate Bernicchi and Jacqui Lukic for hosting.
Sunday, 25 Nov – Christ the King
Thank you in advance to Karen Parkin and Sanet Seebregts for hosting.

MORTUARY LIST 2024

In November, we will prepare The Mortuary list for 2024. To add your loved ones, either complete the online form on our website, email names to the parish office, or complete the form available at the back of the church.
Please make an appropriate donation using envelopes available at the back of the church, or EFT to the parish account, using your **Surname** and **Mortuary List** as reference.
Fr Robert will celebrate Mass for all those on the list once each week of the year, whether he is here or away.

ARE YOU ON OUR EMAIL LIST? Sign up using the form at the back of the church to receive weekly community news, spirituality articles and Catholic world news, plus reminders.

- Available from church or parish office:**
- **The Southern Cross Magazine:** R30
 - **ALL Marmalade:** R40 per jar
 - **LSol Achar** - see prices on jars.
 - **2024 Liturgical Calendars:** R40 each
 - **Advent Candles** – R60 per set for St Kizito's school uniform drive.

Our parish mission is to be a welcoming and evangelising Catholic community, striving, with the grace of the Holy Spirit, to know, love and serve God more, as disciples of Jesus Christ.

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