



The Parish of

St Anne & St Bede

**Parish Office:** 1 Severn St, Balwyn North

**Office Hours:** Closed during Stage 4 Restrictions.

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

**For those wishing to contribute to Stewardship or Priests' collection, the Parish account details are listed below for electronic funds transfer.**

1<sup>st</sup> Collection

**Account name: St Bede's Presbytery Account  
Presbytery Account BSB: 083 347 Account no.  
666017079**

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection

**Account name: St Bede's Church Account Church  
Account BSB: 083 347 Account no. 458706734**

**Please click on the link below from 5pm on Saturday, 14 November, to watch Mass Online, celebrated by our priests:**

<https://youtu.be/GmTGgnuA1YM>

### **First Reading - Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31**

A perfect wife – who can find her?  
She is far beyond the price of pearls.  
Her husband's heart has confidence in her,  
from her he will derive no little profit.  
Advantage and not hurt she brings him  
all the days of her life.  
She is always busy with wool and with flax,  
she does her work with eager hands.  
She sets her hands to the distaff,  
her fingers grasp the spindle.  
She holds out her hand to the poor,  
she opens her arms to the needy.  
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;  
the woman who is wise is the one to praise.  
Give her a share in what her hands have worked for,  
and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

*The word of the Lord.*

### **Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 127(128):1-5**

**R. Happy are those who fear the Lord.**

O blessed are those who fear the Lord  
and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper. **R.**

Your wife like a fruitful vine

in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive,  
around your table. **R.**

Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
in a happy Jerusalem  
all the days of your life. **R.**

### **Second Reading – 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6**

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it. But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

*The word of the Lord.*

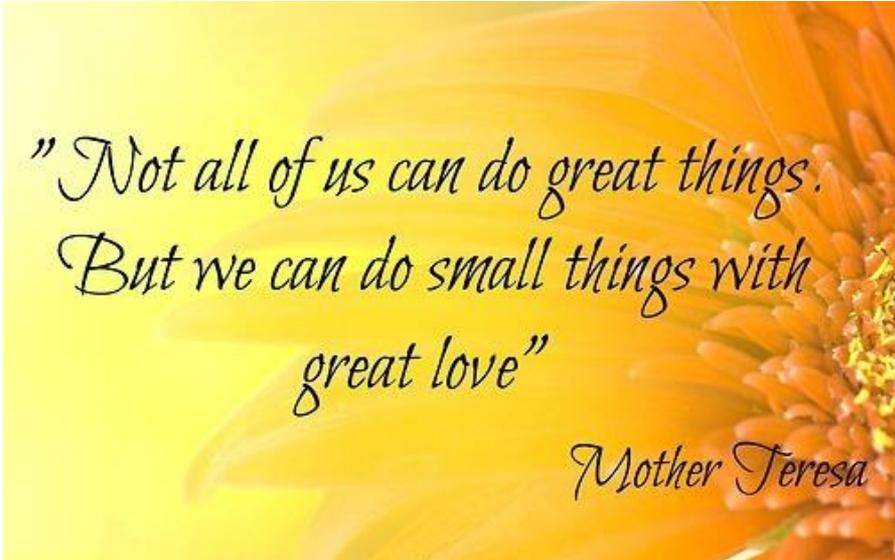
### **Gospel – Matthew 25:14-30**

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of Heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out.

'Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made."

'His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

*The Gospel of the Lord.*



*"Not all of us can do great things.  
But we can do small things with  
great love"*

*Mother Teresa*

## *REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL*

Like last week, with the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids, today's parable urges us to look to the final things – our final destiny. And like last week, it connects back to our present life.

A talent was an amount of money – about 600 days' wages for a day labourer or slave in Jesus' time. But the ambiguity in the parable with the English word talent is fortuitous, too. The master in the parable praised the servants who used the money to create more, and condemned the one who did not "put the money into the system" to create more. For us, the application is better with the other meaning of the word "talent". We are each given certain talents by God. It isn't helpful to compare, but some people seem to be more talented than others. But all that is for nothing if the talents aren't used. People who share their knowledge, creativity, energy and abilities, build up the whole of humanity. There are others who share nothing of the greater abilities they have, and contribute little to humanity.

We could also reflect on the talents as the gift of faith we are given. We can approach the gift of faith as something that is "mine", that is private, that is for my benefit. Yet that is not what God asks of us: faith is a gift to be shared, to be used into the various situations of life.

The parable challenges us to be faithful to the trust that God has put in us. It is not so much the outcomes of our life that God will judge us on, but on the approach, the effort, and the use we make of the life which He has gifted to us.

Fr John Salvano

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

**Celebrant:** As St. Paul tells us, “we are children of the light and children of the day”. Let us stay awake to the promises given to us through Jesus as we offer these prayers.

We pray for Pope Francis and all the Bishops of the Church. May their teaching and example awaken us to the reality of God’s abiding love.

*Lord hear us*

We pray for civil leaders. May their public service be directed to the well-being of the communities they represent.

*Lord hear us*

We pray for all members of our work-force who strive to earn a living. May they be rewarded for their efforts and respected in the workplace.

*Lord hear us*

We sadly farewell Fr. Toan, with prayers of gratitude for the three years he has spent with us as our assistant priest. We ask for God’s blessings on him as he moves on to the next parish of his ministry.

*Lord hear us*

We pray for the sick of our parish especially **Mary Buxton** and **Thina Raman** and for all who have asked for our prayers.

We pray for those who have died recently, especially **Anna Nguyen, Moya Slevison, Marie White and Pia Di Stasio**, and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially **Luigi Di Santis, Margaret Murphy, Len O’Brien, Gwen Way Lee, Veronica Prichard** and **Thomas Hanh Truong**. May they share the rewards of their love and rest in peace to enjoy the merits of their labours.

*Lord hear us*

**Celebrant:** God of justice, may we always be confident to voice our concerns and our needs before you, who gives us a share in the joy that comes to us through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,  
I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.  
I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul.  
Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least  
spiritually into my heart.  
As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself  
entirely to You;  
never permit me to be separated from You.  
Amen.

## FAREWELL FR TOAN

Dear Parishioners,

This week we farewell Toan, after 3 years and 2 days as Assistant Priest here at the Parish of St Anne and St Bede (and a few months at St Bridget's). His infectious smile has become part of life here, and I am sure we will all miss it – along with his jokes, his enthusiasm and refreshing openness.

Toan has spent the last couple of weeks on a whirlwind of farewells (to the point that I think he will be glad for a few quieter weeks settling in at Craigieburn!). I know that not everyone has been able to connect with him as hoped, but he has been diligent in partying! We will try to have some occasion to honour him later, when things are easier.

For myself, I will miss one of the easiest people to live with – apart from bringing evil things like prawns and crustaceans home (I am allergic to both)! Unfortunately, I gather that Fr Lenin likes these as well. The coffee shops of Balwyn North will notice a downturn in trade, but those of Craigieburn can look forward to boom times ahead.

Behind all that, Toan is a priest dedicated to serving God's people, which he has done prayerfully and faithfully here. He now goes to do the same in a different environment and people. It is often said by priests that your first parish appointment is one that remains with you for the rest of your life. I am sure Toan will say the same.

May he go with our prayers and best wishes,

Fr John Salvano, PP



## PARISH NEWS

### RCIA Candidates

This weekend Diana Castro, Helen Chen, Daniel Zong, Jessica Zong and Samuel Viet Van Phan will be welcomed into the Catholic Church. Diana, Helen, Daniel and Samuel will receive the sacraments of Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation and Jessica will receive the sacraments of Baptism and First Eucharist. Please keep them in your prayers as they become full members of our faith community.

### Columban Calendars 2021

The 2021 Columban Calendars are now available for sale for \$8 at the Parish Office.

### SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL VULNERABLE PEOPLE

We hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our parish. The Parish Statement of Commitment and Reporting Process are on display in all churches and all Parish Policies are available on the website or at the parish office.