

# The Living Word

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

5 November 2023

## First Reading Mal 1:14 – 2:2.8-10

*You have strayed from the way, you have caused many to stumble by your teaching.*

I am a great king, says the Lord of hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. You have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration.

Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

## Responsorial Psalm Ps 130

*(R.) In you, Lord, I have found my peace.*

1. O Lord, my heart is not proud  
nor haughty my eyes.  
I have not gone after things too great  
nor marvels beyond me. *(R.)*
2. Truly I have set my soul  
in silence and peace.  
A weaned child on its mother's breast,  
even so is my soul. *(R.)*
3. O Israel, hope in the Lord  
both now and for ever. *(R.)*

## Second Reading 1 Thes 2:7-9.13

*We were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our lives as well.*

Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well. Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God's Good News to you.

Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

## Gospel Acclamation Mt 23:9. 10

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*You have one Father, your Father  
in heaven;*

*you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus  
Christ.*

*Alleluia!*

## Gospel Mt 23:1-12

*They do not practise what they preach.*

Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must



therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi.

'You, however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one Master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.'

## Reflection by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel is a lesson on leadership. The gospel writer has Jesus offering a very strong criticism of the religious leadership of his day as exemplified by the scribes and Pharisees. He accuses them of not practising what they preach – a rather familiar criticism often levelled at politicians, teachers and church leaders in our own society today. When the criticism is used today it often implies that if the person fails to practise what they preach then what they have to say carries little weight. But rather than totally rejecting the scribes and Pharisees, Jesus cautions his listeners to take notice of what they have to say – as their teachings were always grounded in scripture and tradition – but not to follow their example of behaviour.

Throughout Matthew's gospel we encounter criticisms of the scribes and Pharisees. This example is of the same nature: they were too caught up with rules and obligations and did not approach life with compassion and concern for the individual. The community for whom Matthew's gospel was intended was struggling with being both Jewish and Christian. They were coming to realise that to be followers of Jesus' way they needed to cast aside some of the attitudes and behaviours of their Jewish tradition. That applied particularly to the model of leadership that they had inherited from Jesus: a model of leadership through service, not power and authority. This gospel passage makes it very clear for that original community as well as ourselves that true leadership is provided through service to others and through humble action. Unlike the Pharisees of Jesus' time, Christian leaders are called to do away with the trappings of power and prestige and, instead, be of service to those whom they would lead.

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# HOLY TRINITY

## CATHOLIC PARISH

*Incorporating the Mass centres and communities of*

Holy Family      Our Lady Star of the Sea      Holy Trinity  
101 Hitchcock Av      68 John Dory Drive      34 Stevens St  
**Barwon Heads**      **Ocean Grove**      **Queenscliff**

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather, the Wathaurong people. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully in the land.

We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

### PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Fr Darien J Sticklen  
Parish Secretary: Mrs Daniella Sutera  
Safeguarding & Admin Support: Ms Jennie Ryan  
Parish Mission Ambassador: Ms Josephine Barnes

*For all parish ministries, including Holy Communion to the Sick, RCIA, Baptism & Sacramental Program, Men Alive, Faith Development & Spirituality Group, St Vincent de Paul local Conference, Trinity Aid for Refugees, etc., please visit:*

[www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au](http://www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au)

### PARISH OFFICE & PRESBYTERY

34 Stevens Street, Queenscliff 3225  
Telephone: (03) 5258 1673  
Email: [queenscliff@cam.org.au](mailto:queenscliff@cam.org.au)

### OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday  
10:00am to 1:00pm (excluding public holidays)

### PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St. Aloysius, Queenscliff  
Principal: Ms. Miriam Leahy, Tel: 5258 1736  
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove  
Principal: Ms. Kerryn Sells, Tel: 5255 4308

### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

BARWON HEADS: Saturday Vigil 6:00pm  
OCEAN GROVE: Sunday 9:00am  
QUEENSCLIFF: Sunday 11:00am

### WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Please see below: Liturgy in our Parish this week

### THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

is available prior to each weekend Mass, and before or after weekday Masses if needed.

### BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Visit our website for all information or contact Parish office  
[www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/](http://www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/)

### COLUMBARIUM

Please visit [www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/about-us/parish-columbarium/](http://www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/about-us/parish-columbarium/)

### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN ATTENDING NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Enrolments are open for 2024.  
Please visit our website for enrolment form and all information:  
<https://holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/sacramental-program-2/>

Please send in bulletin notices by 1pm on Thursdays

## 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

**Recently Deceased:** Steve Oates.

**Anniversaries 5<sup>th</sup> November to 11<sup>th</sup> November:** Ellen Fell, Sheila Marsden, Austin Peter Dillon, Winifred Jenner, Dalys Allison, Patrick Shine, George Hallal, Eris Hess, Ken Stout, Anthony Bissinella and Brian Hoare.

**Please pray for those who are Sick:** Elly Anwyl, Naomi Bianco, Denise Blake, Mary Blonk, Peter Bourke, Ron & Helen Carter, Sam Caruana, Brian Cotter, Jack Davin, Pat Dickeson, Ian Downing, Robert Drummond & Patti Semler, Gloria Forbes, Nell Fraigneux, Kay Freyne, Ross Gilham, Margaret Gladstone, Martin & Mary Grundy, Ben Hanan, Stephen Hanan, Peter Harrington, Jeannette Hodgkinson, Gregory Holien, Robert & Lyne Horner, Robert Hurley, Melissa Keogh, Gary Kingsbury, Hilda Koertjes, Margaret Lomas, Toni Lukauskas, George Marshall, Belinda Monterosso, Annette Mullany, Christine Naulty, Frank & Kaye Nelson, Helen Pearce, Cecilia Piec, Mavourneen Ray, Margaret Renwick (Snr), Geraldine Richards, Betty Rushton, Jeannett Stevens, Mary Sullivan, Pam Sullivan, Kevin Teasdale, Deanne Warren, Susan Weston, Michelle Williams, Peter Williams and Shirley Woodruff.

### ROSTERS

*If you are unable to meet your commitment on your day, please arrange a substitute. Thank you!*

**COMMENTATOR (C), LECTOR (L), SPECIAL MINISTER (SM), WELCOMERS (W), PROJECTIONIST (P)**

**OCEAN GROVE: 12<sup>th</sup> November at 9:00am:**

(C) Luci Quinn (L) Michael Kirkman (SM) Fiorentina Romeo, Marg Lucas (W) Kerryn Sells, Diane Gent.

**QUEENSCLIFF: 12<sup>th</sup> November at 11:00am:**

(C) Tony Frizza (L) Shirley Hurley (SM) Terry Philp (W) Trish Frizza.

**COUNTERS: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 10:00am:**

Ken Caffyn & Daniella Sutera.

### \*\* NEWS & EVENTS \*\*

*If you need Pastoral care & support, or you are aware of others who may need assistance, please phone our Parish office. Mobile number for emergencies is on the recorded message.*

For all Safeguarding updates, please visit the parish website:

[www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/safeguarding/parish-child-safe/](http://www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/safeguarding/parish-child-safe/)

*We appreciate your understanding and support as we work together to comply with our legal requirements. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.*

**Safeguarding Essentials Training small group sessions available on the first Thursday of each month from 11am to 12:30pm.** Registration is required. To register, please contact the parish office or email Jennie at

[queenscliff.safeguarding@cam.org.au](mailto:queenscliff.safeguarding@cam.org.au). **Next session:** Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December. The online module can be accessed at any time from the below link. You will need your unique Working With Children Check (card) number and an email address to register. <https://melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-training-and-upcoming-events/safeguarding-training-modules/>.

**Hospitality Sunday:** this Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> November, following 11:00am Mass at Queenscliff. ALL WELCOME!

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED:** Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November for Melbourne Cup.

**Trinity Aid for Refugees (TAR):** the grocery collections box will be located at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff, for all of November. Our Refugee friends in Geelong continue to need much support. For a list of suggested items check the Parish Website, click Ministries & Groups/TAR and scroll to the end or email [shirleyhurley@inet.net.au](mailto:shirleyhurley@inet.net.au). To donate directly to Wesley Church Welcome Place: BSB 633 000, Account 160 305 066. You are welcome to visit Queenscliff Rural Aid for Refugees [www.queenscliffrrar.org](http://www.queenscliffrrar.org).

### PARISH VARIETY CONCERT – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November

From 2:00-4:30pm (includes interval).

BYO afternoon tea (no alcohol permitted). Coffee & cake van available. Cash donations appreciated. Enquiries: Julie 0411 578 285. All welcome and we look forward to seeing you there!

### PRAYER FOR BAPTISM FAMILIES:

Dear Parents, as you prepare for your child's Baptism, the people of Holy Trinity Parish rejoice that you have chosen to baptise your child, and we pray that in the coming years, you and your family will continue to know and grow in the love of God that is everlasting.



**Visit of His Excellency Most Rev Paul Gallagher:** *Secretary for the Relations with States and International Organisations, Secretariat of State, Holy See.* On the occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between the Commonwealth of Australia and the Vatican, Archbishop Comensoli is pleased to welcome His Excellency Most Rev Paul Gallagher and the Apostolic Nuncio to Australia – His Excellency Most Rev Charles Balvo to Melbourne. Archbishops Comensoli, Gallagher and Balvo, together with clergy of the Archdiocese, will celebrate Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral on the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica – **Thursday 9 November, 5:30pm.** All are welcome to attend.

**Our Lady Star of the Sea School Arts Trail 2023:** Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November from 4-7pm at OLSOS School. BYO picnic and rug. Food truck available. Live music. See flyer on church noticeboard for all details. All welcome.

**\*\* FAITH DEVELOPMENT GROUP – ADVENT NEWS! \*\***

This Advent, the Faith Development Group (FDG) has sourced 'With Expectant Hearts' from the Diocese of Brisbane. Here are some details:

- The 22-page reflection book invites us to explore more deeply what it means to allow God to come to birth in us. The spiritual nourishment God seeks to give us now will come to birth in us through the entire year if we can open our hearts in response to it.
- Its main purpose is to help us to find a few minutes each day to practice what it means to sit with God and to trust God to lead us forward.
- **Approximate Cost \$7.00 each – to be confirmed.**

The FDG is expecting to offer at least **two weekly small reflection group meetings.** At this stage, one morning session in Barwon Heads and one evening group in Ocean Grove – both on a Tuesday commencing **Tuesday 28/11/2023.** If you are interested in obtaining a booklet for personal reflection and/or would like to join a discussion group (let us know which one!), **please contact either:**

- Sandra Gould by email at [sandra@salmandra.com](mailto:sandra@salmandra.com) or phone 0418 537 941
- Kerin Fox by email at [foxeskb@gmail.com](mailto:foxeskb@gmail.com) or phone 0407 519 585
- Rhonda Boyd by email at [rboyd1@vtown.com.au](mailto:rboyd1@vtown.com.au) or phone 0428 933 673

**Upcoming annual appeal and special collection:**

- Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, Catholic Deaf Appeal, will be held next weekend (11-12 Nov). *Thank you for your generosity and support.*

**TAR Catholic Social Justice Corner (by Bill Fox):** From the Address of Pope St John Paul II to the Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders in Alice Springs, Nov. 1986... "The establishment of a new society for Aboriginal people cannot go forward without just and mutually recognized agreements with regard to these human problems, even though their causes lie in the past. The greatest value to be achieved by such agreements, which must be implemented without causing new injustices, is respect and growth of the human person."

**Geelong Catholic Diners Club:** You are warmly invited to join us for a social get-together for food & friendship. **Date:** Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November. **Time:** 6:00pm. **Venue:** The Bistro, Belmont Hotel (High St, Belmont). **Cost:** Purchase meals & drinks at your own cost. **RSVP:** please phone or text Joan 0429 215 111 or Michael 0431 959 584 by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November.

**Upcoming Day Programs at Santa Casa, Queenscliff:** to view the full 2023 schedule, visit <https://holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/day-programs-2023-at-santa-casa-retreat-centre/>.

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**LITURGY IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November – Weekday, Ordinary Time 31**

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November – Weekday, Ordinary Time 31**  
**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

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

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November – Weekday, Ordinary Time 31**

9:15am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November – The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica (Feast)**

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

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November – St Leo the Great (Memorial)**

No morning Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

12:00pm Funeral Mass for Maureen O'Neill at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November – St Martin of Tours (Memorial)**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November – 32<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**

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**PARTICIPATION**

is a central key aspiration of the Synodal Process of **Communion, Participation and Mission 2023** which recently took place in Rome.

**PARTICIPATION CREATES AND BUILDS COMMUNITY LIFE AT A PARISH LEVEL.**

We are most grateful to all ministry volunteers in each Mass Centre for their contribution to the Sunday Liturgy.

New Ministry Rosters are due at the beginning of Advent. As circumstances change in people's lives the Ocean Grove community needs Ministers of the Eucharist and Ministers of Welcome, as well as ministers/volunteers for all other ministries.

We often pray and sing at Mass *"the gifts we have we are given to share"*.

After Mass, please express your interest to Brenda Bissinella, Maureen Earls or Monica Meagher. Alternatively, contact the parish office.


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**Ocean Eyes**  
OPTOMETRISTS

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


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Visit: [www.oceaneyes.com.au](http://www.oceaneyes.com.au)



**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
*good works*

**Vinnies No Interest Loan Scheme ("NILS")**


Geelong Vinnies NILS provides people on pensions & low incomes with loans up to \$1500 for essentials such as whitegoods, TVs, computers, medical & dental services, car repairs, etc... with absolutely no interest or fees! For further information, contact Vinnies NILS Tel 5229 8829 or email [enquiries.nils@vinniesnils.org.au](mailto:enquiries.nils@vinniesnils.org.au).



**NPTS** Nelson Property Transfer Services  
Geelong & Bellarine

Looking to buy, sell or transfer property?

Contact Frank Nelson  
0413 017 053  
[bellarine@npts.com.au](mailto:bellarine@npts.com.au)



You're in safe hands

**CHARLIE'S MAINTENANCE CO**

General maintenance, gardening, cleaning and tiling. Servicing the Bellarine and Geelong areas. Contact Charlie on 0413 609 170 or email [charlie.sutera76@gmail.com](mailto:charlie.sutera76@gmail.com).