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

15th November 2026
33rd Sunday Ord A
Celebrated by
Fr. Loretu Tabone

Well done, good and faithful servant!'

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 **127(128):1-5**

(R) O blessed 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 will be 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
all the days of your life! **(R)**

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



Hymns for Today
535 O Jesus Christ Remember
386 Lord Of All Hopefulnes
688 The Church's One Foundation

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

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

Gospel Acclamation
Alleluia Alleluia!!
Even if you have to die, says the Lord,
keep faithful, and I will give you
the crown of life.
Alleluia!

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. 'The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. '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." 'Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two 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."'Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."'

The Gospel of the Lord

Ministry of Gozo Car Park available Sundays and National Holidays

COMMUNION REFLECTION We stopped in at the cathedral (Frankfurt) for a few minutes; and, while we looked around in respectful silence, a woman carrying a market basket came in and knelt down in one of the pews to pray briefly. This was something entirely new to me. To the synagogues or to the Protestant churches which I had visited, one went only for services. But here was someone interrupting her everyday shopping to come into this church, although no other person was in it, as though she were here for an intimate conversation. I could never forget that. ST TERESA BENEDICIA OF THE CROSS (EDITH STEIN) FROM LIFE IN A JEWISH FAMILY (ICS, 1911)

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

Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

It is encouraging to think of all the talents which friends and neighbours have and which I don't have. It is all part of the gifts of the Spirit, which Paul sees as making up the whole Body of Christ. Everyone has a special contribution to make. As for me, it is extraordinary that God created me with all my twists, defects, fears and failures and it is precisely because of those boils, sores, abscesses that God loves me, helps me and guides me to work out my salvation. And it is just possible that there may be friends who can think that God has given me talents which make a tiny contribution to the happiness and goodness of the world. In the longer version of this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus mentions a man with just one talent who hides it in the ground: the master calls him "wicked and lazy" and has him thrown out. Why is he so severely treated? This is surely someone who resolutely turns his (or her) back on the goodness she (or he) has received and refuses to work with it for the Lord's purposes or for anyone else's. Such a talent goes to waste and merely rusts and corrupts. If I know anyone like that, it is just worth asking whether, with infinite and patient kindness, I can help that person to release their talent and bring it to blossom. Just think for a moment: what is your best talent? Is it a gift, skill or humour which brings joy and happiness to those around you? Are you like the man who buried his talent in the ground, or do you use this skill or gift or wisdom to bring joy to others?

And from Fr. Robert Draper

I am sure many people hearing the first reading at Mass today might bristle at the patronising tone and the patriarchal setting it assumes. That is always the possibility when we read what was written in a very different culture and context - that is why we need the work of scholars and teachers to help see beyond our own limited world-view, but also it reminds us of the need to approach Scripture with a degree of reverence and prayer, asking that the Lord will reveal to us what he wants us to hear for our own life and situation. We might not recognise how Matthew's version of this parable, like Luke's version, is far more than simply about hard work bringing its rewards. The last servant who has not used the talent describes his master as 'a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered: so I was afraid'. We should note that the master seems happy to acknowledge that description. In a culture where it can seem that unbridled capitalism at any cost is the norm, such words might cause us to stop and reflect - is the master someone we should respect? Like so many of the parables - and so much in Scripture - it is always important to probe beneath the surface, in prayer, if we want to be led deeper into God's Word for us.

Eucharistic Ministers

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

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
13-Dec Readings	Johanna Marks	Prayers	John Attard

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

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

10th December 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. Booking form and poster outside chapel

Money Matters

The very generous collection last Sunday was over €415 which was topped up to €450 and presented to Padre Jose Camilleri to take to Guatamala. Many thanks. This week's collection is for Caritas Gozo

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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David Felice Pace 79560051
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Johanna Marks 99950596
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ADVENT RETREAT



Date: Saturday, 12 December 2026

Venue: Dar Madre Teresa Spinelli Retreat House, Triq Gleneagles, Ghajnsielem

Time: 9:00am to Noon
(Mass at 11:30)

Cost: Retreat including coffee break €5.00

Retreat, coffee break and hot lunch €15.00

Retreat Master will be Fr. Joe Mifsud
Theme: To be announced

Please book by 6th December with:

David Felice-Pace on 7956 0051 ~ Seminary Community
Maria Meilak on 2156 3846 ~ Nadur Community
Lynda Sprong on 7773 2670 ~ Qala Community
Fr. Michael Curmi on 7953 9722 ~ Sannat Community
Fr. Joe Said on 7960 2424~ Xaghra Community
Mary Mizzi on 9943 8611 ~ Ghajnsielem Community



Bishop Antonio Calderon together with Padre Jose and Padre Denis and Padre Ramirez, the two newly ordained priests in Guatamala.

A photo sent by Padre Jose of two newly ordained priests in Guatamala, If I am not mistaken, Padre Jose actually baptised these two as infants. I'm sure he will correct me if I am wrong……..JM