

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said, "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me," he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said, "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

17 SEPTEMBER 2023

THE CALL TO FORGIVENESS

A well-balanced life is something worth striving for, but human nature being what it is, balance is not always easily achieved. Today the readings deal with the question of balance and consistency regarding how we expect God to treat us and the ways we deal with each other. Resentment, vengeance, and anger can all find their place in the human heart and Ecclesiasticus advises that a more tolerant approach is more beneficial. If we cannot forgive each other, how can anyone expect God to forgive our failings?

Matthew approaches the question from the other direction. Rather than looking at what we will receive from the Lord, the striking parable of the two debtors teaches us to look at what we have already received. Since God has already looked kindly and mercifully on us this should lead to a corresponding degree of forbearance with one another.

While it is not stated in today's reading from Romans, Paul is dealing with a community where there was some tension regarding eating meat left over from temple sacrifices. For the more liberal members of the community eating this meat was not a problem. Others in the community were scandalised and thought it was idolatry. Paul's approach is to remind both groups that whatever we do influences our brothers and sisters. As Christians, the way to find a sense of balance is to remember that we are called to live for the Lord. Sometimes this calls us to die to ourselves to preserve peace and unity. Christ gave his life for us all, should we not do the same for each other?

FIRST READING

Sir 27:30–28:7

A reading from the Book of Sirach.

Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.

Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 102: 1-4, 9-12. R. v. 8

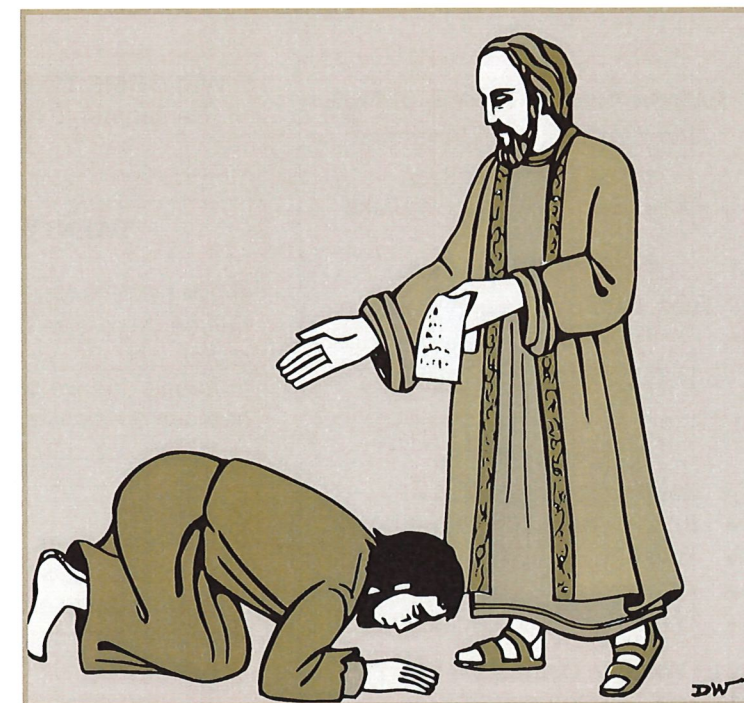
R. The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, / all my being, bless his holy name. / My soul, give thanks to the Lord / and never forget all his blessings. **R.**

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, / who heals every one of your ills, / who redeems your life from the grave, / who crowns you with love and compassion. **R.**

3. His wrath will come to an end; / he will not be angry for ever. / He does not treat us according to our sins / nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**

4. For as the heavens are high above the earth / so strong is his love for those who fear him. / As far as the east is from the west / so far does he remove our sins. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 14: 7-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 13: 34

Alleluia, alleluia! / I give you a new commandment: / love one another as I have loved you. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 18: 21-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

Christopher Monaghan CP



NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC CHURCH
Parish of Belmont-Redcliffe and Cloverdale
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T: 9277 4094 | E: michael.do@perthcatholic.org.au

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345 Wright Street, Cloverdale
www.ndparish.org.au
Parish Secretary: Leonie Blake

Parish Office Hours:
Tues, Wed & Fri: 9am – 12noon
T: 9277 4094
E: ndparish@bigpond.net.au

MASS TIMES

- **Sat: 6.00pm Vigil Mass**
- **Sun: 8.00am, 10.00am, 6.00pm**
- Tuesday: 5.30pm
- Wednesday: 8.45am
- Thursday - Saturday: 8.30am

24th Week in Ordinary Time YR A
17 Sun: 24th Sunday O/T
18 Mon: No Mass
19 Tues: Weekday Mass
20 Wed: Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon & Paul Chong Ha-sang & Companions, Martyrs (School Mass)
21 Thu: St Matthew
22 Fri: Weekday Mass
23 Sat: St Pius of Pietrelcina/ Vigil
25th Sunday in O/T

SACRAMENTS & PRAYERS

- Reconciliation: Sat 9am-9.30am
- Rosary: Sat 8am
- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Fri 9am-5pm
- Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help: Wed 6.30pm

For Baptisms & Weddings
Please call the Parish Office

PARISH FAITH FORMATION

- **Bible Studies:** Tuesday @6pm in the Parish Centre - All welcome.
- **RCIA:** Tuesday @7.15pm.
- **Children's RE/Sacrament Prep:** Thursday @4.30pm during school terms.

PARISH SCHOOLS

Notre Dame Catholic Primary
360 Daly Street, Cloverdale WA 6105
6272 7100 | www.nds.wa.edu.au

St Maria Goretti's Catholic School
64 Morrison Street, Redcliffe WA 6104
6279 2000 | www.smg.wa.edu.au

WELCOME TO MASS! A very warm welcome to all, especially to new visitors. Remember to hand sanitise on entry, face masks are optional wear whilst in church. Thank you for your cooperation.

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

HOW OFTEN MUST I FORGIVE? There is much truth in the proverb, 'to err is human, to forgive divine.' We all make mistakes. We all do or say things we later regret. And yet, when others wrong us, we can find it beyond our human strength to forgive. As we celebrate the mystery of Christ's love today, let us ask Jesus to heal our divisions and fill our hearts with his spirit of forgiveness.

MASS COLLECTIONS

Dear Parishioners, the COVID-19 crisis has impacted our liturgies and church celebrations. However, we still want to provide you with spiritual support, and we must continue to pay the bills. Please continue your monetary support to the Parish. Sign up to our Planned Giving program or you can use direct debit (contact Parish Office for details). Thank you.

PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS	First Collection EFT Details		Second Collection EFT Details	
	A/C Name: Cloverdale Presbytery		A/C Name: Cloverdale Parish	
	BSB:	086 006	BSB:	086 006
	Account #:	140 608 771	Account #:	667 172 433
	Reference:	Name	Reference:	Name

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES ROSTER

Mass	Acolyte	Commentator	Readers	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers
Saturday 23rd Sept 6.00pm	Robert Lam Nguyen		M Jackson T Khoo	C Nguyen M Jackson	A Khoo
Sunday 24th Sept 8.00am	George Sekulla	R Bennett	S Robinson Alina Sali	L Turuva M Smith	T Harding
Sunday 24th Sept 10.00am	Malcolm Barraclough	V Erskine	A Semaan V Conier	J Jong T Seputro	C & C Empleo
Sunday 24th Sept 6.00pm	Acolyte Required		T Fernandez N Barker	B Ryan S Rodrigues	S Barker M Lanarolle

PARISH MINISTRIES CONTACTS

Parish Council Chairman:	Dr George Sekulla JP	georgesequilla@hotmail.com
Safeguarding Officer:	Sandra Irene	sandra.ire28@gmail.com
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Notre Dame Youth Group:	Kevin Muchira	88kevinmuchira@gmail.com
Notre Dame Care:	Sandra Robinson	robinsonsandras5@gmail.com
Parish Social Committee:	Leonie Blake	ndparish@bigpond.net.au
St Vincent de Paul:	John Harbinson	ndparish@bigpond.net.au

Parish Events

Masses in the Parish

As of Friday 4th November 2022, the State Government announced that WA was no longer in a State of Emergency, however some restrictions will still apply.

Sunday 4th September 2022, 'The Sunday Obligation' for the faithful was re-instituted by Archbishop Timothy Costelloe. This means that you are required to attend Sunday Mass, unless you are unwell. Although Mask-wearing is no longer mandatory in places of worship, it is your right to exercise common sense. If you wish to continue to wear a face mask while attending Mass, you are free to do so. Please hand sanitise as you are entering the church. If you are unwell or have a cold, please stay home until feeling better.

Mass at Home available on CH10 6am Sunday morning or go www.massforyou.com.au

Pilgrim Statues

If you wish to have one of 'Our Lady's' statues visit your home for a week, please contact Sandra Robinson on H: 9277 2872 or M: 0405 117 138. **16th September:** H Mendonca 51 Midgley St Lathlain & T Fernandez 4 Dodds Green Cloverdale.

Altar Server Training – Commencing September

Altar Server Training will commence this coming Monday – 18th September @ 3.30pm in the Church and continue 25th Sept, 2nd & 9th October.

RCIA Commencement for 2023/2024

If you know of anyone who would like to join the Catholic Faith Community, our RCIA has commenced, but it is not too late to join for the classes @ 7pm in the parish centre. Please contact Parish Office & details will be passed onto Ann, our coordinator.

Parish Thanksgiving Mass & Supper – 7th October

Fr Quynh & The Parish Pastoral Council cordially invite all parishioners who have assisted in the parish in any way during 2023 to a Mass to be celebrated in 'Thanksgiving' of your commitment to the life of the parish by your generous involvement.

Mass on Saturday 7th October 2023 @ 6pm followed by a light supper in the Parish Centre @ 7pm. Please RSVP to the Parish Office or the RSVP Sheets at either entrance to the church by 1st October.

Funeral for the Coming Week

Friday 22nd September: Requiem Mass will be celebrated in the church @ 1pm for the late Mrs Margaret Marie MacFarlane.

Australian Catholics – Magazine

Spring 2023 Edition available at both entrances of the church. Please take a copy.

Special Note of Thanks

Catholic Missions Appeal 2023: The amount donated by Cloverdale parish was **\$2,097.00**. Thankyou for your generous response, this will go towards helping our medical missionaries in East timor.

Pregnancy Assist: Many thanks to those that donated nappies, baby clothes, wipes, personal & baby toiletries and cash. Your generosity makes a difference to those in need.

Around the Archdiocese

St John Bosco Relics Tour

With special connection to Perth, St John Bosco's relics embark on national tour to celebrate Salesian centenary. Encased within an intricately designed glass casket, the relic statue houses a wax replica of the saint's body, along with a treasured relic. Among the revered sites to host the statue are St Mary's Cathedral Perth, Kelmscott Parish Good Shepherd Church, Fremantle Parish St Patrick's Basilica, Lockridge Parish Good Shepherd Church, and Banksia Grove Parish John Paul II Church. Full list of times and places are on the notice boards.

Safeguarding Induction Training Online Course

Training Level 1 is for all church workers, paid or volunteers, who have not attended the course in the last 3 years. The overview provides and overview of the Safeguarding Policies & Procedures.

For more information Ph: 08 9221 7762

E: safeguarding@perthcatholic.org.au or

<https://safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au/training/>.

Next Session is: Thursday 19th September @ 2pm @ Redemptorist Monastery North Perth, Wednesday 20th September 6.30pm – 7.30pm @ St Mary's Catholic Church 21 James St Guildford.

You can book online or phone Ingka 9221 7762.

Notre Dame Community

Containers for Change

The parish has registered for the Containers for Change Scheme. Take your cans, bottles & plastics to 'TOMRA RECYCLING CENTRE' 41 - 43 Abernethy Rd Belmont (just past Wheeler St) scan the bar code and follow instructions. All monies will be paid into the 'Parish Building Fund Account'. Flyers available with all details on including the 'barcode' to scan.



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In Our Prayers...

In Memoriam

We commend to the Father's love all our faithful departed especially: *Raymond Joseph Kesler, Stella George, George Mendez, Michael Edakulathur, deceased members of Kim Nguyen's family, deceased members of the Xavier Family, Domenico Ciccotosto, Francis & Michael de Rozario, Marivel Rabino, William Napoli, Michael James Murray, recently deceased Margaret Marie MacFarlane and all souls in Purgatory.*

Parishioners who are unwell:

Peter Butcher, Deacon Al & Aileen Atkinson, Anne Redmond, Maureen & Oliver Daly, Ravi Ratnayake, Fran Carter, Marjorie Williams, Blaga Juras, Glen Arathoon, Wilton Ottaway & Sharon Bridger.

Baptisms:

We welcome into our Catholic Faith Community; *Amara Ysabelle Tan.*

