

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

8th November 2026
32nd Sunday Ord A
Celebrated by
Padre Jose Camilleri

*I Want to Walk as **a** Child of the Light*

First Reading Wisdom 6:12-16

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.
The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm 62(63):2-8

(R) For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.

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)**

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)**

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)**

On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.**(R)**



Hymns for Today

568 O Lord My God
23 All That I Am
9 Abide With Me

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them; to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

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

Gospel Acclamation
Alleluia Alleluia!!
Stay awake and stand ready,
because you do not know the hour
when the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

The Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION REFLECTION

We should not fix our desires on health or sickness, wealth or poverty, success or failure, a long life or a short one. For everything has the potential of calling forth in us a deeper response to our life in God. Our only desire and our one choice should be this: I want and I choose what better leads to God's deepening his life in me. ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

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

Lectio Divina—To join the whatsapp group please send your mobile phone number to John Attard on email johnattard60@gmail.com

Ministry of Gozo Car Park available Sundays and National Holidays

After listening to today's readings let us now consider the following :

Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

Of course they weren't bridesmaids! According to the custom of the time the girls were attendant on the bridegroom, to greet him with their lamps as he arrived at the wedding-reception. Anyway, half of them weren't ready, let him down, and then found themselves shut out. There is a subtle difference between the parables given in Mark's and Matthew's gospels. In Mark they are all about the sudden coming of God's Kingship in history, at the time of Jesus. Jesus proclaimed that the crisis was now. In him God's reign had arrived: it was time to take drastic action. Matthew's parables take a longer-term view: there will be a final judgment at the end of time, for which we, in the Church and in the course of history, must prepare. Some will and some won't. Some will be found to be wheat, others to be weeds. When the catch of fish comes in, some fish will be thrown away, some kept. Some will be sheep and others goats. Each year, as the liturgical year draws to a close, the Church reminds us of this. And the End will be sudden and unpredictable, like a burglar on the one night I forgot to lock the door, or like a mouse-trap snapping shut, or like the unpredictable moment of birth pangs. Am I ready for the coming of Christ? What does it mean to be like the wise bridesmaids and have oil in my lamp?

And from Fr. Robert Draper

It is significant that our first reading from Wisdom , which appears to be a general praise of Wisdom and encouragement for all to seek Wisdom, is actually in its context its context addressed specifically to pagan kings and despots. The figure of Wisdom is presented in many ways in Scripture; by the book of Ecclesiasticus , she is identified with the Law, Torah. Here she is a far more universal idea - accessible to, and able to instruct, outsiders who are far from Israel's ways: so often in the Old Testament foreign rulers are only addressed to be condemned and castigated, here they are invited to share in God's gift. The theme of wisdom is picked up in the Gospel parable. The final exhortation to 'stay awake' could imply that the issue is about falling asleep, but all the bridesmaids fall asleep - the wise as well as the foolish. The difference is that the wise have the oil -they were wise in preparing for the coming of the bridegroom, and so they can enter the feast - the others cannot. The Christian Church has always spoken of death as sleeping - its absolute assertion of the resurrection makes it an appropriate metaphor. All the bridesmaids fall asleep (all people will die), but only some have prepared themselves for that by having what is needed when they are awakened by the bridegroom, who is of course, Christ. They are the ones who enter into the wedding feast - the theme is found across the synoptic Gospels, and also ties in with Matthew's constant theme of the 'mixed' church - where there is always a need to challenge and encourage those who may be weak or failing in their living out of the gospel. The reading from St Paul - the earliest letter in the New Testament - expresses a confidence in an immediate return of Christ, but in this week when we celebrated the feast of All Souls it is also a very appropriate encouragement of faith in the future life for all.

Eucharistic Ministers

08-Nov-26	**Ben Miltenburg**	**Iain Dando**
15-Nov-26	Johanna Marks	Monique Sant Georges
22-Nov-26	Monique Sant Georges	David Felice Pace
29-Nov-26	Iain Dando	Johanna Marks
06-Dec-26	Ben Miltenburg	Monique Sant Georges

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

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
06-Dec Readings	John Attard	Prayers	Vince Vella

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

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

25th November 4.00 p.m Lectio Divina for 1st Advent. Manresa House—All welcome

12th December 9.00 am. Advent Retreat at Augustine sisters

Money Matters

The collection for last Sunday was € 248.12 . All monies collected are deployed to cover the costs of running our community and for good causes This week our collection will be for Padre Jose's mission in Guatamala

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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