

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Happy are the poor in spirit.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

‘How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:

they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:

they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for

what is right:

they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:

they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:

they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:

they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.’

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

29 JANUARY 2023

WORKING FOR GOD'S KINGDOM

There is a consistency between the Old Testament reading and the Gospel of today in that they speak of the qualities that should mark the life of faith in the face of difficulty – integrity, humility, truthfulness, and steadfastness. There is a call to hope that despite the presence of obstacles, misunderstanding, and sometimes rejection, God still has the power to intervene in our world. For the people in exile, it was no easy matter to continue to believe that God would intervene to re-establish the faithful in their own land. Would it have been any easier for the people of Jesus' time to hear the words of the beatitudes that proclaimed comfort for mourners, or a sumptuous banquet for those who were starving? There is a fundamental challenge that underlies both these readings: do we really believe that God's kingdom can be established in our midst? Secondly, are we prepared to work to bring that kingdom into reality?

While the Christians of Corinth felt they were living in that reality Paul knew that while there was division the process of conversion still had a long way to go. Paul was convinced that there is no place for competition or envy. He had already used the example of Jesus' humble death to show them that jealousy is misplaced in the Christian community since Jesus displayed his power in humble service. He now goes one step further reminding the Corinthians that their own humble origin is a sign that God's call is best received with humble gratitude.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Zeph 2: 3; 3: 12-13

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

In your midst I will leave a humble and a lowly people.

Seek the Lord

all you, the humble of the earth,
who obey his commands.

Seek integrity, seek humility:

you may perhaps find shelter
on the day of the anger of the Lord.

In your midst I will leave
a humble and lowly people,

and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge

in the name of the Lord.

They will do no wrong,

will tell no lies;

and the perjured tongue will no longer
be found in their mouths.

But they will be able to graze and rest
with no one to disturb them.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 145: 7-10

R. Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! (or Alleluia!)

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, /
who is just to those who are oppressed. / It is
he who gives bread to the hungry, / the Lord,
who sets prisoners free. **R.**

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, /
who raises up those who are bowed down, /
the Lord, who protects the stranger / and
upholds the widow and orphan. **R.**

3. It is the Lord who loves the just / but
thwarts the path of the wicked. / The Lord
will reign for ever, / Zion's God, from age to
age. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 1: 26-31

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning.

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 5: 12

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad:

your reward will be great in heaven.

Alleluia!

Welcome to
Innaloo/Karrinyup Catholic Parish

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Bernard Lanarolle

bernard.lanarolle@perthcatholic.org.au

Deacon: Gregory Lowe

greg.lowe@perthcatholic.org.au

Parish Office 19 Phillips Grove, Innaloo

Parish office phone: 9446 1666

innaloo.karrinyup@perthcatholic.org.au

www.innalookarrinyup.perthcatholic.org.au

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reflection:

People of faith, inspired by the Beatitudes, have a different way of looking at life. Living our "beatitude calling" is difficult, but we know God stands with us and, in our daily lives, help us put flesh on the Beatitudes. Even as we try, stumble and try again to live the Beatitudes, we hear Jesus' reassurance, "You are already blessed."

So we ask ourselves:

- Concretely how do we experience the opposition of others because of our faith?
- What gives us strength to continue to live out that faith despite the obstacles we face?

Sunday of the Word of God

The Church in Australia celebrates the *Sunday of the Word of God* on the first Sunday in February. All lectors (Readers) who undertook the training programme last year will be commissioned next weekend. We also ask everyone to bring their Bible to Mass for a blessing.

Welcome Back

We warmly welcome back to our parish schools, all students, staff, and parents. We hope you had a safe and relaxing break. May 2023 be an exciting and productive school year!

MASS THIS WEEKEND

*The Rosary will be prayed 20 minutes
before weekend Masses*

Sat 28 Jan 6pm St Dom
Sun 29 Jan 8am OLCG
Sun 29 Jan 9.30am St Dom

MASS DURING THE WEEK

Tues 31 Jan 7pm no service St Dom
Wed 1 Feb 9am communion service St Dom
Thurs 2 Feb 9am communion service OLCG
Fri 3 Feb 9am communion service St Dom
Sat 4 Feb 9am communion service St Dom

MASS NEXT WEEKEND

Sat 4 Feb 6pm St Dom
Sun 5 Feb 8am OLCG
Sun 5 Feb 9.30am St Dom

Sacramental Parent's Meeting

Parents with children preparing for the sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy communion & Confirmation are invited to attend the parent's meeting. This meeting is compulsory. You may attend either day.

- OLGC: Wednesday 8 February 2pm
- St Dominic: Thursday 9 February 5.30pm

St Vincent de Paul Society

The St Vincent de Paul Society Conference needs help to continue in the Parish. Last year we received over 400 calls for food and other help. New members are needed to join the Conference to help poor people in need in our local community. If you have 2 hours a week to support others and can attend 2 meetings a month lasting an hour and a half, then we would welcome your assistance. Come along & join the friendly Conference. Lots of support provided. All enquiries very welcome.

Contact Barbara 0488100799.

Safeguarding Officers

St Dominic's - Isabelle Brewer 0459 537 045
OLGC - Dr Rina Cercarelli (PhD) 0413 835 852

Upcoming Events

Parish AGM: 19 February after 9.30am Mass in St Dominic's parish hall.

Rosters this weekend	28 Jan 6pm St Dom	29 Jan 8am OLCG	29 Jan 9.30am St Dom
Readers	J Stevenson	K Wear	C Nevin
Acolyte	P Wall		I Baviah
Offertory Procession		E Gomm D D'Souza	
Altar Society	Group 2	M Farmer	
Morning Tea		M Smith J Gates	

Rosters next weekend	4 Feb 6pm St Dom	5 Feb 8am OLCG	5 Feb 9.30am St Dom
Readers	A Laure	M Smith	E Von Perger
Acolyte	W Italiano		D Ee
Offertory Procession		W McC E Jeffery	
Altar Society	Group 3		
Morning Tea		K Wear E Jeffery	

Parish Twilight Golf Social Group

Knowing our parish has several keen golfers, we are looking for expressions of interest to form a social group to play fortnightly over the next few months. The initial tee off will be at Hamersley Golf Course on Sunday 19 February followed by a BBQ. Those who don't golf can join us for the BBQ. This is a great way to get to know our fellow parishioners. Contact: Pat Wall 0401 686 140 or Father 9446 1666 or email bernard.lanarolle@perthcatholic.org.au