

**REFLECTION: November 19, 2023  
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you have been faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. - MATTHEW 25:21*

God calls us to nurture and develop the gifts He has given us and then generously return a portion with increase. He doesn't want us to waste or hoard the gifts He has given us.

He expects us to grow our gifts, to use them wisely, and to be generous with them. Unfortunately, many of us are not generous in proportion to all that God has given us. God asks us to be generous with all our gifts, especially the one that means the most to you.



**Join us for a Morning Tea on  
November 30 at 9:30am at  
the Parish Office/Presbytery.**

**Bring a plate of food to share and a friend.**

**A 22-DAY PRAYER AND REFLECTION RESOURCE FOR ADVENT**

**\$6 each**

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ADVENTPLUS.COM.AU**

**Safeguarding Training**

Safeguarding training was reviewed earlier in the year and, after receiving overwhelming feedback from parishes, a single safeguarding module has been developed. Clergy and employees will complete the module via the Archdiocesan Arch e-Learn online learning system as part of mandatory training. Volunteers can continue to access the module on the Archdiocesan public website at [www.brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding/safeguarding-training](http://www.brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding/safeguarding-training). Volunteers who have an email account may now also complete the module via the Arch e-Learn system and are encouraged to do so to ease the administrative burden for the parish.

To arrange volunteer access to the Arch e-Learn please contact Jennifer Burrows from the People & Culture (HR) office on 3324 3184 or [burrowsj@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:burrowsj@bne.catholic.net.au)

**Our prayers are with those who are suffering illness at this time.  
May God's presence nourish and strengthen you.**



**OUR LADY OF  
FATIMA PARISH**

Acacia Ridge | Algester  
Calamvale | Parkinson  
| Larapinta | Pallara

**PARISH ADMINISTRATION**

- Fr Dang Nguyen**  
Administrator  
[nguyend@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:nguyend@bne.catholic.net.au)
- Steffanie Le**  
Director of Ministries
- Ellen Tran**  
Youth & Pastoral Coordinator
- Lizet Sanchez**  
Parish Assistant (on leave)
- Virginia Sharpe**  
Acting Parish Assistant (Volunteer)
- Efren Altez**  
Liturgy/Newsletter (Volunteer)
- Bernadette Maguire**  
Digital Media Communications & Ministry Development

**PARISH OFFICE**

**Located in Presbytery**  
350 Mortimer Road  
Acacia Ridge QLD 4110

**Hours** Monday to Friday  
9.30am to 4.30pm

**Telephone** 07 3274 5513

**Email**  
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**Postal**  
PO Box 12 Acacia Ridge QLD 4110

**Website**  
[www.fatimaacaciaridge.org.au](http://www.fatimaacaciaridge.org.au)

**MASS TIMES**

Tue | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat 9 am  
Saturday 4.30pm (Vigil)  
Sunday 9am & 5pm

**CONFESSIONS** (by appointment)  
**BAPTISMS**

3rd Sunday of the month 10.15am  
**PIETY STALL**

1st Sunday each month

**AWAKEN IN CHRIST MINISTRY**

[admin@awaken.org.au](mailto:admin@awaken.org.au)  
0437006264

**RISING YOUTH | RISING HIGH MINISTRY**

[hello@risingyouthministry.org](mailto:hello@risingyouthministry.org)  
0488220606 (Ellen)

**SCHOOLS**

**Our Lady of Fatima School**  
Acacia Ridge  
[www.ourladyoffatima.qld.edu.au](http://www.ourladyoffatima.qld.edu.au)  
3275 1152  
[pacaciaridge@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pacaciaridge@bne.catholic.edu.au)

**St Stephens School** Algester  
[www.ststephens.qld.edu.au](http://www.ststephens.qld.edu.au)  
3711 4911  
[palgester@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:palgester@bne.catholic.edu.au)

**FATIMA NEWS**

**33rd Sunday & Christ the King - Ordinary Time Year A**  
19th & 26th November 2023

**Greetings to all,**

The stories Jesus told often draw upon familiar aspects of daily life, without condoning them or even challenging them. This is true of the parable in today's gospel reading.

It is the kind of thing that often happened in Jesus' time. A rich man goes abroad and entrusts his servants with responsibility in his absence. The wealthy property owner in the gospel is evidently a generous and trusting person. Before departing on a journey, he entrusts very large sums of money to three of his servants, to each in accordance with their ability to make good use of this generous gift.

The property owner was not expecting these large sums of money back. He just wanted his servants to make good use of them. Two of the servants, recognizing the generous and trusting nature of their master, felt free to use well what they had been given in the trading market of the day. As a result, they increased the value of the asset they had been given.

The third servant did nothing with what he had been given. Rather than recognizing the generous and trusting nature of his master, he was paralyzed by his image of his master as de-

manding and hard hearted. Fear of his master enslaved him and he did nothing with what he had been given, not even the minimal initiative of placing the investment in a bank to gain interest.

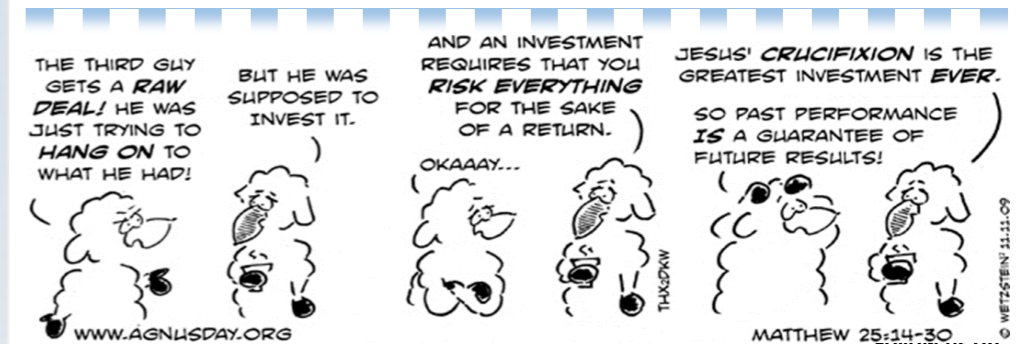
What is Jesus saying to us through this parable drawn from daily life of the time? Perhaps Jesus wants us to recognize how generous God has been with each one of us, how much he has entrusted to us.

God has given us the greatest treasure of all, his Son. God has also given us abilities that allow us to share this gift of his Son with others, in how we think, speak, act and live. God wants us to respond to his generous and trusting investment in us by living fearlessly out of all that he has given us.

We are to be courageous in our witness to his Son. We are to take risks in our efforts to ensure that the riches of the gospel are received by as many as possible. God can deal with failure, even bringing great good out of it. However, there is little God can do with fearful inactivity.

Blessings,

*Fr. Dang*



**To receive the Parish's eNewsletter  
please email to [acaciaridge@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:acaciaridge@bne.catholic.net.au)**



## GREEK AND LATIN ROOTS

In the words we use in worship there are traces of both our Greek and Latin heritage. The word 'Eucharist', for example, is Greek in origin. Christianity grew up in a Hellenistic culture. The first writings of the Christian Church, including the Gospel accounts, naturally used the language of the time and place where Christianity developed, and that was Greek. Even in Rome, the language of literature and culture was Greek.

'Eucharist' is the Greek word for 'thanksgiving'. At Mass we offer praise and thanks to God for the free gift of salvation we have been given through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

The word 'Mass', on the other hand, is Latin in origin. When Christianity came to Rome, most of the common people spoke only Latin so Pope Saint Callistus (217-222) decided that Latin should be used in liturgy. This move met with strong opposition from those who considered Latin too vulgar for worship, and the Roman liturgy was not completely Latinised until the late 4<sup>th</sup> century.

The term 'Mass' derives from the words used in the dismissal rite in Latin, 'Ite, missa est'. Missa comes from *missio*, meaning 'to send', so the phrase was a sending out of the people. People understood that *Ite, missa est* meant 'the Mass is ended' and began to use the word 'missa' - which gradually became 'mass' - to refer to the whole of the celebration.

## THE EUCHARIST AS A SACRAMENT OF FORGIVENESS

Penance is the church's special sacrament of pardon, and people conscious of having committed grave sin need to celebrate reconciliation before presenting themselves for communion.

But it is important to keep in mind that our participation at Mass grants forgiveness through word, gesture and sacrament. There are many examples of texts and gestures in the Mass that express sorrow and ask for forgiveness.

One of the introductory elements of the Mass is the penitential rite. This may take the form of the community saying together the "I confess...", or responding to a set of three invocations address to Christ. The priest concludes the penitential rite with the absolution.

Three times during the "Glory to God" we implore Christ to "have mercy on us". These words are repeated in the "Lamb of God" which is sung during the breaking of the bread and pouring of the wine.

In the Lord's Prayer we ask for our sins to be forgiven and that we might be delivered from evil. Immediately before receiving communion we say: "Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed". **(TO BE CONTINUE...)**

- Elizabeth Harring-

## NEWS FROM OUR LADY OF FATIMA SCHOOL

### Year 5 Retreat

On Thursday, 16 November, Year 5 participated in a Leadership Day to lay the groundwork for their leadership year in 2024. The day started with Mass and then Principal Mr Gambley spoke about being a leader and the responsibilities that the students will have next year. The children were then involved in some team building activities.

In the middle of the day, we welcomed Sue Williams from Catholic Mission to host a session on the qualities of a leader in the context of mission and reaching out.

After enjoying a sausage sizzle, the day concluded with a reflection time and the children make a 'toolbox' poster about the qualities they bring to their leadership role. The toolbox relates to the theme of 'A Practical Faith' and Mary MacKillop's challenge that 'No duty is too little to be done well' (26/4/1873).

### Christmas Concert

We are excited to be celebrating the 2023 school theme of 'Community' and the Christmas Story at the annual Christmas Concert on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> November, at 6pm. The children have been practising their songs and it will be a lovely evening.

Thank you to the parish community for welcoming us to Mass each week! - *Damian Gambley, Principal and Michaela Lewis, APRE.*



### CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The SVDP Christmas Appeal will be held on the weekend masses 2 & 3 December

With the significant increases in the cost of living recently, the poor and disadvantaged are having trouble putting food on the table, paying rents which have increased from an average of \$350 a week to \$550 a week. With the price of groceries, electricity and petrol on the rise, the poor in our parish are really struggling so your financial assistance will help those most in need. So please give generously.

Donations of more than \$2 are tax deductible. If you require a receipt please ask or indicate on the envelope.

*St Vincent de Paul said that "serving the poor is serving Jesus"*

## CLERGY AND PARISH BULLETIN

### YOUTH LEADERS

### END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

### 2023 AWARDS



Is there a youth leader who has been doing outstanding work in your parish or community this year? Nominations are now open for the Evangelisation Brisbane Youth Leader Awards which will be presented by Archbishop Mark Coleridge at our End of Year Celebration on Saturday 9 December 2023 6:30pm, Hanly Room, Cathedral Precinct. Tickets \$30 per person. There are four categories to celebrate the inspiring stories and successes in Youth Ministry this year, including: newcomer, innovation, supporter and outstanding leadership. Nominations close Friday 1 December 2023 and can be completed at <https://tinyurl.com/ebylc23>

### Queensland Churches Together - 2023 Advent Resource for Adults

The annual international campaign Sixteen Days of Activism to end violence against women and children commences on 25th Nov. and finishes on 10th Dec., Human Rights Day.



With just two weeks until Advent begins, we encourage you to order your copies as soon as possible to ensure they are delivered by Sunday 3 December. Each of the 22-day reflections take as little as five minutes to complete, helping you and your parishioners to carve out time to reflect, pray and prepare your hearts for Christmas.

## PREPARE FOR JESUS

Journey together toward Christmas



## Advent Concert Series St Stephen's Cathedral December 2023



5pm Saturday 2nd  
Advent Vespers  
Cathedral Schola #

5pm Sunday 3rd  
Dominic Perissinotto  
(pipe organ) \*

5pm Sunday 10th  
Christopher Trkilis  
(pipe organ) \*

5pm Sunday 17th  
(in the Chapel)  
Susan Collins (violin) \*

3pm Saturday 23rd  
Christmas Carol Service #

# Free Admission  
\* Ticketed Admission

A collection of resources to help children engage with the upcoming liturgical seasons of Advent and Christmas, including: Advent candle holder and baby Jesus Christmas tree ornament craft activities:

- Little Nativity pray and play pack
- Weekly Advent Minute video series
- Christmas carol lyrics and action videos
- Nativity story animated video
- A printable Advent Calendar with daily activity ideas.

All of these resources can be accessed for free at [tinyurl.com/adventchristmasresources2023](https://tinyurl.com/adventchristmasresources2023)