

**The English Speaking
Roman Catholic Community on Gozo**
Patron Saint – St. Thomas More
Our website: www.escgozo.org
Seminary guest WiFi: Letmein123!
Sacred Heart Seminary Chapel – Enrico Mizzi Street , Victoria

**1st November 2026
All Saints
Celebrated by
Fr. Loretu Tabone**

Leading lives worthy of God

First Reading Apocalypse 7:2-4,9-14

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel. After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.' One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm 23(24):1-6

(R) Such are the men who seek your face, O Lord.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. (R)

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Hymns for Today

176 For All The Saints

90 Blessed Be God

**248 He Who Would Valiant
Be**

Second Reading 1 John 3:1-3

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

The Word of the Lord

We pray For

Those in our community
and all our relatives and friends
who need our prayers as well as
those who have died

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things.
(R)

He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob
(R)

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia Alleluia!!

Come to me, all you who labour and are
overburdened
and I will give you rest, says the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12a

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION REFLECTION

The philosopher, scientist and artist within us combine to lead us on throughout life on a journey of exploration, understanding and celebration of the whole of reality. Creation is a single and continuing expression of God's overwhelming goodness and love, even though there is much to bewilder and baffle, much left unexplained. All discovery and research are, however, an exploration into the mind of God. All knowledge is a sharing in it. But at the end of our journey and striving, when we come into the presence of the living God, every other experience, all other beauty, will seem but straw. Then we shall know as we are known, love as we are loved, and God will be all in all. Be silent and still, and look also inwards, first at the darkness within, at conflicting emotions, at the emptiness of the heart, at inner wounds. We are in need of healing, or nearly always so, and in need too of being saved from what is base and ignoble. BASIL HUME FROM A TURNING TO GOD, ED. PATRICIA HARDCASTLE KELLY (OLT, 2007)

Memorial Acclamation

**We proclaim your death, O Lord and profess
your Resurrection until you come again**



After listening to today's readings let us now consider the following :
Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

These eight blessings stand at the head of the Sermon on the Mount, pointing out eight ways in which we can welcome God into our lives. They are ways of living out God's blessing, possible only if the hand of God is upon us. That is why the first and the last beatitudes knit them all together with 'theirs is the kingdom of heaven'. Jesus came to proclaim the kingship of his Father, and these are ways of living that kingship. For each of the beatitudes, do you know someone in the parish or elsewhere in your life who exemplifies that particular attitude? Or is there a saint whom you consider typifies each of these beatitudes for you? What is your own favourite beatitude? Jesus illustrates the beatitudes in various incidents in the gospels: he enters Jerusalem on a donkey as the gentle king; he shows love in his welcome to sinners; he brings peace to those tortured by disease or contempt; he manifests purity of heart in his singleminded pre-occupation with his Father's will; finally, he accepts persecution for what he knew to be right. All Christians may suddenly find themselves face to face with similar shattering challenges. Which of these 'beatitudes' do you most lack? Which would you most like to acquire?

And Commentary by Mary McCaughey, Scripture in Church, No 192, 2018

The feast of All Saints is a time of joy, praise and gratitude for God's love which draws human beings to him and reveals itself in their lives. John sets before us a vision of the Church in glory. The imagery is drawn from Ezekiel's visions where a man is ordered to go and seal the faithful so they are spared the destruction threatening the city. In John's vision God's seal will not spare them tribulation. Victory is achieved by standing firm for Christ even unto death. It is Christ's death and not their own courage that has given them the victor's garment. Those who live the life of the Beatitudes now through Baptism and daily die with Christ so as to rise with him will see their destiny fulfilled in a life of 'praise and worship of the Lamb'. The second reading is a beautiful description of the vocation of the baptised. The faithful are 'children of God', on whom God the Father has 'lavished his love'. In the Gospel, Matthew is here revealing to a primarily Jewish audience that Jesus is the new Moses. His new law is written not on tablets of stone but on hearts in the Holy Spirit. The Beatitudes are to be understood as referring to the future, but the joy over them is in the present... In the Old Testament 'blessedness' was part of the wisdom literature which connected a person's deeds and their destiny. There the blessed ones are those who trust in God, fear him, hope in and wait on God.

Eucharistic Ministers

01-Nov-26	David Felice Pace	Monique Sant Georges
08-Nov-26	Ben Miltenburg	Iain Dando
15-Nov-26	Johanna Marks	Ben Miltenburg
22-Nov-26	Monique Sant Georges	David Felice Pace

Readers Rota – If you would like to join please contact Johanna on johannamarks3@gmail.com

01-Nov Readings	Stella Woodgate	Prayers	Rachel Holland
08-Nov Readings	Chris Holland	Prayers	Angelika Camilleri
15-Nov Readings	Rachel Holland	Prayers	Chris Holland
22-Nov Readings	Stella Woodgate	Prayers	Sylvia Fernandes
29-Nov Readings	Sylvia Fernandes	Prayers	Johanna Marks

Pope Leo XIV's prayer intention For November .

For the proper use of wealth

Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service of the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

FOR YOUR DIARY

4th November 4.00 pm Bible Study
Group planning meeting at Manresa House . All welcome

12th November 3.30 pm Adoration
of the Blessed Sacrament at Ghasri church followed by refreshments

12th December 9.00 am. Advent
Retreat at Augustine sisters
Ghajnsielem. More info to follow



Money Matters

The collection for the last Sunday was € 229.13. All monies collected are deployed to cover the costs of running our community and for good causes

CELEBRATIONS IN NOVEMBER

Birthdays

4th Allan Mantovan-Queiroz
6th Vince Vella
27th Helen Clayton

Anniversaries

15th Jacque And Stephen Vassallo

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

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