

to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

#### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# Breaking Open the Word

## GOD'S WAYS ARE NOT OURS

One of the misconceptions that Christians often have about the Old Testament is that God is portrayed as harsh and unforgiving. We are all too used to contrasting the Old Testament view of God and the loving Father of Jesus that emerges in his teaching and ministry. It is important to remember that it was the Hebrew Scriptures that shaped Jesus' own understanding of God as a loving father.

The first reading from Isaiah clearly challenges misconceptions we might have that the God of Israel is not merciful. Isaiah encourages the wicked to change their ways precisely because God's ways are not ours. While we might tend to punish, God's mercy reveals a sovereignty that is often beyond our grasp and understanding. Jesus' parable of the owner of the vineyard who deals with all the workers in an even-handed and generous manner is, or can be, just as challenging for us to comprehend. Sinners who repent, and those who have always been devout, will all receive the same reward. Indeed, God's ways are far from those of our world.

Paul finds himself in a quandary. He knows that God is a loving God, and his ultimate desire is to be with God. On the other hand, he knows how his fledgling community in Philippi needs his presence and support. Caught between the good of caring for the Philippian community and that of wanting to finish his journey to be with the Lord, he wrestles and struggles with what is best. In the end, the problem is resolved because he knows his reward lies before him. In the meantime, there is still much work to be done.

Christopher Monaghan CP



# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

24 SEPTEMBER 2023

## FIRST READING

Isa 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*My thoughts are not your thoughts.*

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,  
call to him while he is still near.  
Let the wicked man abandon his way,  
the evil man his thoughts.  
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take  
pity on him,  
to our God who is rich in forgiving;  
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who  
speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth  
as my ways are above your ways,  
my thoughts above your thoughts.

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESP PSALM

Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18. R. v. 18

**R.** The Lord is near to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day / and praise  
your name for ever. / The Lord is great,  
highly to be praised, / his greatness cannot be  
measured. **R.**

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, /  
slow to anger, abounding in love. / How good  
is the Lord to all, / compassionate to all his  
creatures. **R.**

3. The Lord is just in all his ways / and loving  
in all his deeds. / He is close to all who call  
him, / who call on him from their hearts. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Phil 1:20-24, 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the  
Philippians

*For me to live is Christ.*

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by  
my life or by my death. Life to me, of course,  
is Christ, but then death would bring me  
something more; but then again, if living in this  
body means doing work which is having good  
results – I do not know what I should choose.



I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone  
and be with Christ, which would be very much  
the better, but for me to stay alive in this body  
is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that  
would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia! / Open our hearts,  
O Lord, / to listen to the words of your  
Son. / Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Mt 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Matthew.

*Why are you jealous because I am generous?*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of  
heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak





## NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish of Belmont-Redcliffe and Cloverdale  
Cnr Wright & Daly Streets, Cloverdale WA 6105

PARISH PRIEST: REV FR MICHAEL QUYNH DO  
T: 9277 4094 | E: [michael.do@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:michael.do@perthcatholic.org.au)

**PARISH PRESBYTERY & OFFICE**  
345 Wright Street, Cloverdale  
[www.ndparish.org.au](http://www.ndparish.org.au)  
Parish Secretary: Leonie Blake

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

**25<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time YR A**  
**24 Sun:** 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday O/T  
**25 Mon:** No Mass  
**26 Tues:** Weekday Mass  
**27 Wed:** St Vincent de Paul  
**28 Thu:** Weekday Mass  
**29 Fri:** Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael  
**30 Sat:** St Jerome/ Vigil 26<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.nds.wa.edu.au)

**St Maria Goretti's Catholic School**  
64 Morrison Street, Redcliffe WA 6104  
6279 2000 | [www.smg.wa.edu.au](http://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-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

*MY WAYS ARE ABOVE YOUR WAYS. Those who had laboured in the vineyard all day were angry when the owner paid the latecomers the same wage. Like the story of the prodigal son, this parable reminds us that the kingdom of heaven is not characterised by our limited concepts of justice but by a compassion that knows no limits. May we not be envious at the good fortune of others but rejoice that we too are loved deeply by God.*

### 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 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept 6.00pm	Greg Kempton		M Carino I Iwansantoso	J Fardy I Iwansantoso	D & C Oee G Iwansantoso
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct 8.00am	George Sekulla	L Blake	M Smith J Joji	K Nguyen L Blake	P Sekulla
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct 10.00am	Ashley Rebeiro	A Semaan	C Neville J Branchi	A Semaan V Erskine	A&M Alacantha
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct 6.00pm	Pedro Borja		V Conier G Godfrey	J & R Fernandez	A Pravin Leo

### PARISH MINISTRIES CONTACTS

Parish Council Chairman:	Dr George Sekulla JP	<a href="mailto:georgesekulla@hotmail.com">georgesekulla@hotmail.com</a>
Safeguarding Officer:	Sandra Irene	<a href="mailto:sandra.ire28@gmail.com">sandra.ire28@gmail.com</a>
Safeguarding Officer:	Velma Erskine	<a href="mailto:vel.erskine@cewa.edu.au">vel.erskine@cewa.edu.au</a>
Sacristan:	Shirley D'Castro	<a href="mailto:shirleyedwina@hotmail.com">shirleyedwina@hotmail.com</a>
Acolytes:		
Bible Study & RCIA:	Ann Semaan	<a href="mailto:semaana@hotmail.com">semaana@hotmail.com</a>
Children's RE & Sacraments:	Muriel Bijoux	<a href="mailto:mbijoux@optusnet.com.au">mbijoux@optusnet.com.au</a>
Notre Dame Youth Group:	Kevin Muchira	<a href="mailto:88kevinmuchira@gmail.com">88kevinmuchira@gmail.com</a>
Notre Dame Care:	Sandra Robinson	<a href="mailto:robinsonsandras@gmail.com">robinsonsandras@gmail.com</a>
Parish Social Committee:	Leonie Blake	<a href="mailto:ndparish@bigpond.net.au">ndparish@bigpond.net.au</a>
St Vincent de Paul:	John Harbinson	<a href="mailto:ndparish@bigpond.net.au">ndparish@bigpond.net.au</a>

## Parish Events

### Masses in the Parish

As of Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022, the State Government announced that WA was no longer in a State of Emergency, however some restrictions will still apply. **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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. **23<sup>rd</sup> September:** N & J Rowe 7 Gilroy St, Cloverdale & T Fernandez 4 Dodds Green Cloverdale.

### Altar Server Training – Commencing September

Altar Server Training continues this coming Monday – 25<sup>th</sup> September @ 3.30pm in the Church and continues 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> 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 – 7<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> October.

### First Sunday of the Month Morning Tea & Food Stall

Morning Tea will be served in the Parish Centre next Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October after the 8am & 10am Masses. Curry, Noodles, Spring Rolls, Curry Puffs, Lemon Butter & Assortment of Cakes will be on Sale also. Proceeds of the Food Stall to the PBF.

### We Are One – Multidenominational Prayer Gathering

**Sunday, 24 September, 2pm to 3.30pm, St Mary's Cathedral, Victoria Square, Perth.** A special multi-denominational prayer gathering, praying for unity across the churches. This in preparation for the upcoming 'World Prayer Assembly'. All Welcome. Further info; [fmi@flameministries.org](mailto:fmi@flameministries.org).

### Funeral Details for the Late Mrs Avril Pears

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September:** Rosary @ 11am in Notre Dame Church followed by Requiem Mass @ 11.30. Burial at Karrakatta Cemetery @ 1.30pm. The Pears Family have been long serving Parishioners of our community for many years.

## Around the Archdiocese

### 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](mailto:safeguarding@perthcatholic.org.au) or <https://safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au/training/>.  
Next Session is: Online Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 10am.  
You can book online or phone Ingka 9221 7762.

### Catholic Archdiocese of Perth Employment Opportunities

The Catholic Archdiocese of Perth has a number of employment opportunities for suitably qualified persons to join its team and continue the good work of the Church. For details, refer to <https://www.perthcatholic.org.au/Employment.htm>. The roles listed are for **IMMEDIATE START**.  
• **Accounts Payable Officer – Fixed Term (12 Months), Full-Time**  
• **Catholic Youth Ministry: Media Officer – Fixed Term (12 Months), Full-Time**  
• **Aboriginal Catholic Ministry: Pastoral Assistant – Permanent, Full-Time** (Aboriginality is a specification for this position in accordance with Section 50(d), Equal Opportunity Act 1984.)

## 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.



C10394094

### In Our Prayers...

#### In Memoriam

We commend to the Father's love all our faithful departed especially: *Raymond Joseph Kessler, Sharon Fletcher, Ivy & Harry Klass, Brian Aitken, Alfred Taylor, John, Victoria & Ralph Jackson, deceased members of Kim Nguyen's family, Isidra Marfil, Maria & Sylvester D'Cruz, Charles Pears, recently deceased Avril Pears and all souls in Purgatory.*

#### Parishioners who are unwell:

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

#### Baptisms:

We welcome into our Catholic Faith Community; *Maxie Dion Gavilo & Abigail Yucheng Wong.*

