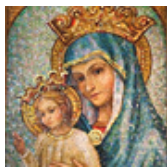


St Patrick's Parish Church Hill

Under the Pastoral Care of the Marist Fathers since 1868



17 November 2024

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

The gift of not knowing

In today's Gospel – Mark 13:24-32 – we have a deeply puzzling text, with allusions to Old Testament prophecies, seemingly about the end of the world. One scholar writes of this whole chapter in Mark: “Chapter 13 is one of the most difficult passages to interpret in Mark—and in the entire New Testament” (Mary Healy, *Gospel of Mark*, The (Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture) (p. 256). Baker Book Group - A. Kindle Edition).

Maybe a good place to start is at the end: “About that day or hour no one knows.” At the very least, this is a caution against predicting either the manner or the timing of the end of the world.

I think St Paul thought much about the human predicament of longing to know yet being severely limited in satisfying that quest: “When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known” (1 Corinthians 13:11-13).

This, of course, runs counter to the spirit of our times with the development of ideas and scientific discovery in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, not to mention the world of Google! Our confidence and arrogance in knowing has largely displaced our wonder and reverence before the unknowable. There is an answer to everything! When we reduce all issues to “problems to be solved” all we need is intelligence, application and money. When we realize, however, that life is a mystery to be lived not a problem to be solved, we see there is more than a little madness about the spirit of our times.

Sadly, this confidence and arrogance in knowing even became part of our thinking within the Catholic Church. We thought that God and faith could be reached at the end of a syllogism. We neglected the mystery of it all. We need to recover the gift of not knowing.

See www.aquinas-academy.org.au for background material on the Gospel text

Michael Whelan SM, Parish Priest

OUR SYNODAL JOURNEY

“Every new step in the life of the Church is a return to the source. It is a renewed experience of the disciples’ encounter with the Risen One in the Upper Room on Easter evening. Like them, during this synodal Assembly, we too felt enfolded in His mercy and drawn to His beauty. We felt His presence in our midst as we lived conversation in the Spirit and listened to one another: the presence of He, who, in bestowing the Holy Spirit, continues to build among his People a unity that establishes harmony amidst differences.”

(Final Document from the Synod on Synodality, 26 October 2024, #1)

Rite of Acceptance for RCIA candidates – Today, we will be welcoming six RCIA candidates to St Pat’s in the Rite of Acceptance at the 11.00am Mass. It is an important step for these women and men as they openly embrace their journey of Faith. They will be joined by their sponsors who are representing you as the parish community. Please pray for all of them.

City Silence – for peace - all are welcome to the to the last City Silence of the year where we will be praying for Peace. Tuesday 26 November, St Patrick’s church 6.30 -7.30pm. Supper in the Crypt after. City Silence will be back on 28th January 2025.

Band of Brothers Men’s Group - next meeting 1.00pm Wednesday 20 November at Brew Cafe. This Month’s topic is the life of Padre Pio.

The Community of Sant’ Egidio in St Pats - is a lay Catholic association dedicated to social service. The next meeting is on Monday 18 November, at 6pm in the Crypt. For details, contact Paul 0433821822 or sant.egidio.sydney@gmail.com

Christmas Toy Appeal - We are collecting toys again this year and we are starting early. Please consider purchasing a toy and placing them unwrapped in the box at the back of the church. We would appreciate the toys by Thursday, 12th December. In this way we can get them distributed in time for Christmas.

Gethsemane Christmas Card Appeal: We begin our support of the work Sr Myree Harris rsj for the lonely and isolated this Christmas. All you need to do is pick an address label from the table at the rear of the Church, use it to address a Christmas card envelope, write a personal message, sign your name, attach a postage stamp, and post it. You could post cards in bulk to Gethsemane Community at 5 Oxford St Petersham, ensuring each card has an individual stamp. For more information contact srfidelissm@stpatschurchhill.org

Coffee Shop - Sandwich hand volunteers needed. Contact Michael Borromeo - 9254-9855

Commemoration of the Faithful Departed: You are invited to write the names of deceased family and friends in the **November Book of Remembrance** placed at the front of the church. For Mass requests, please use the **November Mass envelopes** from the back of the church. Write the names of those for whom the Mass is requested on the envelope and place it in the blue box.

18 Nov Mon Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts Peter & Paul, Apostles

20 Nov Wed Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena; 12.30pm

21 Nov Thur The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Rosary Group 12.30pm, Crypt

22 Nov Fri St Cecilia
23 Nov Sat St Columban
St Celement I, Pope

The parish of St Patrick’s acknowledges the Gadigal people of the Eora nation as the traditional custodians of this place we now call Sydney.

A reading from the book of Daniel 12:1-3 (NRSV)

In the third year of King Cyrus a word was revealed to Daniel. The word was true and it concerned a great conflict "At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. "Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Response to the Psalm

R. Keep me safe, O Go, you are my hope.

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 10:11,14-18 (NRSV)

Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, "he sat down at the right hand of God," and since then has been waiting "until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet." For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. Where there is forgiveness of sin and lawless deeds, there is no longer any offering for sin.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man. Alleluia!

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark 13:24-32 (NRSV)

Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, opposite the temple and began to talk to his disciples about the end which is to come. "In those days, after the time of suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds'with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. "Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

November Prayers

Loving God you are the source of all hope. We call to mind those who lost hope because of a pain they could not endure. They are held in your embrace. Confirm in your hope those who are left with the sadness of their passing.

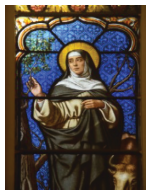
WISDOM FROM TRADITION

“It is precisely when people cannot fall apart or fall apart and recover, that they enter a condition in which most of their energy is spent holding themselves in one place, while a crippling spiritual and emotional corrosion goes on underneath.”

(Frederick Flach, *Choices: Coping Creatively with Personal Changes*, J.B. Lippincott, 47)

**St Brigid's Church,
14-16 Kent Street, Millers Point**

Did you know - St Brigid's, designed by colonial architect Ambrose Hallen, is the oldest surviving place of Catholic worship in Australia? Governor Richard Bourke approved the site and building plan in 1833.



**Join our community
for Mass - Sundays at 9.00am**

Visit our **Piety Store and Book Store** in the William Davis Courtyard every Sunday from 10 am. Discover good finds pre-loved books, prayer cards and gift items

Electronic Donations: We have two tap machines for electronic donations near the entry to the church. For regular donations from your credit card, please contact the Parish Office.

RECONCILIATION PROGRAM

MONDAY - FRIDAY:

7.30 - 7.55 am; 10.00am - 11.00am;
12.00 noon - 1.00pm; 5.00 - 6.00pm

SATURDAY: 7.30am - 7.55am; 10.30am -
12.30pm; 5.30pm - 5.55pm

SUNDAY: 7.45am - 8.30am;
9.45 am - 11.45am; 3.45 pm - 4.45 pm

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: 7.30am - 7.55am;
11.30 am - 11.55am; 4.45pm - 5.20 pm

PARISH OFFICE

Address: 141 Harrington Street, Sydney
Office hours: Monday to Friday,
10.00 am - 2.00 pm

Telephone: 9254 9855 Fax: 9252 3431
Email: office@stpatschurchhill.org
Website: www.stpatschurchhill.org

St Patrick's
Church: 20 Grosvenor Street,
Sydney, NSW 2000

**A MESSAGE FROM THE
ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY**

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime 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. 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.

ST. PATRICK'S COFFEE SHOP
Open Tuesday - Friday 11.00 am - 2.00 pm
Sunday 10.00 am - 2.00 pm

Sunday First Collection: Support of the Marist Community at St Patrick's
Sunday Second Collection: General Parish Expenses and Maintenance.

MASS PROGRAM

MONDAY - FRIDAY: 8.00am, 10.30am,
12.00noon & 5.30pm.
**Church open from 7.30am - 6pm*

SATURDAY: 8.00am, 12.00 noon
Vigil Mass at 6.00pm.
**Church open from 7.30am - 6.45pm*

SUNDAY: 8.00am, 9.00am, 10.00am,
11.00am, 12 noon, 3.00pm, 4.00pm, 6.00pm
**Church open from 7.45am - 6.45pm*
St. Brigid's, Millers Point: 9.00am Mass

PUBLIC HOLIDAY: 8.00 am, 12 noon, 5.30 pm
**Church open from 7.30am - 6.00pm*

St Patricks Parish

Fr. Michael Whelan, SM <i>Parish Priest</i>	Cindy Kurniadi, <i>Business Manager</i>
Fr. Peter McMurrich, SM	Mona Redito, <i>Office Manager</i>
Fr. Paul Mahony, SM	Andrew Carter, <i>Maintenance Manager</i>
Fr. Paul Hachey, SM	Michael Borromeo, <i>Coffee Shop Manager</i>
Fr. Michael Carroll SM	Tereza Seric, Karen Larkman <i>Safeguarding</i>
Sr. Fidelis McTeigue, SM <i>Pastoral work</i>	Helen Nejaim, <i>Sacristan</i>
Br. Terry Garrett, SM	

The church is fitted with an audio loop for the hearing impaired