



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

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20th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year C. 14th August 2022

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



Gospel: Luke 12: 49-53

Jesus said to his disciples:

"I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing! There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three; a father will be divided against his son and a son against his father, a mother against her daughter and a daughter against her mother, a mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law."

In Summary

In last week's gospel, Jesus urged His disciples to always be faithful and ready, for the time, when we are called before the Lord. Here Jesus tells His disciples that their apostolic journey will not be easy – there will be distress and turmoil, when they proclaim the Word of God's Kingdom to the world. This the **"fire,"** which begins with Jesus' death and resurrection

Jesus Himself will experience distress (His **"baptism"** of fire) with His passion and death on the cross. Jesus is warning His disciples that wherever the Word of God is proclaimed and embraced, division and turmoil will occur - fathers will be divided against sons and mothers against daughters. Here Jesus reminds the disciples that it will not be easy for those who commit to Him. **This gospel reading reminds us that; it is not always easy, nor, without conflict, to be a disciple of Jesus. Today, we see this in many parts of the world, where Christians are being persecuted.**

Note:

1. At this time of Jesus' ministry (on His final journey to Jerusalem) Jesus has many scores of followers, so, when Luke records **disciples**, he is distinguishing Jesus' closest followers from the others. These disciples will be the apostles, who will preach the Word of God to the world.
2. ***"I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!"*** - ***"to set the earth on fire,"*** is to spread the Word of the Kingdom of God to the world; ***"how I wish it were already blazing,"*** here Jesus displays a little "human" enthusiasm, for the building of His Church on earth to begin (in 2019 there were **1.3 billion baptised Catholics** in the world).

Monday 15th August is The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Mary, who was without sin, was taken, body and soul, into the glory of heaven. Only Mary, who was born without stain of original sin—the **Immaculate Conception**—could give birth to Christ, the son of God. Because of Mary's role in God's plan of salvation, she does not suffer from the effects of sin, which are death and decay. Mary's openness to God, allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to all. **This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass is at 8 am and 6 pm.**

Gospel: Luke 1: 39-56

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from **the mother of my Lord?** For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.' And Mary said: 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my saviour; because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid. Yes, **from this day forward all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me.** Holy is his name, and his mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him. He has shown the power of his arm, he has routed the proud of heart. He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away. He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy —according to the promise he made to our ancestors— of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.' Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home.

Exploring the Gospel

God has already been active in the lives of these two women. **Both have conceived a child who is destined to play an important role in God's plan for the salvation of the world; Elizabeth, with John the Baptist; and Mary, with Jesus.** Elizabeth recognises Mary as **"the mother of my Lord"** and acclaims her blessedness. The blessedness of Mary rests in her unswerving faith and positive response to God's plans for her and for the salvation of mankind.

In Conclusion

Only Mary, who was born without stain of original sin—the Immaculate Conception—could give birth to Jesus Christ, who is fully divine and fully human. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to all. Mary said 'yes' to God with all her heart and is a model of discipleship, which we can all emulate.

Note:

1. Elizabeth, was a cousin of Mary, and had conceived a child in her old age, by the grace of God. Luke 1:5–24; and 57–80.
2. Christian tradition has it that Mary lived her later years in the city of Ephesus in modern Turkey, and it was here that she died and was assumed into heaven



The Most Holy Rosary

Devotion to the Rosary is highlighted by Pope Pius IX who said "Among all the devotions approved by the Church none has been so favoured by so many miracles, as the devotion of the Most Holy Rosary."

The Rosary is the story of the New Testament. Each decade is recited in honour of a Mystery in Our Lord's Life and that of His Blessed Mother. Our Blessed Mother in Heaven, has many times invited us to pray the Rosary as a powerful weapon against evil and to bring us to true peace. With our prayers made in union with Our Heavenly Mother, we can obtain the great gift of conversion of hearts and peace throughout the world.

When Our Heavenly Mother speaks – God listens!!

(Holy Rosary cards are available at our Marian Chapel for everybody)

Cancel/Woke Culture

The Word of God has the power to deeply unite us to God when we fully accept it as the word of truth. However, it can also divide us from those who refuse to be united with God and reject our devotion/faith as false. Jesus was rejected during His ministry by religious leaders (who should have known the truth). This rejection of the Word of God continues today.

Today we see a selfish "cancel/woke culture," which is an idea that what is good for me, is good for everyone else (like we see for those who urge for the right for abortion, euthanasia and same sex marriage) regardless, that others may have different beliefs, values and faith. **Our faith is that God has established what is right and what is wrong. He has set His moral law over all of humanity and this cannot be undone. And His law is as true for us, as it is for everyone else.** We pray for unity with Christ, but we must not be willing to compromise on our faith (as we see in many of our politicians and even religious leaders) to bring about a false unity - God's Word/Commandments are everlasting and are not to be trifled with.

Note: This is the personal opinion of the author. Thanks Cliff

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

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 Vanwiering, 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

Agnes Silva (11 Aug), Arthur D'Souza (12 Aug), Barbara Carter (12 Aug), Betty Lane (12 Aug), Hermina De Abrue (15 Aug), Mervynne Long (16 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@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.

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 River-ton Parish. **The names of those requesting and receiving assistance is always confidential.**

Archdiocesan Marriage Mass at St Mary's Cathedral Saturday 20th August

This year's Archdiocesan Marriage Mass will be held at St Mary's Cathedral on **Saturday 20th August, at 10am.** This is a special Mass for all couples (and their family) to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony. A blessing will be bestowed on all married couples attending.

