



Gospel Mk 9:30-37

The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of humanity ... All who wish to be first must make themselves the servants of all.

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

Reflection by Nick Brodie

Today's Gospel reveals a fearfulness in the disciples' response to Jesus. Afraid of asking too many questions, they almost seem to prefer being ignorant rather than admit the limits of their own understanding. Strangely, this self-imposed ignorance does not prevent them from posturing for position. What a warning for the Church this episode seems to offer!

While this excerpt of Mark's Gospel is often interpreted in terms of the virtue of humility, the other aspect of Jesus' point is easily overlooked. Every Christian is called to be 'last of all and servant of all'. Ours is a faith of humble service.

The scriptures repeatedly make the point that faith is always embedded in creation. A mountain, a road, a town, and a house all frame the action in this episode. Because the Church exists wherever its members go our beliefs and prayers are not restricted to church buildings. We take our faith on roads, into our homes and towns, and even up mountains.

Given this, our faith compels us to have a special care for all of creation. As Jesus clearly intimates, by humbly serving created things we express our love of the Creator who made them all.

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The Living Word

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

19 September 2021

First Reading Wis 2:12, 17-20

Let us condemn him to a most shameful death.

The godless say to themselves,

'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man,
since he annoys us
and opposes our way of life,
reproaches us for our breaches of the
law

and accuses us of playing false to
our upbringing.

Let us see if what he says is true,
let us observe what kind of end he
himself will have.

If the virtuous man is God's son,
God will take his part
and rescue him from the clutches of
his enemies.

Let us test him with cruelty and
with torture,

and thus explore this gentleness of his
and put his endurance to the proof.

Let us condemn him to a shameful death
since he will be looked after – we have
his word for it.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 53:3-6. 8. R. v.6

(R.) The Lord upholds my life.

1. O God, save me by your name;
by your power, uphold my cause.
O God, hear my prayers;
listen to the words of my mouth. (R.)
2. For proud men have risen against me,
ruthless men seek my life.
They have no regard for God. (R.)

3. But I have God for my help.
The Lord upholds my life.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart
and praise your name for it is good. (R.)

Second Reading Jas 3:16-4:3

Justice is the harvest of peacemakers from seeds sown in a spirit of peace.

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

Gospel Acclamation See 2 Thes 2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel

to share in the glory of our

Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!



HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC PARISH, North Ryde

191 Cox's Road, North Ryde NSW 2113

Under the care of the Congregation of St. Michael the Archangel
(Michaelite Fathers)



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Michaelite Fr Stan Kluk CSMA PP Fr George Gorzkowski CSMA

Community: Fr Anthony Casamento CSMA

SUNDAY MASS: Saturday 5:00pm, Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am & 5:00pm.
Spanish Speaking Mass 12:30pm

WEEKDAY MASS: Mon 8:30am (Communion Service), Tuesday 7:00pm,
Wednesday - Saturday 8:30am **Public Holidays 8:30am**

Reconciliation: Saturday after morning Mass or by appointment.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 9:00am to 3:00pm Mon – Fri

ST VINCENT DE PAUL REGIONAL HELP CENTRE: 9809 2757

Next Week: 26th Ordinary B Numbers 11:25-29; James 5:1-6; Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48.

Fr Stan writes ...

Mark paints a vivid picture in today's Gospel. Having arrived at Capernaum, Jesus and his disciples enter a house. In this private place, Jesus asks his disciples about the argument they had while they were journeying. Again, the disciples are uncharacteristically silent and afraid to answer. They have been found out. Jesus then summons the Twelve. To this select group of disciples, Jesus teaches that those who would be first in God's kingdom must be servants of all. Jesus then calls forward a child and teaches the Twelve that to receive a child in Jesus' name is to receive both Jesus and the One who sent him.

We might easily fail to understand the significance of this action. In first-century Palestine, children were without status or power, possessing no legal rights. In this action, Jesus is teaching his disciples and us that when we serve the least ones among us, we serve Jesus himself. Who are the people without power or status in our society that Jesus is calling us to serve? Do we do so willingly? Jesus teaches that God's judgment of us will be based on this criterion alone.

On 29th September is the Feast of St Michael the Archangel, the Patron of our Congregation. This year's feast holds a very special significance for us as it celebrates the **100 Years Jubilee** of the founding of the Congregation by Blessed Bronislaw Markiewicz in 1921.

Beginning Monday 20th September, the Novena to Saint Michael the Archangel will be live streamed at **7:00pm** from our parish church. The nine days of prayer (7:00pm every evening) will culminate on the eve of the Feast of St Michael.

You are invited to join us in prayer by following the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/c/HolySpiritNorthRyde>



Do you need help finding help in the Ryde area?

A community care worker has joined Holy Spirit Parish, North Ryde and St Charles Borromeo, Ryde for help and referrals to services concerned with relationships, parenting, ageing, disability, addiction and mental health.



Call to make an appointment

131819

CatholicCare.org

✉ connect@catholiccare.org

🕒 8am – 6pm Monday – Friday

Online Holy Hour for the needs of Sydney Catholics Thursday 30 September

The Parish Renewal Team in the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation is inviting Sydney Catholics to an online Holy Hour on Thursday 30 September, the eve of the first Friday in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Feast Day of St Therese, patron saint of missionaries. St Therese knew that her daily union with Christ in prayer was the most effective help she could offer for the Church's proclamation of the Gospel.

As we await the end of lockdown, let us unite ourselves with Christ and pray that many hearts will be open to his love and granted the grace to encounter Him in this time of challenge and to live ever more deeply as his disciples. [Registrations essential](#)

Online Holy Hour

Date: Thursday 30 September

Time: 7:00pm – 8:30pm

Venue: Online at www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events



Humanitarian crises unfolding in Afghanistan and Lebanon

As the situations in **Afghanistan** and **Lebanon** deteriorate, you can help to support families caught up in the crises.

In **Afghanistan**, people have been forced from their homes, with half of the population in urgent need of food, water, shelter and protection.

In **Lebanon**, the country is running out of power, water, fuel, medicine and food. Even hospitals are facing massive fuel shortages and will soon have to turn off the lights.

Please donate to Caritas Australia so that we are able to respond to crises like these and others across the world.

Visit caritas.org.au/lebanon or www.caritas.org.au/afghanistan or call 1800 024 413 toll free to provide much needed support.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING: Silvana Zennaro, Anne Anderson, Ian Fahy, Adelaide Aridah, Mark Edwards

PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF: Michelle Bryant, Santiago Dalumpines, Eleno R Etor recently deceased.

Also, the Escalante & Venal families, Frank & Edgar Falzon, Ignazio (Jim) Torrasi, Charlie & Melina Bietola, Dr Raphael Panetta, Rosina & Michele Panetta, Rosa & Raffaele Fazzolari, Mary & Sam Bietola, Frank Ientile, Maria Ientile, John, Annarita, Antonio Ientile, Natale Papandrea, Papandrea, Ientile, Cessario families, Angelo Fazzolari & Fazzolari family, Fortunato & Rosa Galluzzo & Galluzzo family, Rosina, Giuseppe, Salvatore & Bruno Panetta, Luigi, Rosina, Pasquale & Santa Genova, Mario & Dirce Gualdi, Antonino & Tindara Caravello, Alberto Tanzini, Angelina & Antonino Rando, Giuseppe & Maria Caterina Pupo, Baby Cove Rose Pupo, Emmanuela Delia, Guy Tesoriero, Rondalea Perkins, Juro Furjanic.