



St Patrick's Parish Kilmore

My dear Friends,

Today's scripture readings offer us a standing invitation to the everlasting joy of the heavenly banquet. Huey Long was a very colourful Politician in Louisiana. He had hopes of running for the Presidency in 1936. He began as an unschooled farm boy and ended up in the Governor's mansion. During his campaign he was given some advice that they had a lot of Catholic voters down there. Long nodded knowingly and went out to make his speech. It began "when I was a boy, I would get up at six every Sunday morning, get the horse ready and take my Catholic parents to Mass. I would bring them home and then take my Baptist grandparents to the Church". This speech was a rousing success. Later his Political boss said "Long, we did not know you had Catholic grandparents". Long looked at him slyly and said, "we didn't even have a horse". Author concludes saying "Don't let anybody mislead you". Around the Banquet Table of God, there won't be Baptists or Catholics or Methodists. There won't even be a head table reserved for the very saintly. There will only be sinners, for whom Christ died. That includes you and me. Everyone is invited.

Verse 10 has these two words "good and bad people" It is a mixed membership of the Church. The people in the highways and the byways stand for the sinners and the gentiles who never expected an invitation in to the Kingdom. The first Century Christians looked at the salvation history and figured out that the first invited were the Jews and they had rejected the invitation. Now the Gentiles have replaced the Jews. Hence God's invitation is a Universal call, but with a loving warning to stay ever ready for this banquet wearing the wedding garments, that is remaining in the State of Grace.

At the end of World war II Russian head of state gave an elaborate banquet to honour the British Prime Minister Winston Churchill. The Russians arrived in their best formal wear, military dress uniforms. But Churchill, their honoured guest arrived wearing his famous zipper overalls that he had worn during the German bomb attack in London. He thought it would provide a nostalgic touch, the Russians would appreciate. They didn't. They were humiliated and insulted that their prominent guest had not considered their Banquet worthy of their best clothes.

According to St Gregory men and women who come to the feast, the Eucharist with hatred in their hearts, do not wear the acceptable garment. Men and women, whose faith and love are cold, who attend Church only for social reasons, to show off their clothes and jewellery, or to visit their friends, are not dressed in a wedding garment. Our wedding garment is made up of our Grace assisted works of Justice, Charity and Holiness.

So, my dear friends a warm welcome to the Messianic banquet of friendship, trust and reconciliation.

Amen

Fr Prakash

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Child Safety is Everyone's Responsibility

Schools are returning on the 12th October and hopefully, in the not too distant future, the Parish may be able to celebrate Mass in our churches. With this in mind it is a good opportunity for all parish volunteers to check that his/her Working with Children's card is current. The card is free for volunteers, and helpful to have for all organizations that you might be involved with. It can be obtained online, or for those without access to the internet please make an appointment at the Parish office.

WWCC website –Apply for a Check:

[https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/individuals/applicants/how-to-apply#Complete online application](https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/individuals/applicants/how-to-apply#Complete%20online%20application)

Good news for the Parishioners

Please forward your suggestions on the following to our Parish email or to me by the Parish phone number by Wednesday 14th Oct 2020.

1. We are planning for outdoor Masses on weekdays for 10 people
2. Virtual gathering with cup of tea/coffee on Zoom (Anyone can join)
3. Praying Rosary on Zoom (Anyone can join)
4. Parish Magazine (Twice or Thrice a year)
5. I would like to introduce myself to you on phone. Are you happy for me to ring you?

MASS ONLINE:

Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne:

<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/>

Available for viewing from 6 pm Saturday 10th October onwards. Click the link below to view Mass at Our Lady of the Way, Wallan.

https://youtu.be/vnEKkaPzt_8

Thanks to:

Reader: Kate Archer

Flowers: Pauline Duff

Recorders: Janette & Mick Hinchcliffe and Annette Moore

To order your exclusive copy please go to:

<https://www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/prayer-book>

or call us on Ph: 02 8912 2777

Please pray for

Sick List:

Kerri Murphy (seriously ill); Kate Austin, Mick Ahearn, Shae Newey, Steven Campbell, Rene Campbell, Wendy Davie, Michael Skehan, Claudia Tabernaberi, Mary Fogarty, Eva Aschberger, Richard Lloyd, Kevin and Phyllis Skehan, Scott Birrell, Joe Annetts, Christine Children, Sue Kanidiadis, Natalie Ruiz, Juan Lagarde, Jamile Cadavid, Heliou & Helia Munoz, Olivia Jennings, Juan Savolokin, Joshua Boran, Thomas Redmond, Christine Hogan, David Martini, Eva Marti, Joseph and Michael Murphy, Susan Foster, Maryleen Allen, Charlie Hudson, Denis Jones, David Kiddy, Barry Gibo, Charlie Watson, Alicia Stevenson, Brian Harding, Taylor Doherty, Mary Rose Barrotta, Claudia Allenson, Dr Emma Vieira and all the sick of the parish;

The recently deceased:

Monsignor Anthony Toms, Ciriaca Belen, Dominic Luci, Louise Elizabeth Heyes.

Remembrance:

The Anniversaries:

Kathleen Caulfield Norah (Ahearn) Vatovec; Charlie Tuohey; Gwen Sullivan; Lewis Felice; Frank Scully; Ray Archer; Bill Nugent; Gerard Nahill; Edna Sophie Hart; Mary Liddle; Joan Hunt; Hugh Amaran; Barry Ambrose Skehan and the anniversaries of all which occur at this time as well as all people who are in need of our prayers.



To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the canonisation of Saint Mary MacKillop The Sisters of Saint Joseph have created a commemorative prayer booklet to inspire us all to "take fresh courage..." as Mary did so often.

These prayers share details of her personal journey, highlighting Mary's values and spirit, and offering prayers and blessings for our modern world.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants. "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Shorter form, Mt 22: 1-10

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Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

11 OCTOBER 2020

INVITED TO THE BANQUET OF LIFE

The parable of the Wedding Banquet symbolises the story of salvation. The banquet represents God's intent for human beings, which is simply to have us as honoured guests at the banquet of life. The bridegroom is Jesus. The servants sent out to issue the invitations are, first, the Old Testament prophets and then Christian missionaries. The response of the king to those who rejected the invitations reflects early Christian belief that the fall of Jerusalem in 70 CE was retribution for failure to accept Jesus as Messiah. The new invitees from the highways and byways are Gentiles (non-Jews) who have joined the Church in large numbers.

We should not too readily identify the king in the parable with God. Jesus takes illustrations from life as it is, using aspects of the way people, including kings, behave to illustrate what he wants to convey.

The parable thus serves as an *explanation* of otherwise disturbing developments. Israel's *No* to the Gospel and the fact that the Church includes bad members as well as good has all been foreseen by the Lord.

What about the poor wretch caught out for not wearing a wedding garment? The wedding garment symbolises transformation of life. You don't have to be good to *get into* the community of the Kingdom: the invitation to the banquet is a great net of grace enclosing all, good and bad alike. But, *once within*, we must allow the grace we have received to transform us and make us worthy of final salvation, God's invitation to the banquet of life.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

FIRST READING

Isa 25:6-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22. R. v. 6

R. I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is nothing I shall want. / Fresh and green are the pastures / where he gives me repose. / Near restful waters he leads me, / to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

2. He guides me along the right path; / he is true to his name. / If I should walk in the valley of darkness / no evil would I fear. / You are there with your crook and your staff; / with these you give me comfort. **R.**



3. You have prepared a banquet for me / in the sight of my foes. / My head you have anointed with oil; / my cup is overflowing. **R.**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me / all the days of my life. / In the Lord's own house shall I dwell / for ever and ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 4:12-14, 19-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Eph 1:17, 18

Alleluia, alleluia! / May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ / enlighten the eyes of our heart, / that we might see how great is the hope / to which we are called. / Alleluia!