

天主教華人牧民處

www.chinesechaplaincyparra.org

常年期第二十二主日 (甲年)

2023年9月3日



聖言導讀

進堂詠

上主，求你憐憫我，因為我整天呼求你。上主，你良善又仁慈；凡呼號你的，你必寬待他。

讀經一

耶肋米亞先知書 20:7-9

上主，你引誘了我；我讓自己受了你的引誘；你確實比我強，你勝利了。我終日成為笑柄，人人都嘲笑我。因為我每次發言，必得叫喊，必得高呼：「暴虐！破壞！」實在，上主的話，使我日日成為受侮辱和譏笑的原因。

如果我說：我不再想念他，不再以他的名發言，我就覺得五內如焚，好像有一團烈火，蘊藏在我的骨髓裡；我竭力抑制，亦不可能。

——上主的話

答唱詠

詠 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

【答】：天主，你是我的天主，我的靈魂渴慕你

領：天主，你是我的天主，我急切尋覓你；我的靈魂渴慕你，我的肉身切望你，有如一塊乾旱涸竭、無水的田地。【答】

領：昔日，我曾在聖殿裡瞻仰過你，為看到你的威能，和你的光輝；因為你的慈愛比生命更寶貴，我的唇舌要時常稱頌你。【答】

領：我要一生一世讚美你。我要因你名，高舉雙手，向你祈禱。我的靈魂好似飽享了膏脂，我要以歡愉的口唇讚美你。【答】

領：你曾作了我的助佑；我要在你的羽翼下歡舞。我的靈魂緊緊追隨你；你的右手常常扶持我。【答】

讀經二

致羅馬人書 12:1-2

弟兄姊妹們：

我以天主的仁慈，請求你們，獻上你們的身體，當作生活、聖潔和悅樂天主的祭品：這才是你們合理的敬禮。你們不可與此世同化，反而應以更新的心思，變化自己，為使你們能辨別：什麼是天主

的旨意，什麼是善事，什麼是悅樂天主的事，什麼是成全的事。

——上主的話

福音前歡呼

領：亞肋路亞。

眾：亞肋路亞。

領：願我們的主耶穌基督的天主，光照我們心靈的眼目，為叫我們認清他的寵召，有什麼希望。

眾：亞肋路亞。

福音

聖瑪竇福音 16:21-27

那時候，耶穌開始向門徒說明：他必須上耶路撒冷去，要由長老、司祭長和經師手中，受許多痛苦，並將被殺，但第三天要復活。

伯多祿便拉耶穌到一邊，諫責耶穌說：「主，千萬不可！這事絕不會臨到你身上！」

耶穌轉身對伯多祿說：「撒旦，退到我後面去！你是我的絆腳石，因為你所體會的，不是天主的事，而是人的事。」

於是，耶穌對門徒說：「誰若願意跟隨我，該棄絕自己，背著自己的十字架，來跟隨我，因為，誰若願意救自己的性命，必要喪失性命；但誰若為我的原故，喪失自己的性命，必要獲得性命。人縱然賺得全世界，卻賠上了自己的靈魂，為他有什麼益處？或者，人還能拿什麼，作為自己靈魂的代價？」

「將來，人子要在他父的光榮中，同他的天使降來，那時，他要按照每人的行為，予以賞報。」

——上主的話。

領主詠

上主，你為敬畏你的人，所保留的恩澤，是何等豐盛！

耶穌預言自己將受難、死亡、然後要復活。這個預言一方面是向門徒啟示天主的旨意，另一方面也是對伯多祿的信仰宣示「你是默西亞，永生天主之子」提出必要的補充說明。基督徒的默西亞和猶太人傳統所期待的默西亞不同，祂「必須」走向苦難和死亡。

耶穌採用了「必須」一詞來預告自己的苦難及復活，表明出這個預言的先知性以及末世性的特徵，其最終的根源是天主的旨意。耶穌在開始走上這條道路之時，清楚地向門徒預告——雖然在當時他們尚沒有能力了解這一切——表示耶穌並非盲目的接受命運；相反地，祂自己知道，而且自願接受這一切。

雖然在這段福音之前的故事中提到，伯多祿得到來自天主的特殊啟示，明認耶穌是天主子，但他仍然是一個人，也只有人的想法，因此企圖說服耶穌脫離受難，耶穌卻嚴厲地責斥伯多祿！對耶穌而言，伯多祿成為誘惑者，就如在曠野中的「撒彈」一樣；耶穌甚至說伯多祿是絆腳石，這個說法可能是故意的和教會的「磐石」相對立。

在瑪竇福音中，伯多祿似乎一直在天主的召叫和人性的軟弱之間掙扎。他成為門徒們的典型代表，門徒們一直處於信仰的服從與人性的自我膨脹之間擺盪。他們是活生生的例子，提醒教會團體警惕小心，而能穩妥地在天主的道路上行走。

誰願意跟隨耶穌，應該背起自己的十字架來跟隨他，誰若為了耶穌而喪失自己的性命，必要獲得性命。這樣的話在「福傳言論」中已出現過。但在這段經文中，這些話的對象並非是受派遣去傳福音者，而是耶穌門徒的團體。對瑪竇而言，他們代表著日後的教會團體，每一個基督徒都應在十字架的道路上跟隨耶穌。經文更進一步的詮釋，「背起自己的十字架」的意義就是「棄絕自己」！門徒們為了完全地跟隨耶穌，應該完全地捨棄自己。

「棄絕自己」的意義當然包含放棄世上的財富、名聲或權力，但真正的關鍵在於放棄「自我」！唯有如此，才能如同被釘的耶穌一樣，完全地被天主接受，這也就是因耶穌的緣故失去性命，並在天主內獲得性命。生命的經驗告訴人們，在死亡時，任何人都必須留下自己所擁有的產業，孤獨地到天主面前，人真正該重視的是如何在天主前交賬，領取永恆的賞報。

每個人都將按其作為受到審判，這是深深根植於雅威信仰的傳統信念。瑪竇引用這個思想，目的在於鼓勵耶穌的門徒們，忠實地在十字架道路上跟隨耶穌。所謂「站在這裡的人中，有些人在未嘗到死味之前，必要看見人子來到自己的國裡」，是一種先知性的話語，其目的並非在預言末世來臨的日期，而是在一種鼓勵、警告與安慰的觀點下說出的話。在瑪竇福音的脈絡中，這個「人子再來」的預言的功能，在於引出「耶穌顯聖容」的報導：一些門徒幸運地預先看見耶穌在光榮中顯現。

歡迎把這通訊
帶回家細閱

天主教聖莫尼加堂 St. Monica's Catholic Parish

Corner Church Street and North Rocks Road, North Parramatta

牧民處熱線電話	0411 192 278 短訊 (SMS)、WhatsApp、微信 (wechat)、粵語及國語(普通话)留言
主任司鐸 / 華人專職司鐸：	林勝文神父 電話：9630 1951 電郵： shingmanlam@gmail.com
助理司鐸：	張勇浩神父（英、韓語） 電話：9630 1951 電郵： stmonicanp@bigpond.com
主日彌撒時間：	粵語：星期日上午11時30分 英語：星期六黃昏5時，星期日上午9時、黃昏6時
平日彌撒：	星期二至五上午9時15分〔英語，附粵語講道〕
明供聖體：	逢星期四晚上8時至9時 逢星期五上午9時15分彌撒後至10時45分〔附修和聖事〕
修和聖事：	逢星期六下午4時至4時45分，每月第三主日上午10時15分至11時，或與林勝文神父預約
病人傅油聖事 / 外送聖體：	請與林勝文神父聯絡 電話：9630 1951 電郵： shingmanlam@gmail.com
婚配聖事：	請於婚配日期前至少12個月與林勝文神父聯絡
嬰孩聖洗聖事：	需與林勝文神父預約並在聖洗前準備妥當
成人聖洗聖事：	必須先參與慕道班(RCIA)，請與林勝文神父聯絡
牧民處地址：	8 Daking Street, North Parramatta, NSW 2151
牧民處辦公時間：	星期二至五 - 上午8時半時至下午2時半
堂區聯絡：	電話：9630 1951 傳真：9630 8738 電郵： stmonicanp@bigpond.com

信仰探討 聖奧斯定會即將以實體形式舉行「信仰探討講座」

時間：逢星期日早上10時半 地點：堂區會議室

9月3日、10日 彌撒的意義（林勝文神父主講）無須報名，歡迎參加。查詢：Thomas Tse 0413 304 285

天主教青年教理 YOUCAT 導讀（粵語，ZOOM 網上講座，歡迎青年和成年人士參加）

由林勝文神父主講，逢每月第二個第四個星期六，晚上8時舉行。下次舉行日期：2023年10月14日
已報名者可重用現有的Zoom連線，亦歡迎新參加者。

請致電：Eric Wong 0450 477 003; Thomas Tse 0413 304 285

「聖經人物趣談」講座

林神父主持，於今日下午1時半至2時，在禮堂舉行，歡迎參加。下次舉行日期：9月10日和17日。

神樂聖詠團 誠意邀請新司琴加入，為粵語彌撒服務，有經驗的司琴，或已考獲鋼琴七級或以上，熱心侍主的教友都可參加。有意者請聯絡聖詠團的Gemma，或彌撒後聯絡指揮；亦可或致電牧民處熱線留下通訊資料。

Divine Joy Choir would like to recruit **new organists** to serve in the Cantonese Masses. Experienced organists, or parishioners who have attained Grade 7 or above in pianoforte, and eager to serve, please contact Gemma, or the choir conductor after Masses, or call the Chinese Chaplaincy hotline.

Bishop's Father's Day Appeal for Retired and Sick Priests will be collected on 3rd September 2023.

Envelopes are available on the pews and the tables at the entrance of the Church. You can also donate by using the QR code on the envelopes and posters.

抄寫聖言 2022-2024

為慶祝本堂成立130週年，誠意邀請各位參與「抄寫聖言」，並藉此行動讓大家更熟悉天主聖言。詳情請在聖堂大門索取有關單張，亦可致電堂區（9630 1951），或發電郵給 write.the.word.2024@gmail.com

Write the WORD 2022-2024

To anticipate the celebration of the 130th anniversary of this parish, everyone is invited to join in "Write the WORD" to increase our familiarity of the Holy Scripture. For details you can take a leaflet at the main entrances of the church, or call the Parish Office (9630 1951), or send an email to write.the.word.2024@gmail.com

本主日答唱詠選自聖詠第 63 篇。

這篇聖詠的歷史背景是達味因為兒子阿貝沙隆謀反，企圖弑父且自立為君王而興起戰爭。達味為保命，亦不願與兒子正面交鋒，於是逃難到猶大曠野（詳見撒下 15 章；亦是納堂先知的預言成真，見撒下 12:10-12）。達味逃難時懇求天主垂憐而寫成這首熱心的詩歌。

答句出自第 2 節（天主，你是我的天主，我急切尋覓你；我的靈魂渴慕你，我的肉身切望你，我有如一塊乾旱涸竭的無水田地），達味君王逃難到曠野時的確是狼狽、哀傷，他極渴望天主拯救他。

第 3 至 4 節（昔日我曾在聖殿裏瞻仰過你，為看到你的威能，和你的光輝；因你的慈愛比命更寶貴，我的唇舌要時常稱頌你），達味曾在耶京的會幕（當時未有聖殿）向上主祈禱；現在雖然他處身曠野，但他對上主的熱誠絲毫未變。

第 5 節（我要一生一世讚美你，我要因你名把手舉起！），「高舉雙手」是以民祈禱時的姿勢，意思是充滿信心地打開雙手，準備領受上主所賜予的恩寵。

全詩最重要的是第 6 節（我的靈魂好似飽享了膏脂，我要以歡愉的口唇讚美你）。達味深信上主的眷顧而充滿力量（反映舊約時代物質缺乏，滿是脂肪的肥肉是珍品！），上主必然拯救祂特選的人。

第 8 至 9 節（因為你曾作了我的助佑，我要在你的羽翼下歡舞。我的靈魂緊緊追隨你，你的右手常常扶持我），可見舊約時代以色列子民已普遍相信人既有肉身又有靈魂（見創 2:7），而且靈魂與肉身並不相違背，共同渴慕和切望天主。「上主的右手」當然是象徵性的說法，是說上主恩待祂的僕人。

~勝文神父

為巴拉瑪打教區會議禱文

天主，在人生旅途上，祢常與我們同行，求祢引領我們，團結合一，共同邁進。請降福、帶領我們的教區會議，使我們常存祢的愛，打開心扉聆聽，用心彼此理解；並求祢指引我們的前路，划到深處，且懷着謙遜與勇毅，努力實踐祢給我們的使命。願我們的教會，能日新又新。因我們的主基督，祂藉聖神，由始至今，時刻領導教會，達至圓滿，直到永遠。亞孟。
聖母進教之佑，為我等祈。
聖瑪利亞麥基立，為我等祈。

聖彌額爾禱文

聖彌額爾總領天使，在戰爭的日子裏保衛我們，免我們陷入魔鬼邪惡的陰謀，和奸詐的陷阱中，我們謙卑地祈求，但願上主譴責牠。上主萬軍的統帥，求你因上主的威能，把徘徊人間，引誘人靈，使其喪亡的撒彈及其他邪靈，拋下地獄裏去。亞孟。



SOAP Reflection 3rd September

Scripture - In today's reading from the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus tells His disciples about His death on the cross and His resurrection three days after His death. Peter then complains about Jesus' prediction, and Jesus rebukes him, telling his disciples that anyone who wishes to follow Him must take up His cross, engage in self-denial, and be willing to give up their lives to follow Him. Jesus also tells His disciples that God will judge people according to their conduct. This is why Jesus says, 'for anyone who wishes to save His life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.'

Observation - In this story, Peter's complaint about Jesus' prediction of His death and resurrection seems like a very understandable, human reaction. People don't like thinking that catastrophic events, like someone's violent death, will inevitably occur. Catastrophic events can leave people feeling distressed, feel like their lives are not in their control, feel like they've lost a sense of predictability and security in their lives, feel embarrassed and humiliated. It is possible that Peter, who considered himself to be a devoted follower of Jesus, felt these anxieties when Jesus predicted his own death, which is why Peter did not want to consider that such an event will happen, and emphasised Jesus' prediction that He will rise from the dead. However, Jesus rejects a framing of His predicted death and resurrection that is based on individual anxieties and desires, because He believes that the fulfilment of His mission required His death and resurrection. He recognised that His mission to save humanity is more important than the desires of individuals. In other words, Jesus recognised the value and importance of deprioritising self-interest in favour of pursuing a greater good and this is something Jesus criticised Peter for not understanding.

Application - In the modern day context, we all recognise the concept of putting aside our own interests and desires in furtherance of a greater good. However, while society does perceive some people-centred aspects of life, such as developing careers, maintaining positive family relationships, improving the lives of citizens as 'values' worth making sacrifices for, secular societies don't necessarily perceive attaining salvation and showing love of God as worthy values worth making sacrifices for, particularly if religious beliefs are considered unimportant and unnecessary. Despite this, Catholics are always called to prioritise showing our love of God in our lives, even if it means giving up things we value highly, even if people may not understand our choices, or criticise them. We do not have to literally risk our lives to be Catholics, but there may be times when we feel tempted to reject our Catholic values and beliefs in order to 'fit in,' to 'get ahead' in society, to get what we want. It is important that in those moments, we remember that to choose to love God and abide by His will, and to achieve eternal, spiritual union with Him is our ultimate aim and calling as followers of Jesus, which surpasses all our other goals and desires.

Prayer - Dear God, there may be times where we are tempted to reject our calling to love you, to serve you and to always aim to be united with you, particularly if we think our calling conflicts with our desires. Give us the strength to overcome these temptations, to see the value and beauty in always choosing to love you and do your will. Help us to trust in your grace and power to give us the wisdom to make the right decisions and strengthen our faith in your promise of eternal life to those who accept your calling. Amen.

Rachel

Youth Announcements

St Monica's Youth Group (FYRE)

Youth Group continues for another month in the community room, starting at 10:30AM! Feel free to drop by for games, friendly chats and discussing our new topic on 'One true God and Catholicism' led by a few of our youth leaders.





St. Monica's Parish

North Parramatta

ST MONICA'S
CATHOLIC PARISH AND PRIMARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

3rd September 2023

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 85:3,5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

First Reading

Jeremiah 20:7-9

As I watched:

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself to be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more. Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 62:2-6, 8-9. R. v.2

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. (R.)
3. So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)
4. For you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you; your right hand hold me fast. (R.)

Second Reading

Romans 12: 1-2

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of things beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

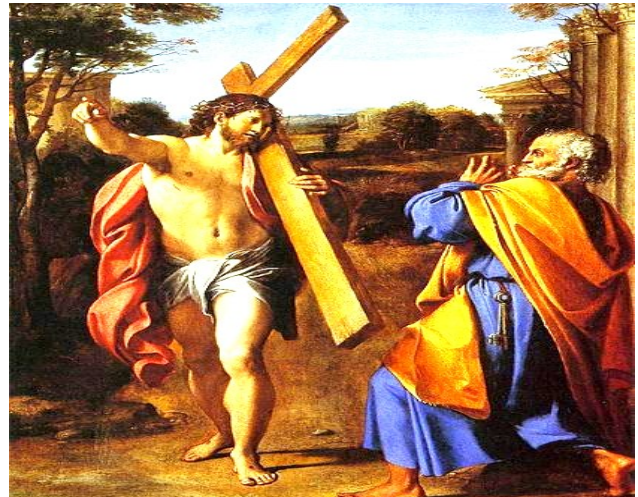
The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

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!



Gospel

Matthew 16:21-27

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be pit to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?'

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Communion Antiphon

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.