



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

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21st Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year C. 21st August 2022

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

Gospel: Luke 13: 22-30

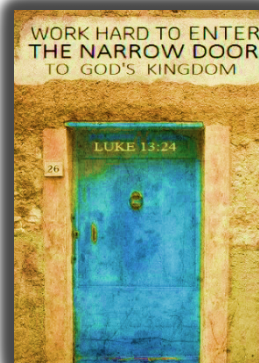
*Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Some one said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed. 'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!" 'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. **And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. 'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'***

In Summary

As the chosen people, the Jews believed they were in a privileged relationship with God. In this text, Jesus shatters some illusions. There is no privileged or exclusive entry to the kingdom of God by those who see themselves as 'religious insiders.' This is equally directed to the disciples. It is not enough that they have shared a meal with Jesus or have heard his word. They must respond to that word and act on it. They must enter by the narrow door, and this requires great effort, or else those who thought themselves 'inside' could find themselves 'outside,' while others, 'the outsiders', will find their way ahead of them. This radical reversal of values and expectations would have shocked those who thought they were on the 'inside.'

(From: Melbourne Archdiocese Summit – Exploring the Word)

In Conclusion



God wants all people to be saved but there is no automatic entry, or, exclusive right, to God's Kingdom. It is not enough that we *share a meal with Christ* (receive the sacraments and attend Mass). In addition, we must abide and follow the Word of God and live a "*gospel life*," then we will "*enter by the narrow door*." This requires devotion and great effort, and those who thought themselves 'inside' could find themselves 'outside.' **The gospels call us to follow Jesus along the narrow and sometimes, difficult path of faith and devotion.**

Monday 22nd August is the Feast of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Pope Pius XII established this feast, which is celebrated seven days after the Assumption, in 1954. However, Mary's queenship has roots in Scripture. At the Annunciation, the Archangel Gabriel tells Mary that her Son will sit on "*the throne of his ancestor David*" and that "**He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end**" (Luke 1:32-33). At the Visitation, Elizabeth calls Mary the "**mother of my Lord**." Mary's queenship is a share in Jesus' kingship. Mary is that heavenly queen in the Book of Revelation, in which appears - "**a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars**" (Revelation 12:1-3).

The mother of a king is a queen who receives honour in her son's realm.

Review of Luke's Gospels from the 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke's gospel that Sunday begins with: "**As the time drew near for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely took the road for Jerusalem,**" **Luke 9: 51-62** – and so begins Jesus' journey from Galilee to Jerusalem, which will end with His Death, Resurrection, and after 40 days - His Ascension.

During this last journey with His disciples, Jesus uses the time to prepare His disciples for their apostolic mission. Jesus explains the sacrifices required of them (Luke 9: 51-62) and Jesus even sends them on a practice run, "**in pairs, to all the towns and places he himself was to visit,**" to preach "**the Kingdom of God is very near to you**" (Luke 10: 1-12, 17-20). However, as we read in last weeks' gospel, Jesus warns them that their apostolic mission will spread like fire but also bring turmoil and conflict. Later, Jesus prepares the disciples for what they will witness in

Jerusalem – His passion, death and resurrection (as we read in the gospels at Lent and Easter). Jesus has many followers at this time and the Jewish religious leaders fear Him (they send scribes and others in attempts to discredit Jesus). However, Jesus continues His earthly mission preaching the Word of God – during this time Jesus teaches using some of His best and timeless parables (*in my opinion*) like: **the parable of the Good Samaritan, the parable of the Persistent Neighbour, the parable of the Rich Fool and the parable of the Faithful Servant** (*there are more to come*). Jesus also teaches the disciples the Lord’s Prayer.

Our 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)
	Saturday	6.00 pm
Mass Times	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

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

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 Vanwieringan, CD Joseph, Marina Lim, Wendy Price, Julie Pinto, Christopher Jaffer, Yianni Donato, Bonnie Sullivan, Joslyn De Sylva and Philomena Rodrigues.

Anniversaries of our Beloved Departed

Clare Boswell (18 Aug), Enid Tabarias (19 Aug), Angelina Brisueno (20 Aug), Marie-Antoinette (20 Aug), Cecil Paley (21 Aug), Timothy O’Callaghan (22 Aug), Gladys Eberwein (23 Aug), Emerio Celay Jr (23 Aug) 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@biqpond.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.

03rd /04th September is to be Our Next Parish St Vincent de Paul Donation



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.**

Wednesday 24th August is the Feast Day of St Bartholomew, the Apostle

Saint Bartholomew was one of the twelve apostles of Jesus. He hailed from Cana in Galilee and was martyred in Armenia for converting Polymius, King of Armenia, to Christianity. He is mentioned in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, as one of “the twelve,” and he would have been a witness and disciple of Jesus, during Jesus’ three-year ministry.

Two Miracles Attributed to St Bartholomew by the Townsfolk Of Lipari



Lipari is a small Italian Island off the north coast of Sicily. The people of Lipari celebrate the feast day of St Bartholomew annually. The tradition of the people was to take the silver and gold statue of St Bartholomew from the Cathedral and to carry the statue through the town. On one occasion, when taking the statue down the hill towards the town, it suddenly became very heavy and had to be set down. When the men carrying the statue regained their strength, they lifted it a second time. After another few seconds, it got even heavier. They set it down and attempted once more to pick it up. They managed to lift it but had to put it down one last time. Within seconds, walls further downhill collapsed. If the statue had been able to be lifted, all the townspeople in the procession would have been killed, when the walls collapsed.

The second miracle. During World War II, the fascist regime looked for ways to finance the war. An order was given to take the silver and gold statue of Saint Bartholomew from Lipari and to melt it down for the silver and gold. However, when the statue was weighed, it was found to be very light and therefore, not of silver and gold, and so, it was returned to its place in the Cathedral of Lipari. In fact, the statue is a masterpiece of silverwork by Perricone-Marano of Palermo, containing 30 kg of silver and 2 kg of gold. The faithful of Lipari acclaim this a miracle - that the statue was not melted down.

