

Gospel

Lk 14:1. 7-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

All who exalt themselves shall be humbled and all who humble themselves shall be exalted.

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.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

(R) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Priests' Retirement Fund

This weekend we are holding the annual collection for the Priests' Retirement Fund. This is to support priests within the Archdiocese in their senior years to give them the dignity they deserve after a life of faithful service to God and his people. Envelope donations may be placed in the usual collections. Please note that all donations \$2 and above are tax deductible. Appeal envelopes are available at your seats or in the Church foyer. Thank you for your support.

Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

In the gospel of Luke, Jesus is accused of eating with sinners and tax collectors (Lk 15) and we have an image of Jesus as always eating with the marginalised. However, today's gospel account is a more common occurrence: Jesus eating with a leading Pharisee and people of social importance. Although Jesus is depicted as frequently dining in the houses of these well-to-do people, he was probably never invited a second time! As in today's account, Jesus made a habit of accepting the hospitality of such people and then giving them a lecture about how they should behave and reminding them who was not gathered around the table with them. Certainly the sort of actions that don't see too many follow-up invitations! The message he dishes out to the Pharisees on this occasion is about not thinking you're more important than you really are. He tells them that it is far better to assume a lower status and to be lifted to greater prominence than it is to assume too much and have to be asked to step down to your proper status. In first century Jewish society, eating was as much a political act as it was a social one. Who you ate with was a reflection of your social and political position. To be invited to the head of the table would reflect very positively on a guest whilst being asked to assume a lower seat would be humiliating. Jesus' final teaching in this account would have been outrageous to his audience. The thought of inviting to a meal people who were in no position to reciprocate was absolutely ridiculous. But Jesus encourages his audience to give to those who cannot repay – to be graciously generous just as God gives without expecting anything in return.

Wishing all fathers, grandfathers and father-figures a very happy and blessed Fathers Day!



Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C - 1 September 2019

St Declan's parish acknowledges that we gather, pray and live together on the land of the Bidjegal people of the Eora Nation.

First Reading

Sir 3:17-20, 28-29

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus.

Humble yourself and you will find favour with the Lord.

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver. The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud man's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him. The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

The word of the Lord.

(R.) Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 67:4-7. 10-11. R. v.11

(R.) God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

1. The just shall rejoice at the presence of God, they shall exult and dance for joy. O sing to the Lord, make music to his name; rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence.

2. Father of the orphan, defender of the widow, such is God in his holy place. God gives the lonely a home to live in; he leads the prisoners forth into freedom.

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3. You poured down, O God, a generous rain: when your people were starved you gave them new life. It was there that your people found a home, prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor.

(R.) God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

Second Reading

Heb 12:18-19, 22-24

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.
You have to come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God.

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

The word of the Lord.

(R.) Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 11:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

Take my yoke upon you; learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.

Alleluia!

ST DECLAN'S PARISH

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Parish Office hours:

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri: 9am - 3pm

Thursday: Closed

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MASS TIMES

Mass Times at St Declan's Parish

Saturday: 6pm

Sunday: 7am, 9am, 11am, 6pm

Weekday: Mon, Wed, Fri: 6.45am

Tues, Thurs: 9.15am

Saturday: 8.00am

Public Holiday: 9.15am

Communion Services

Tues, Thurs: 6.45am

Confession: Saturday: 5.00pm-5.30pm

Baptisms & Weddings: by appointment

(Please contact the office or email

declans@tpg.com.au)

Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday 9.45am-

10.45am and 7.00pm-8.00pm

Mass Times at Our Lady of Fatima Peakhurst

Saturday: 5.00pm

Sunday: 9.15am & 6.00pm

Wed, Fri: 9.30am

St Declan's Primary: 9580 4831

Marist College Peshurst: 9579 6188

Welcome to St Declan's Parish

If you are new to our parish we invite you to leave your name, email address and number on the sheet provided in the front foyer (Near the Crying Room). Thank you.

We Remember in our Masses:

Recently Deceased

Guiseppe Di Meo, Luka Lebic, Nicolina Montesin, Ernestina Aseroi, Marica Vukglic, Kata Majnarich, Branko & Bozica Rasic, Casna Setra Anjica Cufjaki, Rudi Krcmar, Carmela Agostino, Samir Ryad, Mile Vodera.

Anniversaries

Jane Fitzgerald, Eric Cloak, Ivan Galic, Luca Rezo, Giuseppe Marco, Joseph Ngahfoong, Audrey Bernal, Mate Prebeg, Mato Jugovich, Ante Certik,

Also

We remember all our dearly departed fathers and grandfathers on Father's Day, Nikola Stipanovic, Benjamin Sibal, William Robertson, Wallace O'Donnell, Cecily Ryan, Noel Sheather, Stjepan Kranjec, Maria Vukobrat, Stjepan Obrovac, Stanko Prorokovic, Ignac Krlin, Ivan Kucinic, Mijo Trupkovic, Nikola Dragisic, Kevin & Stephen & Jim McElroy, Denis & Ante Bacic, Betty & Danny Dusek, Michael O'Sullivan, Betty & Brian O'Sullivan, Frances Anne O'Sullivan, Teresa & Joseph Macinante, Spiro & Josephine Bajuda, The Holy Souls in Purgatory and all the deceased members of our Parish.

Parish Sick List

Massimo Mascolo, Christopher March, Sr Alma Pollard, Alina Kizeweter, Tim March, Sonny Venaf, Kathy Dennett, Mary Phillips, Mirna Mundigo, Peter Tabutoa, Una Canute, Brian Lloyd, Terence Lang, Ann Steele, Elias Francis, Geraldine Brenston.

Mass Intentions: please indicate on the Mass Intentions envelope if you would like the name of the person published in the bulletin.

Parish Sick List: If you are no longer sick or you know someone on the list who is no longer sick, please contact the office so the list can be updated.

Declancraft

Something for the over 40s...

Come along to a "Games Morning" for some games, giggles and fun!

WHEN: Saturday, 14th September, 10am to 12.30pm.

WHERE: Meeting Room.

COST: \$2.00 (morning tea donation).

BOOKINGS: BY 9th September with your contact details to Paulineke on 0419 426 123 or email wpnolan@internode.on.net

Bring a friend or make new friends; join in for some old favourites and learn some new games. An opportunity for a bit of fun and a few laughs. Includes morning tea. **Bookings are essential!**

Thank you, Paulineke

The social justice group wishes to thank fellow parishioners for the wonderful response to its request for donations on behalf of the Jesuit Refugee Service to replenish the diminished reserves of its food bank.

The JRS has also expressed its sincere gratitude to St Declan's not only for the generous donations but also for the warm welcome extended to Hava Rezaie refugee and human rights activist who shared her story with us at 9 and 11 am masses last Sunday.

The St Declan's community wish to thank the Parsa family for sharing their story with us last Sunday at the 6pm mass of how they came to Australia.

Email to the Parish Office account

declans@tpg.com.au

If you have emailed the Parish office at the above address from Wednesday (28/8) evening onwards, your email may not have been received due to email account problems. Please resend any sent emails to

stdeclanspeshurst@gmail.com

Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Declan's Well is out now!

The new issue of Declan's Well was emailed Saturday morning. If you requested a copy but didn't receive it, please check your junk mail folder and get in touch with us so we can fix the problem. If you haven't subscribed but would like to receive a copy, please email your first name, last name and email address to well.stdeclans@gmail.com. For those without an email account, limited printed copies are available at the piety stall.

Sacramental Program

Confirmation

A reminder that **Lesson 3** is on this coming **Tuesday 3 September at 7pm** in the Church.

If you would like your child to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time [NOTE: your child must be in **year 2 or older**], the enrolment form will be available from the **16th of September** from the Parish Office or the website. Enrolment forms must be submitted before the Information Evening on the 22nd of October. *Enquiries to Lynne.*

Josephite Associates Meeting

The Josephite Associates will meet this Monday 2 September, 10am at Mary's Place. For further information, please contact Mary on 95796893.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Hospitality

In the first century, hospitality carried with it certain rules and expectations. If you were the recipient of hospitality, there was an obligation on you to return hospitality if it were within your means. Hospitality meant more than feeding people. It meant extending welcome to people even if you didn't know them. There was an obligation to extend welcome and hospitality to anyone who asked for it. Travellers knew that they could enter a village and ask for a meal and a bed and they would be provided. Jesus reinterpreted this obligation of hospitality and extended to anyone in need.