



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

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30th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year C. 23rd October 2022

The Gospels make explicit God's Word to us, through the teachings of Jesus Christ.

We are disciples of Jesus!

Gospel: Luke 18: 9-14

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people who prided themselves on being virtuous and despised everyone else: 'Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of mankind, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I get." The tax collector stood some distance away, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." This man, I tell you, went home again at rights with God; the other did not. **For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'**

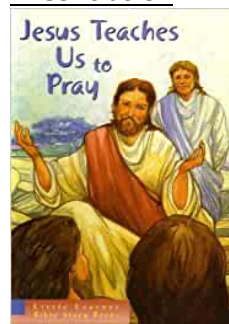
Summary



The purpose of this parable is to shake the complacency of those who think that all they have to do is follow the rules to the letter of the law and that that is enough to guarantee them salvation, regardless of their attitudes towards others or the way they speak and act. There is a timelessness to this parable. It is as true today as it was in the time of Jesus. The Pharisee asks nothing of God. He is under the mistaken impression that he can fulfill all that is required of him by his own actions. He believes that as long as he adheres to the letter of the Law, that is all that is required. The tax collector, on the other hand, is aware of his brokenness and opens himself to God, asking

for God's mercy. He rightly recognises his own sinfulness and sees that God is the only one who can fill the void within him. The Pharisee, who should know better will ultimately be humbled (Reference: Melbourne Archdiocese Summit).

In Conclusion



Jesus' parable is of the Pharisee who prayed to God with self-righteousness and arrogance, whilst, the tax collector prayed with humility, asking for God's mercy.

This is the second of Jesus' parables (in Luke 18) that **Jesus addresses our attitude to prayer.** In last week's gospel Jesus tells us not to lose heart, our prayers keep us in communion with God, and that God hears our prayers. In today's gospel, Jesus contrasts the prayer of the Pharisee with the prayer of the tax collector. Jesus offers the humility of the tax collector as a model of prayer to God and reminds us that when we pray, we must remember our need for God in our lives. **If we are too full of ourselves, there is little room for God's grace!**

Disciples of Jesus live a "gospel life."

In the Month of October, We Honour Our Lady of the Rosary.



In the month of October, we can get back to the practice of praying the rosary, or to praying it more often, or, to praying it more deeply. The rosary is esteemed because it involves the body and the soul. As each Hail Mary is prayed, a bead is physically touched and the person moves through the rosary reflecting on each mystery. The beads are helpful and remind us to focus our minds and heart on prayer. Even if we are distracted, the beads call us back. **Pope Francis has highlighted the ease of praying the rosary and called on believers to pray, or, at least to carry the rosary with them: "I invite you to pray the rosary, and to carry it in your hands or in your pockets. The recitation of the rosary is the most beautiful prayer we can offer to the Virgin Mary; it is a contemplation on the stages of the life of Jesus the Saviour with his Mother Mary and is a weapon that protects us from evils and temptations."**

The rosary has been called our "link to heaven," by some saints, since the rosary keeps us connected to prayer, to Mary, and to our Lord Jesus Christ. We can say the Rosary quietly and individually, or, as a family, or, as a group of parishioners at our Marian Chapel at church. **Holy Rosary prayer cards are always available at our Marian Chapel.**

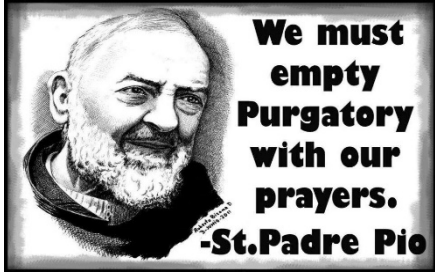
When Mary speaks, God listens.

In the Month of November, We Pray for the Souls in Purgatory

There is a longstanding tradition in the Catholic Church to pray for the souls in purgatory during the month of November. The souls of these individuals have not yet been completely purified of their sins and must undergo purification after death - **God's mercy does not stop at the moment of death!** Instead, divine mercy continues even after death to prepare a soul to receive God's loving embrace in heaven.

Prayers for the dead have been offered for many centuries. The earliest reference in the Bible is found in the second book of Maccabees (Judas Maccabees was an important Jewish general

of the second century before Christ) - 2 Maccabees 12: 42-43, 46. The Fathers of the Second Vatican Council mentioned that the Church has honoured the memory of the dead from the beginning (Lumen Gentium 50). The Christian community in Rome gathered in the catacombs under the city to pray for those faithful followers of Christ who had been buried there. **They believed that their prayers served to assist those who had died, just as the prayers of the dead could also aid the living members of the community.** Pope St Gregory the Great (540-604) would often offer Masses on behalf of the souls in Purgatory. He recounted the story of a monk who repented of his sins while lying on his deathbed. St Gregory, who was the abbot, instructed that Masses should be said in his favour. After 30 days, his soul appeared to a brother announcing that he was now free of Purgatory and had entered heaven.



Praying for the souls in Purgatory is the greatest charity. In the month of November, let us pray for all the souls in Purgatory, not just for our departed loved ones and friends, but especially, for the souls in purgatory, who do not have friends and loved ones to pray for them. Our prayers will comfort and help them, on their journey to God's Kingdom. Thanks Cliff.

Parish Worship Schedule

A parish is a community of disciples of Jesus, who gather to celebrate the Mass and to "live the Gospel." **We are a community of Jesus' disciples and our church is here for our collective and individual worship and prayers.** We welcome the faithful to our Mass, or, to light a candle at our Marian chapel, or, to just pray in silence; and to grow spiritually.

Mass Times	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu & Fri	8.00 am (the Rosary after)
Mass Time	Saturday	6.00 pm
Mass Time	Sunday	9.30 am
Reconciliation	Saturday night	5.15 – 5.45 pm
Anointing of the Sick	Liaise with Fr Greg	
Baptisms, marriages and funerals	Liaise with Fr Greg	

Our Prayers of the Faithful

The Church expects that each parish community would prepare their own prayers so that all the community can join in the sacred intercessory prayer (Prayers of the Faithful) at Mass. In our parish prayers of the faithful, we pray to the Lord, to help and comfort our sick and suffering. We also pray for the souls of our recently departed, as well as, for those whose anniversaries, we remember at Mass today.

Prayers for Our Sick and Suffering

Antoinette De Silva, Tony Galvez, Jenny Cassin, Betsy De Wass, Frank De Luis, Nigel, Christina Sim, Maria Marshall, Claire Webster, Ivan Fletcher, Fabian Edmunds, Celia, Crowley family, Joe Sundaram, Thilak, Diana Scully, Bluey Thompson, Celeste Vicensoni, Carla, Annette, Joe Gibson, Georgina and Ronnie Ghosh, Gemma Altieri, Fred Kara, Reg Brown, Mary & Derrick Jansen, Marie Webster Viola, Gerry and Maisie Prendergast, James Rydqvist, Annie Magdalena Rydqvist, Anne Rydqvist, Dr Andrew Chilufya Snr, Robbie Iliffe, Donna Green, Horatio Hill, Ilean Wright, Cathy and Peter Ghouse, Jimmy Olivero, Kaye McIntyre, Jeff and Tony Francis, Fr

Andre, Sheila Vanwierigan, CD Joseph, Marina Lim, Wendy Price, Julie Pinto, Christopher Jaffer, Bonnie Sullivan, Joslyn De Sylva and Philomena Rodrigues.

Prayers for our Recently Deceased

Bertha Lyddy.

"God blesses those people who grieve. They will find comfort" (Matthew 5:4).

Anniversaries of our Beloved Departed

Avril Bonsall (22 Oct), Joseph Mulcahy (23 Oct), Bernie Macquillan (23 Oct), Agnelo Dias (25 Oct), Maria De Costa (25 Oct) and all our departed relatives and friends.

Jesus assured Martha at the tomb of Lazarus: "I am the Resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Me will live even though he dies" (John 11: 25-26).

Note: Parishioners may email Cliff at: cliffordqerard@bigpond.com, for any additions (or deletions) to our lists of sick, recently deceased and anniversaries, whom you wish to be included in our "Prayers of the Faithful."

Everyone has a name, and if we are to pray for them, we should say their name.

We Welcome "God's Little Children" to Our Mass

People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, **"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."** Mk 10: 13-14.

Activity sheets and colour pencils, are available at the rear of the church, to occupy the children during Mass. Parents may even pin their child's work on the noticeboard (when space is available) for others to appreciate their efforts.

Our Next Parish St Vincent de Paul Donations is 05th/06th November

For parishioners who may wish to contribute to this worthy program, any non-perishable food in tins, packets or boxes will do (but no glass please). In addition to a food hamper, a \$30 Woolworths voucher is usually provided to enable the purchase of essentials like; fresh fruit and vegetables, baby food and more. **Cash donations may be deposited in our SVDP/poor donation box at the entrance of the church**, to enable the purchase of cash vouchers.

The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me." They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' (Matthew 25: 40-45).

Parishioners who may need a "helping hand," may contact the SVDP Society for assistance, or speak with our local SVDP representatives: **Bruno George (mobile: 0470571041)** at Wilson Parish, or, **Sister Charla (telephone: 93545083)** at Riverton Parish. **The names of those requesting and receiving assistance is always confidential.**

