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Sunday, 7th November 2021 – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B
Tuesday, 9th November 2021 – The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
Wednesday, 10th November 2021 – St Leo the Great, pope, doctor
Thursday, 11th November 2021 - St Martin of Tours, bishop
Friday, 12th November 2021 - St Josaphat, bishop, martyr



SUNDAY MASSES:	Vigil Saturday Sunday	5:00 pm 8:00am, 10am
WEEKDAY MASSES:	Tuesday to Saturday	9.15am
ROSARY:	Tuesday to Saturday	8.30am
RECONCILIATION:	Saturday – 4.15pm or by appointment	
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:	Saturday	4.15pm
BAPTISMS:	By appointment, Sundays after 10am mass	
WEDDINGS:	By appointment (minimum of six months notice required)	
AN OINTING MASS:	2 nd Saturday of each month	
PARISH SECRETARY:	Tuesday & Friday (Mass Intentions & news items for the bulletin must be left at Presbytery by 12pm Wednesday)	9am to 3pm
This Church is equipped with an induction loop for the hearing impaired		

REMEMBERING OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES

Recently Deceased: Teresita Boubon, Jesus Calvo, Phyllis Reilly, Hillary Senanayake, Magdalena Velarde.

Anniversaries: Angelina Teodoro, Sonya-Renee Mahoni, Irene Safadi, Onofrio Smiroldo.

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

We pray for: Charlie Scargall, Tom Laidler, Judy & Leo Melville, Caterina Smiroldo

“Mother of God, Health of the sick, Refuge of sinners, Comforter of the afflicted. Pray for us”

READERS ROSTER 2nd Week

Time	Readers	Acolyte
5:00pm	Therese Di Paolo Jerome Vandenbosch	Tony Allan
8.00am	Mark Wang – Shi Barbara Mucha	Elia Saulekaleka
10.00am	Joseph Anasi Sesalia Anasi	Sione Anasi

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION will be celebrated on **21st November 2021 at 11.30am**. Please keep them in your prayers.

SACRAMENT OF 1ST HOLY COMMUNION 2021 – ENROLMENTS ARE OPEN You are invited to enrol your child if he/she has received the sacrament of First Reconciliation. Please visit our website to fill in a form or pick up a form from our office.

ST JOHN OF GOD VOLUNTEERS We request that you contact us in order to confirm your availability for the various volunteer roles on offer that you may be interested in. We look forward to hearing from you.

HEALING MASS 2nd SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH. Healing mass will be celebrated this Saturday, 13th November 2021 at 9.15am. All welcome.

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND NOVEMBER APPEAL 2021 Please donate generously to this month's CWF November Appeal. Our Parish's quota for this appeal is \$2000.00 and we greatly appreciate your support. This appeal supports our ministries including the Ephpheta Centre, the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Centre, the Confraternity of Christian doctrine and the Seminary of the Good Shepherd. Thank you to you all.

BISHOP ROBERT BARRON LAUNCHES SYDNEY'S RECLAIMING EVANGELISATION SERIES **Live Online, Saturday 13 November 2021, 11 AM – 12:30 PM** The faithful of Sydney are invited to attend our renewal series, *Reclaiming Evangelisation: How Jesus' Great Commission Will Renew Our Parishes*. During this first talk of the series, Bishop Barron will be speaking on the topic 'Why Make Disciples? The Case for the Evangelising Mission of the Church'. The Reclaiming Evangelisation series will continue in 2022, featuring a number of inspiring speakers who will lead a conversation about why and how our parishes can be renewed through seeking to live more fully the mission given to us by Our Lord to call disciples, baptise them, and teach them. Register at gomakedisciples.org.au Enquiries: parishrenewal@sydneycatholic.org

NOVEMBER MASSES Envelopes for November Mass Intentions are included in the Weekly Offering Envelopes and will also be available at the entrance to the Church from this weekend or on request. If you wish a Mass to be offered, please write the names of those to be prayed for **Clearly** on the front of the envelope. The Australian Bishops Conference has nominated \$20.00 as a suitable offering for the November Masses. A List of all those asked to be prayed for during November will be entered in **our Book of Remembrance** which will be kept at the back of the church.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL LEBANON APPEAL for items such as nappies, medicine and medical equipment, sanity and care packs, blankets, children's clothes and shoes. Our goal is to achieve a 300kg shipment of such items. From there our items, will be taken to Beirut, where a Catholic co-ed High School run by an Order of Nuns will be the recipients of goods hoping to arrive before Christmas. With your generous assistance I am certain we will be able to achieve the 300 kilos.

BAPSTISMS are celebrated each Sunday after 10am mass, if you are interested, please contact Fr Gustavo.

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

We have all heard the saying "It's the thought that counts, it's the self-giving in the gift which expresses love" – and that is what Jesus is telling us in the story of the widow's mite. What makes her gift valuable and important is not its size but the heart and the sacrifice behind it. In the eyes of the passers-by, the widow's offering is virtually worthless but in the sight of God it is more precious. After throwing her last two coins in the box, she is able to say: 'This is the best I can do for it is all that I have.' What wins her the Lord's favour and earns his commendation, is the fact that she keeps nothing back for herself. Her small gift is her all. In a way she is making an offering of her total life to God.

This little incident outside the temple is worth recalling because it draws our attention to the manner in which Jesus weighs us up and judges us. While we are content to be guided by appearances, to judge people by what they possess and to value presents by how much they cost, Christ measures us in a totally different way. His searching eyes penetrate into our souls and reveal the inner motives and the hidden intentions behind our actions. He is concerned with the sacrifices we are making, how much of our lives are surrendered to him and whether we are taking his demands seriously.

The hidden value of the widow's offering teaches us that material goods are not the most important factor in the world. The issue being discussed in this gospel is discipleship: generosity of spirit, not money, for we all have something more precious than money to offer God. What God is looking for is our lives. He wants our hearts and not our possessions. So often our giving and contributions to worthy causes are conscience solvers. They amount to a fulfilling of the externals without indicating any real compassion of heart. We can all use them as an excuse to avoid personal involvement and dedicated service to the marginalised of our area. What is hardest to give is ourselves in love and concern, because it costs more than reaching for our purses.

Learning to give generously to God is a difficult lesson to master and yet there is no true following of Christ without such self-denial. This gospel story invites us to live in a way that hurts and does not count the cost, for it is in giving that we receive. Our life story can easily be one of non-response to the needs of others, indicating how little we really give of ourselves to God. There is an immense gap between what we are and what we should be. The life-giving sacrifice of Jesus, who gave up everything for us on the cross, can inspire us to bridge that gap.

Let us call upon our Good Lord in prayer: Let us renew our faith knowing that the Lord is with us in our journey of faith.

God bless you.

Yours in Christ
Fr Gustavo

Today's Readings:

Kings 17:10-16 Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring me a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

*"Jar of meal shall not be spent,
jug of oil shall not be emptied,
before the day when the Lord sends
rain on the face of the earth."*

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah

Hebrews 9:24-28 It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rv2:10 Even if you have to die, says the Lord, keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Mark 12:38-44 Warning Against the Teachers of the Law ³⁸ As he taught, Jesus said, "Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, ³⁹ and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. ⁴⁰ They devour widows' houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely."

The Widow's Offering ⁴¹ Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. ⁴² But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. ⁴³ Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. ⁴⁴ They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

A MESSAGE REGARDING SAFEGUARDING ISSUES

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 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.