

## OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Sandy Watkins: 0409 492 508

Fr Marcello Colasante: 0416 194 825

Contact: St Columbas Ballarat North: 5331 1012

Email: [ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ballaratnorth@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

Special Parish Events (Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals) Phone: Bernadette Franc 0427678830

Parish Support - *If you need help with anything, please phone one of our members:*

Gail Hall: 0412 311 586 Bernadette Franc: 0427 678 830

**SUNDAY – November 19<sup>th</sup> 2023**  
**33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

Leondis Dean, Thelma Downing, Graeme Young, Wayne Jerram, Heather Sandford, Jo Fitzpatrick, Bill Gordon, Margaret Brady, Sonny Little, William & Evelyn, Schafer, Leo & Mary Dean, Leeloamma Mathew(Fr Sagens mother.0

### **PRAY FOR THE SICK:**

Pat Byrne, Blake Dridan, Shelagh Mulcahy, Fr Adrian McInerney, Graeme Trethowan, Tony Collins, Frank Meehan, Wilma Tiley and all those in need of prayer.

### **ROSTER:**

#### ***Introduction & Reading***

Today: Angela Gerrard

Nov 26<sup>th</sup>: Bernadette Franc

#### ***Prayers of the Faithful***

Today: Carita Clancy

Nov 26<sup>th</sup>: Angela Gerrard

#### ***Assembly Leaders***

Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>: Genevieve & Clarrie Johnston

#### ***Special Minister***

Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>: Gail Hall

#### ***Music***

Sue Mahony

#### ***Church Cleaning, Linen, Flowers***

Nov 26<sup>th</sup> – Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>: Colleen Briody.

#### ***Church Grounds:***

Nov 26<sup>th</sup> – Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>: Gerard Briody.

#### ***Newsletter:***

November Carmel Milenkovic 0407320759

### **MASS TIMES**

Nov 26<sup>th</sup>: **Mass 8.30**

### **MAJELLAN CHRISTMAS CARDS 2023**

Order now if you would like a set of Majellan Christmas Cards Which emphasize the true meaning of Christmas

\$7.50 per pack of 10 can be ordered at this link

<https://majellan.media/product/christmas-cards-2023/>



***November is the month of remembrance for those that have passed away. We remember our loved ones and all who have gone before us and recall the part they played in our lives. It is a time to remember them and pray for them as we hope they do for us. We***

*have on display our books containing the names of our loved ones and we invite you to add names of your family members of friends who have passed away.*

### **Appointment of Vicar General – Diocese of Ballarat** ***Hello Everyone, In a message on October 30,***

***I advised that, because of health concerns, Fr Kevin Maloney would be retiring from the responsibilities of Vicar General. I renew my thanks to Fr Kevin for his service in this role. I am now pleased to announce that I have appointed Fr Marcello Colasante to be the new Vicar General of our Diocese. Fr Marcello will continue in his service as Parish Priest of Ballarat North and Wendouree. He will begin in the role of Vicar General on November 20. I am very grateful to Fr Marcello for his generosity in accepting this additional role.***

***God bless you all. Bishop Paul***

### **Making a Scene at Christmas**

Over 500 Christmas Nativities from more than 60 countries will be displayed at the Bridge Mall Ballarat and at the Catholic Diocesan Archives from Tuesday, December 5 – Friday, December 22, 2023. You can see and smell real frankincense and myrrh; see coins minted around the time the census was called that brought Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem; see hand crafted cultural nativities from Australia, Africa, Asia, North & South America and Europe (and one that went to Antarctica); nativities that prize social justice and the environment. Schools can book for an educational experience. For more information on the Ballarat Bridge Mall display, please contact Fiona Tonkin [Fiona.tonkin@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:Fiona.tonkin@ballarat.catholic.org.au). Every one welcome. Entry is a gold coin donation.

Reflect on the many gifts you have from God. What “talents” has He given you? How can you use those gifts to bring glory to God? As you go throughout this week, take note of the many blessings you have, thank God for them, and strive to offer them back to Him for His glory.

“Life is better when you cry a little, laugh a lot, and are **thankful** for everything you’ve got.”

## **AN URGENT PRAYER FOR PEACE**

God of compassion, we turn to you with heavy hearts  
as we consider the needs of your family.

Israelis and Palestinians, we are all your people,  
each of us loved by You and called to live in peace  
and justice.

We lament the dreadful loss of life, destruction of  
property and loss of human dignity.

We are pained by so much suffering. We beg you to  
bring healing to this ancient place. Help your people  
find a way forward.

Enable everyone to look each other in the eye,  
and embrace each other as sisters and brothers,  
as they find your image in every face.

We ask that courage and grace will help create a wiser  
and more gentle future, where everyone has a home.

God of wisdom, come to our aid. Amen.

*By Michael McGirr / Caritas Australia*

Alleluia, alleluia! / Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; / my branches bear much fruit. / Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Mt 25: 14-15, 19-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*Because you have been faithful over a few things; enter into the joy of the Lord.*

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out.

Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. ‘Sir,’ he said ‘you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master’s happiness.’

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

*Longer form, Mt 25: 14-30.*



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

Unauthorised reproduction of this bulletin prohibited. Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 02 9394 3400 Fax 02 9394 3444. Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible, published and © 1966, by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co. Inc. are used by permission of the publishers. Psalm text from *The Psalms, A New Translation*, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from *The Roman Missal* © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2023. No 2010. Website: [www.stpauls.com.au](http://www.stpauls.com.au)

# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

19 NOVEMBER 2023

## BEING READY FOR THE DAY OF THE LORD

At first sight, it seems hard to make sense of the choice of readings for this Sunday. How are we to understand and appreciate the combination of the description of the perfect wife from the book of Proverbs, Paul’s advice on the coming of the Day of the Lord, and the warning contained in Jesus’ parable of the talents?

The first reading comes from a world where the role and possibilities for a woman were solely defined by her responsibility for the home. The key to understanding the reading is not the cultural expectations of the woman, limited as they were, but the qualities which mark her life – generosity, diligence, care for the poor and openness to the needy.

Paul sets out to help his community to prepare for the Lord’s return by reminding them that they had no need to fear the coming of the Lord if they live good Christian lives. The most important thing is to live in the present moment well to be ready for the Lord’s return.

Matthew’s community is encouraged to prepare for the Day of the Lord by focusing on the need to make use of the talents and opportunities which the Lord had given them. One of the striking elements of the parable is that the tenants are judged in accordance with what they have been given on an individual basis. Like the woman in the first reading, it is not what you have but how you use it that is most important.

Christopher Monaghan CP

## FIRST READING

Prov 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

*Give her a share in what she has worked for.*

A perfect wife – who can find her?  
She is far beyond the price of pearls.  
Her husband’s heart has confidence in her,  
from her he will derive no little profit.  
Advantage and not hurt she brings him  
all the days of her life.  
She is always busy with wool and with flax,  
she does her work with eager hands.  
She sets her hands to the distaff,  
her fingers grasp the spindle.  
She holds out her hand to the poor,  
she opens her arms to the needy.  
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;  
the woman who is wise is the one to praise.  
Give her a share in what her hands have  
worked for,  
and let her works tell her praises at the city  
gates.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 127: 1-5. R. v. 1

**R. Happy are those who fear the Lord.**

- O blessed are those who fear the Lord  
and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper. **R.**
- Your wife like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive,  
around your table. **R.**
- Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
in a happy Jerusalem  
all the days of your life. **R.**



## SECOND READING

1 Thess 5: 1-6

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.

*The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.*

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about ‘times and seasons’, since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, ‘How quiet and peaceful it is’ that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

■ **The word of the Lord.**