

The Living Word

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

18 September 2022

First Reading Am 8:4-7

The Lord God spoke against those who buy the poor for money.

Listen to this, you who trample on the needy
and try to suppress the poor people of the
country,

you who say, 'When will New Moon be over
so that we can sell our corn,
and sabbath, so that we can market our
wheat?

Then by lowering the bushel, raising the
shekel,
by swindling and tampering with the scales,
we can buy up the poor for money,
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and get a price even for the sweepings of
the wheat.'

The Lord swears it by the pride of Jacob,
'Never will I forget a single thing you have
done.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 112:1-2. 4-8. R. see vv.1. 7

(R.) Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.
or

(R.) Alleluia!

1. Praise, O servants of the Lord,
praise the name of the Lord!
May the name of the Lord be blessed
both now and for evermore! (R.)
2. High above all nations is the Lord,
above the heavens his glory.
Who is like the Lord, our God,
who has risen on high to his throne
yet stoops from the heights to look down,
to look down upon heaven and earth? (R.)
3. From the dust he lifts up the lowly,
from the dungheap he raises the poor
to set him in the company of princes,
yes, with the princes of his people. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Tm 2:1-8

*Let prayers be offered to God for everyone; he wants all
people to be saved.*

My advice is that, first of all, there should
be prayers offered for everyone – petitions,
intercessions and thanksgiving – and
especially for kings and others in authority,
so that we may be able to live religious and
reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this
is right, and will please God our saviour: he
wants everyone to be saved and reach full
knowledge of the truth. For there is only
one God, and there is only one mediator
between God and mankind, himself a man,
Christ Jesus, who sacrificed himself as a
ransom for them all. He is the evidence of
this, sent at the appointed time, and I have
been named a herald and apostle of it and
– I am telling the truth and no lie – a teacher
of the faith and the truth to the pagans.

In every place, then, I want the men to lift
their hands up reverently in prayer, with no
anger or argument.

Gospel Acclamation 2 Cor 8:9

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor,
to make you rich out of his poverty.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 16:1-13

or (shorter form Lk 16:10-13)

You cannot be slaves both of God and of money.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There was a rich man
and he had a steward who was denounced to him
for being wasteful with his property. He called
for the man and said, "What is this I hear about
you? Draw me up an account of your stewardship
because you are not to be my steward any
longer." Then the steward said to himself, "Now
that my master is taking the stewardship from
me, what am I to do? Dig? I am not strong



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Jesus, surprisingly, found something appealing about this steward who was in the rapacious lending business. What was it? Faced with the news that he was about to lose his position, his catastrophic reversal of fortune, he cut a deal with his debtors to help secure his future. Jesus gave him full marks for being astute and shrewd.

Jesus laments the fact that many of his followers, 'children of the light,' are not as smart in the face of the Great Reversal – which He is inaugurating in which 'the hungry will be filled with good things and the rich sent empty away' (*Mary's Magnificat*).

We should be using our money ('mammon') to alleviate the myriad hungers of the world, not to buy our way into Heaven, but so that we become the sort of person who will be able to enjoy the heavenly companionship of those who hungered.

We could take a moment to pause and take stock of the use of our resources which are *passing*, so that we may be received into the *eternal* habitation.

mtate@bigpond.com

enough. Go begging? I should be too ashamed. Ah, I know what I will do to make sure that when I am dismissed from office there will be some to welcome me into their homes."

'Then he called his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, "How much do you owe my master?" "One hundred measures of oil," was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond; sit down straight away and write fifty." To another he said, "And you, sir, how much do you owe?" "One hundred measures of wheat," was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond and write eighty."

'The master praised the dishonest steward for his astuteness. For the children of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind than are the children of light.

'And so I tell you this: use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity. The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own?

'No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.'

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Trinity Aid for Refugees: The grocery collections box will be located at Holy Family Church, Barwon Heads, for all of September. Our Refugee friends in Geelong continue to need much support. Thank you to all who contributed to the Collections at Ocean Grove and Queenscliff. For a list of suggested items check the Parish Website, click Ministries & Groups/TAR and scroll to the end or email shirleyhurley@iinet.net.au.

Special Ministry to the Homestead Nursing Home: Our small team is welcomed with great enthusiasm by our Christian community and the staff on our return to administering the Eucharist each Monday. Could you please dig deep into your Christian response to help us out? If you could pal up with one other person (groups of 2 required), we could cope. We need another 7 people to allow a couple to go once every 6 weeks. "Whatever you do to the least of my brethren" Please ring Judy Considine 0417 347 553 or Sue Condon 0417 551 257.

Notes from the Parish Pastoral Council

1. Dates have now been set for the "Take the Way of the Gospel" Parish discernment meetings.

- Queenscliff at 10.00am on Wednesday, October 26 in the Sr Patrice Room at St Aloysius Catholic Primary School.
- Ocean Grove at 7.00pm on Thursday, November 10 in the Hall at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School.
- Ocean Grove at 10.00am on Monday, November 14 in the Hall at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School.
- Barwon Heads at 10.00am on Friday, November 18 at the Holy Family Church.

The meetings are intended to determine a Parish response to Archbishop Comensoli's proposals for "mission" and inter-Parish cooperation and to allow for parishioner feedback to the Parish Pastoral Council on the "health of our Parish". If unable to attend a time proposed for your Mass centre, you are most welcome to attend at one of the other Mass centres.

2. Parishioners are asked to consider teaming up with a friend and becoming part of the roster for taking communion to our Aged-Care residents and others who are unable to attend Mass. Contact the Parish Office if you are able to assist in this important ministry.

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LITURGY IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

Monday 19th September – St Januarius (Memorial)

Tuesday 20th September – Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang and companions (Memorial)

9:15am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

Wednesday 21st September – St Matthew (Feast)

9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

Thursday 22nd September – Weekday, Ordinary Time 25

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED – PUBLIC HOLIDAY

National Day of Mourning for Queen Elizabeth II

9:15am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

Friday 23rd September – St Pius of Pietrelcina (Memorial)

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED – PUBLIC HOLIDAY

9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

Saturday 24th September – Weekday, Ordinary Time 25

Sunday 25th September – 26th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

World Refugees & Migration Day

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Thought for the Week:

Wrinkles should merely indicate
where smiles have been.

- Mark Twain.

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Anthony & Letitia Dowling
with the friendly team you know and trust.

2 Park Lane, Ocean Grove VIC 3226

Phone: 5255 5655

Email: info@oceaneyes.com.au

Visit: www.oceaneyes.com.au



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Estia Health Leopold is a Residential Aged Care home with current vacancies **for respite and permanent care.**

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