



## CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS

Catholic Parish of Dulwich Hill, Archdiocese of Sydney, Established in 1907

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**Bishop Richard Umbers DD VG (Bishop in Residence)**

**Fr. Andrew James (Parish Priest), (Deacon) Rev Louis Azzopardi**



Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time / B

10 October 2021

**PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**



Ph: 9558 5308

**Principal:**

Ms Frances Stewart

**REC:** Ms Jo-Anne Ross

Email:

[info@stpcdulwichhill.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stpcdulwichhill.catholic.edu.au)

**With St Paul of the  
Cross we pray ...**

### For the sick

Noel Nacua

Patricia Stack

Jovito Redaja

Eimy & Kenzo

Raul Cabrera

Angela Di Donato

Sr Julianne Murphy

Helen & Robyn

Natalina Gallace

Ruth Wilson

Raymond Hudson

Fr Jim Duggan

Pat Allport

Cardo, Zennie, Ian, Pat

Francheska Bechara

Igor Tadinac

### Recently Deceased

### Death Anniversary

### For the Souls

All forgotten Souls and Holy  
Souls in Purgatory

### Special Intentions

## "How hard it is to enter the kingdom of God!"

The rich man in today's gospel story isn't named, deliberately so I think, because he is meant to represent each of us and the choice we need to make "*to enter the kingdom of God*". This "kingdom" is a way of life with God in the person of Christ at its heart. He is presented as a very good man. When Jesus questioned him about how well he had treated people in his life, the answer he gave was one that touched Jesus deeply. Jesus "*looked steadily at him and loved him*". So why did this man end up walking away from Jesus feeling sad and depressed?

"Because he was a man of great wealth," is the reason the gospel gives. Jesus had asked him to "*sell everything... give the money to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then, come follow me.*" Was Jesus asking too much of him? Certainly the disciples thought so when they expressed their astonishment at Jesus' reflection on his meeting with this man, "*How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God.*" To make his point even stronger, Jesus went further saying "*It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven.*" In other words, it is impossible.

No wonder then that the disciples said, "*Then who can be saved?*" Jesus' reply to them places our life in a completely different perspective to the one we are used to. His invitation to the rich man was more than about leading a good or better life. He was living this way already. He was inviting him to live the life of a true follower of Jesus, a life that is only possible when we make God, in the person of Jesus and the way he shows us, the guiding relationship of our lives. "*For men, it is impossible; but not for God, because everything is possible for God.*"

Jesus' image of the impossibility of a camel passing through the eye of a needle expresses something we know to be true in our own lives. Our attitude to our possessions, even something as basic as the time we have each day, can work against the relationship with God we wish to develop. When our lives are 'rich' with all the activities we have each day, when we feel we have everything we need then God is an 'extra' that we don't really need. In this context, "*entering the kingdom of God*" is an experience of conversion, of changing our focus from the things we have or think we need to God's place in our lives and to what God asks from us.

So how can we respond to Jesus' invitation to "sell all, give to the poor and follow him?" First of all we need to recognise who Jesus is. The rich man made a false start by addressing Jesus as "Good teacher". Jesus is more than a spiritual guide, one among many possible sources of guidance. His invitation to the rich man came from who he is and the life he came to bring us. The gospel begins with Jesus "*setting out on a journey*", the journey to Jerusalem that would define his life as God who, in Christ, "*humbled himself and became obedient even to death, death on a cross*" (Phil 2:8). This journey, like the whole journey of his life, was done out of love for us. He was inviting him, as he had invited the other disciples, to follow him on this journey and to learn how to live as he did.

Jesus was inviting this man to show his trust in him by giving up all the things that might distract him from following him. It was an invitation given out of love, not a demand, and was in response to his own question "*What must I do to inherit eternal life?*" Jesus was inviting him to take up the opportunity but also the challenge and uncertainty of following him and trusting him along the way he would lead him. His response could sadly be ours if we allow whatever it is that we are attached to separate us from Christ.

"Where your treasure is, there your heart is also" (Mt 6:21). In the end, even though this was what he really wanted, his heart was elsewhere. He was a good man but he couldn't take up the invitation in the same way as the disciples had, despite their many failures and shortcomings. Sadly, he walked away from Jesus.

Deacon Louis

### A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Bishop Richard celebrates Mass at 10am in our church each Sunday. This is then livestreamed on his Facebook page under 'Bishop Umbers livestream' and on our parish Facebook site under 'Parish of the Immaculate Conception and St Paul of the Cross.'

### Guidelines for the reopening of Churches in the Sydney Archdiocese

1. Our churches are still closed and there will be no public masses until the 80% vaccination threshold is reached.

2. Churches may be opened for weddings and funerals, and for services restricted to those who are fully vaccinated (e.g. for baptisms; or for a 'private' Mass with a priest who is fully vaccinated.)

3. Whenever people gather in a place of worship, the number permitted is according to the 4 sqm rule, and masks must be worn.

Covid Check-in is also required via Service NSW App or a written record.

4. If all those present are vaccinated, the permitted number for weddings and funerals will be 100 (but subject to the 4 sqm rule).

### Write to your local NSW MP to stop proposed euthanasia laws in our state.

Parishioners are encouraged to please contact your local NSW MP, expressing your opposition to the voluntary assisted dying bill, proposed by Independent MP Alex Greenwich. The anti-euthanasia coalition, HOPE has developed an online tool that will allow you to send an email directly to your state MP and to all members of the NSW Upper House. The tool is available here: [https://www.noceuthanasia.org.au/petition\\_2108\\_ocp\\_nsw](https://www.noceuthanasia.org.au/petition_2108_ocp_nsw)



Reach out. Give life.

In two weeks, Catholic Mission will share with us the powerful story of Chural, a mother who found her way to the Mother and Babies Home, run by the Good Shepherd Sisters in Bangkok, Thailand, during a desperate time in her life.

The Good Shepherd Sisters' mission is to promote the dignity and human rights of all, especially women and children; but they can only do that with support from people like you. Please come with an open and generous heart.

**Freecall: 1800 257 295**  
[catholicmission.org.au/thailand](http://catholicmission.org.au/thailand)

This is the link to the **Vinnies Metropolitan Schools and Youth Term 4 2021 Newsletter:**

[bit.ly/VinniesSchoolYouthNewsTerm42021](https://bit.ly/VinniesSchoolYouthNewsTerm42021)

The 2021 edition of the **Mini Vinnies Formation Program (MVFP)** for students in Years 4 – 6 is available for those who wish to undertake Social Justice Formation in their own time. For more information please go to <https://bit.ly/VinniesMVFP>

### Feast/Solemnity/Memorial/Saint of the Week (11 - 16 Oct 2021)

Mon	11/10	St John XXIII, pope
Thu	14/10	St Callistus I, pope, martyr
Fri	15/10	St Teresa of Jesus, virgin, doctor
Sat	16/10	St Hedwig, religious St Margaret Mary Alacoque, virgin

#### St John XXIII

Born Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli known as the "Good Pope". He is remembered chiefly for convening the Second Vatican Council. He announced the Vatican II on January 25, 1959 as a means of spiritual renewal for the Church and as an occasion for Christian separated from Rome to join in a search for Christian unity.



#### St Callistus I

A Roman by birth, Callistus was the bishop of Rome from 218 to his death 222 or 223. Callistus came as a slave to the city where he would later serve as a Pope. He may have been sentenced due to a persecution of Christians and eventually freed on the initiative of Pope St Victor I.



During the reign of Pope Zephyrinus, Callistus became a deacon and caretaker of a cemetery; When Zephyrinus died in 217, Callistus was chosen to be Pope. As Pope, he established the practice of absolution of all sins, including those which rigorists considered irremissible.

#### St Teresa of Jesus

Born in Avila, Spain, was a Spanish noblewoman who felt called to convent life. Assisted by St John of the Cross, she succeeded in establishing the Reform of the Discalced Carmelites for both the brethren and the sisters of her Order.



She also wrote many books on Mystical Theology considered by Pope Gregory XV and Urban VII to be equal to those of a Doctor of the Church. On September 27, 1970 Pope Paul VI added her to the roll of the Doctors of the Church.

#### St Hedwig

Born in Bavaria in 1174, Hedwig was the daughter of the Duke of Croatia. She was married to Henry I of Silesia and Poland to whom she bore seven children. Hedwig always helped the poor, the widows and the orphans, founded several hospitals for the sick and the lepers and donated all her fortune to the Church.



### Parish Office

Maria - Mondays

Cecilia - Wed-Friday

9.30am - 2:30pm

### Parish & Hall enquiries

9558 3257

### Mass Times

**Sat:** 5:30pm (Vigil)

**Sun:** 8am & 10am

**Mon to Fri:** 9:00am

**Sat:** 9:30am

### Family Mass with

### Children's Liturgy

3rd Sunday of the

Month 10am Mass

### Family Rosary & Morning

**Tea** - 2nd Sunday of the

Month after 10am Mass in

the Church Hall

### Filipino Mass

1st Sun 11:30am

### Sacraments

#### Confession

Sat 8:30-9:20am, 4:45pm

or any time by

appointment

#### Baptism

Every 2nd, 3rd and 4th

Sunday 11.15am

#### Marriage

At least 6 months notice

required

#### Anointing of the Sick

Any time on call

#### Devotions

#### Holy Hour & Rosary

Sunday - Friday

before morning mass

#### Rosary & Benediction

Sat 8:30-9:30am

#### Novena to Our Lady of

#### Perpetual Help

Wednesday 7pm

