



Gospel Lk 6:17. 20-26

Happy are the poor. Woe to the rich!

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases.

Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said:

'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God.

Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.

Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh.

'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.

'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now.

Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry.

Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.

'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Blessed are the poor? – the hungry? – those who mourn? What is Jesus doing in these Beatitudes?

Jesus was not a 'pie in the sky' dreamer saying: 'You are destitute, hungry now. Don't worry, you will be okay in paradise in the long distant future.' *That* would be a cruel celestial joke.

Rather, Jesus was setting about the task of creating a new sort of society, the Kingdom of God on earth, in which the destitute, the starving, the weeping, are *blessed* in the sense that they can expect their suffering to be alleviated, companions to be found in their distress.

The Divine imperative is that His followers break out of their comfort zone of plenty of money, full stomachs, much to laugh about. They must enter into the harsh reality of other people's destitute, starving, weeping lives. Woe to them if they do not.

Can Our Lord look into the heart of each one of us living in our comfortable world, and then with confidence turn to that *other* world and recite the Beatitudes?

We might pause for a moment, recognise that Jesus' credibility is on the line, and pray that His Father's will be done on *earth* as it is in Heaven.

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The Living Word

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

13 February 2022

First Reading Jer 17:5-8

A curse on those who trust in humanity; a blessing on those who trust in the Lord.

The Lord says this:

'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man,
who relies on things of flesh,
whose heart turns from the Lord.
He is like dry scrub in the wastelands:
if good comes, he has no eyes for it,
he settles in the parched places of the wilderness,
a salt land, uninhabited.

'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord,
with the Lord for his hope.
He is like a tree by the waterside
that thrusts its roots to the stream:
when the heat comes it feels no alarm,
its foliage stays green;
it has no worries in a year of drought,
and never ceases to bear fruit.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 1:1-4. R. Ps 39:5

(R.) *Happy are they who hope in the Lord.*

1. Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked;
nor lingers in the way of sinners
nor sits in the company of scorners,
but whose delight is the law of the Lord
and who ponders his law day and night. (R.)

2. He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters,
that yields its fruit in due season
and whose leaves shall never fade;
and all that he does shall prosper. (R.)
3. Not so are the wicked, not so!
For they like winnowed chaff
shall be driven away by the wind.
For the Lord guards the way of the just
but the way of the wicked leads to doom. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20

If Christ is not raised from the dead, your faith is in vain.

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people.

But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 6:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad;

your reward is great in heaven.

Alleluia!



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SUNDAY MASS: Saturday 5:00pm, Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am & 5:00pm.
Spanish Speaking Mass 12:30pm; Filipino Mass monthly 4th Sunday at 12:15pm

WEEKDAY MASS: Monday Communion Service 8:30am, Tuesday 7pm,
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: 7th Ordinary C: 1 Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; 1 Cor 15:45-49; Luke 6:27-38.

Fr Stan writes ...

Today's Gospel offers a contrast to many of the messages we hear in our society today. If we were to accept uncritically the "get ahead" messages of our culture, we would think that happiness means having money, being successful, and having many possessions. In this way, we are not unlike the people who heard Jesus teach on the day that he taught the Beatitudes. They too associated happiness with possessions and success. The report of the Beatitudes in Luke's Gospel, however, takes things one step further. Not only will we not find happiness through the "get ahead" messages of the world but relying upon these messages will cause us harm. The warnings spoken are particularly challenging because they suggest that our way of life must change if we are to gain the lasting happiness of eternal life. The Beatitudes are often described as a framework for Christian living. Our vocation as Christians is not to be first in this world, but rather to be first in the eyes of God. We are challenged to examine our present situation in the context of our ultimate horizon, the Kingdom of God.



You're invited to join the webinar launch of Joy of Love, a project initiated by the Archdiocese of Sydney and facilitated by CatholicCare Sydney, to be held at 11am via webinar on 17 February 2022. More information on noticeboard.

FIND OUT MORE AND REGISTER AT catholiccare.org/joyoflove

Open your home and heart to foster care

Family Spirit are seeking safe and stable homes for children and young people.

We need all types of carers - long-term, short-term, or part-time/weekend respite carers.

To learn more, register for our next online information session on **Wednesday, 23 February, 6:30pm - 7:30pm**

To register call 13 18 19

Family Spirit

FamilySpirit.org

admin@familyspirit.org

8am – 6pm Monday – Friday

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

Roza Vukovich from CatholicCare will be speaking at all Masses on the weekend of 19/20 February on CatholicCare's partnership with Holy Spirit Parish. CatholicCare provides support for relationships, parenting, ageing, disability, addiction, and mental health concerns. The COVID pandemic has highlighted the need to connect, to reach out and support each other and CatholicCare is here to help parishioners get the support they need to live life to the full.

PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF: Ross Egan, Marianna Cincotta, Liana Fusca, Pina Bonadio, Des Wales, Antonio Coluccio recently deceased.

Also, the Escalante & Venal families, Frank & Edgar Falzon, Carmela, Angelo, Paul Scicluna, Ignazio (Jim) Torrisi, 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, Rodolfo Inaldo, Kathy & Bill Limperopolous, Domenico Agostino, Antonio Fonti, Grazia Fonti, Onofrio Casamento, Domenica Casamento, Joseph Casamento, Pavo Urban, Pavica Kusturic, Bill & Toni Beshara, Anthony & Afelia Arida, Marie & Jim Hyde, Denis Wonderley and the deceased members of the Dominello, Galluzzo, Olivieri, Di Tano, Smith, Shewan, Holland families.



Prayer to St Michael the Archangel

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil, may God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.