

Ephpheta Sunday is BACK!!!!

Every year in early August the Catholic Church throughout the world celebrates a special event known as Ephpheta Sunday.



2009 Ephpheta Sunday

This is linked to the Bible reading in the Gospel of Mark when Jesus meets the deaf man and says “Ephpheta” (which means to “be open”).

Every year on Ephpheta Sunday the Church celebrates the gifts deaf people bring to the life of the Church- the gifts of language, faith and community. Ephpheta Sunday has always been the “big day” in the Ephpheta Centre’s calendar since the Ephpheta Centre first opened its doors in Paddington in 1979.

We haven’t been able to get together and celebrate with a big community lunch since 2019. To celebrate this very special occasion, everyone is welcome to join us on our celebrations on the day. This year it feels

more special as we get together again after 3 years of no celebrations!

We are so excited to be able to get together again!



2019 Ephpheta Sunday!

Ephpheta staff are SO excited to see you all

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A message from Liz & Dave!

Liz's report

Hi – hope you are all going well.

I was recently going through some old papers and found a prayer which I had copied and kept many years ago. It is a prayer by Thomas Merton.

Thomas Merton was an American Trappist monk who died in 1968. I do not know a lot about his life but he is well known for his prayer known as the Merton Prayer.



“My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going.

I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end.

nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so.

But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you.

And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.

I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.

And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it.

Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.

I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.”

I love this prayer. When we are feeling unsure of what we are doing and what God wants from us, it reminds us that if we keep our trust in God, we will never be alone. And that when we want to please God, He will always guide us the right way.

Until next time,

Liz



Dave's report

Hi everyone, hope you are all well and safe. The winter is truly here. I had to wear my favourite purple beanie in the mornings! COVID is still very strong and infecting many people in Australia. Please wear a mask in public places and if you feel sick for example you have a sore throat or are coughing, please do not come to any of our events. We need our community which are mostly deaf seniors to stay safe.



Dear God, please give me strength when I am weak, love when I feel forsaken, courage when I am afraid, wisdom when I feel foolish, comfort when I am alone, hope when I feel rejected, and peace when I am in turmoil. Amen.

We are very excited about our events for the deaf community. Deaf Cafes in Outer Sydney. Ephpheta Sunday lunch on 5th August. St Gabriel's 100th Anniversary weekend on September 17 and 18. We have been listening/watching feedback from the Deaf Community and we try to change venues or dates. Don't forget we have Auslan

Playgroups for deaf parents, hearing parents, deaf and hard of hearing children and grandparents are very welcome to come.

A reminder, we have Masses in Auslan on every Sunday. First, Second and Fourth Sundays are at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Homebush and start at 11am. The Third Sundays are at St Bernadette's Church at Lalor Park and start at 10am.

We love it when people feel connected and talk in Auslan in a Deaf friendly space!

Above all stay warm and healthy!

David.



Ephpheta Sunday - 7th August

Everyone is welcome to come and join us to celebrate Ephpheta Sunday!

We look forward to seeing you all on this special day!



When: Sunday 7th August

Mass: Starts at 11am

Our Lady of the Assumption - 74 Underwood Rd, Homebush.

Lunch: Starts at 12.30pm

Wentworth Hotel - 195 Parramatta Rd, Homebush West.

Please join us for a beautiful 2 course meal at the Wentworth Hotel.

The Wentworth Hotel is a short 4 minute drive from Our Lady of the Assumption in Homebush.

Cost: \$40 per person

\$10 per child (12 years old and under)

RSVP: Due to COVID, numbers are limited. You must **RSVP** if you are coming!

Must RSVP to Ephpheta Centre **before** Friday 22 July.

Email: christiane@ephpheta.org.au or 0405 749 488 (SMS).

- When you RSVP please let us know if you have any food requirements/allergies.
- If you are DeafBlind and need extra interpreting support on the day - please let us know **ASAP**.

How to pay: 1. Post us a cheque or money order to the Ephpheta Centre - 4 Turner St, Punchbowl

2. Give cash to any Ephpheta staff

3. Pay online into our bank account

Account Name: Ephpheta Centre Cheque Account

BSB: 062 784

Account Number: 1000 01233

Reference: ES + your name



Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Homebush



Wentworth Hotel, Homebush

Deaf Women's Day Out - 18th August

Join us for a fun and creative day trying a pottery class! We will head down south to the beautiful area of Bundeena for a fun day out!

We will learn some pinching and shaping techniques to transform a ball of clay into a teacup. We will have the chance to decorate using different patterns and choose what colour the teacup will be.

We will make the teacups on the day but leave them to be air dried, glazed and double kiln fired. This process takes 4-6 weeks then we are able to take our teacups home!



We can all meet, catch the train and ferry together and have lunch together at your own cost before the activity. Pottery will be at 1.30pm.

When and Where: Thursday 18 August. We will meet at Central train station.

We will give a detailed travel plan when you RSVP.

Pottery - Something at Mary's (business name). 8 Mary Street, **Bundeena** 2230.

Cost: \$35. Please try and pay before the event. Bring money to buy coffee/lunch.

Ephpheta will be financially supporting this event. Please try and pay before the event.

Please talk to David or Liz if you need financial support.

RSVP: There are limited numbers available for this event. You must RSVP to Chrisso to secure your place 0405 749 488 (SMS) or email christiane@ephpheta.org.au before Friday 5 August.

Combined Men's & Women's Day Out - 8th September

Join us for a private Illi-angi Aboriginal Dreaming Tour. We will learn about ancient Aboriginal culture on an Auslan interpreted walk in The Rocks. The tours have been developed by an Aboriginal elder.

We will experience many wonderful insightful things about Aboriginal DreamTime, its origin, history and culture. We will also understand the connection between modern Sydney and the Aboriginal Dreaming.

Please make sure you have comfortable walking shoes on!

After the tour we will have lunch at a nearby café together at your own cost.



When and Where: Thursday 8 September - meet at 10am for a 10:30am start

Cadman's Cottage - 110 George Street, The Rocks 2000.

Please meet here for the tour.

Cost: \$25. Please try and pay before the event. Bring money to buy coffee/lunch. *Ephpheta will be financially supporting this event.*

RSVP: There are limited numbers available for this event.

You must RSVP to Chrisso to secure your place 0405 749 488 (SMS) or email christiane@ephpheta.org.au before Friday 26 August.

The program for the weekend of 17 and 18 September 2022 is outlined here. We are looking at around 50 to 100 people (ex deaf students and their partners are welcome!) who will attend.



St Gabriel's School
EXCELLENCE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION K-12



The Ephpheta Centre team is helping organise this weekend.
Please contact David Parker for any questions.

Saturday 17th September

- Plan:**
1. A visit to Gilroy Building (the old St Gabriel's building- there will be a tour for ex-students. We will have photos of the school and class for you to have a look at. More information to come soon . We will give you more information when you RSVP
 2. Join us for a beautiful 2 course buffet lunch. Catch up and share stories & news. Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club - 117 Ryedale Rd, West Ryde.
- Cost:** \$55 per person for lunch. The Gilroy tour is free.
- RSVP:** Due to COVID, numbers are limited. You must **RSVP** if you are coming!
Must RSVP to David Parker **before** Wednesday 31 August
Email: david@ephpheta.org.au or 0408 669 672 (SMS)
- When you RSVP please let us know if you have any food requirements/allergies
- How to pay:**
1. Post us a cheque or money order to the Ephpheta Centre - 4 Turner St, Punchbowl
 2. Give cash to any Ephpheta staff
 3. Pay online into our bank account
- Account Name:** Ephpheta Centre Cheque Account
BSB: 062 784
Account Number: 1000 01233
Reference: Gabriel + your name

Sunday 18th September

- Plan:**
- Auslan interpreted Mass
St. Patrick's Cathedral - 1 Marist Pl, Parramatta
Interpreted Mass begins at **2pm**
Afternoon tea will be served in the Cathedral Hall after Mass. Mass & afternoon tea are free.
We can catch up with our stories, news and memories from St Gabriel's school
- RSVP:** Due to COVID and limited number, you must RSVP **before** 11 September
Email: david@ephpheta.org.au or 0408 669 672 (SMS)



Mini "Deaf Cafes"

Here is the list of our next round of mini Deaf Café's at different locations throughout Sydney - so we can all get together and meet in a safe way. Please bring money to buy your own food and drinks from the club.

Thursday 14 July Time 10am	Penrith RSL 8 Tindale Street, Penrith
Tuesday 26 July Time 10am	Wenty Leagues Club 50 Smith Street, Wentworthville
Thursday 11 August Time 10am	Dee Why RSL 932 Pittwater Road, Dee Why
Tuesday 4 October Time 10am	Central Coast Leagues Club 1 Dane Drive, Gosford (NOT THE RSL)
Thursday 3 November Time 10am	City Area - TBC
Thursday 24 November Time 10am	Wenty Leagues Club 50 Smith Street, Wentworthville
Thursday 8 December Time 10am	Canterbury Leagues Club 26 Bridge Road, Belmore

Numbers are limited. Please **RSVP** to Donovan (SMS 0408 697 773 or email donovan@ephpheta.org.au) or any Ephpheta staff to let us know **WHICH** mini café you are coming to. **Please do not come if you are sick.**

We look forward to seeing you!



Auslan Prayer Group via Zoom – Fridays at 2pm

The Auslan Prayer Group is a special place where each person is welcomed and valued.

This group is about sharing our faith and our love for God and each other. We come together in friendship with open hearts and open minds.

The Auslan Prayer Group is open to all deaf people.



The Rosary in Auslan via Zoom – Thursdays at 2pm

The Rosary is a very old series of prayers. We pray and reflect on the birth of Jesus, his life, his crucifixion and his resurrection.

In these prayers we ask for the help of our Mother Mary in heaven and we ask God to help us live our faith.

Everyone is welcome to join.



You don't need to bring anything with you or know anything before – just bring an open and loving heart and a will to know more about God and Mary our Mother in Heaven.

If you would like to join please contact

Brett Beath 0407 064 872 or email brettb@ephpheta.org.au

Auslan Play Group (0-5 years)

Our new Auslan Play Group - a social group for mums, dads, carers and their children aged 0-5 is going very well.

Lots of interesting chats about baby's developing, starting to crawl and walk. Supporting new parents and each other as their children grow.

When: Tuesday 2 August	10am - 12pm
Tuesday 6 September	10am - 12pm
Saturday 8 October	10am - 1pm
Tuesday 1 November	10am - 12pm
Saturday 10 December	10am - 1pm



*Fun at our March playgroup
Happy parents and babies!*

Where: Parish Hall, Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, Underwood Rd, Homebush (the parish hall is behind the Church)

What? A morning tea for mums, dads, carers and their children aged 0-5 years.

Ephpheta will supply morning tea for the mums and dads but PLEASE bring food and drink for your children.

Parents are responsible for their children throughout this event and children CANNOT be left.

If you or your child are sick, please stay home.

Want more information? Please contact Pat at Ephpheta on 0414 412 852 (SMS)

Father's Day Prayer - 4 September 2022



Heavenly Father, you entrusted your
Son Jesus,
the child of Mary, to the care of Joseph,
an earthly father.
Bless all fathers as they care for their families.
Give them strength and wisdom,
tenderness and patience;
support them in the work they have to do,
protecting those who look to them,
as we look to You for love and salvation,
through Jesus Christ our rock and defender,
in union with the Holy Spirit, one God
forever and ever.
St Joseph, Pray for all our Fathers,
Amen

Did you know... facts about Sydney, NSW!

- ⊖ The Australia Day Regatta in Sydney Harbour is the oldest continuously-conducted annual sailing regatta in the world. The first event was in 1837.
- ⊖ Cadman's Cottage in The Rocks is the oldest house in Sydney. It was built in 1816. I bet it was prime real estate even back in 1816.
- ⊖ George Street is the oldest street in Australia.
- ⊖ Sydney officially became a city in 1842.
- ⊖ The Mint Building on Queen Street was originally built to be a hospital in 1814. It was called the Rum Hospital because the contractors were paid with 45,000 gallons of rum.
- ⊖ The Queen Victoria Building, constructed between 1893 and 1898, was named to commemorate the Queen of England's Diamond Jubilee in 1897.



Cadman Cottage



Mint Building



Australia Day Regatta Race 1930s

Craft Group

Ephpheta Craft Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at the hall behind Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church (74 Underwood Rd, Homebush).



We start at 10am and finish around 2pm. Please **bring your own lunch** - we provide morning tea for a gold coin donation.

See below for the July - September program.

Date	What's On
13 July	Bring your own craft/knitting project to work on
27 July	Australian Red Cross coming to discuss emergencies in your home.
10 August	Mosaic activity. Cost \$5
24 August	Bring your own craft/knitting project to work on
14 September	Bring your own craft/knitting project to work on
28 September	Day trip to see beautiful Tulip Festival and lunch in Bowral

Full year of dates in the calendar.

Numbers and space is limited so **please** contact us to let us know you would like to come.

To keep everyone safe, please **do not** come if you are feeling unwell.



Apron making in June!

If you are interested, please contact Pat Knight for more information - patricia@ephpheta.org.au or SMS only to 0414 412 852.

Lives of the Saints – St John Vianney

Feast Day: 4th August

Birth: 8th May 1786

Death: 4th August 1859

Became a saint in 1925

Patron of: Priests



John was the 4th child of 6 children. He was a shepherd who looked after sheep on his father's farm.

He taught other children to pray and to know their faith. Every Sunday the family travelled a long distance for Mass.

John saw priests as heroes and he decided that he wanted to become a priest.

When studying, he struggled in his studies. It was very hard for him to learn the language Latin although he tried very hard. He almost failed, but the Bishop saw John's goodness and ordained him a priest.

John became the parish priest of a small town in France called Ars. He was there for 41 years. During that time John visited the sick and poor, spent days in prayer and showed his people how to live a holy life.

John loved hearing people confess their sins. He had a wonderful gift of understanding what was in people's hearts and minds. Sometimes John spent between 11-16 hours a day listening to people confess their sins.



Through John, God's mercy and love came to these people.

He also taught the faith to many people through his homilies and set up a home and school for poor children.

John Vianney is a saint because he was a holy man who loved his faith and the people he served.

St John Vianney, pray for us.

WINTER WARMERS

Recipe for you to try make at home!

Martha's Cookbook **(Recipes from the Deaf Community's Kitchen)**

Gran's Casserole or Stew

By Pamela Laker



About this recipe...

This is a very YUMMY casserole - good for any occasion and perfect with a good glass of red wine.

Any old vegetables nearly ready for the bin can go in this casserole too - no waste!

Ingredients

- 500g cubed steak
- 1 swede turnip
- 1 parsnip
- 1 onion
- About the same amount of pumpkin and carrot
- Small tin crushed tomatoes
- $\frac{1}{3}$ cup tomato sauce
- $\frac{1}{3}$ cup black sauce
- $\frac{1}{3}$ cup plum sauce (if you have it)
- 1 cup water

Method

- Preheat oven to 180°C.
- Toss meat in flour, salt and pepper.
Put all chopped vegetables and meat in casserole dish.
- Cook in oven for 2 hours.
For a stew, cook as above, in a saucepan for about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours or until meat is tender.



WINTER WARMERS

Recipe for you to try make at home!

Martha's Cookbook (Recipes from the Deaf Community's Kitchen)

Quick Apple Crumble

By Pamela Laker

About this recipe...

A nice dessert for a cold winter's night out on the farm.

The Crumble Topping can be used on any fruit, canned, stewed or bottled.



Ingredients

Filling

- 3 large cooking apples
- 1 tablespoon golden syrup
- 2 tablespoons water
- ¼ teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice

Crumble Topping

- 1 cup self raising flour
- 1 cup shredded coconut
- ½ cup sugar (brown or white)
- 1 heaped tablespoon butter or margarine

Method

- Preheat oven to 180°C.
- Peel, core and slice apples. Combine golden syrup, water and cinnamon in a saucepan and stew apples in this mixture until soft.
- Place apples in a pie dish and leave to cool. Sprinkle lemon juice over apples.
- To make Crumble Topping - mix together all crumble topping ingredients well.
- Sprinkle crumble topping over apples, bake in oven for 20 minutes or until golden brown.
- Serve with cream, ice-cream or custard. (The grandchildren like all three!)



Trauma Teddies - Australian Red Cross

A huge thank you and "well done" to our Ephpheta craft group for knitting over teddy bears for the Australian Red Cross.

Trauma Teddies is a project run by Australian Red Cross. The teddy bears provide care and comfort to so many - children in difficult situations such as refugees, company in an ambulance, security in hospital or a happy face in a lonely time.

For the last 2 years Ephpheta craft group has been knitting teddy bears to donate to the Australian Red Cross. Such wonderful knitted bears which were made with love.

We are so proud to have been involved in knitting so many bears to donate.

Thank you to everyone involved including Pat and Chrisso who made this project happen.

Thank you



Combined Day Out - Parliament House

The first Combined Day Out finally happened after 2 and half years of COVID lockdown. We went to one of Sydney's oldest buildings, Australia's First Parliament House – the Parliament of New South Wales.

Over 40 deaf people explored the Parliament. We visited both chambers where laws are made and some of Sydney's oldest rooms in Australia's first Parliament.

Over the one hour tour, our friendly guides took us through the historic Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council Chambers. The tour guide showed us the beautiful colonial architecture while learning more about the role, history and work of the NSW Parliament.

The best and fun part of the tour is where we had an opportunity to sit on the speaker's chair in the legislative assembly chambers overlooking where all the MPs sit around the chambers.

It was a wonderful community day - we look forward to organising many more days out together!



God Made the Plants

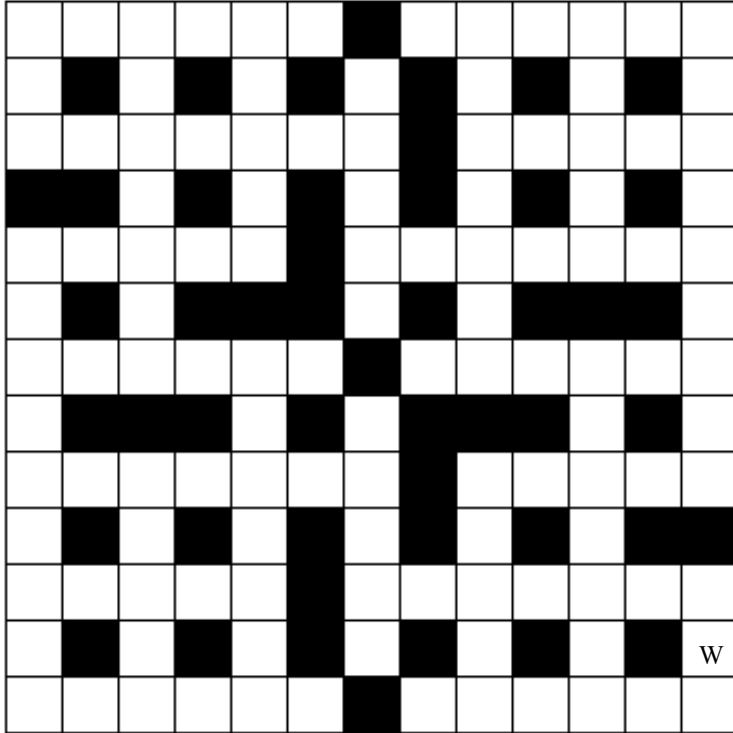
Compare the picture on the top with the picture on the bottom. Circle 14 things that are different.





WORD FIT

Can you fit the words correctly into the grid?



3 LETTER WORDS

ACE
TWO

7 LETTER WORDS

AVOCADO
BUZZARD
ECLIPSE
ECOLOGY
EMPEROR
OCTOPUS
RAMPANT
RISOTTO

5 LETTER WORDS

BEACH
CHEAP
EPOCH
GAMUT
GAZED
INNER
LANES
NYLON
SLEEP
ZEBRA

6 LETTER WORDS

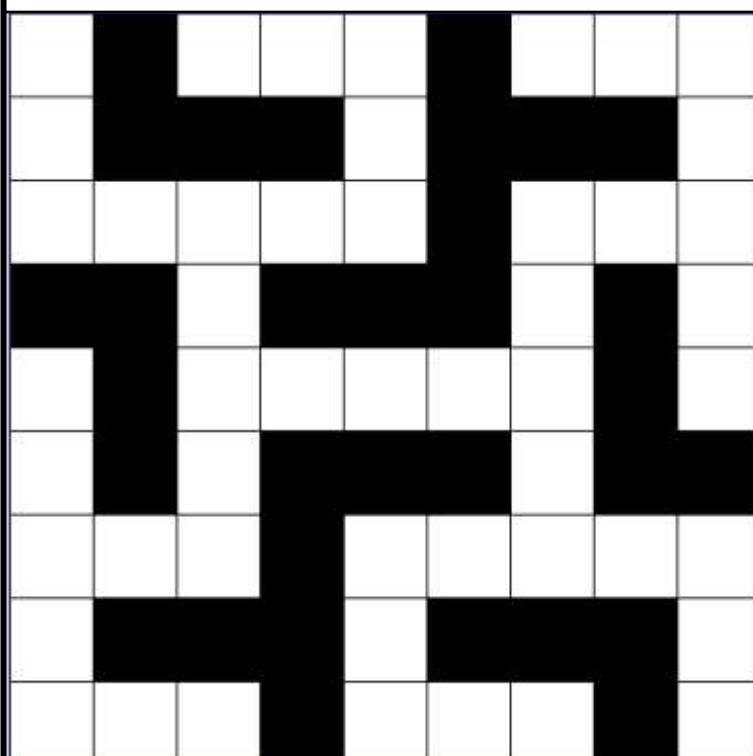
AMAZED
ASSERT
COMBAT
LOOKED
STUDIO
TRACED

9 LETTER WORDS

BALLERINA
DEPOSITED

NUMBER FIT

Can you fit the numbers correctly into the grid?



3 LENGTH

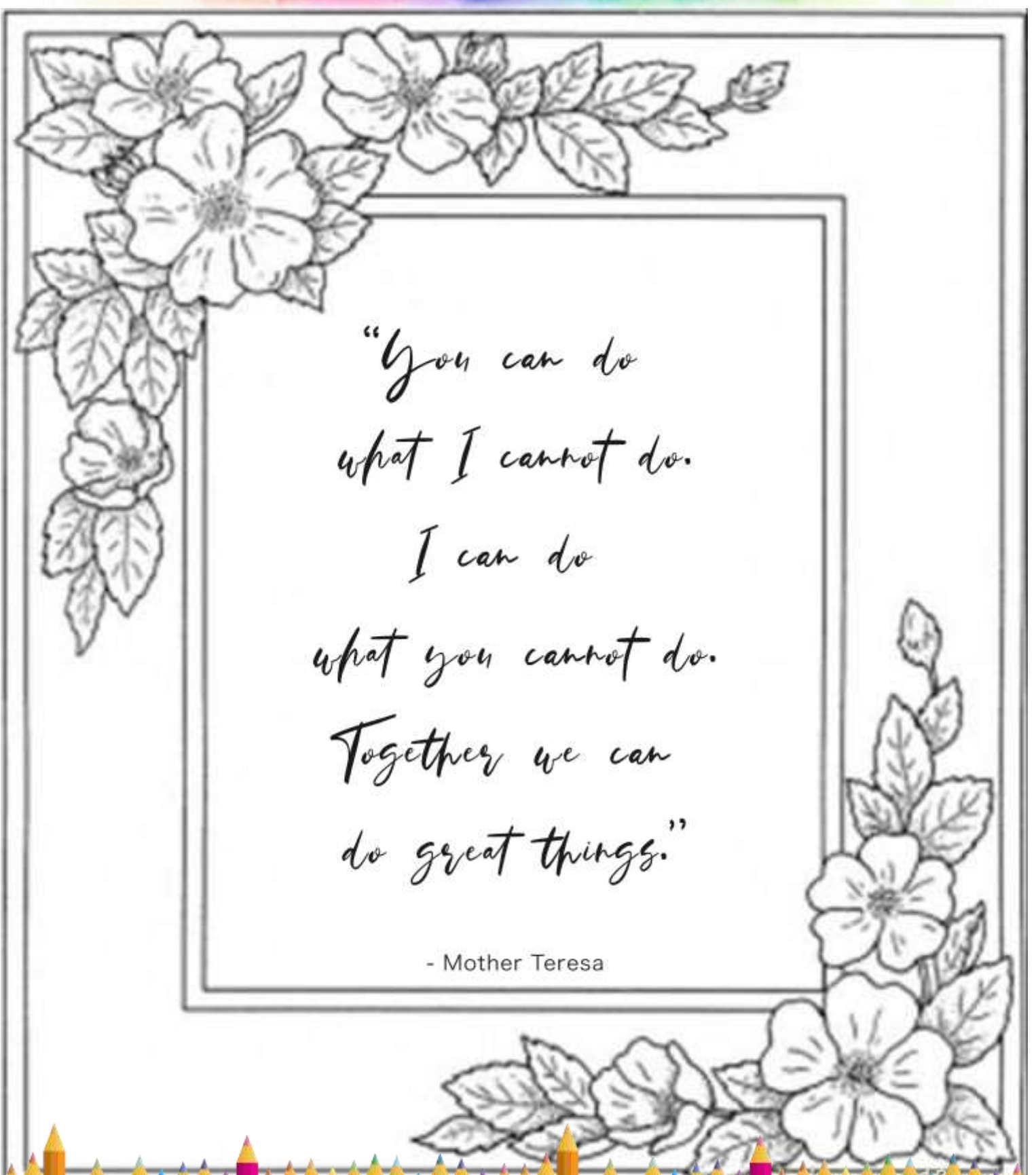
107
242
243
279
571
642
698
751
765
802

5 LENGTH

27772
38205
65975
70376
70609
85236
98128

Research shows us that colouring in reduced stress, anxiety and helps us live happier lives!

Take some time and unleash your inner artist! Show us your creations when you've finished!



*"You can do
what I cannot do.
I can do
what you cannot do.
Together we can
do great things."*

- Mother Teresa



Mass at Lalor Park with Fr John Paul Escarlan

We are very excited to announce that we have started Masses again in the Parramatta Diocese.

We will be having Mass at St Bernadette's Catholic Church (integrated Mass) at 10am.

The parish priest at St Bernadette's is Fr John Paul who many of you will know.



We will be live-streaming this Mass with an interpreter.

The dates for the Masses for this year will be:

17 July

21 August

18 September

CANCELLED

16 October

20 November

18 December

All at 10am.

On these dates, there will be NO interpreted Mass from Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church at Homebush at 11am.

THERE WILL BE NO MASS AT LALOR PARK ON 18 SEPTEMBER AS WE HAVE THE SPECIAL MASS AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL PARRAMATTA AT 2PM THAT DAY. ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS MASS (SEE PAGE 5 FOR INFORMATION)

Please see the calendar for correct dates.

Where: St Bernadette's Catholic Church - 10 Gardenia Grove, Lalor Park.

Any questions, please contact David Parker.



Accessible Mass

Mass is open to the community. All are welcome to Mass.

Please do not come to Mass if you are feeling sick.

Our Mass time table is:

1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th (not the 3rd) Sunday of the month

Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, 74 Underwood Rd Homebush (11am - Deaf Mass).

We will now have morning tea after Mass.

3rd Sunday of the month - St Bernadette's Lalor Park at 10am

We are still filming and live-streaming Mass each of these Masses. You can watch this on Facebook live on a Sunday or later on our Ephpheta website.

PLEASE SEE THE SEPARATE CALENDAR IN THIS NEWSLETTER FOR MASS DATES AND TIMES.



Prayer of Spiritual Communion when we cannot receive Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.



I embrace You as if you were
already there, and I unite myself
wholly to You.

Never permit me to be
separated from You.

Amen.

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 17 July

Gospel Reading

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed Jesus into her house.

Martha had a sister named Mary.

Mary sat down near the Lord's feet and listened to Jesus talking.

Martha was upset because of all the work she had to do, so she said to Jesus, "Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do all the work by myself? Please tell her to help me."

But the Lord answered, "Martha, Martha, you worry and are upset about so many things, but only one thing is needed.

Mary has chosen the best part. No one can take it away from her."

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD



17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 24 July

Gospel Reading

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

One day Jesus was praying in a quiet place. After he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, the same as John taught his disciples.” Jesus said to them, “When you pray, pray using these words: ‘Father, we pray your holy name will be honoured. Your Kingdom come. Give us our bread everyday. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those that hurt us. And protect us from temptation.’”



Jesus also said to them, “Suppose you have a friend and you go to him in the middle of the night to tell him, ‘My friend has come to my house and I have no food to give him. Please lend me three loaves.’ The man inside the house will say, ‘Go away! Don’t bother me! The door is locked and my children and I are in bed. I cannot get up and give you the bread.’”

Jesus said, “I tell you, maybe the man will not get up to give you anything, but if you continue knocking on the door and never stop asking, the man in the house will get up and give you anything you want. So, I tell you: Ask, and you will receive. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you. Because if a person asks, he will always receive. If a person searches, he will always find. If a person knocks, the door will always be opened.

If you are a father, what would you do if your son asked you for bread? Would you give him a stone? No! Or, if he asked you for a fish, would you give him a snake? No! Or, if he asked you for an egg, would you give him a scorpion? No!

If you are a bad person but you know how to give good things to your children, surely the heavenly Father will give the Holy Spirit to those that ask him!”

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 31 July

Gospel Reading

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

One of the men in the crowd said to Jesus, "Lord, tell my brother to share our father's inheritance (wealth) with me." Jesus replied, "My friend, am I your judge? Who said that I should divide things between yourself and your brother?" Then Jesus said to everybody, "Be careful! Protect yourself from greed and selfishness; a person with a lot of things does not mean that his life is safe."

Then Jesus told a parable (a story) to the people, "A man was rich because his land grew lots of crops. He thought to himself, 'I have plenty of crops. What will I do? I can't keep all my crops because I have not enough room.' Then the rich man said, 'I know. I will pull down my old barns and build new bigger barns. I will keep all my crops in my new barns.

After that, I will tell myself: I have plenty of good things kept safe for many years. I can have an easy life; eat, drink and have a good time.' But God said, 'Fool! Tonight, you will die. What will happen to all the things you have kept safe? Will all these things still be yours? No!'" And Jesus said, "If a person saves good things for himself, he will never be truly rich. It is better to be rich with God in heaven."

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD



19th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 7 August

Gospel Reading

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Jesus said to his disciples, "My friends, do not be afraid. Your Father is pleased to give you his kingdom. Sell your things and give the money to poor people. It is better to have treasure in heaven that will never disappear. Treasure no one can steal from heaven, no moth can destroy. Because if your treasure is safe in heaven, you will be happy and at peace."

Jesus said, "Be ready, fully dressed with lamps shining. You must be like servants waiting for their master to come back from the wedding feast. Be ready to open the door quickly when he comes and knocks. If the servants are ready when their master arrives, they will be happy. I tell you the truth, the master will take an apron, he will tell the servants to sit down at the table, and then he (master) will serve them.

The servants will probably have to wait till midnight or later, but if they are ready when the master arrives, they will be happy. If the owner of a house knew what time the thief would come, the owner would make sure the thief could not break into the house. In the same way, you must be ready, because you don't know when the Son of Man will come."

Peter said, "Lord, is this parable (story) for us or for all people?" The Lord replied, "If the servant is good enough, and wise and can be trusted, the master will ask the servant to be in charge of the house and make sure that family and other servants eat their food at the right time. When the master arrives and sees this servant working hard, the servant will be happy. I tell you the truth, the master will ask this servant to be in charge of everything.

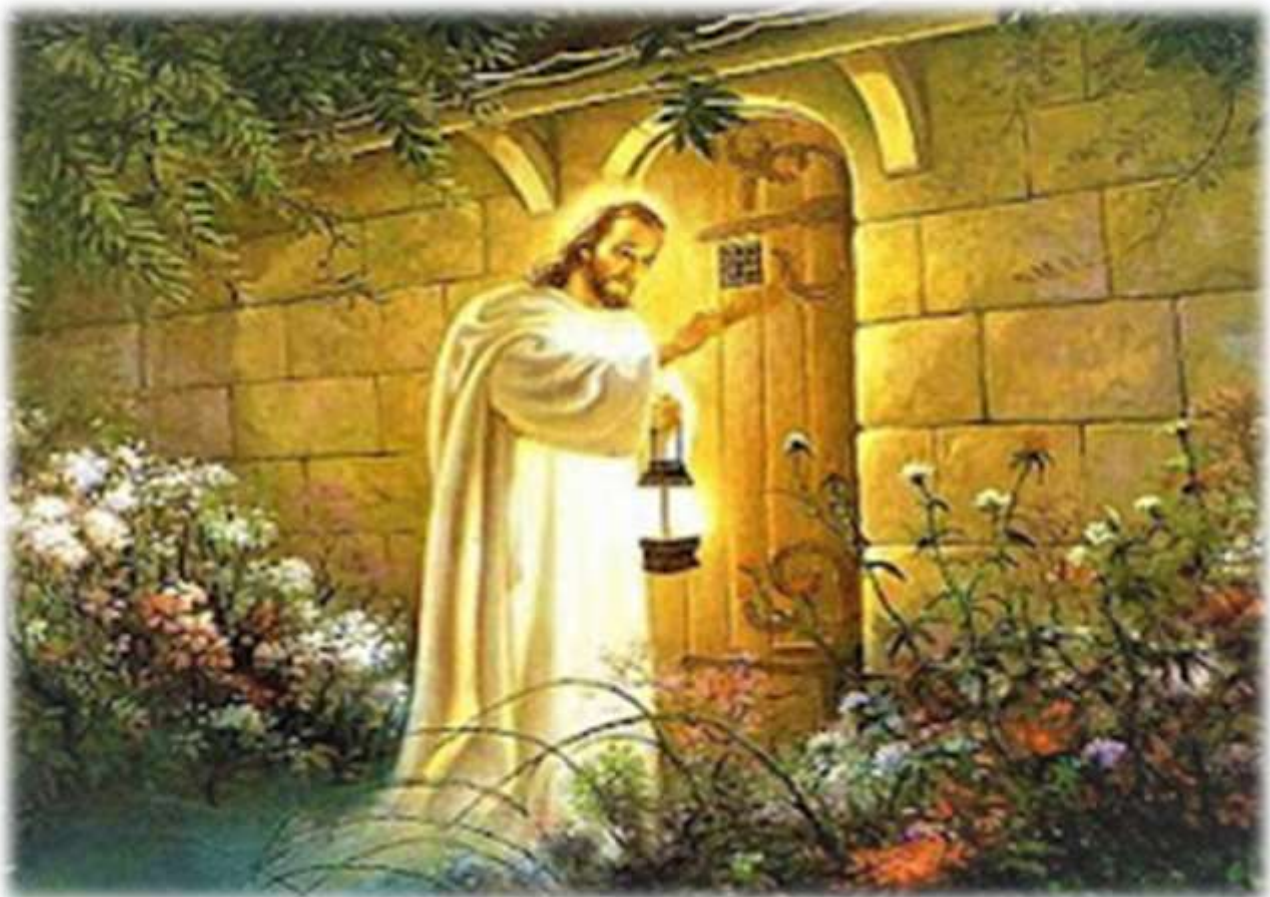
But if the servant says to himself, 'My master is late', and he starts to be cruel to the other men and women servants and attacks them. He eats and drinks and becomes drunk. Then the master of the house will come when the servant does not expect him. The master will punish the servant and throw him out, and he will suffer because he was not a good faithful servant.

The servant knows what his master wants, but does not do the work for him (master), that servant will be whipped.

If the servant does not know what his master wants, and does no work for him (master), that servant will receive less punishment.

Any person that receives many gifts will be responsible for many things. If God gives many gifts to a person because God trusts that person, then God will expect a lot more responsibility from that person."

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD



20th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 14 August

Gospel Reading

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Jesus said to his disciples, "I have come to bring fire to the world; I wish it were already burning!

Yet I must receive a baptism and I am anxious until it is over (finished).

Do you think that I came to bring peace to the world?

No, not peace, but division.

From now on, a family of five will be divided, three against two, and two against three.

The father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time - 21 August

Gospel Reading

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Jesus was walking through towns and villages, teaching the people. He continued to go towards Jerusalem. Someone said to Jesus, "Lord, how many people will be saved? Only a few?" Jesus said, "Try your best to enter (go in) through the narrow door, because I tell you, many people will try to go in but they will fail. After a man has locked the door of his house, you could find yourself standing outside, knocking on the door saying 'Lord, open the door and let us in,'

But the man inside the house will say 'I don't know where you come from.' Then you will say, 'You know us. We ate and drank with you. You taught in our streets.' But he will reply, 'I don't know you. Go away, you wicked people! 'When you see Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and all the prophets in God's kingdom, but you are outside, you will suffer and scream because you cannot get in.

People will come from east and west, from north and south, and all will sit down at the feast in the kingdom of God. Yes, all the people that used to have the last and lowest place in life will be put in the first and best place, and all those that used to have the first and best place will be put in the last and lowest place in the kingdom of God."

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - 28 August

Gospel Reading

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

One sabbath day Jesus went for a meal in the home of an important Pharisee. Other pharisees watched Jesus carefully. Jesus saw that some people picked the best places to sit. So Jesus told them a parable, “When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not sit in the best place.

Perhaps another person more important than you has been invited, and your friend that invited you will say to you, ‘Please give your place to this person’. You will have to get up, go and find another seat in the lowest place, and you will be embarrassed. So, when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place.

Then your friend that invited you, will say to you, ‘Come, my friend, I will give you a better seat.’ People will see and you will feel honoured. Yes, any person that has the last and lowest place in life will receive the first and best place.

A person that has the first and best place in this life will receive the last and lowest place in God’s kingdom.” Then Jesus said to the Pharisee that invited him, “When you give a meal or party, do not invite your friends, brothers, relatives, or rich people, because you know they will invite you to their party later.

When you give a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the blind, because you know they are poor and they cannot pay you back. This means you are blessed because God will reward you.”

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - 4 September

Gospel Reading

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

A large crowd of people followed Jesus, he turned and said to them,
“If anyone comes to me but loves father, mother, wife, children, brothers, or sisters more than me, then that person cannot be my disciple.
Any person that does not carry the cross and follow me, cannot be my disciple.

If you want to build a tower, you must sit down first to make a plan and find out how much it will cost. You need to know if you have enough money to finish the job. If you start building and later realise that you cannot finish building the tower, all the people watching will laugh at you. They will say, ‘This man wanted to build a tower, but now he cannot finish the job.’

If a king goes to war against another king, first he will sit down and plan. If the king has only 10,000 soldiers and the other king has 20,000 soldiers, he knows he cannot go to war because he will lose.

He will send messengers to meet the other king and try to make peace.”
Jesus said, “In the same way, if you want to be my disciple, you must give up everything you have and follow me.”

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 11 September

Gospel Reading

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

One day many tax-collectors and sinners came to listen to Jesus. The Pharisees and scribes (writers) complained. They said, “This man, Jesus, welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So Jesus told them this parable (story):

“Suppose a shepherd has 100 sheep, but loses one sheep; what will he do? He will leave the 99 sheep, and he will go to look for the lost sheep until he finds it. After he finds the lost sheep, he will be so happy, he will carry the sheep on his shoulders and take it home. Then he will tell his friends, ‘Look, I found my lost sheep! Rejoice with me.’ In the same way, I (Jesus) tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner that repents, than over 99 good people that don’t need to repent.

Or, suppose a woman has ten silver coins; but she loses one; what will she do? She will light a lamp, clean the house and look carefully until she finds the lost coin. And when she finds it, she will tell her friends, ‘Look, I found my lost coin, rejoice with me.’

In the same way, I (Jesus) tell you, the angels of God will rejoice over one sinner that repents.”

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD



25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 18 September

Gospel Reading

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Jesus said to his disciples,

“If no one can trust you with small things, then who will trust you with big things?

If a person is not honest with small things, then that person will not be honest with big things too.

If no one can trust you with money, then who will trust you with real wealth or worldly riches?

And if no one trusts you with things that belong to another person, then who will give you the things that belong to you?

No person can serve both God and money.

Either he will hate God and love money.

Or, he will love God with respect and not trust money, because he knows that money can be dangerous.

You cannot love both God and money at the same time.”



THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 25 September

Gospel Reading

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Jesus said to the Pharisees:

“There was a rich man with very expensive clothes. He ate wonderful rich food everyday. Outside his gates, there was a poor man named Lazarus, his body full of sores. Lazarus waited at the gates hoping for some scraps of food from the rich man’s table. Dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died.



Angels came and carried him into heaven to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. The rich man went to the place of death, named Hades; he was in terrible suffering. He looked up and saw Abraham and Lazarus far away.

He shouted, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me! Tell Lazarus to come to me, so that he can put his finger in water and cool my tongue because I am suffering in this fire.’

Abraham replied, ‘Remember, during your life on earth, you had all the good things. Lazarus was poor and he had nothing. Now he is enjoying himself here, and you are suffering now. Also, there is a deep wide valley between you and us. No person can leave us and cross (go) over to help you, and no one can leave your place to come here.’

The rich man said, ‘Then please send Lazarus to my father’s house on earth because I have five brothers. Lazarus could warn my brothers so that they do not come to this place of death and suffering.’

Abraham said, ‘Your brothers have already been warned by Moses and the prophets; your brothers should listen to them.’ But the rich man said, ‘No, father Abraham. That is not enough. Better that someone rise from the dead and go to my brothers. Then they will believe and change their hearts.’

Abraham replied, ‘If your brothers won’t listen to Moses and the prophets, then they will not listen to someone risen from the dead.’”

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD



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EPHPHETA WEBSITE NEWS

Have you seen our website recently?

Our website is now being updated regularly so it is
always full of current information.

Please keep checking it!

If you have any ideas or feedback for our website
please contact David.

www.ephpheta.org.au

Please send your news, stories,
information and requests to Liz or David to be
considered for the next newsletter!



What does “Ephpheta” mean?

The name Ephpheta of our Centre came from the
bible - a story about Jesus meeting a deaf man, he
says “Ephpheta” which means “Be open”.

We are always open to you all!