



Please pray for: Frank & Alice May Purcell (deceased)

Mass Times in St Benedict's Church:

Sunday 27th September 2020 – Twenty-Sixth Sunday, Ord Time (A)

Sunday, 27 Sep	10.30 am	Solemn Mass
Sunday, 27 Sep	6.00 pm	Young Adults Mass
Monday, 28 Sep	12.35 pm	Sts Wenceslaus and Ruiz & Comp (O)
Tuesday, 29 Sep	12.35 pm	Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, archangels (F)
Wednesday, 30 Sep	12.35 pm	St Jerome, priest, doctor (Memorial)
Thursday, 01 Oct	12.35 pm	St Therese of the Child Jesus (Mem)
Friday, 02 Oct	12.35 pm	The Holy Guardian Angels (Memorial)
Saturday, 03 Oct	No Mass	Saturday – Week 26, Ordinary Time

Regular Confession Times in St Benedict's Church:

Monday to Friday: 11.45 am – 12.30 pm (before 12.35 pm Mass)
Sunday: 5.30 pm (before 6.00 pm Mass)

Mass at St James' Church, Forest Lodge:

Saturday Vigil: 5.00 pm
Sunday: 8 am, 9.30 am & 11 am
Wednesday & Friday: 9.00am
Saturday (morning): 8.30am

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office



If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on ph 02 9390 5812.



A VOCATION VIEW: 'Remember that nothing is small in the eyes of God. Do all that you do with love.' *Saint Therese of Lisieux*

Streaming of Sunday Mass – from St Benedict's Church – 6pm – Here is the link to this Sunday's Mass – 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (27th September 2020) – <https://youtu.be/RzXDyw9Yd6M>

A Time for Grace – World Migrant and Refugee Sunday Webinar – Sun 27th Sept – 5pm-6.30pm

Explore how the pandemic can be a time as a nation and for individuals to extend grace to the most vulnerable. The expert panel will explore what this looks like within our public policy, our theology and our own actions. Please see the poster in the church noticeboard for this webinar or email – zoe.grant@jrs.org.au for more info or – <https://bit.ly/3IR8RDt> to register.

What happened to the small hand on the clock, the little mouse said, as he struggled to climb out of bed. Oh no, I'm late for breakfast and Mass – and, and – oh dear, it's all very weird! Oh, it's Daylight Saving time again – Sunday 4th October – 2am. ☺ Who wound the clock forward for me by an hour? It's just magic, Mother Mouse said...☺

The Holy Father's Appeal (Peter's Pence) – next Sunday, 4th October – our parish will hold the Holy Father's Annual Appeal next Sunday (normally held at the feast of Saints Peter & Paul, 29th June) for which we ask your support. Through your gift, you can help Pope Francis bring hope, opportunity and the spirit of Jesus Christ to our less fortunate brothers and sisters around the world. Thank you.

***Monday 5th October is a Public Holiday** – there will not be a 12.35pm weekday Mass on this day.

Entrance Antiphon:

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

Communion Antiphon:

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

Saints Michael, Gabriel & Raphael – The cult of Michael, Gabriel and Raphael began in the East. In the West, this day (29th September) first marked the dedication of a fifth century church of St Michael in Rome. This festival of Michaelmas came to be widely celebrated in medieval Europe. Raphael & Gabriel were added to the Roman calendar in the twentieth century, and the three are now celebrated together. In the Scriptures, each of these angels are named as a messenger of God, entrusted with special divine missions on earth.

Saint Jerome – was born about 340 at Strido on the Adriatic coast. He was baptised in Rome while studying the classics, became a hermit for a time in Syria and became a priest. Later retained as papal secretary by Saint Damasus. Began work on a new Latin translation of the Bible, known as the Vulgate. Finally settling in Bethlehem where he founded monasteries, he devoted himself to studying the Scriptures, writing and teaching. Often irascible and intolerant, he is remembered for his asceticism and scholarship, and above all, his incomparable service to the word of God. He died in Bethlehem in 420.

Saint Therese of the Child Jesus – was born at Alencon (France) in 1873. From a devout family, she entered a Carmelite monastery at fifteen and embraced the suffering of ill health with love and in service of the gospel. Loved for her unaffected simplicity and remembered for humble obedience and fidelity to ordinary duties. Therese died at Lisieux on 30 September, 1897, succumbing to tuberculosis at age twenty-four.

The Holy Guardian Angels – this feast originated in Portugal in the sixteenth century. It is based on the belief that God assigns everyone an angel to guard body and soul, an expression of God's personal care for each individual. A similar belief is also found in Jewish and other religious thought. The feast associates the human race with the eternal song of praise in heaven (Matthew 18:10).

Archdiocesan Social Justice Gathering (Online) – Wed 30th Sept – 5.30pm-7.30pm – via Zoom

The Justice & Peace Office is hosting a Social Justice Gathering online to delve into the Australian Bishops Social Justice Statement 2020-21 – **'To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today'**. Presented by Dr. Robbie Lloyd. Register at – <https://form.jotform.com/202521057173850> to receive the Zoom link or contact Ruth Moraes at – ruth.moraes@sydneycatholic.org

In this weekend's digital Catholic Weekly, read about UNDA's new undergraduate degree – Philosophy, Politics & Economics – www.catholicweekly.com.au/subscribe - \$1 per week.

***Apologies for insufficient space in this bulletin to chat about bees ☺ but next weekend on the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi (who loved all creatures) seems the perfect occasion. ☺ jw**

Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Parish Safeguarding Volunteer Online Induction Training, Working With Children Check & Code of Conduct

St Benedict's Parish, Chippendale (Broadway) requires all of our volunteers to complete the Parish Safeguarding Volunteer online training, obtain a Working With Children Check and sign a Code of Conduct. It is MANDATORY that volunteers in all parishes comply with the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office training. Please contact Julie in the parish office on 8204 4378 or email – enquiries@stbenedicts.org.au to obtain the link to the online training and required forms which will be sent to you via email. Thank you.

Alleluia, alleluia! / My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; / I know them, and they follow me. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 21:28-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

27 SEPTEMBER 2020

THE PATIENCE OF GOD

The parable about two sons in today's Gospel can be understood on various levels. In Jesus' own context it probably served to defend his practice, shocking to the religious authorities, of celebrating the discovery of God's mercy with those considered outcasts and sinners.

At a deeper level, the parable shows that what God looks to—and can wait for with infinite patience—is the *final* outcome in people's lives. God can put up with an initial *No*, and many other *No*'s besides, on the way to a final and lasting *Yes*.

From the human angle, people who appear religious and obedient from the start may never have sufficiently plumbed the depth of God's mercy to know God as God really is. Conversion at depth and the knowledge of God that goes with it overflows into a pattern of life truly reflecting God's grace. But a hard, judgemental attitude to others may indicate lack of true conversion and knowledge of God: something that may leave such people waiting at the door, while those whom they thought far less worthy enter into the fullness of life before them.

What ultimately determines fitness for eternal life is conformity of the human heart to the heart of God. None of us could ever amass sufficient good works to merit even a second of life with God. That life will be God's gift in abundance if only we have grown—sometimes in the course of a very winding and to-and-fro journey—into the capacity to receive it.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

FIRST READING

Ezek 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 24:4-9. R. v. 6

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. **R.**
2. Remember your mercy, Lord, / and the love you have shown from of old. / Do not remember the sins of my youth. / In your love remember me, / because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**
3. The Lord is good and upright / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path / he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 2:1-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common



purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,
yet he did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the
underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

■ The word of the Lord.