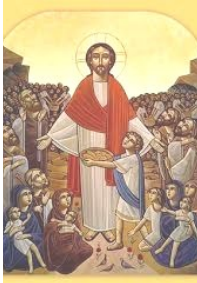


*We acknowledge and respect the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand, the elders, past and present and all the Dharawal people. May we too be good stewards of this land.*

**15 October 2023**  
**Twenty-eighth Sunday in  
Ordinary Time Year A**



**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** the prophet  
Isaiah 25:6-10

**Responsorial Psalm**  
Ps 22. R. v.6

(R.) I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

**Second Reading** letter of  
St Paul to the  
Philippians 4:12-14. 19-20

**Gospel Acclamation**  
Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.  
Alleluia!

**Holy Gospel** according to  
Matthew 22:1-14

**Communion Antiphon**  
The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

**NEXT WEEK**  
**22 OCTOBER 2023**  
**TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME YEAR A**

**First:** Isaiah 45:1.4-6

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7**

**Second :** 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

**Gospel:** Matthew 22:15-21

## Hearts on Fire Feet on the Move

Tuberculosis, malnutrition, and maternal mortality are a few of the many conditions present in the community of Venilale in Timor-Leste. With Timor-Leste's fragile infrastructure, reliance on local health practices, and limited access to medical care, many health conditions only worsen, and sadly can result in death.

Witnessing the gap in care, the Salesian Sisters took action and established the Maria Auxiliadora Clinic. Sister Carolina, a local nurse, hopes to see better outcomes for here people through providing them with the appropriate treatment, care and knowledge to

give them the confidence to act and have autonomy over their health.

**Next week Catholic Mission will offer you the opportunity to partner with the Sr Carolina and the Salesian Sisters in Venilale, Timor-Leste, where your gift can help continue a life-saving program to help address this reality.**

We hope you will take next week's opportunity to make an incredible impact for those in need.



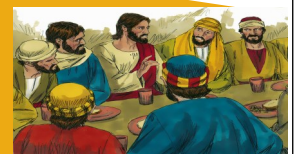
**catholic  
MISSION**

Freecall: 1800 257 296  
[catholicmission.org.au/timor](http://catholicmission.org.au/timor)

## On Friday 27 October, at our Friday, Faith and Supper night

the plight of Timor-Leste will be presented by Mark Raue. The evening will be an opportunity to spend time with fellow parishioners in a social atmosphere & to participate in a topical discussion about faith. A light supper, wine, beer and cheese will be served. A donation towards the cost of catering (or bring a plate) will be appreciated but is not essential.

**About Mark Raue:** Mark Raue is the Diocesan Director of Catholic Mission for the Diocese of Wollongong. Mark only started this role earlier this year after being the CEO/Principal of Mater Dei at Camden, and before that spent many years working in a variety of senior roles in the Catholic Education Office in Wollongong. Mark was a member of this parish thirty years ago, and fondly remembers helping Fr Albert with the building of the Church, but currently resides in Kiama. Mark will address Pope Francis' theme of this year's World Mission Month, "Hearts On Fire, Feet On The Move", outline the work of Catholic Mission across the world and focus on the Church's work currently being done in Timor-Leste. Mark looks forward to reconnecting with the Parish and facilitating a great evening of thought provoking conversation about what it means to be missionary in the contemporary world.



Topic for 27 Oct  
**Hearts on Fire  
Feet on the Move**  
An insight into the  
work of Catholic  
Mission in Timor-  
Leste

## Worship: Mass and Devotions

Sunday Mass	Weekday Mass	Devotions
Saturday Vigil: 6pm	Mon, Tues, Wed Mass at 9am	Adoration with the Rosary: Saturday 9.30am
Sunday: 9.30 am & 5pm	Thursday - Mass at 7.30pm	Divine Mercy Devotion: Third Sunday at 3pm
Filipino Mass: Third Sunday at 11.15am	Fri & Sat Mass at 9am	Alliance of the 2 Hearts Mass and Devotion: First Friday of each month from 7.30pm
Samoan Mass: First Sunday of even months at 12 noon	Healing Mass on the first Saturday of each month at 9am	
Maori Mass: First Sunday at 2pm		Reconciliation: Saturday 11 am—12

### Contact us

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9.30am-12.30pm

Phone: 9603 7373 / 0434 705 176

Email: [varroville@dow.org.au](mailto:varroville@dow.org.au)

Website: [varroville.dow.org.au](http://varroville.dow.org.au)

Parish Priest: Fr. Shane Kelleher OCD

Parish Associate: Sr "Jill" Girlie Sudario, CM

### Prayer intentions

**For the sick & homebound:** Baby Matthew, Terry Maroun, Myka Mangos, Kevin Cloran, Karen Browne, Amanda & John Meredith, Reg Gardner, Sr Heather Burke, Marie & Barry Atkins, Carol & Gabriel Gonzales, Amelia Jimenez, Joe Spinnato, Susan Mella, Sean Finnerty, Rose Levoune, Francisco Carmona, Doris Wahhib, John Kajdrys.

*May they experience the saving power of the risen Lord amidst their pain & affliction.*

**For our recently dearly departed:** Sennie Masian, Jose Useche,

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** John McDermott,  
*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.*



### Our Community: Rosters

22 October	Saturday 6pm	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 5pm
<b>Welcomers</b>	Tracey, Richard & Estela	Gabriel, Ofa & Volunteer	Betty & Boby
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Cody, Christian & Ralph	Orly, Luisa & Carlos	Vu & Nathan
<b>Readers</b>	Candice & Michael	Martin & Tina	Tim & Volunteer
<b>Refreshments</b>	Tracey & Richard	Volunteers	
<b>CLOTW</b>		Sarah, Denise & Janny	
<b>Flowers</b>	Maria & Estela	<b>Church Vacuuming</b>	Feiloakitohi Family
<b>Counters</b>	Margaret & Aida	<b>Foyer Cleaning</b>	Feiloakitohi Family

### Our Community Notices: Upcoming Events

20 October at 7pm: Readers Ministry gathering.

22 October: Catholic Mission Appeal

25 October at 7pm: Alpha Celebration Night

27 October at 7pm: Friday Faith & Supper

29 October at 9.30am: Children's Mass

2 November at 7.30pm: All Souls Day Mass in the Columbarium

7 November at midday: Melbourne Cup with Friendship Group

12 November: Francisco Palau Appeal

12 November at 1pm: Fashion Fun Clothing Swap fundraising

18 November from 9am: Parish working bee

19 November at 11am: Annual Parish Meeting

25 November from 9.30am: Parish Retreat Day

25 November at 4pm: First Reconciliation

26 November: Vinnies Christmas Appeal

30 November at 7.30pm: Parish Ministry Thanksgiving Mass for all those involved in ministry in our parish.



# Bulletin Notices

## **Called by Name: Macarthur Young Adults Gathering**

Campbelltown Catholic Club, Saturday 28 October 6:45pm - 9pm We live in a chaotic world that often leaves us struggling to understand who we truly are, our purpose, and our calling in life. If you've found yourself contemplating these questions, you're not alone! We all crave a profound sense of purpose in our lives, and an understanding of "whose" we are and what we were created for. We extend to you this personal invitation to engage with fellow young adults from 17—35 years old, guided by a panel who will openly share the stories and learnings from their own journeys, with an opportunity for Q&A throughout the discussion. This event is the beginning of a regional initiative connecting young adults in the Macarthur, though young adults from all throughout the Diocese are most welcome. Register now: [dow.sh/cbn23](https://dow.sh/cbn23) If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Duane Fernandez at [vocations@dow.org.au](mailto:vocations@dow.org.au)

## **Catholic Medical Association National Conference 10-12 Nov 2023**

Those who work in health care are invited to attend The First National Catholic Medical Association Conference. Ethical Medicine is at an important crossroad and Catholic practitioners are confronted everyday with an increasingly secular workplace. This conference aims to address a number of the current and emerging issues confronting the Catholic practitioner. This is also a time where we can connect with each other and become more acquainted with the professionals within our network. For more information and registration: The Conference will also enable the First ever National "White Mass" for Catholic Health Care professionals. <https://acma.glueup.com/event/acma-national-conference-2023-85401/>

**On The Journey podcast :** Fr Chima Ofor says this Gospel parable wakes us up to the many pains and contradictions in and around us and reminds us that there's much more to God's Kingdom into which we are invited. Mother Hilda on what we can learn from St Therese of Lisieux. Plus, Fr Tony Percy, Mark Raue on Mission Sunday, and Pete Gilmore's peace plan. The Journey podcast available at [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au).

**Sisters of Charity of Australia Heritage Centre** We invite you to come and share in the story of Australia's first religious sisters. We'd love to welcome you! Open Tuesday to Thursday 10am- 3pm or by appointment at Potts Point. Bookings recommended. Our centre celebrates over 180 years of ministry of the Sisters of Charity of Australia. Enquiries please contact [concierge@rscoffice.com](mailto:concierge@rscoffice.com) or (02) 9138 0835

## **Made Free: Creative Retreat, 20-22 October 2023**

Join the MGL Sisters in a weekend retreat that explores a range of creative prayer experiences. Recapture the freedom you were made for, let go of what is burdening you, and let God fill you again with life.

Venue: Carmel House, 345 St Andrews Rd, Varroville NSW  
Bookings: <http://www.trybooking.com/CFBRD> (by 6 October)  
Contact: Judy - [mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com](mailto:mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com)

## **Growing Good Men Father and Teenage Son Weekend Experience**

20–22 October 2023 Cataract Scout Camp Appin. One of the most important influences in the lives of men is the relationship they had with their father or significant father figure. The encouragement and affirmation that this relationship could, and should, provide, is a key ingredient for how young men view themselves and embrace their faith and gifts as they take their place in the world. This is a unique opportunity for dads and their sons to embark on a quest of discovery with Robert Falzon and the team from menALIVE. Register online <https://www.dow.org.au/events/menalive-growing-good-men-weekend/> or contact Jude Hennessy on 42222407 [jude.hennessy@dow.org.au](mailto:jude.hennessy@dow.org.au)

**Marriage Enrichment Weekend** 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 27-29 October 2023 at a Marriage Encounter Weekend in a Covid safe environment at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, a stunning & tranquil oasis on the edge of Sydney.

**Men's Rosary Group – an Invitation to all Men** Men from the Parish of Rosemeadow invite other men from around the Diocese to join with them on the last Tuesday of the Month to pray the Rosary, commencing at 7pm in Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church, Rosemeadow. Such men's groups are, at this time, springing up around the world to honour Our Lady and to pray for the Church and the World. Mass is celebrated at 6:30pm on Tuesday evening's and you are welcome to also attend this prior to the Rosary if you wish. For more information, please contact David at [djbarrett85@gmail.com](mailto:djbarrett85@gmail.com) or phone: 0410 487 630.

## **Go Deeper in your Faith with FREE Catholic Podcasts**

- ◆ **Bible in a Year** Last year, Ascension Press ran the Catholic Bible in a Year Podcast featuring Fr Mike Schmitz and Jeff Cavins. It was the world's number 1 Religious Podcast with over 250 million downloads. It will run again throughout 2023 – and while a new podcast is released daily, you can do it at your own pace signing up at [www.ascensionpress.com/biy](http://www.ascensionpress.com/biy) and it's not too late to catch up or simply work through at your own pace.
- ◆ **Catechism in a Year** This year, Ascension Press have commenced the Catechism in a Year podcast which will slowly and prayerfully read through and break open the Catechism over 365 days. It's not too late to catch up, and the daily podcasts can be listened to at your own pace. It is available at [www.ascensionpress.com/ciy](http://www.ascensionpress.com/ciy)

**The Chosen – A TV Series about Jesus** The Chosen is a new 'free to view' series, now in its third season, that beautifully and creatively presents the life of Christ and his followers. The shows are of the highest quality and are receiving acclaim around the world across denominations. Go to [watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen](http://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen) to watch or get the free app for use on your phone / laptop via The Chosen app (download) or for your Smart TV. Watch it on your own, or better still with family and friends.



## Holy Gospel according to Matthew 22:1-14

*Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants,

"The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out onto the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



## SCRIPTURE HOMILY by Richard Leonard

These days young couples ask for their children to be baptised for a variety of reasons. Initially, it's clear that for some, baptism is an elaborate naming ceremony, or the ritual preliminaries to having a 'we've had a baby party'. For others, while they don't quite know why they want baptism, they just know they do. And for some parents it's clear that they wish to pass on to their children the life of Christ that has nurtured them.

At the baptismal ceremony, I always begin by saying that for the first three centuries of the Church's history, this sacrament was celebrated at dawn on the Easter Vigil not only because the rising sun symbolised Christ's light dawning in our lives, but because baptism was always done in secret. For 300 years Christians who took the waters of baptism at dawn could be dead by lunchtime. For them, baptism was no social day out; it was a life and death commitment.

In the parable of the King's banquet, Jesus foreshadows the days when those whom one would expect to be Christian would reject the invitation to faith, and those thought least likely to respond to God's call would flock into the Church.

Since the earliest days of Christianity, the Wedding Banquet was seen as a metaphor for two things: the Eucharist and Eternal Life. Curiously, this parable, while using the imagery of the Banquet, is less concerned about the meal and more about who's in and who's out, and why!

We can see this through the tenants who turn down the opportunity to go to a Royal Wedding – still an almost unimaginable thing to do. It's seen in the poor who recognise the gift and the giver, get dressed up and have somewhere to go. And it's seen in the impostor who is not correctly dressed for the occasion and is speechless when called to account.

This last character is clearly the one in the earliest Christian community who has taken the waters of baptism, but was betraying St Matthew's persecuted community. When discovered, people like this guest were thrown out. In Matthew's time, impostors cost lives.

So what does all this have to say to our own time? It's not about how one dresses for Mass or for Eternal life! It's not about the fear of being found wanting in being able to mouth the right words when called to account. It is about being poor enough to recognise the gift of God in the invitation to faith and about being generous enough to respond completely. For taking care about what we say and do, the values by which we live our lives at home, at work, at play and in the way we relate to each other is how we show that we mean what we profess. It is also how others legitimately judge whether we are really genuine about our faith or just another impostor.

Like the earliest Christians, when we were baptised we were clothed in a white garment – a wedding robe. Like theirs, our baptismal day was no naming ceremony and no social day out. It was the day we were issued with a standing invitation to the feast of life in Christ where people act as they profess, and where frauds are spotted a mile away.