



To know, love and serve Jesus
by sharing our gifts through our baptismal mission

We acknowledge and respect the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand, the elders, past and present and all the Dharawal people. May we too be good stewards of this land.

10 October 2021

Twenty eighth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Year B



Entrance Antiphon

If you, O Lord, should
mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you is found
forgiveness,
O God of Israel.

First Reading from the
book of Wisdom 7: 7-11

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 89:12-17. R. v.14

(R.) Fill us with your love,
O Lord, and we will
sing for joy!

Second Reading

A reading from the letter
to the Hebrews 4: 12-13

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is
theirs! Alleluia!

Holy Gospel according
to Mark 10: 17-30

Communion Antiphon

The rich suffer want and
go hungry,



Plenary Council 2020
Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

Plenary Council

PERTH, Australia (CNS) — In their Plenary Council process, the Catholics of Australia have been called, like the biblical patriarch Abraham, “to step into a future which he could not control and which he did not fully understand,” said Archbishop Timothy Costelloe of Perth. The archbishop, president of the Plenary Council, opened its first weeklong assembly with a Mass livestreamed Oct. 3 from St. Mary’s Cathedral in Perth. Bishops in other cities also celebrated Masses to mark the council’s opening.

At the beginning of the liturgy, he told the congregation and those watching online in Australia and around the world, “I pray that this celebration will be a source of hope for all of us as the people of God in Australia takes another important step in our journey of discernment as we seek to understand just what it is that God is asking of us in Australia at this time.”

Outside the Perth cathedral before Mass, two Noongar elders, accompanied by others playing the didgeridoo and clapping sticks, led a smoking ceremony to drive away bad spirits. Inside the cathedral, the elder Noongar woman welcomed the delegates to her people’s traditional land in the southwest corner of Western Australia.

In his homily, Archbishop Costelloe told Australian Catholics that, in prayer and opening to the working of the Holy Spirit, they have nothing to fear from the process.

“In the midst of the raging winds and crashing waves which sometimes threaten to overwhelm us, we hear again the words of Jesus to his first disciples, “Take courage, I am with you. There is no need to be afraid,” the archbishop said.

“Surely God is asking us in Australia at this time to rediscover and live more faithfully our vocation to be a pilgrim people, brothers and sisters in a community of disciples,” he said. “We are on the way — but we are not there yet.”

As delegates reflect on how Catholics in Australia live and pray together, provide pastoral care, education, health care and social services, as they look at church “structures and governance, & many others things besides,” he said, “the Lord is inviting us to reflect deeply & courageously on how we can better, as individuals and as communities of faith, be this living image of the life-giving God who, in Christ, is always seeking to be present and active in our world.”

Although Archbishop Costelloe did not mention the clerical sexual abuse crisis, which in part motivated the desire to seek new ways to live the Gospel, he asked delegates to reflect on the question: “How can we be a humble, healing and merciful church if we have not tasted the bitter gall of our failings and sins, and then, purified by the Lord, begin to reflect Jesus, the face of the Father’s mercy, healing and compassion?”

“How can we be a joyful, hope-filled, servant church if we do not contemplate Jesus on his knees washing the feet of his disciples?” he asked. “How can we be a church open to conversion, renewal and reform if we fail to let the cry of Jesus, ‘Repent and believe in the Good News,’ pierce our hearts?”

Celebrating a Mass in Sydney with local plenary participants, Archbishop Anthony Fisher said some people may worry that the whole process is nothing but a “gabfest” when they want deeds, not words.

“But thinking and talking are already actions, and words can bring about change,” he said.

The Christian vocation is to give witness to Jesus, the Word of God, Archbishop Fisher said. The church is called to be “a worldwide web of communication of the Gospel to the ends of the earth. If our council does not make the church in Australia more missionary, it will have failed!”

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Mass times

Diocese of Wollongong Mass Online

For all of the online Mass options- please visit the
DoW website <https://dow.sh/dailymass>

Mass will commence again during the week of 25 October. Stay tuned for more information.

ADORATION PRAYER with the Carmelite Missionaries: GOD BLESS US ALL IN OLMC PARISH! During the lockdown, you are invited to join **every Sunday at 6:30-7:30pm. Contact the parish office for the zoom link.**

Fifth Plenary Council of Australia Agenda – General Assembly is on this week.

Please continue to pray for all members of Plenary Council who are meeting throughout this week especially **members from the Diocese of Wollongong:** Most Rev Brian G Mascord DD, Very Rev Bernard L Gordon VG, Very Rev Kenneth Cafe OFM EV, Very Rev Sean Cullen PP EV, Mr Paul Fleming, Mrs Erin Gillard and Dr Jodi Steel.

The DoW has been asked by ACBC to compile three short interviews at the conclusion of each day that can be accessed at <https://dow.sh/plenarychats>.

Links to daily Masses and each morning session LIVE of the plenary is available at Masses during the Plenary Council via <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>

Prayer Seminars to experience different prayer styles – All Welcome

There has been an overwhelming response to the Prayer Seminar series that runs each Tuesday evening, 7pm - 8:30pm via Zoom. Prayer Seminars are hosted by the CCD Team but are open to anyone and everyone in the Diocese to attend. Each week a different presenter will lead us in a style of prayer that is meaningful to them. The seminars will include information, but also the opportunity to be led by an expert in the prayer experience. Each week, the importance of praying for the Plenary Council and its members will be remembered, amongst many important prayer intentions for the Church and the world. You are welcome to come to any or all of the seminars. Registering does not require you to attend every seminar. Please follow the link to register for Prayer Seminars: <https://www.dow.org.au/events>.

On Tuesday, 12 October, Sr Sue Barker SGS will lead us in Lectio Divina. Come and listen to God speak to you, wherever you are at, through the Scriptures, in the beautiful practice of Lectio Divina.

Prayer intentions

For the sick & homebound: Carol Gonzales, Christabelle Adina, Gloria Gonzales Prudente, Allan & Kelvin Marquinez, Amelia Jimenez, John Ingster, Elizabeth Moore, Nelia Balingit, John Morgos, Greg Watson, Joe Spinnato, Susan Mella, Ron Allen, Sean Finnerty, Rose Levoune, Gabriel Gonzales, Francisco Carmona, Doreen Gribbons, Clayton Diack, Emily Rose Pavicin, Pat & Denise Furner, Tracey Bokor, Lily Pereira, Doris Wahhab, John Kajdryns, Erlinda Hermes, Aurelia Vertucio, Ofilia Mawson, Mary & Frances Raithi, Marie Atkins, Jeanna San Diego, Hugo Garzotto, Eileen Butcher, Josephina Duefries, Austin Taylor, Marisa Aguirre, Joan Wilson. *May they experience the saving power of the risen Lord amidst their pain & affliction.*

For our recently dearly departed: Tony Farrugia, Edgar De Souza, Carter Por, Leonard Mansfield, Fr Peter Caruana,

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Francis Villahermosa, Tracey Bautovich, Damien Champion
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.





Bulletin Notices

Urgent - Join in Opposition to Euthanasia in NSW before October 11

The move to make Euthanasia / Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) legal will be introduced into the NSW Parliament in coming days. We are called to stand up for the sanctity of life and oppose 'the culture of death'.

Bishop Mascord urges the faithful of the Dioceses to contact their local state MPs without delay, asking them to vote NO. Advocates of Assisted Suicide, are similarly working very hard to influence local MPs and without similar efforts for those who uphold the value of life from conception to natural death, it is likely that this terrible bill will become law. Go to www.dow.org.au/euthanasiabill to receive contact details of your State MPs, as well as speaking points for a phone call which is by far the most impactful form of communication. Emailing is a less impactful, but still valuable option. This is a most urgent call to brave action, with this bill infringing many religious freedoms and worse still the sanctity of human life. Fr Mark De Battista has made a video on u tube that provides good reasoning for the Catholic position on this issue. <https://youtu.be/bLUW2XKrhaA> and has made it available to the faithful in the Diocese of Wollongong.

OPENING THE PARISH: We are very excited that we can commence Mass and other parish activities in the coming weeks. Please check on the website or contact the parish office for updates during the next few weeks as directives from the Diocese are sent to us, we can share with you.

The Journey, 10 October Weekly Podcast

A jam packed show this week as Fr Mark De Battista breaks open the Gospel and reminds us we are called to Great Things, Mother Hilda talks compassion and Fr Mike Delaney addresses how we can make Jesus real for others. Plenty of great music on this week's show - the Journey available at www.jcr.org.au.

ACU Centre for Liturgy Public Lecture (Online)

The Australian Catholic University (ACU) will be hosting an online public lecture on Monday 18 October 2021, from 10am-11:30am.

It will be presented by Bruce T. Morrill, S.J., and will be on the topic: "Ritual Bodies as 'Reasonable Worship': Putting Liturgy in Proper Ethical Perspective'.

Registration is essential by Thursday 14 October 2021 via acu.edu.au/publiclecturecfl.

Get Connected with what is on around the Diocese

Every week, there are many great opportunities to be part of special events, courses, free resources and to nurture and encourage you and your family in your faith. Stay informed by subscribing at [subscribe https://dow.sh/stayingconnected](https://dow.sh/stayingconnected) or visit <https://dow.sh/weeklybulletin> to see a full list of notices sent to Parishes weekly

Youth Ministry Online: Have you seen Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong's (CYMW) online version of LIVE yet? Click on the link below for some great worship and challenges as you explore faith with some very awesome leaders! Enjoy! https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTphLF5OdSt8V_yo7ZLrVgg



Marriage Enrichment Weekend

We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love!

Come and join us on October 22-24, 2021 for a Virtual Marriage Encounter Weekend via Zoom. Open to married couples, priests & religious.

Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wwme.org.au

Online Young Adult Bible Study! Are you missing your community? CYMW are hosting an online Bible Study for all young adults aged 17-35 throughout the Wollongong Diocese. Bring your bible and your favourite snack as we journey through scripture together... over zoom! Every Tuesday night. 7PM-8PM. Check out @cymdow on Instagram or Facebook for more information or email youth@dow.org.au

An invitation to join electronic parish planned giving:

Given that no one is able to attend Mass in our church, many who support our parish planned giving envelope program have asked how they can continue to financially support the parish. So, we respectfully encourage all parishioners to join our electronic parish planned giving program to help us ensure that we limit the financial pressure this current situation will impose on our parish. **Please visit <https://www.dow.org.au/plannedgiving/> to learn of the two simple ways you can give to our parish electronically.** Importantly, we are mindful that some of our parishioners will sadly be experiencing a change in their financial circumstances. Please contact the Parish Office, 0434705176 if you need to decrease/discontinue your planned giving contribution, but mainly to let us know how we can support you.

Divine Renovation Australasia Virtual Conference

2021: Called to Discipleship Saturday 20 November 2021 | 9:00am-12:30pm. Join us for a spirit-filled time of prayer, live keynotes, inspiring panel sessions. The virtual conference will aim to support priests, parish teams and individuals in their journey of parish renewal, while encouraging and equipping you in your Catholic faith. For more and information and registration: <https://www.divinerenovation.org/dr-aus-called-to-discipleship-conference>

CatholicCare - Have you thought about becoming a

foster carer? We need foster carers who provide love, care and support to help these children thrive and reach their full potential. Carers receive comprehensive support from the Fostering Futures team to ensure they have a full range of resources and networks to nurture their forever home. Our team have over 30 years' experience helping carers give vulnerable children a loving home and a brighter future. You can find out more by calling **0418 783 956**, email fosteringfutures@catholiccare.dow.org.au or go to <http://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au> more information.

Online Holy Hour for Young Adults: CYMW & NET are hosting online Adoration every Thursday from 4-5pm. Join our Holy Hour through Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/cymdow/> - everyone is welcome!

Holy Gospel according to Mark 10: 17-30

Go and sell whatever you have and come follow me.

Jesus was setting out on a journey when a man ran up, knelt before him and put this question to him, 'Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: You must not kill; You must not commit adultery; You must not steal; You must not bring false witness; You must not defraud; Honour your father and mother.' And he said to him, 'Master, I have kept all these from my earliest days.' Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him, and he said, 'There is one thing you lack. Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' But his face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth.



Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!' The disciples were astounded by these words, but Jesus insisted, 'My children,' he said to them, 'how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' They were more astonished than ever. 'In that case' they said to one another, 'who can be saved?' Jesus gazed at them. 'For men' he said, 'it is impossible, but not for God: because everything is possible for God.'

Peter took this up. 'What about us?' he asked him. 'We have left everything and followed you.' Jesus said, 'I tell you solemnly, there is no one who has left house, brothers, sisters, father, children or land for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who will not be repaid a hundred times over, houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and land – not without persecutions – now in this present time and, in the world to come, eternal life.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel Reflection by Richard Leonard

John Calvin, one of the founding fathers of the Protestant Reformation, reacted against what he saw as medieval Catholicism's adherence to the sacramental law as a means to salvation. 'If you keep the law, the law will keep you.' He was right to condemn the preaching of some Catholic priests of his day. Calvin maintained that since time began God predestined those who, by faith, would be saved. Calvin argued that the rest of humanity would be lost. It was impossible to know for certain, Calvin argued, who was who. This was tough stuff!

Within a few years, however, his own congregation in Geneva wanted to know how anyone could be sure they were on the right path to salvation. Calvin's disciples taught that strict and right behaviour was an indication of who belonged to those elected by God to be saved. Not dancing, drinking, swearing or gambling, but working hard, saving one's money and the careful observance of the Ten Commandments became the benchmarks of the elect. Within a few generations of Calvin's death, it is easy to see that the observance of the strict, Protestant, moral code had replaced the seven Sacraments as the way of being assured of heaven.

The rich young man wanted to be assured of salvation too. He was a good man; an observant Jew and someone Jesus looked on with love. But he was hoping the law would save him. He wanted to be sure of gaining heaven by jumping through the right hoops, at the right time, for the right reasons. Jesus doesn't reject the importance of faithful and good living, but he offers the young man a relationship that would make sense of the choices involved in following him. Without a loving relationship with God, who calls us to live the best life we can, the fulfilment of any law, civil or moral, is a tyranny. We do not believe in a tyrannical God.

We do believe, however, in a God who makes demands of us, who often challenges us in the places where we are most vulnerable. For the young man, his money was an obstacle. He could not embrace a relationship with Jesus because this would have placed in peril his wealth and the comfort that his many possessions afforded him. For the earliest Christian community today's Gospel highlights serious issues on which people left their company: the role of the law in following Christ; the divide between rich and poor; the commitment demanded of followers in the earliest community. In comparison to our forebears in faith, we have domesticated this radical edge of the Gospel.

We often comfort ourselves with the assurance that the law will save us, whereas Jesus tells us that salvation comes from a loving relationship with him, shown in the sacrifice of our lives. To the degree that any law enables us to deepen this relationship with Jesus and to serve his people, then it is helpful and good. If a civil or religious law gets in the road, then its moral authority over us is questionable.

In a world where the vast majority of the world's wealth and resources are held and used by a dominantly white, educated and, at least nominally, Christian First World, then the demands of today's Gospel should be as confronting to us as they were to the rich young man. 'There is still one thing you lack, sell everything and come follow me.' It has suited us to move away from this financially hard teaching of Jesus.

The law and money are in themselves neutral things. They can be used for good or evil. At their worst the law and money seduce us into pride, greed and power. At their best they can serve the liberation of all people and enable our world to better reflect the Kingdom of dignity, justice and equality Jesus taught and lived. Given that all things are possible for God, let's pray in this Eucharist that we might stop domesticating the Gospel but allow it to lead us more deeply into a relationship with Jesus who looks on us, loves us and calls us to write the law of love on our hearts in such a way that there will be justice for all people.