



Pentecost 20 10 October 2021

Dear Friends,

Our readings today from Hebrews and the Gospel of Mark, give us cause to reflect on what is most important in our lives. The rich man in Mark's Gospel who asks Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life receives an unpalatable answer. Jesus tells him he must get rid of his riches in order to follow the path to eternal life. The rich man leaves with great sadness, aware that while he follows all the laws of the Prophets, he cannot part with his worldly goods. As the writer of the Letter to the Hebrews says, "...the word of God...is sharper than any two-edged sword...able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart." So we, ourselves, must choose between placing God at the centre of our lives or allowing ourselves to be ruled by earthly desires and the acquisition of worldly goods. Yet, Jesus promises us that whatever we give up to follow him, whatever hardships we encounter, we will receive eternal life with him, in the age to come, if our hearts are true.



Thank you sincerely to those of you who support the parish financially with regular offertory. It enables our continuing ministry during this trying time. If you are able, please continue to give regularly, according to your means. Offertory may be hand delivered to the Parish Office or sent by post: (St Luke's Church Mosman, PO Box 162, Spit Junction NSW 2088), or deposited directly into our bank account (St Luke's Church Mosman, BSB 032-291, A/C 810105). Or you can contribute your offertory via: <https://donorbox.org/st-luke-s-anglican-church-mosman-support> (type or copy and paste into your browser).

Please contact me by email or phone, if you wish to do so; the contact details are on the back cover. You are in my thoughts and prayers, as ever. I look forward to seeing you in a few weeks time, when we are able to worship together in person once more. Every blessing to you and all whom you love.

Fr Max

The Reverend Dr Max Wood, **Rector**

PLEASE PRAY FOR...



Our Diocese, Northern Region and our local church community

The Archbishop: The Most Reverend Kanishka Raffel
The Regional Bishop: The Rt Revd Chris Edwards
Northern Region: Parishes of Hornsby Heights, Killara and East Lindfield,
and Lindfield
Local churches: St Clement's Mosman: The Revd Michael Crichton,
clergy and people

Anglicare Sydney:

Mobile Community Pantry Program;
Bill Farrand, Anglicare Community Services Manager

Bush Church Aid:

BCA Indigenous Ministry Officer,
The Revd Neville Naden and Mrs Kathryn Naden

Anglican Board of Mission:

Sustainable Livelihoods Program, Kenya;
The Revd John Deane, ABM Executive Director

Those we are holding in prayer

Those Requiring On-Going Prayer:

John Dimitric, Irina Dimitric, Heather, Bernie Walsh, Shannour, Chloe Turner,
Denise Thomas, Jackie Lockhart, Robert Rowlands, Tim Bolot, Robb Crawford,
Dorothy Bashford, Robert Alexander, Jenny Willis, Christine Hurford, Lynda Walker

People in Residential and Home Care:

Dawn Holdaway, Betty Gemmell, Mary Shuttleworth, Elaine Porter, Helen Huby,
Pat Wood, Jean Barton, Robin Wilks, Denis Pearson, Nancy Lovitt

The Prayer for the Day

Merciful God,
in your Son you call not the righteous
but sinners to repentance:
draw us away from the easy road that leads to destruction,
and guide us into paths that lead to life abundant,
that in seeking your truth, and obeying your will,
we may know the joy of being a disciple of Jesus our Saviour;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Hebrews 4.12-16

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. Since then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Mark 10.17-31

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, 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 shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother.’ ” He said to Jesus, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When the rich man heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age - houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions - and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

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St Luke's is a place of rich and diverse liturgy, where life and faith connect. We are a progressive community that welcomes all people regardless of gender, age, race, sexual orientation or religion.