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| **~ GOSPEL REFLECTION ~**  ***Immaculate Conception Parish***  P O BOX 600 Tumut  Catholic Community  Collection amounts for January 2016 ~PARISH NEWS~  ~ PARISH NEWS ~ |

Until fairly recently, the Jewishness of Jesus was often downplayed, even ignored. Today’s gospel passage has Jesus affirming the most central of Jewish traditions, namely the command of Deuteronomy 6 known as the *Shema* (so called from the first word in the statement meaning ‘hear’). The words of the *Shema* are recited repeatedly every day by every faithful Jew. Although not a prayer in itself, the *Shema* is an integral part of Jewish liturgy and prayer. It is a credal statement that still functions like an overture to Jewish life and practice. The doorpost at the entrance to a Jewish home generally features a tiny rectangular box known as a *mezuzah*. It contains a scroll bearing the text of the *Shema*. Those who enter touch the *mezuzah* with the greatest reverence. When I first encountered this practice, I was deeply affected by the power of the symbol to link one with the deep story of a people, in this case with that of the Jewish people.

In Matthew’s story, Jesus the Jew provides an honest response to the less than honest questioning of an expert in Jewish law. He overlooks the hostility of the lawyer and evokes the text of the *Shema*. Jesus thus invites the lawyer to return to the heart of their shared tradition. He links the teaching of the *Shema* on wholehearted love of God with a second commandment taken from the book of Leviticus 19: ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself’. The lawyer’s unfair “testing” of Jesus is evidence that this is precisely what he fails to do: he addresses Jesus as teacher, a term of respect, and yet fails to show him the respect due to him as neighbour. For Jesus, the whole of the Torah and the teaching of the prophets can be summed up in the commandments to love God with all one’s being-heart, soul, and mind, and to love one’s neighbour as oneself. Not just love, but *intensity of love* is the issue here. We see such intensity of love in the lives of people like Dr Catherine Hamlin and the late Dr Reg Hamlin whose fistula hospital in Addis Ababa has, since 1959, restored health and dignity to the most marginalised of women. I see it in the heroism of my own friends who pour out their lives for the sake of those in communities remote from the centres of power, in Timor Leste and elsewhere. The witness of their commitment functions like the *mezuzah* in our lives: it draws us back into the heart of the gospel tradition and calls us to a deeper, more intense love. ***An excerpt by Sr. Veronica Lawson***



**‘CLERGY’**

* **Fr. Sijo Jose (Parish Priest)**
* **Fr. Luke Verrell (Assistant Priest)**

**‘PARISH SECRETARY’**

**Anna Quinn**

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**‘WEEKEND MASS TIMES’**

**Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm**

**Sunday: 10am (Children’s Liturgy)**

**Talbingo Sunday: 8.00am**

**‘THIS WEEKS MASS TIMES’**

**Tuesday: 6pm**

**Wednesday: 10am (School Mass)**

**Thursday & Friday: 8am**

**Saturday: 9am (every fortnight - Thursday: 11am BUPA Liturgy**

**Saturday: 9.40am BLAKENEY LODGE Liturgy)**

**‘ROSARY’**

**Saturday at 8.45am**

**Exposition at 8.30am (1st Sat of month)**

**‘RECONCILIATION’**

**Saturday at 5.15pm**

**‘LITURGY MEETING’**

**Tuesday: 2.00pm in Chapel**

**‘PRAYER GROUP’**

**(Rosary & Divine Mercy)**

**Wednesday: 2pm in Chapel**

**‘CONTACTS’**

**Care Group: Anne Huebner 69473406**

***Gospel Acclamation***

**Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!**

***Responsorial Psalm***

**I love you, Lord, my strength.**

***Entrance Antiphon***

**Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.**

**30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Year A**

**October 29th 2017**

***Gospel Acclamation***

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Alleluia, alleluia! Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed; the Saviour of the world will be our king. Alleluia!

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| T THIS WEEK Saturday & Sunday 28th & 29th October | | | |
| Ministry | Saturday Vigil 6pm | Sunday 10am | |
| Acolyte | John Hickson | Anne Huebner | |
| Reader | Pat Spannagle | Liz Boxall | |
| Commentator | Maureen Cook | Mary Kelly | |
| Children’s Liturgy | ---------- | Caitlin Larter | |
| Musicians | Anna Quinn | Patricia & Monica | |
| Altar Servers | To be advised | To be advised | |
| Church Care  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  LINEN Jo Little | Group 3: The Dobbie Family | | |
| NEXT WEEK Saturday & Sunday 4th & 5th November | | | |
| Ministry | Vigil 6pm | | 10am |
| Acolyte | Christine Kelly | | Cath Purcell |
| Reader | Anita Mason | | Howard Young |
| Commentator | Shirley Kenny | | Patricia Wilks |
| Children’s Liturgy | ---------- | | Pat Spannagle |
| Musicians | Patricia & Monica | | Maureen Norman |
| Altar Servers | To be advised | | To be advised |
| Church Care | ---------------------- | | |

Feast Day**Wishing all our wonderful dads a Happy Father’s Day**

R O S T E R S

**FEAST DAYs**

**1st November: All Saints Day 2nd November: All Souls Day 4th November: Saint Charles Borromeo**

**SAVE THE DATE November is the month we pray especially for our deceased relatives and friends. In remembering and giving thanks, our loved ones continue to be a source of strength, blessing and healing for us. I invite you to come and join our parish at a Memorial Mass on Wednesday 10th November at 6pm.**

**~PARISH NEWS~**

**CLERGY APPOINTMENT** Archbishop Christopher Prowse has made the following parish appointments from Monday 1st January 2018 – Fr. Luke Verrell has been assigned to Bega and Fr. George Ogah will commence duties here in Tumut.  **SONGS OF PRAISE** will be hosted by the Tumut Valley Community Church this Sunday 29th October 2017 at 7pm. It would be lovely to have a big representative group from our Catholic Community attend. **TUMUT COMMUNITY CHRTISTMAS DAY LUNCHEON** Preparations are happening for this event, and the working group is looking for additional volunteers to help on the day, and/or as a lead up to Christmas. If you are interested in being involved, please contact Patricia on 0401472161. **CHURCH CLEANERS** as we have had no response asking for more volunteers, we are going to trial cleaning the church once a fortnight starting this weekend, your name will appear on the bulletin when it is your turn. **AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL** The Archdiocese of Sydney is hosting this Festival from December 7th to 9th 2017. The festival will launch the National Year of Youth, celebrating ten years on from hosting World Youth Day 2008. The Archdiocese is encouraging schools, and parishes to participate. For more information and registration go to [www.cgyouthministry.org.au/acyf](http://www.cgyouthministry.org.au/acyf) **SPECIAL THANKS** to our Vigil Mass Acolyte this weekend **John Hickson**

**We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith especially:**

**RECENTLY DECEASED: Francis Ian Barbour**

**MASS HAS BEEN REQUESTED FOR:**

Celia Mullaly, Sr. Mary Francis Daly, Sr. Mary Jo Wells, Sr. Lorna Woodroff, Jim McInerney, Kath Stuckey, Gus & Kath Clout, Ab & Mildred Shanahan, Ina Clout, Timothy Blakeney, Madeling Fenn, Jan Salan, Chris Ballard, Maude Kelly, Hector, Annie & Kevin Turner, Russell & Peter Ritchie, Norma Leyden, Russell Breward, Maria & Hans Van de Brug, Reg Millgate, Joan Liddell, Lois Shallow, Helen Corbett, Frank, Eileen & Marie Malone, Edward, Marcy & Clem Malone, Frank Stanfield, John Callister, Imelda, Bede & Francis McInerney, Teresa Butler, Joan Stockwell, Emmet Donovan, Rudi & Filomena Comai, Hassel McGrath, Noel Cook, Leo & Elvie Holt, Lionel & Tereasa Holt, Hugh Oliver, Pat Malone, Jim Whitaker, Matt & Edith Downing, Con & Ennis Twomey, Pauline Shedden, Bob & Sheila Wortes, Robert & Gertrude Tuncks, Ron & Pauline Hamilton, John Hourigan, Tom & Dorothy French and James Kelly.

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[](http://www.google.com.au/url?sa=i&source=imgres&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0CAkQjRwwAGoVChMI7K2CkrGjxwIV5SWmCh0TNwb2&url=http://www.can.org.au/News/216/Big_thanks_to_ChillOut.aspx&ei=XybLVayCBuXLmAWT7piwDw&psig=AFQjCNFa5XonRxBDPuH7vZduLQA2OEEhbQ&ust=1439463391209159)