

SECOND READING: ROMANS 5:12-15

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
God's gift to us is nothing like our sin against him.**

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: JOHN 15:26. 27

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL : MATTHEW 10:26-33
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Do not fear those who can kill the body.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

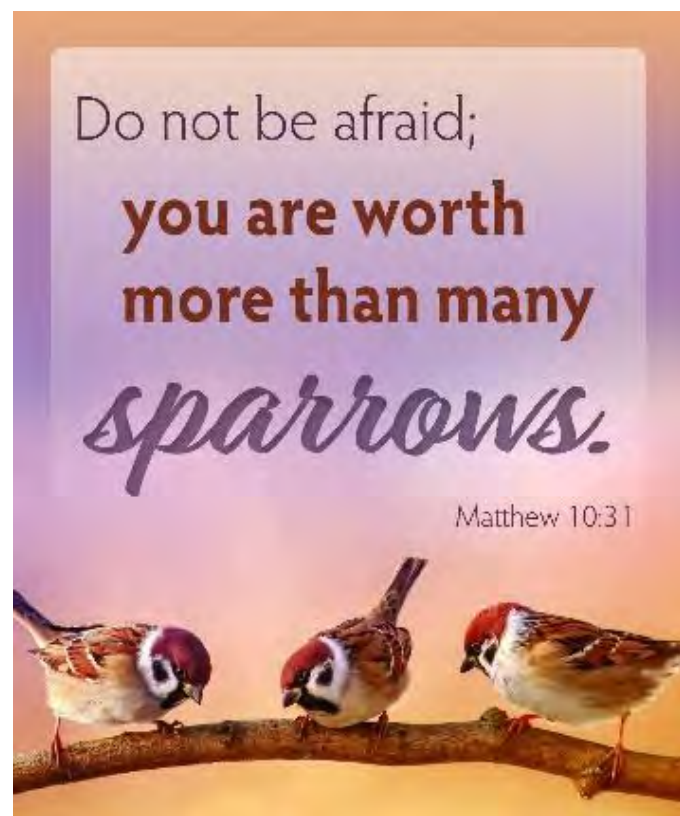
'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

The eyes of all look to you Lord, and you give them their food in due season.



READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:
2 Kg 4: 8-11, 14-16; Rom 6: 3-4, 8-11;
Mt 10: 37-42.

Safeguarding our community: If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney please call the appropriate authorities OR The Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office on 02 9390 5812 OR **speak with our Parish Safeguarding Support Officer Helen Vaz OR Parish Priest, both of whom will be able to provide support and guidance.**

Mobile phones at Mass.

To maintain a spirit of reverence and solemnity, please turn off and refrain from using all mobile telephones and other electronic devices during Mass.

THE Catholic Weekly

- Catholic Cemeteries CEO Peter O'Meara laid to rest after life of service
- Sydney's trending saints: 2023's popular confirmation names revealed
- Migrant and refugee Sunday Intercultural Mass shows Australian spirit
- Philippa Martyr: Why do Australia's young mass going Catholics keep coming?
 - Monica Doumit: Has gender ideology reached its turning point?
 - Hunter Valley bush crash: Bishop Kennedy on the community's response



PARISH OF ST. THERESE, DENISTONE

Presbytery and Office

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Parish Priest: Fr Roberto Castillo

Deacon: Rev Mr Aruna Perera

Parish Secretary: Gayle White admin@sttherese.org.au

Office hours Tues, Thurs and Fri from 8am-4pm

St Therese's School

448 Blaxland Rd, Denistone 2114 (02) 9874 0412



MASS TIMES:

SATURDAY VIGIL:	6:00 pm.
SUNDAY:	8:00 am and 10.00 am.
MONDAY:	9.30am Communion Service.
TUESDAY through to SATURDAY:	9.00 am Mass.
FRIDAY:	9.00 am Mass.
	Exposition & Benediction every Friday after Mass.
RECONCILIATION:	Saturday 5pm – 5.45pm or by appointment.
Baptism:	Every Sunday at 11.30am. Please contact Parish Office.
Marriage:	By appointment.
Anointing of the sick:	Please give names to Father Roberto Castillo.

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME **24th / 25th June 2023**

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

The Lord is the strength of his people, a saving refuge for the one he has anointed. Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage, and govern them for ever.

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 20:10-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah
He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of those who are evil.

Jeremiah said:

I hear so many disparaging me,
"Terror from every side!"
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!
All those who used to be my friends
watched for my downfall,
'Perhaps he will be seduced into error.
Then we will master him
and take our revenge!'
But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;
my opponents will stumble, mastered,
confounded by their failure;
everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.
But you, Lord of Hosts,
you who probe with justice,
who scrutinise the loins and heart,
let me see the vengeance you will take on them,
for I have committed my cause to you.
Sing to the Lord,
praise the Lord,

for he has delivered the soul of the needy
from the hands of evil men.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 68:8-10. 14. 17. 33-35

RESPONSE: Lord, in your great love, answer me.

It is for you that I suffer taunts,
that shame covers my face,
that I have become a stranger to my brothers,
an alien to my own mother's sons.
I burn with zeal for your house
and taunts against you fall on me. **Response.**

This is my prayer to you,
my prayer for your favour.
In your great love, answer me, O God,
with your help that never fails:
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;
in your compassion, turn towards me. **Response.**

The poor when they see it will be glad
and God-seeking hearts will revive;
for the Lord listens to the needy
and does not spurn servants in their chains.
Let the heavens and the earth give him praise,
the sea and all its living creatures. **Response.**

(continued on back page)

24 / 25 JUNE 2023 – TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

	SATURDAY 6.00PM	SUNDAY 8.00AM	SUNDAY 10AM
ACOLYTE	R MORFUNI	D ELLIS	G MOODLEY
READER	J PERERA	Y LEUNG	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
OFFERTORY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY		VOLUNTEER FAMILY NEEDED
PROJECTION	VIDURA PERERA		
ALTAR SERVERS	GRP 4: WONG FAMILY		GRP 8: ELIE & ALYSSIA BARAZ
WELCOMERS	S CHAMISA		VOLUNTEER NEEDED
COUNTERS	GROUP 1: B. CLARK	A. STANTON	P. BRODERICK
ALTAR FLOWERS	J KEYSER	JUNE ALTAR LINEN: MIRA SAVIC	

1 / 2 JULY 2023 – THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

	SATURDAY 6.00PM	SUNDAY 8.00AM	SUNDAY 10AM
ACOLYTE	T DABBAH	D ELLIS	M MORELLI
READER	V PERERA	E WHEELER	R DEARING / FAMILY MASS VOLUNTEERS
OFFERTORY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY		FAMILY MASS VOLUNTEER FAMILY
PROJECTION	AMJAD SHEEKA		
ALTAR SERVERS	GRP 1: JAMES D'MELLO & AIDEN SHEEKA		GRP 5: JAMES DEARING & ADAM CALLAGHAN
WELCOMERS	S CHAMISA		FAMILY MASS VOLUNTEERS
COUNTERS	GROUP 2: T DABBAH	C DABBAH	
ALTAR FLOWERS	KAYSHINEE PERERA / TINA CHAMISA	JULY ALTAR LINEN: JOSEFINA DELAVEGA	

PARISH NEWS & NOTICES

Request for Mass and Prayers.

We pray for those who have recently died especially Frederick Caban. Also pray for those who celebrate anniversaries and those we wish to remember especially Maurice Raymond. Please pray for those who are sick especially Julian Santa Maria and Michael Hahn.



Farewell for Fr Roberto.

Fr Roberto has been here at St Therese for more than 13 years. Over that time, he has celebrated with us many Easters and Christmases, offered all the sacraments to the parish and school communities and spiritually supported us through the pandemic. It will be sad to be saying goodbye so don't miss your opportunity to do so by contributing to his gift and attending his farewell lunch.



FR ROBERTO'S LAST WEEKEND OF PARISH MASSES WILL BE ON THE 15TH / 16TH JULY.

FAREWELL GIFT: Over the two coming weekends the 1st / 2nd July and 8th / 9th July, after each Mass, we will collect money for Fr Roberto. Please be prepared to be generous.

FAREWELL LUNCH at 12.30pm on Sunday the 16th July in the St Therese School grounds. The plan is to have a community lunch for everyone to attend and to bring a plate of food to share with the community. A clipboard is in the front foyer, so take the time to let us know what food you will be bringing. We will be buying a large farewell cake that will be used for dessert, so we do have a preference for people to bring savoury foods to share.

Eucharistic Ministers for Nursing Home.

Thank you to those who have offered to help administer Holy Communion to the residents at San Antonio Nursing Home.

We still require another one or two more volunteers to help share this beautiful ministry to the elderly within our parish.



Please speak with Fr Roberto after any of the Masses or call the parish office.

Safeguarding Children training certificates.

We still have number of attendance certificates to give to those who attended our "Safeguarding Children Refresher Training" a few weeks ago.



If you attended any of the sessions, please make sure to pick up your certificate from the sacristy after any of the Masses this weekend.

Holy Fathers Appeal.

NEXT WEEKEND 1ST / 2ND JULY our parish, in union with all parishes around the world, will hold the annual **Holy Father's Appeal**. Our Holy Father Pope Francis has invited parishes across the world to support the Holy Father's Appeal on the Feast Day of Sts Peter and Paul. For 2023, this will be the weekend of 1st and 2nd July. This annual appeal, also known as Peter's Pence, is a gesture of solidarity with the universal Church. Your gift will assist communities impacted by conflict, earthquakes, famine and other disasters. Your generosity will help Pope Francis bring hope, faith, and the spirit of Christ to our less fortunate brothers and sisters around the world.



Prayer and Reflection Group.

Come and join our Tuesday evening "Prayer and Reflection Group" held in the school hall at 7.30pm. The group alternates each week between Liturgy of the Word and Lectio Divina. Everyone is welcome to attend any week you are free with no obligation to come each and every week.



Like to help the Parish with a Monthly Donation?

Would you like to help support the parish with a monthly donation?



If so, please contact the Parish Office to arrange for a credit card authority form to be emailed to you OR we can organise a set of Planned Giving envelopes.

FEAST DAYS.

NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST.

On June 24, the Church observes a solemn feast in honor of the birth or nativity of John the Baptist. No other saint's birthday is celebrated with such solemnity. The unique role of the Forerunner, the Voice

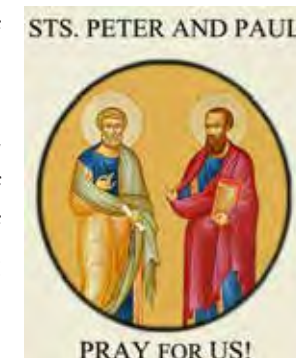


crying out in the Wilderness, in the history of salvation is part of the reason.

"Saint John the Baptist is above all a model of faith. Following the example of the great Prophet Elijah, in order to listen more attentively to the word of the one Lord of his life, he leaves everything and withdraws to the desert, from which he would issue the resounding call to prepare the way of the Lord (cf. Mt 3:3 and parallels)." Quote from St John Paul

SOLEMNITY OF STS PETER AND PAUL

On June 29 the Church celebrates the Feast day of Sts. Peter & Paul. As early as the year 258, there is evidence of an already lengthy tradition of celebrating the solemnities of both Saint Peter and Saint Paul on the same day. Together, the two saints are the founders of the See of Rome, through their preaching, ministry and martyrdom there.



Prayer to St. Peter and St. Paul

Grant, we pray, O Lord our God, that we may be sustained by the intercession of the blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, that as through them you gave your Church the foundations of her heavenly office, so through them you may help her to eternal salvation.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ Your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever. Amen