

The English-Speaking Roman Catholic Community on Gozo

Patron Saint—St. Thomas More
Our website: www.esccgozo.org

28th Sunday Ord (Year B)

13th October 2024

Celebrated by

Fr. George Debrincat



Hymns for Today
"To sing is to pray twice"

74 Be Thou My Vision

23 All That I Am

175 Follow Me, Follow Me

We must give priority to God in our lives, not to our possessions

First Reading Wisdom 7:7-11

I prayed, and understanding was given me; I entreated, and the spirit of Wisdom came to me. I esteemed her more than sceptres and thrones; compared with her, I held riches as nothing. I reckoned no priceless stone to be her peer, for compared with her, all gold is a pinch of sand, and beside her silver ranks as mud. I loved her more than health or beauty, preferred her to the light, since her radiance never sleeps. In her company all good things came to me, at her hands riches not to be numbered.

Responsorial Psalm 89(90):12-17

(R) Fill us with your love so that we may rejoice.

Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?
Show pity to your servants. **(R)**

In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Give us joy to balance our affliction
for the years when we knew misfortune.
(R)

Show forth your work to your servants;
let your glory shine on their children.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:

Memorial Acclamation

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your death O Lord, until you
come again.

Second Reading Hebrews 4:12-13

The word of God is something alive and active: it cuts like any double-edged sword but more finely: it can slip through the place where the soul is divided from the spirit, or joints from the marrow; it can judge the secret emotions and thoughts. No created thing can hide from him; everything is uncovered and open to the eyes of the one to whom we must give account of ourselves.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia Alleluia!

**Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth,
For revealing the mysteries of
the kingdom
To mere children**

Alleluia !

We Pray For...

Those in our community who
need our prayers, and all our
relatives and friends who are in
need and those who have died



*Dates for your
diary*

Gospel

Mark 10:17-30

Jesus was setting out on a journey when a man ran up, knelt before him and put this question to him, 'Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: You must not kill; You must not commit adultery; You must not steal; You must not bring false witness; You must not defraud; Honour your father and mother.' And he said to him, 'Master, I have kept all these from my earliest days.' Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him, and he said, 'There is one thing you lack. Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' But his face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth. Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!' The disciples were astounded by these words, but Jesus insisted, 'My children,' he said to them 'how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' They were more astonished than ever. 'In that case' they said to one another 'who can be saved?' Jesus gazed at them. 'For men' he said 'it is impossible, but not for God: because everything is possible for God.' Peter took this up. 'What about us?' he asked him. 'We have left everything and followed you.' Jesus said, 'I tell you solemnly, there is no one who has left house, brothers, sisters, father, children or land for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who will not be repaid a hundred times over, houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and land - not without persecutions - now in this present time and, in the world to come, eternal life.'

The Gospel of the Lord

22nd October 2024 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm
Bible Study Group in English at Santa Lucija church .

14th November 2024 3.30 pm

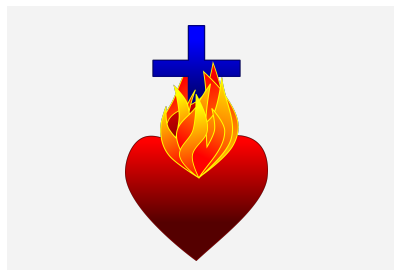
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in English at Ghasri followed by refreshments .

Commentaries on Today's Readings

After listening to today's readings pause now to consider the following reflections:

From Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

This exchange between Jesus and the rich man is often read with Matthew's parallel in mind, where Jesus tells the young man to sell his possessions 'if you would be perfect'. There are no such phrases in Mark's story. The questioner has reached a certain age, for he has kept the commandments 'from my earliest days'. He is in the full flush of wealth, and getting rid of his riches is not a mere counsel of perfection for this particular man. Jesus is stressing the danger of possessions for everyone. It is a curious fact that for many people, the more they have, the more they want. Conversely, the less people have, the more generous they can be drawn to be, knowing the value to other needy people because of the little they have. It is not merely that we need to be free of the preoccupations and distractions of wealth. Wealth can be a good preoccupation if the worry comes from awareness of the responsibility it brings. Repeatedly, however, in the history of the Church, from St Anthony of the Desert, St Francis of Assisi and others, people have interpreted these words of Jesus in this gospel in a heroic manner, and have stripped themselves of all possessions to concentrate on the Kingdom of God. God's blessing is especially on the poor. How does the danger of possessions affect me? Am I generous with what I have?



Sacred Heart Seminary Chapel Enrico Mizzi Street Victoria

(car park available on Sundays & Holy Days
opposite Seminary)

Sunday Mass at 10.00 am

**The Sacrament of
Confession**

is heard before Mass. Please allow
time before Mass is due to
commence

Our chaplain:

Father Loretu Tabone:

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Council Members:

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77051050

Johanna Marks 99950596

Mary Newman 77047872

The collection for last Sunday was
€255.27. All monies collected are
deployed to cover the costs of run-
ning our community and for good
causes

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for October

Pope Francis asks for prayers so that the Church "continues to support a synodal way of life, under the sign of co-responsibility, promoting participation, communion, and shared mission among priests, religious, and laypeople."

Readers Rota

13-Oct Readings	Rachel Holland	Prayers	Stella Woodgate
20-Oct Readings	Stella Woodgate	Prayers	Angelika Camilleri
27-Oct Readings	Angelika Camilleri	Prayers	Chris Holland
03-Nov Readings	Chris Holland	Prayers	Mary Newman
10-Nov Readings	Mary Newman	Prayers	Rachel Holland
17-Nov Readings	Andy Young	Prayers	Tom Welch
24-Nov Readings	Aimee Vant	Prayers	Andy Young
01-Dec Readings	Vince Vella	Prayers	Johanna Marks
08-Dec Readings	Johanna Marks	Prayers	Stella Woodgate

And from Fr. Robert Draper

The man who comes to Jesus uses two interesting verbs in his search for salvation: 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' An inheritance is something to which one is entitled, and the focus on what 'I do' seems to make salvation something that can be achieved by human beings. Mark notes that Jesus 'looked steadily at him and loved him' so we know that Jesus is not playing games with him, trying to catch him out. But the Lord recognises that with his perspective on life the rich young man is not yet ready for the kingdom - that is why he goes away sad. It is a poignant story, so what is it that the young man lacks? The first reading offers a clue - how do we get to see things in the right way? It is by praying and entreating that one gets to understand, that one gets to wisdom. It is not something that can be achieved or bought through our own efforts. The letter to the Hebrews tells us that it is the word of God which is alive and active; that the initiative is always with God, human beings always await the gift which is salvation, the inheritance that we are offered is not ours through our own efforts or worth, but because of the supreme act of the one who sanctifies - as we heard last week - and who openly calls us his sisters and brothers.

PRAYER AT THE END OF MASS

As suggested by His Holiness, Pope Francis:

Holy Michael, 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 thrust down to hell, Satan, and all wicked spirits who wander through

FOOTNOTE

"If you're going through hell,
keep going."
—Winston Churchill