



2nd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

Year C – 16th January 2022

The community of the Cathedral of St. Stephen acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which our parish stands.

*Embracing
Villa Maria Centre
and
St Patrick's
Fortitude Valley*



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Mark Coleridge**
Archbishop of Brisbane

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Readings for today: Isaiah 62:1-5; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; John 2:1-11

Dear friends,

There is a modern phenomenon called FoMO. It's an acronym for the "Fear of Missing Out". It is the fear that all the excitement is happening elsewhere, an anxiety that others are having more fun, a better experience, a more exciting party, a more rewarding holiday, a more satisfying life than we are. Psychologists say this "fear of missing out" is a real emotional state and a growing problem, particularly among the young, and is exacerbated by social media. It is much easier to sound more exciting on-line than in real life.

It used to call it "social envy". We are worried that there isn't enough fun to go around. In fact, we convince ourselves that there isn't enough of anything to go around. The perception of scarcity - this fear of missing out - governs much of our behaviour. Almost everything tells us that there just isn't enough for everyone. The great myth of scarcity teaches us to get what we can, when we can, for ourselves, and clutch onto it and never let it go - or else we will miss out.

And the irony is that it is this very attitude that creates scarcity because it creates a lack of a whole variety of things. It is our fear that there simply isn't enough for everyone that produces a shortage of just about everything. This explains, in part at least, why there is poverty in a world that is so rich, why there is starvation in a world that is so wasteful of food, why there are disproportionate wages in a world where a few are paid exorbitant salaries while others live below the poverty line.

But there is another story that Jesus wants to tell. Jesus teaches us the truth of abundance. We don't need to live with the fear of missing, because the truth is that God is a lavish, abundant God who wants the very best for us. It is safe to share and to be generous, we don't need to hoard and gather only for ourselves; we don't need more than enough. That is the truth that Jesus' shares at the wedding at Cana, and he reinforces the message over and over again. Water can become wine - not just any wine but the very best wine - and a couple of loaves of bread and a few fish can feed thousands. A little act of love can have lifetime consequences. A small gesture of acceptance can transform a troubled heart. A few words of forgiveness can set people free. One life can change the world.

Knowing the truth of abundance is not about living recklessly. It is about trusting in God's overwhelming goodness and about recognising that our fear of missing out, in whatever form it takes, is destructive. If we are continually looking around at what others have, we miss what is right in front of us.

The invitation we receive from Jesus this week is to see our lives through new eyes, "The best wine list is the one right in front of you. See your life anew and taste it afresh." We mightn't have everything in our lives that we hope for or need right now, at this moment - good wine does take time to mature. But the ingredients are there, already present in our lives. Let us not miss out on the goodness that God gives to each and everyone one of us - here and now. May our fear of missing out be replaced by the joy of discovering the abundance of God's gifts.

Fr. Anthony



**Cathedral of
St. Stephen**
249 Elizabeth St
Brisbane



St. Patrick's
58 Morgan St
Fortitude Valley



**Villa Maria
Aged Care Chapel**
171 St Pauls Tce
Spring Hill
*No public Masses until
further notice.*

Cathedral Parish Mass Times this week

Monday to Friday 8:00am (live-streamed); 10:00am; 12:30pm; 5:10pm
Saturday 11:30am (live-streamed)

Sunday

Cathedral of St Stephen

Saturday 6:00pm

Sunday 8:00am; 10:00am; 12 noon & 7:30pm (8am & 10am live-streamed)

St Patrick's Church

Sunday 9:00am & 11:00am

Reconciliation Monday to Friday 1:00-1:30pm

Saturday 10:00am-11:00am; 4:30-5:30pm

Exposition Monday to Friday 10:30am to 12:15pm

Benediction Monday to Friday 12:15pm

The steward called the bridegroom and said, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now."



MUSIC AT THE CATHEDRAL

Music at today's Mass is drawn from *Catholic Worship Book II*, with congregational hymn texts on this sheet.

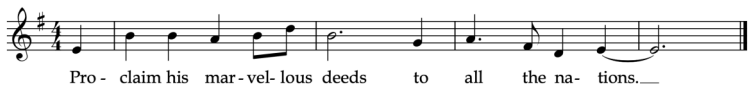
All masses are led by a cantor.

Processional Hymn O God beyond all praising
(CWBII 566)

Kyrie Mass of St Francis (CWBII 22a)

Gloria Mass of St Francis (CWBII 22b)

Responsorial Psalm Ps 95: 1-3, 7-12. R v3



Gospel 2 Thessalonians 2:14



*God has called us with the gospel
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Offertory Motet Organ music

Sanctus Mass of St Francis (CWBII 22c)

**Memorial
Acclamation
(ICEL #1):** We proclaim your death, O Lord,
and profess your resurrection,
until you come again. (CWBII 12a)

Agnus Dei Mass of St Francis (CWBII 22h)

Communion Motet Organ music

Communion Hymn Jesus, come! for we invite you
(CWBII 527)

Recessional Hymn The kingdom of God is justice and joy
(CWBII 616)

O God beyond all praising, we worship you today
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder at ev'ry gift you send,
at blessings without number and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,
we honour and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

Then hear, O gracious Saviour, accept the love we bring,
that we who know your favour may serve you as our King;
and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:
to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,
and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

Jesus, come! for we invite you,
guest and master, friend and Lord;
now, as once at Cana's wedding,
speak, and let us hear your word:
lead us through our need or doubting,
hope be born and joy restored.

Jesus, come! transform our pleasures,
guide us into paths unknown;
bring your gifts, command your servants,
let us trust in you alone:
though your hand may work in secret,
all shall see what you have done.

Jesus, come in new creation,
heav'n brought near in pow'r divine;
give your unexpected glory
changing water into wine:
rouse the faith of your disciples.
Come, our first and greatest sign!

Jesus, come! surprise our dullness,
make us willing to receive
more than we can yet imagine,
all the best you have to give:
let us find your hidden riches,
taste your love, believe, and live!

The kingdom of God is justice and joy;
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy.
God's power and glory in Jesus we know;
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;
the captives are freed, the sinners find place,
the outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share;
and hope is awakened in place of despair.

The kingdom of God is challenge and choice:
believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross:
our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.

God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal;
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call;
and all things cry "Glory!" to God all in all.

Acknowledgements:

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Gospel Acclamation © Dom A. Gregory Murray, Catholic Worship Book II.

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