



## 32nd Sunday Ordinary Time

### 12th November 2023



This Sunday's Gospel starts pointing us towards the season of Advent which begins at the end of November and its focus is Jesus sharing a parable to remind us that we need to be ready. Yet he is not imploring us to have a fully stocked larder; he is teaching us that one day we are going to go to meet him when he comes again. He teaches us that we must be prepared because we don't know exactly when that time is coming.

The bridesmaids in the parable have lamps to show the wedding party how well dressed the groom is but some of them do not have enough oil so their lamps won't shine - they are not prepared for the key moment. Jesus tells this story to remind us that how we live and shine God's light matters for we are showing others Jesus' love just as the bridesmaids shone light on the groom. When we invite Jesus fully into our lives and live as he asks us to, we shine with God's light for all others to see.

In these difficult times, how we shine that light makes all the difference to family, friends and strangers alike. Let us make sure we keep our 'oil' replenished so we can continue to shine Jesus' light and we are prepared to meet Jesus whenever that may be.

### Bible Basics The New Testament ends with seven letters from other followers of Jesus and the book of Revelation

JAMES - A letter telling Christians to live in ways that demonstrate their faith.

1 PETER - Peter writes to Christians who are being persecuted encouraging them to testify and live accordingly.

2 PETER - Peter writes a letter reminding Christians about the truth of Jesus

1 JOHN - John writes a letter to Christians about keeping Jesus' commands

2 JOHN - A brief letter about walking in truth, love, and obedience.

3 JOHN - A brief letter about Christian fellowship.

JUDE - A letter encouraging Christians to contend for the faith

REVELATION - John sees visions of things that have been, things that are and things that are yet to come.



O God, merciful and strong,  
who crushes wars and casts down the proud,  
be pleased to banish violence swiftly from  
our midst  
and to wipe away all tears,  
so that we may all truly deserve to be called  
your children.



Almighty and eternal God,  
from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted,  
either by death or life:  
hear our prayers and thanksgivings  
for all whom we remember this day;  
fulfil in them the purpose of your love;  
and bring us all, with them, to your  
eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*"If we do not radiate the light of Christ around us, the sense of the darkness that prevails in the world will increase."*

Saint Teresa of Calcutta

In addition, this week let us pray for

- ♦ All of those who have died in war;;
- ♦ those affected by the recent wars;
- ♦ all those connected to our community who are unwell, upset or mourning.



**The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him.**

**Matthew 25**