



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

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22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year C. 28th August 2022

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

We are disciples of Jesus.

Gospel: Luke 14: 1, 7-14

*On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. **For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.**' Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; **when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.**'*

In Summary

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus is often depicted as sharing meals with people who were not considered at that time and in that culture to be appropriate table companions: publicans, tax collectors, sinners and women of dubious reputation. In this meal, Jesus reveals more of the radical reversal that is characteristic of God's way. He challenges the way the Pharisees see their own standing in society as people of status, urging them instead to take the more humble positions at table and to allow the host, or God, to choose those who should be exalted. He also shatters the Pharisees' idea of table fellowship by urging them to share their festive table with those who are the

least important or the outcasts of society. The way to God cannot be organised according to human priority! It is in the ultimate humiliation of crucifixion that Jesus is exalted in resurrection and ascension.

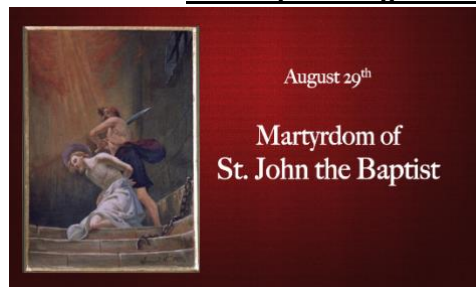
(From: Melbourne Archdiocese Summit – Exploring the Word)

In Conclusion

Here Jesus provides advice to both guests and hosts about humility and generosity, and thus, finding true blessings at the "*heavenly banquet.*" These are the blessings which Jesus teaches in this gospel reading:

- Do not be arrogant - be humble because those "***who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.***"
- Be generous to "***the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind***" and do not expect repayment, because, "***repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.***"

Monday 29th August is the Passion of St John the Baptist



August 29th

Martyrdom of
St. John the Baptist

The Church celebrates the birthday of St John the Baptist on 24th June. On 29th August, we honour the anniversary of his martyrdom. Besides our Lord and the Blessed Virgin Mary, St John the Baptist is the only other whose birth and death are thus celebrated by the Church

St John the Baptist was sent by God to prepare for the coming of Jesus and as a result suffered the fate of many of the prophets before him: rejection and martyrdom. John had many followers, but ultimately, he knew that his calling was one of preparation. St John the Baptist, was a humble man and never allowed himself to succumb to pride or false honour, he was however, the last great prophet of the Church. His death is the ultimate example of giving one's life to God.

St John the Baptist was killed by an arrogant, corrupt king (Herod Antipas), who gave in to lust, pride and grandiosity. *Thus died the great forerunner of our blessed Saviour, about two years and three months after his entrance upon his public ministry and about a year before the death of our blessed Redeemer (from Ucatholic.org).*

According to the Roman Martyrology, the body of St John the Baptist, was buried in Samaria. In the year 362, pagans desecrated the grave and burned his remains. Only a small portion of his relics were able to be saved by monks and sent to St Athanasius at Alexandria. Today, a number of places throughout the world claim to have the skull of

St John the Baptist, like: St Sylvester Church (in Rome, near the Spanish Steps), Cathedral of Amiens (France) and Residenz Museum (Munich, Germany).



In Australia, the holy days of obligation are:

- **Christmas Day** (December 25 – the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ).
- **The Assumption** (August 15 – the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary).
- **All Sundays of the year** (Easter Sunday is included here).

Holy days of obligation are special days of worship, when Catholics are obliged to attend Mass. When the Assumption is on a week/working day, parishes will have extra Masses, to ensure that those who work are able to worship and thus meet their holy obligation.

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 Illiffe, 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

Colin Howarth (26 Aug), Lucy D’Souza (27 Aug), Rocco Colasante (27 Aug), Noel Castelino (29 Aug), **Brian Jennings (30 Aug)**, Helen and Christopher O’Dwyer (30 Aug), Fred Boswell (31 Aug), Allan Elliot (31 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: cliffordqgerard@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.

Next Weekend is to be Our Parish St Vincent de Paul Donations

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. Food donations may be left at the rear of the church, or, in our parish centre.**



As often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me.

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.**