



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

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Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Year C. 20th November 2022



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

Gospel: Luke 23: 35-43

The people stayed there before the cross, watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case, we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

Summary

This feast celebrates that the ultimate authority on Earth is the authority of Christ, as universal King - Christ presides over the whole of history and that all time and all ages belong to him (CCC 450). During His earthly life, Jesus preached the kingdom of God and avoided attempts by

some to make him a king in an earthly sense (of power, wealth and might). However, Jesus is King, but not the kind of king they imagined or expected.



The "Good" Thief's Name is Dismis

Jesus is mocked on the Cross, "the leaders, they jeered at him....the soldiers mocked him too." Even a criminal (the "bad" thief) who is being crucified next to Jesus, adds ridicule. Though a few of Jesus' disciples remain with Him, they remain silent.

However, there is one person who speaks up in the Lord's defence. He too is being crucified with Christ – he is Dismis (the good/repentant thief). Dismis is a common criminal, rightly condemned, however, he recognises Christ and proclaims: 'Have you no fear of God at all?' Dismis is contrite and repentant (he admits his sins and accepts his suffering) but he has not given up hope and trust in the Lord's mercy - "remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus is merciful and forgiving, and assures him of his salvation – "today you will be with me in paradise."

Dismis is an example to us – he acknowledged his sinfulness and repented, and he turned to God in hope, and trusted in God's mercy and forgiveness.

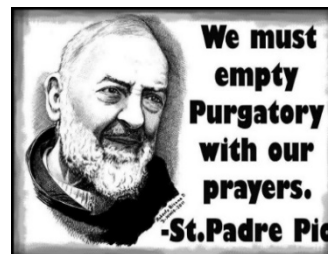
Note: St Dismis is probably, the best-known "criminal-turned-saint" in the Catholic Church. His feast day is 25th March.



INRI Above Jesus on the Cross

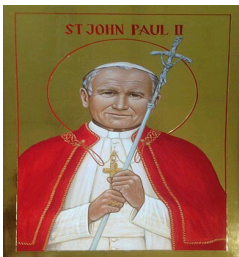
Crucifixes often have the letters INRI inscribed on them. The acronym INRI stands for **Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum**. This is a Latin phrase that translates to: **Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews**. This was inscribed on the cross of Jesus at His crucifixion. The irony is that the inscription placed on the cross, perhaps in mockery, contains the most profound truth.

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.

Praying for our departed loved ones, keeps the memory and presence of our departed loved ones with us. We remember them, we talk about them, we converse with them, we keep their pictures on our walls, we recall stories from our lives together, we laugh and cry, as we remember them, and we continue to apply and cherish the good things we learned from them, or, with them. By living in communion with them, death loses its sting – our transition from life to death becomes a part of our lives, as we pray for the souls of the departed.



As Pope Saint John Paul II taught us: *“The Church has always urged us to pray for the dead. She invites believers to regard the mystery of death not as the last word on human fate but as a journey toward eternal life.”* Pope St John Paul II continues: *“It is an important duty of ours to pray for the dead because although they may have died in grace and in friendship with God, they may still be in need of a last purification in order to enter into the joy of heaven.”*

Praying for the souls in purgatory is a wonderful charity where everyone can assist – all they ask of us, is for our prayers! **At Mass we pray for those listed in our parish “Book of Remembrance,” as well as, the many other Holy Souls in purgatory, who do not have others to pray for them. At our Prayers of the Faithful at Mass, we pray St Gertrude’s prayer, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory. Please add the names of your departed loved ones to our book.**

We pray that God will be merciful in His judgment of the Holy Souls in Purgatory. This state of purification is called purgatory - the name truly says it all.

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

Catherine Poulouse, Fr Francisco, Heron Sharpe, Denis Critchley, 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 Vanwieringan, CD Joseph, Marina Lim, Wendy Price, Julie Pinto, Christopher Jaffer, Bonnie Sullivan, Joslyn De Sylva and Philomena Rodrigues.

Prayers for our Recently Deceased

Charles Stephenson.

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

Anniversaries of our Beloved Departed

Agnes Ellison (18 Nov), Deryck Woodford (19 Nov), Ignatius Lee (21 Nov), Drina Leeson (22 Nov), Merlyn De Mello (23 Nov) 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: cliffordgerard@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.

Our Next Parish St Vincent de Paul Donations is 03rd/04th December).



Christmas Food Baskets

As is traditional in our parish, we are requesting parishioners contribute to our “Special Christmas Food Parcels,” for the needy in our local community this Christmas. 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. Our donations will be taken to our local St Vincent de Paul group, where the food will be distributed to help the needy (especially families) in our community. **Please consider Christmas dinner treats like; plum puddings, fruit cakes, tin ham, mince pies and other “festive” food.** It is “our way” to share the hope, joy and peace of Christmas, with those who may have very little.



THE GIVING TREE

A CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE with tags labelled with Christmas gifts for the needy is at the rear of the church. **Please help ...** choose a tag, purchase the item on the tag and bring it to Church at, or, before 03rd/04th December. The St Vincent de Paul Society will make up hampers from all the donations. Every donation is gratefully appreciated. Last year, Christmas hampers were distributed to families and individuals, as “far-away” as: Bentley, Parkwood and Thornlie.

Parishioners who may need a “helping hand,” may contact the SVDP Society for assistance, or speak with our local SVDP representatives: Penny D’Souza (mobile: 0421 215 620), or, Michael Hardless (mobile: 0419 421 122), at Riverton Parish. **The names of those requesting and receiving assistance is always confidential.**

The End of Liturgical Year C

The feast Of Christ the King marks the end of Liturgical Year C. Next week is the 1st Sunday of Advent, Year A. In Liturgical Year A, **the Gospel of Matthew** will be read. Matthew the Apostle, also known as Saint Matthew and as Levi, was, according to the New Testament, one of the twelve apostles of Jesus. **He was also one of the four Evangelists (the others being: Luke, Mark and John) and thus, is also known as Matthew the Evangelist.**

