

FIRST READING *Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31*

Give her a share in what she has worked for.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

SALMO RESPONSORIALE

Beato chi cammina nelle vie del Signore.

SECOND READING *Thessalonians 5:1-6*

The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. **Alleluia.**

GOSPEL *Matthew 25:14-30*

Because you have been faithful over a few things, enter into the joy of the Lord.

THANKS TO THOSE WHO GAVE LAST WEEK

1 st Collection	- Thanksgiving Offering.....	\$1112.00
	- Loose Money.....	\$270.00
2 nd Collection	- Presbytery/Priests.....	\$318.00

LECTORS - THIS WEEK 16/11/08

6.00pm (SAT) – L & M Dal Santo
 9.00am (SUN) – G Barbaro & A DeCata
 10.30am (SUN) – G Silvio & J Iaria

LECTORS – NEXT WEEK 23/11/08

6.00pm (SAT) – G Canavan & B Nadenbousch
 9.00am (SUN) – L Catena & R Mercuri
 10.30am (SUN) - J & J Kearney

CHURCH CLEANERS

22/11/08 J Aliphone, T Saleh & P Sparano

MONEY COUNTERS

17/11/08 P Cherubin, A Sinopoli & L Cavedon
 24/11/08 E Claridge, F Carabott & G Cananvan

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING

RECENTLY DECEASED

Angelina Cardamone Costanzo

ANNIVERSARIES

Nereo AGUGIARO, Giuseppe ANNETTA, Lucia ALIFRACO, Antonio ARENA, Rosa SCHIPANO, Domenica ARENA, Mario ANNETTA, Onofrio SCHINELLO, Giuseppe FATO, Saverio COLOSIMO, Attilia BIANCO, Luciano & Vincenza RIO, Luigi & Antonina PANCARI, Carmen & Emmanuel BORG

CANTO AL VANGELO

Alleluia, alleluia! .

Vegliate e state pronti, perche' non sapete in quale giorno il Signore verra'.

Alleluia.

SPECIAL MINISTERS

E Saliba
 P Sparano, R Pino & R Mercuri
 M Mizzi, Sr Doreen & J Frangiosa

SPECIAL MINISTERS

N Ziino
 D Biasibetti, R DeZan & G Barbaro
 D Lucato, A Mancuso & G Silvio

ST JOSEPH THE WORKER

NORTH RESERVOIR

79 Wilson Boulevard, North Reservoir 3073

Parish House/Office Tel: 9460 3013 Fax: 9460 8832 Mb: 0431 643 674

E-mail: stjtw@westnet.com.au

www.stjosephtheworker.org.au

School Tel: 9460 7506 Fax: 9462 2949

SUNDAY MASS TIMES:

Sat 6.00pm - English
 Sun. 9.00am - Italian
 Sun. 10.30am - English

Fr Emmanuel Bonello–Parish Priest

Sr Doreen Bentley-Pastoral Associate
 Mr Peter Chowne -School Principal
 Mrs Liz Pistoni – Parish Secretary

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Mon. 9.10am Comm. Service
 Tue. 10.00am Italian
 Wed. 9.10am - English
 Thur. 9.10am - English
 Fri. 9.10am - English
 Sat. 8.30am - English

Maltese Mass

1st Saturday of the Month 6.00pm

Baptisms – Sunday 12.00pm

Marriages - By Appointment



Reconciliation: Sat. 10.30am

33rd Sunday of Year A

November 16, 2008

We can all be winners

Most of us like a challenge. The sense of achievement that comes when the challenge is met or overcome can be very satisfying. Maybe this is one of the attractions of talent shows, which appear to be very much in fashion these days. People seem willing to subject themselves to avalanches of abuse and disappointment in the hope that ultimately they may achieve some fame or even their goal of being the star of a new musical. The television viewing figures for these programmes suggest that they are popular, which means they must be touching some chords with a lot of people. Interestingly modern psychologists tell us that deep down many of us suffer from low levels of self-esteem, so perhaps we should applaud anything which encourages people to recognise their gifts and use them. Certainly it is one of the great challenges for parents and teachers to try and nurture the gifts of children so that they have a healthy respect for themselves and for others. We know well enough that youngsters flourish when they are praised and encouraged and by contrast they tend to languish if they are the subject of constant adverse criticism.

The gospel story of the talents should lead us towards a healthy self-respect and regard for others. Our talents are God's gifts to us. They are ours to use in the service of others. It is when we selfishly or proudly guard them as our own that we create disorder and unhealthy attitudes. Presumably that is why the poor chap who buried his talent, frightened of the consequences of losing it, was so roundly condemned. The Gospel is always seeking to free us so that we can live expansive and joyful lives. We are sons and daughters of light and are called to be on the alert for every opportunity to serve. So rejoice with the winners and losers of the talent shows. May they and we rejoice in all the talents we have and be humble enough to know that they were given us by God.

As we approach the end of the year the Church challenges us to think about the ultimate purpose of things. When Paul wrote to the Thessalonians he was convinced that the end of the world was coming soon, but he still managed to put it all into perspective. We are not being called upon to do anything differently, but simply to get on with the business of living well, doing what we have to do and being ready for every eventuality. There is something very reassuring about the description of the perfect wife in the book of Proverbs: while women today would see their role and their gifts as extending beyond working with wool and flax, she is certainly presented as having everything in order and having a healthy and happy perspective on life. The point is that we do not have to worry because the prize has already been won for us, and unlike those on the talent shows we can all be winners of this prize.

FEASTS

Monday 17 November – St Elizabeth of Hungary

Friday 21 November – Presentation of the Virgin Mary

Saturday 22 November – St Cecilia

MEMORIAL MASSES

Thursday 20 November 6.30pm – Angelina Cardamone Costanzo (d. rec. in America)

7.30pm – Carmen & Emanuel Borg (Anniversary)

BAPTISM

Congratulations to **Jesse Hermence** child of Brendan and Teresa who will be baptised this weekend. We welcome him into our parish community and assure the family of our prayerful best wishes on this happy occasion.

ITALIAN LADIES

Martedì 18 Novembre alle ore 9.00am in cappella, ci sarà una riunione per tutti i membri del comitato. Segue Santa Messa ore 10.00am.

LOURDES DAY MASS 2008 - 150TH ANNIVERSARY 1858 - 2008

A special Mass of healing and hope for sick and infirmed people, their carers and all parishioners to be celebrated at St Patrick's Cathedral on Saturday 6 December 2008 at 10.30am.

MESSA DI LOURDES 2008 - ANNIVERSARIO 150 ANNI 1858 – 2008

Una Messa speciale sarà celebrata, per tutti i malati, infermi e per coloro che si prendano cura dei malati, e tutti parrocchiani. Il giorno 6 Dicembre 2008 nella Cattedrale di San Patrizio alle ore 10.30am

SOUTHERN STARS SOCIAL CLUB

Southern Stars Social Club Party Night for single Catholics 25-45 age group.

Saturday 29 November starting at 8.00pm

Location: Benedict House, St Benedict's Parish 301 Warrigal Rd Burwood Melways Map 61 H6

Cost: \$10.00 including lucky door prizes.

Enquiries: Peter 9885 2167 A/H

VI WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES, MEXICO CITY JANUARY 13-28 2009

All are welcome to this unique experience of the Universal Church, often dubbed 'WYD for families': three-day international Theological & Pastoral Congress, Vigil Festival celebrating family life in different cultures, concluding Eucharistic celebration at Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

An Australian pilgrimage to this meeting will be led by Bishop Eugene Hurley.

Information: Ron & Mavis Pirola (rmpirola@ozemail.com.au Ph: 02 9349 1710) or Harvest Pilgrimages (www.harvestpilgrimages.net.au)

YOUTH EVENT: VCSYA CONFERENCE 2008

Join AFL Footballers Daniel Wells (Kangaroos) and Jared Crouch (Sydney Swans) and many other great speakers for the Victorian Catholic Students and Young Adults Conference 2008. Includes workshops to help you with time management and the spiritual life as well as great talks on being a good worker and being a good student.

Ages: 15-30

Date: Saturday 6 December

Venue: Australian Catholic University

Contact: John (0430 032 666, vcyy@melbourne.catholic.org.au or www.vcsya.org.au/conf2008 for full details and to register.

WHITE RIBBON DAY 25th NOVEMBER 2008

White Ribbon Day is the United Nations International Day for elimination of violence against women, and falls on the 25th November every year. The White Ribbon campaign aims to prevent violence against Women and promote respectful relationships. It is led by men who are willing to take a stand for the violence against women, and be positive role models to other men in the community. White Ribbon Ambassadors are men who are willing to encourage other men in the community to participate in the global movement to eliminate Violence Against Women. For more information please have a look at the posters and some brochures available in the Narthex. As a Christian community we pray that every family and household will be an example of good relationship for the promotion of more unity, harmony and reconciliation in our community.



NOVEMBER – REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES

The month of November is dedicated by the Church as a special time remembering all the faithful departed. At the doors of the church there are slips of paper in both English and Italian to write the names of deceased family and friends. These will be put together and brought up in the offertory procession at all weekend Masses during November.

CENTACARE CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES

Centacare' Services for Students – Centacare Catholic Family Services provides a wide range of services that offer a safety net to families and individuals who are vulnerable or disadvantaged. These services include School Counselling and the cool2b@school School Refusal Program which may be of assistance to a child or young person you know.

School Counselling - Many parents can't afford to take their children to counselling. A school based service assists children who may otherwise not receive counselling and who may not have anyone else to talk to about their worries. The main presenting problems Centacare's school counsellors help address are low self esteem issues, social skills and disruptive behaviours.

THOUGHTS ON THE GOSPEL

It will not be enough for any of us to say, when eventually we stand before the judgment seat, that we never did any harm – the question will be: Did we ever do any good? If not, then we are no better than the good-for-nothing servant in the parable, and, like him, we shall incur the wrath of our Master.

Jesus is telling us that we are not here in this world to play safe. Of course we are to avoid doing wrong – that much is essential if we are to be his disciples, but it is enough. We are to make the best possible use of our time, our talents and our opportunities. Everything we have, whether in the spiritual or the material sphere, even life itself, is a 'talent' entrusted to us by the Lord, and we must 'use it or lose it'.

God does not need any return from us, but He requires it – both for our own good, and for the good of our fellow men and women. Their needs are our opportunities, both to see Christ in them and to be Christ to them.'

Excerpt from a homily by Fr. Tom Kearns Op