



**19<sup>th</sup> September 2021**  
**XXV Sunday in Ordinary**  
**Time**

**Administrator:** Fr Gustavo C. Farfan  
**Parish Secretary:** Sally Torkamani  
**Parish Council Contact:** Marian Kelly

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**77 Queen Street, Auburn NSW 2144**  
**Principal:** Mrs Louise Maguire  
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**Saints of the week:**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup>: St Andrew Kim Tae-gon, priest, martyr. Paul Chong Ha-sang & companions, martyrs.**  
**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>: The Matthew, apostol. Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>: St Pius of Pietrelcina, priest.**

**AS YOU ARE AWARE, BECAUSE OF COVID RESTRICTIONS, THE CHURCH IS  
CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

If you require the assistance of a priest, please contact Fr. Gustavo to 9649 3855

<b>SUNDAY MASSES:</b>	Vigil Saturday 5:00 pm Sunday 8:00am, 10am
<b>WEEKDAY MASSES:</b>	Tuesday to Saturday 9.15am
<b>ROSARY:</b>	Tuesday Saturday 8.30am
<b>RECONCILIATION:</b>	Saturday 4.15pm and by appointment
<b>EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:</b>	Saturday 4.15pm
<b>BAPTISMS:</b>	Sundays after 10am mass and by appointment
<b>WEDDINGS:</b>	By appointment (minimum of six months notice required)
<b>ANOINTING MASS:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday in March, June, September & December
<b>PARISH SECRETARY:</b>	Tuesday & Thursday 9am to 3pm

(Mass Intentions & news items for the bulletin must be left at Presbytery by 12pm Wednesday)

**This Church is equipped with an induction loop for the hearing impaired**

**REMEMBERING OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES**

**Recently Deceased:** Magdalena Velarde, Sister Patricia Thame, Joseph Doumit.

**Anniversaries:** For all souls in purgatory

**May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.**

**We pray for:** Diego Landa, Scott Perry, Susan Abood, Angela Mil,

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CARE, DEVOTION AND LOVE TO OUR LADY:**

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**PARISH DONATIONS:**

Now for your convenience the parish offers an online donation system. At the top of the parish website, you can find a red button **SUPPORT US** click there and follow the easy steps. If you would like to specify for which collection (1st or 2nd) your donation is done, please contact us through the parish email. May God bless you for your great generosity.



**THE MEMORARE PRAYER**

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

**THE SAFEGUARDING AND MINISTERIAL INTEGRITY IN SJG PARISH:** Continuing the process in moving forward positively in relation to all Safeguarding measures, now you can find in the [parish website](#) a variety of helpful resources regarding to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. Part of that material you can find at the entrance of the church as well. As part of the Safeguarding procedures, we are now making available a suggestion box specially for children and young people in order that the parish takes into consideration their thoughts, feelings, and suggestions in a more proactive way.

**SEPTEMBER MONTH FOR REFUGGES AND MIGRANTS:** Sunday 26 September is the 107th World Day of Migrants and Refugees. The Church keeps them in her prayers and care as much as it is possible. Migration is very close to the heart and life of a Christian because in somehow Christian life is in a constant motion, maybe the motives and goals will be different, but the unsettledness is the same. Let us remember the great statement of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop: "Remember we are but travelers here", all of us are just passing by through this world but all of us are together in the adventure of life.

Prayer: *Holy, beloved Father, your Son Jesus taught us that there is great rejoicing in heaven whenever someone lost is found, whenever someone excluded, rejected or discarded is gathered into our "we", which thus becomes ever wider.*

*We ask you to grant the followers of Jesus, and all people of good will, the grace to do your will on earth. Bless each act of welcome and outreach that draws those in exile into the "we" of community and of the Church, so that our earth may truly become what you yourself created it to be: the common home of all our brothers and sisters. Amen. Pope Francis*

**CHURCH VOLUNTEERS:** (Sacramental coordinators, sacramental group leaders, Catechists, Acolytes, Readers, parish collectors and Eucharistic Ministers) thank you very much for your generous help in the parish. There is an **Online Safeguarding Induction Training** to be completed by those who are engaged in one way or another in child-related work in the parish. Please go to this [link](#) (ctrl+click) and complete it once you have done it, please notify the parish the date you have complete the training so we can update our records which is a requirement from the Safeguarding Office. We work together for the safety of children and young people. If you have any inquiries, please contact the parish office.

**CHARITABLE WORKS FOUND (CWF)** "100 years ago, when the world was struggling with the Spanish Flu, Christians offered their aid and resources to house and heal the sick, providing food, nursing and companionship to those affected.

Sadly, our current COVID-19 pandemic has not only killed millions, made others sick, and brought so much of ordinary life to a halt: it has also left many feeling isolated, lonely, abandoned, and despairing. Now, more than ever, our community needs the Gospel message of love and its fruits in ministries of mercy."

We appreciate this is a very difficult time for everyone, but it is also the reason why we need to support our Charitable Works Fund, which in turn supports Catholic Care, the Ephpheta Centre and many other ministries in the Archdiocese of Sydney.

For online donations, please click [here](#) (Please if you do any donation online notify the parish office for accounting purposes)

**PASTORAL COUNCIL AND FINANCIAL COMMITTEE:** My dear friends as we prepared ourselves to re-open the church and make easy the way to participate and receive the sacraments, I would like to let you know that we need to work together as community to make sure that no one is excluded from such a wonderful opportunity to strength our relationship with God our Father. So, we need to reactivate the Pastoral council and the Financial Committee of the parish, if any one of you are interested in being part of such essential parish's groups, please contact the parish office through telephone call or email, provide your full name, telephone number or email and we will be in touch with you.

Thank you for considering this service to our community. God bless you.

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## **A MESSAGE REGARDING SAFEGUARDING ISSUES FOR OUR PARISH**

A copy of the Safeguarding Policy has been uploaded to the website of St John of God and a copy will also be attached to our notice board. If anyone would like a copy of the Safeguarding Policy, one can be provided to you upon request.

As part of the Safeguarding procedures, the Parish is now making available a suggestion box especially for children and young people in order that we take into consideration their thoughts, feelings, and suggestions in a more proactive way. The Suggestion Box which will be placed on a table in the church foyer. We look forward to hearing from our children.

Also, as part of the Safeguarding procedures, it is available for parents, guardians and the general community a protocol 'Managing Safeguarding Complaints'. We value the process in moving forward positively in relation to all Safeguarding measures. If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Priest.

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 and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

### **Sunday Readings**

#### **First reading: Wisdom 2: 12,17-20**

The godless say to themselves:  
'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing.  
'Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have. If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies. Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof. Let us condemn him to a shameful death since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.'

#### **Second reading: James 3: 16-4:3**

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't

have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

#### **Gospel acclamation**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

I am the light of the world, say the Lord; anyone who follows me will have the light of life.

*Alleluia!*

#### **Gospel: Mark 9: 30-37**

Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'



### Gospel reflection

The disciples never cease to amaze us. At the very moment when Jesus is telling them about his coming passion and death, they are not even listening. They are so immersed in a quarrel, squabbling over who is the greatest among them, that what he says does not even register with them. Somehow we could really expect better from his close followers. When asked by Christ what were they arguing about they were clearly embarrassed and remained silent.

Jesus uses this occasion to put them right and to point out to them what constitutes true greatness in God's eyes. **True greatness, he says, does not come from having power and influence over people but consists in humble service.** He tells his ambitious disciples that everyone is important and that greatness comes from being available to all people. Then, Jesus makes clear his teaching with an example, takes a little child, place him in their midst and says: "whoever welcomes a child such as this for my sake welcomes me. And whoever welcomes me welcomes, not me, but him who sent me."

A child is simple and docile, he is free from ambition and pretense, he is eager to learn and quick to believe. It was of qualities such as these that Christ was thinking when he took a small child in their midst. And specially a child is humble; he is not consumed by pride. **A humble person is one who acknowledges his own nothingness, his dependence upon God in all things,** and who acts according to his convictions. A humble person is one who is keenly aware of the great power and majesty and wisdom of almighty God. A humble person is aware of the insignificance of any individual man when compared to the greatness of almighty God. He knows that the greatest display of power or authority on this earth fades away into nothingness when compared to the limitless power of almighty God.

Christ gave us in himself the outstanding example of humility. He who was the second person of the Blessed Trinity and true God humbled himself to come to earth and take on the body of man. He chose deliberately to be born in the poorest of circumstances, in a stable where animals fed. He chose to be raised in the household of Joseph, a poor hard-working carpenter. As Christ chose the wood of a manger on which to lie in birth; he chose the hard wood of a cross on which to lie in death. Christ chose to enter, to live in and to leave this world without any of its possessions; yet he was the creator of all things. On Holy Thursday, the night of the Last Supper, when he gave us the great sacrament of the Eucharist, the night before his death, he spent his time washing his apostles' feet. Truly he could say: "learn of me because I am meek and humble of heart."

Mary, our blessed Mother, is an outstanding example of humility. In her youth she was too humble to share the dream of all the Jewish women, to become the mother of the Messiah. Instead, she sought to please God by taking upon herself the vow of virginity. But God saw and recognised her humility by choosing her about all others to be his own mother.

In our own lives let us imitate the humility of our Blessed Mother and of Christ himself. As Christ has said: "he who humbles himself shall be exalted."

### THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"If you are humble nothing will touch you, neither praise nor disgrace, because you know what you are"

Mother Teresa of Calcutta

If you wish to subscribe to our mail list, contact us: [cathpara@tpg.com.au](mailto:cathpara@tpg.com.au)  
St John Of God Auburn parish