

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

GOSPEL

Mt 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

29 OCTOBER 2023

THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

Communities, like the individuals that make them up, cannot exist or grow without reflecting on their stories. In remembering our past, we are reminded of lessons learnt, values shared, and obstacles overcome.

While the setting for the first reading is that of the time of the Exodus it clearly reflects the problems the Israelites faced when they had settled in the land. In order to resolve these problems, they are called to remember that they are a people where every member should be valued, especially those who cannot defend themselves. The other person is precious to God and has a dignity that is to be respected and preserved. They are reminded of their past so as to build a present that is just and equitable.

Jesus in his turn was asked what the most important commandment of the law was. The law of Moses was that formative and guiding tradition that shaped the Jewish people's self-understanding. In a sense, by asking what is the greatest commandment the Pharisees were asking, who are we? Jesus' reply is that we can only be truly ourselves when we can balance a wholehearted love of God with care for our brothers and sisters.

As Paul reflects on the history of the Thessalonian community, he praises God for the way they have overcome numerous obstacles. In the midst of opposition, they remained faithful to each other and to the Lord, so much so that they became a base for Paul's further missionary endeavour in the rest of Greece.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Ex 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans."

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51. R. v. 2

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength, / my rock, my fortress, my saviour. / My God is the rock where I take refuge; / my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. / The Lord is worthy of all praise: / when I call I am saved from my foes. **R.**

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock! / Praised be the God who saves me. / He has given great victories to his king / and shown his love for his anointed. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Thess 1:5-10

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

You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

■ The word of the Lord.



Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Croker
 Mobile : 0428 190 759
 Presbytery 02 8331 7609

Wednesdays- Fr. is at Bombala Parish
 Mass: 9.30am & Delegate 2nd Wed 10.30am

Parish Secretary:
 Mrs Sharon Nesbitt 02 8331 7608
 Office Opening Hours
 Mon Wed Thu open hours 9am-1pm/
 2-4.30pm away
 Email: cooma@cg.org.au

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Sacramental Program

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www.facebook.com/stpatcatholicparishcooma

Parish Pastoral Council:
 Darren 0429 904 291

www.cg.org.au/cooma

www.cg.org.au/Jindabyne

www.cg.org.au/Bombala

ST PATRICK'S PARISH FAMILY THREE PARISHES TOGETHER



Baptism Request forms can be located on Parish website/at Parish Office, Fr Mark will be available to celebrate during mass on 2nd Sunday of the mth

*CatholicMarriagePrep.com
 <hello@catholicmarriageprep.com*

St Patrick's Cooma Mass
 Mass Sunday's at 10am
 Cooma Sacrament of Reconciliation
 as requested after Mass
 St Patrick's Weekday
 Mass: Tues, Wed 5.30pm
 Thu, Fri 10am
 Except Third Friday of Month
 Nursing Home Mass
 9.30am Yallabee Lodge
 11am Sir William Hudson
 Adaminaby volunteer required-
 Nimmitabel
 Mass 3rd & 5th Sunday
 *5pm Sat Vigil Mass
 1st 2nd, 4th Sun- LITURGY Sat 5pm

Numeralla
 Mass 4th Sunday at 5.00pm
 LITURGY 2nd Sunday 5.00pm

Berridale
 Mass 2nd & 4th Sunday of month
 Vigil Mass Saturday's at 3.30pm
 1st 3rd & 5th Sunday Liturgy
 of the Word 10am Sunday

Jindabyne
 2nd 3rd & 4th = Vigil Mass 5pm Sat
 1st & 5th Sunday Liturgy 5pm Sat

*Please Pray for our Recently Deceased,
 "We have loved them in life, let us not forget them in death":
 Garry Pendergast, Patricia Hain, Ugo Patat.*

*Anniversaries & Special Intentions: "In loving memory of"
 Margaret Pendergast, Mary Phillips, Alan Field, Sally & Lloyd Reed.*

Prayers for our Sick: "We pray for the sick: may they feel the healing power of Christ and find comfort and hope in His constant presence" Shirley Blyton, Tania Giuliani, Jara Gregor, Don McDonald.

New to our Parish- please pick-up a Parish family census for completion and hand to Fr. Mark as an introduction to your new parish community

All Saints' Day is a solemn holy day of the Catholic Church celebrated 1st November annually
 9.30 am Bombala and 5.30pm Cooma
Holy Souls Day Thursday - 10am Mass Cooma

Catholic Mission - Mission Sunday



catholic mission Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/timor

Please continue to return any donations for the Catholic Mission envelopes to allow processing of Parish appeal donations to help support its work. This year there is a particular focus on the work of the Salesian Sisters who operate a health clinic and vocational school in Venilale in Timor-Leste. Thank you kindly to all who contribute to Catholic Mission. Envelopes can be returned via envelopes provided as cash or credit card donations, or you can donate on-line.

"Come Holy Spirit! You are warmly invited to the Archbishop's Teaching Day for Charismatic Renewal on Saturday 4 November from 8:30am to 2pm at Haydon Hall, Franklin Street, Manuka ACT. Speakers are Archbishop Christopher Prowse and Lalith Perera (founder of Community of the Risen Lord, Sri Lanka). Holy Mass, worship, preaching, prayer ministry and free BBQ lunch. To register, <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1133486>. For more information call/text Susanna 0419 902 293 or Tim 0404 805 082." See Parish Notice Board.

Fr Mark's Jokes:

No dues to God: A prosperous farmer was miserly in what he gave to his Church. So, his pastor went to visit him with the hope of getting him to increase his donation. The pastor pointed out to him that the Lord had given him a fertile piece of land and had blessed him with sunshine and rain so that his crops would grow. The priest added, "You know, this farm and everything you have is really on loan to you from God. You should be more grateful." The farmer replied, "I don't mean to complain, Father, but you should have seen what a mess this place was when God was running it by Himself!"

Roster	28 th Oct	5 th Nov
Acolyte	Darren Steinke	Richard Cmunt
Usher	Pauline Radsavljevic	Terri Rick
Reader/Commentator	Kevin Dunne Susan Tighe	Fran Robertson Suja Tessy
Special Minister	Jolanta Zieja	Sue McPhie
Mass Servers	Bosco family	
Children's Liturgy	Kellie Summerville	Carol Byrne
Linen	Gaie Mooney	
Church Care	5 th Carol Byrne Julie Upton Pam Stewart	12 th J-A Brown J Kelly G Mooney
Hospital	Kathleen Bashford	Joan Simpson

FLOWERS: Claire Neumeyer

We do need another team member to assist with our valued cleaning teams,

for new Rosters 2024 flexible volunteer 1hour of your time. Assist vacuum and dusting. Please talk to Fr Mark or Sharon ☺

Next weekend Readings

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time/ A	
1 st Reading	Malachi 1: 14-2: 2, 8-10
2 nd Reading	Thessalonians 1 Thess 2: 7-9, 13
Gospel	Matthew 23: 1-12



We have an extra Devices TAP n Go is available in Church entrance for your cashless donations

(Archdiocese split 70/30:
 1st & 2nd JUST TAP! The **New**

Smart Device at door has the option to *Choose your own* contribution amount - **Just select and tap!** *No need to remove the device from the stand please as the power disconnects from the device.*