



We are a community learning to be disciples of Jesus

Welcome to Mt Barker/Strathalbyn Catholic Parish 17th October 2021

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Times This Week

Saturday 6pm	Our Lady of Mercy
Sunday 9am	Our Lady of Mercy
Sunday 9:30am	St James the Less (LWHC)
Sunday 10:45am	The Good Shepherd
Mon 18/10 11.00am	Rosary Garden St Luke, Evangelist
Tue 19/10 9.30am	Our Lady of Mercy
Wed 20/10 12 noon	Our Lady of Mercy
Thu 21/10 9.30am	Our Lady of Mercy Funeral Mass
Fri 22/10 9.30am	Our Lady of Mercy
Fri 22/10 7.00pm	St James the Less
Sat 23/10 9.30am	The Good Shepherd
Sat 23/10 11.00am	Rosary Garden



Salvation is a gift, not a bargaining chip

Speaking during the Sunday Angelus, Pope Francis recollected the encounter between Jesus and a man who “had great possessions” (Mk 10:22). The Gospel of Mark suggests that we can all see ourselves in this man and that his encounter with Jesus allows us to test our faith. Noting the man’s attitude that shows he lives his religiosity as a duty – something that needs doing in order to obtain salvation – the Pope explained that there is no commercial relationship with God based on a “must-do-obtain” ritual: “It is a question of freedom and love.”

“Here is a first test: what is faith for me? If it is mainly a duty or a bargaining chip, we are off track, because salvation is a gift, it is free,” he said. In the second step, Jesus helps the man by offering him the true face of God. “Indeed, the text says, “Jesus looking upon him loved him,” he explained, saying that faith is born not from duty but from a *look* of love to be welcomed. “In this way, Christian life becomes beautiful, if it is based not on our abilities and our plans, but on God’s gaze. Is your faith tired and do you want to reinvigorate it? Look for God’s gaze: sit in adoration, allow yourself to be forgiven in Confession, stand before the Crucified One. In short, let yourself be loved by him.”

The third and final step, Pope Francis continued, is to ask yourselves whether we are living our faith according to the Christian “yes” of love. Faith, he said cannot be limited to a series of precepts but must translate into a life of giving and gratuitousness. “A faith without giving, without gratuitousness, without works of charity, makes us sad in the end,” he said, inviting believers to ask themselves: “At what point is my faith? Do I experience it as something mechanical, like a relationship of duty or interest with God? Do I remember to nourish it by letting myself be looked at and loved by Jesus? And, attracted by him, do I respond freely? And he concluded upholding the Virgin Mary, “who said a total yes to God, a yes without *but*,” and said: “Let us savour the beauty of making life a gift.”

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament follows Mass on Thursday and Saturday mornings for half an hour.

Reconciliation is available during and after Exposition, and by appointment.

Our Priests

Father Richard Morris
Parish Priest

Father Ian Wilson
Assisting Priest

Our Churches

Our Lady of Mercy
5 Mann Street, Mt Barker SA 5251

The Good Shepherd
2 Chapel Street, Strathalbyn SA 5255

St James the Less
24 Luck Street, Macclesfield SA 5153

Our Parish Office

7 Mann Street, Mt Barker SA 5251
Tue-Fri Ph 8391 1053

Michelle Muller, Parish Secretary
mbstparish@adam.com.au
Fr Richard: morrisri@bigpond.com
www.barkerstrathcatholic.com

Our Ministry Coordinator, Strathalbyn

Sue Eckert Ph 8537 3053

Our School

St Francis de Sales College
Gavin McLaughlin, Principal
Ph 8393 1000

Question of the Week

Jesus said, 'Whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be servant of all'. (Mark 10: 44)

Adults: Why is it hard to do good works if you will not be acknowledged for them?

Young People: In what ways could you be a ransom, that is, an offer of freedom, for people who are held hostage to fear, loneliness, or despair?

Children: Are you willing to do a good deed even if no one knows that you did it? Why?

Catholic Mission – 2021 Appeal

October 17 is the date for the annual Catholic Mission Appeal, with its theme inspired by Acts 4:20 'For we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard'. This year the appeal focuses on the work of the Church in Thailand, reaching out to those women and children of the mothers and babies home run by the Good Shepherd Sisters, whilst supporting work in over 1100 diocese worldwide and 14 parishes within Australia. Please support Catholic Mission via envelopes, QR code on the envelope will take you straight to a donation page, online catholicmission.org.au/Thailand or visit our website for general donations. For more information contact Tony Johnston – Diocesan Director Adelaide Archdiocese on M: 0407 168 002.

Diocesan Pastoral Council

The Archdiocese of Adelaide is establishing a new Diocesan Pastoral Council whose work will include furthering the discernment and implementation of recommendations from the Diocesan Assembly and the decrees of the Plenary Council. We are seeking a diverse, skilled membership who can demonstrate leadership and commitment to the Gospel.

Expressions of interest for membership to the Diocesan Pastoral Council need to include a brief written description of why you feel called to be a member of the council and what experience, gifts and skills you can offer. Two referees, one of which is their parish priest, must also be included. EOIs may be addressed to Archbishop Patrick O'Regan c/o Sarah Moffatt (smoffatt@adelaide.catholic.org.au; Mail: 39 Wakefield St, Adelaide, SA 5000). Deadline: November 1, 2021.

Parish Finance Council Report

This month we discussed the gardens surrounding Our Lady of Mercy Church and the Parish House. We are grateful that a volunteer has come forward who will mow the grass around the Parish House on a regular basis. We are also grateful for the work of Jacinta Calman, who has spent many hours getting the garden beds up to scratch.

The Finance Council wondered if anyone might like to volunteer to maintain one garden bed as part of contributing to the upkeep of the whole garden? The commitment would be for a 12-month period and we would provide guidance and pay for any costs. Have a chat to Father Richard or Michelle in the parish office.

We also have some new volunteers for the counting and banking teams. Thank you to all who have come forward.

Sacrament Sharing Ideas Workshop

Room 6 on Monday October 25, 9.30-11.30am, at the Catholic Education Office Conference Centre, George Street, Thebarton. Please contact Sr Jenny Seal jenny.seal@cesa.catholic.edu.au for further information.

Youth Group Saturday Night

Our first meet up for term 4 is this Saturday the 16th of October. There will be dinner, games, and a Bible study. Meet in the Parish House 7-9pm next to the church in Mount Barker. Bring: \$3 and a mask. Please RSVP. Ella and Ruby :)

OLOM Leadlight Windows

We will have a wonderful opportunity this Sunday the 17th of October to hear the stories of the leadlight windows at Our Lady of Mercy and to learn some the meaning and symbolism behind them. The talk will be after the 9am Mass, and there will morning tea afterwards and an opportunity to contribute to the cost of repairs and restoration work on the windows, which is being funded primarily by an insurance claim and the Mount Barker Council Heritage Incentive Scheme. This project forms part of our journey along Gospel pathway 1: The parish is a prayerful community in which each member is called to a personal relationship with Jesus.

First Collection Renewal 2021

The first collection renewal aims to raise awareness of the importance of the First Collection. The funds we contribute to the first collection are the primary means of sustaining our Priests, Deacons and retired Priests in our parishes. Thank you for supporting our priests and deacons.

Get Ready to Fly!

All professions and trades are called to assist this mission. Since 1961 Palms Australia has quietly prepared and supported humble Catholics like you for mission. Sharing your skills with local co-workers helps them to develop their essential community organisations. Your relationships within the local community will transform your heart and soul. To be prepared for a 2022 placement visit palms.org.au, Email palms@palms.org.au or call Christine on 02 9560 5333 by Friday October 29.

Name Tags Have Arrived

For those who ordered a name tag earlier this year, they are available to be picked up from the OLOM foyer. Please pay your \$8 into the second collection.

SA Catholics for an Evolving Church

Voices of Life (On the Way – Together) Online Forum

You are invited to the *Voices of Life – One the Way – Together* online forum on Thursday October 21 from 7.30-9pm. Register at E: catholicforanevolvingchurch@gmail.com. You will receive the zoom link on October 20 via email. For further information contact Kevin Liston on M: 0411 197 829 or E: kevin.liston1@gmail.com.

CLC Walkathon Sat 23rd Oct

Country Life Compassion is raising funds for the Pantry Club, which provides assistance with food items and emergency relief for those struggling in our community. Funds raised this year go towards a new freezer and food supplies for our clients. Starts 9.30am at 2 Chapel Street Strathalbyn. Laps are 4km. Bring good walking shoes, sunscreen & drink bottle and wear a blue t-shirt. Drinks and toilets available at 2 Chapel Street and the Lutheran Hall on North Parade.

Contact Paquita or Brad for further details and sponsorship form: Brad McMaster bradm@clcompassion.org.au, Paquita Wise 0407 979 853, pwise@clcompassion.org.au.

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING ISAIAH 53:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

If he offers his life in atonement, he shall see his heirs and have long life.

The Lord has been pleased to crush his servant with suffering.

If he offers his life in atonement,

he shall see his heirs, he shall have a long life

and through him what the Lord wishes will be done.

His soul's anguish over

he shall see the light and be content.

By his sufferings shall my servant justify many,

taking their faults on himself.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 32:4-5, 18-20, 22

**R. Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.

The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. **R.**

The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. **R.**

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.

The Lord is our help and our shield.

May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. **R.**

SECOND READING HEBREWS 4:14-16

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Let us be confident in approaching the throne of grace.

Since in Jesus, the Son of God, we have the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heaven, we must never let go of the faith that we have professed. For it is not as if we had a high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us; but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we are, though he is without sin. Let us be confident, then, in approaching the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from him and find grace when we are in need of help.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION MARK 10:45

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Son of Man came to serve
and to give his life as a ransom for all.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL MARK 10:35-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The Son of Man came to give his life as a ransom for all.

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' 'You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.'

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them, 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Next Week: October 24, Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Master, grant that I may see.

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-9, Psalm: 125, Second Reading: Hebrews 5:1-6, Gospel: Mark 10:46-52.

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