# Granville Catholic Church Record

Vol. 9. No. 44

November 3, 2024

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



## THE FOUR LAST THINGS

# DEATH and JUDGEMENT

The month of November is traditionally dedicated to praying for the holy souls in Purgatory. In recognition of this we will dedicate the bulletins this week and next to the Church's teachings on the four last things: death, judgement, heaven, and hell. This week we begin with death and judgement.

Where does death come from? Death comes from sin. St. Paul in his letter to the Romans explained: "Therefore, just as through one person sin entered the world, and through sin, death, and thus death came to all, inasmuch as all sinned" (5:12).

Before the fall of Adam and Eve man lived in communion with God and possessed bodily immortality. But with original sin we lost that immortality and so became subject to decay and to death. With the loss of bodily immortality also comes suffering and illness. So it is now our part in this life to suffer and die.

But what is death? Death is nothing more than the separation of the body and soul. We do not cease to exist at death. We do not become unaware of things at death. Our bodies will cease to live as a result of age, sickness or accident, but we will continue. Life will go on; our souls will continue to be alive, but apart, for a time, from our bodies which will no longer be animated.

Death is a temporary state, for at our death we will be judged by Christ in the particular judgement, and then, at the end of the world, all men shall rise again for the general judgement. Thus the whole man, body and soul, will be rewarded for the good or evil that he has done, body and soul, in this life.

There are three possible outcomes to the particular judgment. Those whose love for God has been perfected in this life are taken straight to heaven, where they enjoy endless happiness in the face to face vision of God. Those who die in God's love but still love Him imperfectly must be purified in the intermediate state of purgatory. Those, however, who reject God's love by mortal sin and die without repenting are condemned to the everlasting torments of hell.

The Lord takes us seriously. He lets us have our own way. We get what we choose. We go to our own place. By the course of our lives we choose eternal happiness or eternal damnation.

The general judgment at the end of time simply solemnly confirms the particular judgments of each one, with the difference that then the body as well as the soul will receive what is due to it. And all God's judgments will be revealed as most just.

#### THE PARISH OFFICE

#### Address

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Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

#### **Parish Priest**

Rev. Fr. Andrew Bass PP

**Business and Projects Manager** 

John Portelli

**Catechist Co-ordinator** 

Lana Leatherby

**Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator** 

Rosette Chidiac

**Online and Social Media Co-ordinators** 

Rosette Chidiac and John Portelli

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#### **DONATIONS**

BSB: 067-950 **Account**: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

#### HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

#### **Holy Mass**

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

#### **Confessions**

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Sunday, 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** 

Sunday, 6:00 p.m.

#### **Nigerian Community Mass**

Second and fourth Sunday of the month, 11:00 a.m.

#### **Rosters**

#### **Church and Toilets Cleaning**

#### **Flower Arranging**

requesting volunteers to form groups of at least 2 people to arrange flowers for the sanctuary

#### SOCIAL MEDIA



holycrossgranville.org.au



HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



@holycrossgranville

#### HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

#### **Holy Mass**

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 8:15 a.m.

Friday, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

#### **Confessions**

Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

#### **Holy Mass and Adoration** of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

#### **Holy Mass in Latin**

First Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

#### **Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass**

Second and last Sunday of the month, 11:30 a.m.

#### **Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass**

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

#### **Rosters**

Church Cleaning Group 2: P. Zaiter, N. Chidiac, C. Buultjens

#### Readers

Vigil Rebecca Hanson, Ingrid Bifulco, Rosette Chidiac

10:00 a.m. Sisters, Hannah Chami, Ranne Chidiac

Children's Liturgy Victor Liu and Armani Barakat

#### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton, John Augustus, Frank Azzopardi, Antonio Bifulco, Ann Blesson, John Borg, Vincenzo Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia, Carmel Galea, Carmello Giovenco, Evangeline Grabato, Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter Higgins, Therese Khalil, Kay King, Fortunato La Macchia, Silvio La Macchia, Jacob Lee, Josephine Magro, Ester Matos, Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Don Provest, Therese Smeal, Ricardo Tognini, Lorraine Vella, Sam Wardan.

Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, by the grace of your Holy Spirit cure the weaknesses of your servants, and mercifully restore them to full health.

#### IN MEMORIAM

Victor Azzopardi, Carmen Bonello, Dick Cahill, Gwen Cahill, Vincent Cahill, Les Camilleri, Maria Dinh, Alan Frost, Carmen Galea, Maria Gambin, John Graham, Joe Grech, Mary Grech, Sam Grech, George Hatem, John Hatem, Mariam Hatem, Melissa Irons, Salim Karaki, Paul Karam, Nouhad Khoury, Thomas Lam, Rustica La Rosa, Laurie Lowe, Frouzine Malkoun, Jacob Malkoun, Mouna Malkoun, Ofimia Malkoun, John McGrath, Iris McIntyre, Lindsay McIntyre, Mary McIntyre, Thomas McIntyre, Elaine Siu Ling Miu, Sam Munro, Joseph Nammour, Jack Newell, Hazel Jean Newell, Tony Newell, Vincent Nguyen, Laura Pestano, Rogelio Pestano, Rolando Pestano, Guise Pham, Jack Pickering, Lorna Pickering, Edward Pidgeon, Flory Pinto, Geoff Senior, Noel So, Alex Taktak, Darren Thornton, John Timbs, John Toye, John Vella, Bich Lien Vo, Phero Vu Van Vuong, Carmel Watts, Phyllis Webb, Mershed Wehbe, Yesmine Wehbe, Phyllis Yott, Dib Zaiter, Laila Zaiter.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

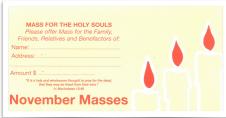
# **Blessing of the Graves** of Priests at Rookwood

On Saturday at 12:00 p.m. at Rookwood Cemetery, we will visit the graves of the past Parish Priests of Granville to bless the graves and to pray the Divine Office for the Dead. For those who would like to attend but are unable to drive themselves or to arrange transport, the parish bus will be available to drive people to and from the cemetery. For those who would like the bus, please see Fr. Andrew for further details. Please be aware that there are limited places available on the bus and we may not be able to accomodate all requests for transport.

# November Mass Intentions for the Faithful Departed

As is the tradition of the Church, the month of November is dedicated to praying for the faithful departed. Throughout November Masses will be offered for the repose of their souls, beseeching the mercy of God that they may be forgiven their sins and receive eternal life in heaven with all the Angels and Saints.

If you would like to have your family and friends remembered in these Masses and their names written in the Book of Remembrance please fill in one of the envelopes by the doors of the church and leave this in the box provided.



Those whose names are given will be remembered in the Masses said throughout November and will be included in the Book of Remembrance.

## Catholic Church Teaching on Attending Sunday Mass Every Week

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that "The Sunday Eucharist (i.e. Holy Mass) is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist (i.e. Mass) on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor. Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin" (n. 2181).

As Catholics, we have an obligation to almighty God to honour that which He has decreed and by attending Mass each and every Sunday we give to God what He deserves, which is our worship.

Those who have a serious reason for not attending Mass such as due to illness, or infirmity or looking after their young children are dispensed from this obligation as long as the serious reason remains. However, for the sake of the duty of the worship of God, the Church encourages those who legitimately cannot attend to still offer some prayers such as reading the Holy Bible or praying the Holy Rosary.

For all others, to not attend Mass on Sunday and on holy days of obligation (such as the Assumption or Christmas Day) commit a grave sin (i.e. mortal sin) which must be confessed before receiving Holy Communion.

Attending a Baptism or a wedding on a Sunday which does not take place during Mass does not fulfill the Sunday obligation and so those who do attend these must still go to Mass.

To duty attend Mass each Sunday is as nothing in comparison to the sacrifice of Our Lord on the Holy Cross who gave everything of Himself to us.

### Red Wednesday 20 November

On Wednesday, 20 November, we honour Red Wednesday in support of Aid to the Church in Need as we pray for persecuted Christians in this country and around the world.

It is little known nor is it ever publicised by the media that Christians are the most persecuted people in the world today. That persecution does not just exist in other countries but in Australia as well. The persecution of the Faith, of the Church, of individuals who seek to lead good and holy lives is a tragedy that must be confronted. Unless the faithful stand up and make a defence of the Christ, of the Church and of the Faith then we face a future, already known in other countries, where churches will be closed, Mass and the Sacraments will be banned, and Christians face legal discrimination.

So join us on Red Wednesday and wear red in solidarity with Christians around the world and join us for Holy Mass as we pray for the protection of the one, true faith.

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Penance (Confession)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is offered every week on Sunday evenings following the 5:00 p.m. Mass at Holy Family Church and on the first Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church. The Sacrament of penance (confession) is available three times each week at the following times: Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Holy Family Church, Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Holy Trinity Church and Sundays from 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. at Holy Family Church.



At the moment of judgement we experience and we absorb the overwhelming power of [Christ's] love over all the evil in the world and in ourselves. The pain of love becomes our salvation and our joy... The transforming "moment" of this encounter eludes earthly time-reckoning—it is the heart's time, it is the time of "passage" to communion with God in the Body of Christ. For the great majority of people—we may suppose—there remains in the depths of their being an ultimate interior openness to truth, to love, to God. In the concrete choices of life, however, it is covered over by ever new compromises with evil-much filth covers purity, but the thirst for purity remains and it still constantly reemerges from all that is base and remains present in the soul. What happens to such individuals when they appear before the Judge? Will all the impurity they have amassed through life suddenly cease to matter? What else might occur? Saint Paul, in his First Letter to the Corinthians, gives us an idea of the differing impact of God's judgement according to each person's particular circumstances... Paul begins by saying that Christian life is built upon a common foundation: Jesus Christ. This foundation endures. If we have stood firm on this foundation and built our life upon it, we know that it cannot be taken away from us even in death. Then Paul continues: "Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straweach man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire" (I Cor 3:12-15). Some recent theologians are of the opinion that the fire which both burns and saves is Christ himself, the Judge and Saviour. The encounter with him is the decisive act of judgement. Before his gaze all falsehood melts away. This encounter with him, as it burns us, transforms and frees us, allowing us to become truly ourselves. All that we build during our lives can prove to be mere straw, pure bluster, and it collapses. Yet in the pain of this encounter, when the impurity and sickness of our lives become evident to us, there lies salvation. His gaze, the touch of his heart heals us through an undeniably painful transformation "as through fire".



Light Red. Wear Red. Pray Red.

Join us on Wednesday, 20 November as we stand in solidarity with persecuted Christians who suffer unjustly for their peacefully-held beliefs.

To honour Red Wednesday Holy Cross Parish
will turn our Facebook page RED
as we do something peaceful and positive to highlight the suffering
– injustices, discrimination, violence, oppression, torture and death –
of so many Christians and others today which goes unnoticed by the world.

And we invite you to wear RED that day to honour those who are persecuted and ignored and to use your social media to make #RedWednesday a day that cannot be ignored.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH Holy Mass at 8:15 a.m.

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH Holy Mass at 6:00 p.m.

1800 101 201 • www.redwednesday.org







# MASSES FOR THE DEAD

## NOVEMBER MASSES

To have the names of the faithful departed of your family and your friends remembered at the altar during Holy Masses said during the month of November, complete one of the special November Masses envelopes and leave this in the box by the doors of the church.

The names of those given will be written in the Book of Remembrance and placed at the altar of St. Joseph at Holy Family Church and in the chapel of the Missionary Sisters of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of the World at Holy Trinity Church.

During the month of November the Church asks the faithful to pray for the faithful departed—that the Holy Souls in Purgatory may be forgiven their sins and so borne to live forever with Our Lord and all the Angels and Saints.

Of this Pope Francis has said that "Church tradition has always urged prayer for the dead, in particular by offering the celebration of the Eucharist for them: It is the best spiritual help that we can give to their souls, particularly to the most abandoned ones."

Pope Benedict XVI said that "praying for the dead is a noble practice that implies belief in the resurrection of the dead... We intend our prayers of suffrage... to be united with this prayer of the Lord which is priestly par excellence. Christ substantiated his entreaty to the Father with the gift of himself on the Cross; let us offer our prayers in union with the Eucharistic Sacrifice, which is the real and actual representation of that unique and saving self-emptying."

The Holy Mass is the highest form of prayer of the Church, because it is the prayer of Christ Himself—the Son of God to the Father by the power of the Holy Spirit. There can be no greater prayer than this to be said for those who are suffering in purgatory, and no greater hope of salvation than offering this prayer.

We pray for those who have died because they can no longer pray for themselves. While in this life we can pray for ourselves and perform penances as acts of contrition for our sins. But at our death, we are no longer able to do this and so we rely solely on the love and the mercy of those who remain in this world and of the Saints in heaven to pray for us and our eternal souls.

In each Mass the Priest prays for the dead, asking the Lord to remember His servants "who have gone before us with the sign of faith and rest in the sleep of peace" and asking that they may be granted "a place of refreshment, light, and peace." This November, remember those who have died and pray for them, so that, they, when we depart from this world, will remember and pray for us.



BLESSING OF THE GRAVES OF

# Priests at Rookwood

Visitation of the graves of past Priests of Granville at Rookwood Cemetery to bless the graves and to pray the Divine Office for the Dead

12:00 p.m. | This Saturday



Enter Rookwood Cemetery on the corner
of East St. and Victoria St. East, Lidcombe
then continue down Necropolis Drive
until you get to the roundabout,
then turn left into the roundabout,
uen the first left to St. Michael the Archangel Chape



## 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

## The Readings

#### Introit (cf. Ps. 37:22-23)

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my strong salvation!

## First Reading The Book of Deuteronomy (6:2-6)

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.

'Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

#### **Responsorial Psalm** (*Ps.* 17:2-4, 47, 51. R. v. 2)

R. I love you Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength, my rock, my fortress, my saviour.

My God is the rock where I take refuge; my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. The Lord is worthy of all praise: when I call I am saved from my foes. R.

Long life to the Lord, my rock! Praised be to the God that saves me. He has given great victories to his king and shown love for his anointed. R.

# Second Reading The Letter to the Hebrews (7:23-28)

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows, then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him.

To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which

came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

#### Gospel Acclamation (Jn. 14:23)

Alleluia, alleluia!
All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

## **Gospel The Gospel of Mark** (12:28-34)

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

#### **Communio** (cf. *Ps.* 15:11)

You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

