

WELCOME TO

ST BRENDAN'S CATHOLIC PARISH



St Brendan's Parish is a Child Safe community. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all and a zero tolerance to child abuse.

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

30 October 2022

First Reading Wis 11:22-12:2

You have mercy on all things because you love everything that exists.

In your sight, Lord, the whole world is like a grain of dust that tips the scales, like a drop of morning dew falling on the ground.

Yet you are merciful to all, because you can do all things and overlook men's sins so that they can repent.

Yes, you love all that exists, you hold nothing of what you have made in abhorrence, for had you hated anything, you would not have formed it.

And how, had you not willed it, could a thing persist, how be conserved if not called forth by you?

You spare all things because all things are yours, Lord, lover of life, you whose imperishable spirit is in all. Little by little, therefore, you correct those who offend, you admonish and remind them of how they have sinned, so that they may abstain from evil and trust in you, Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:1-2, 8-11, 13-14. R. see v.1

(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my King and my God.

1. I will give you glory, O God my King, I will bless your name for ever. I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. (R.)
2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)
3. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God. (R.)
4. The Lord is faithful in all his words and loving in all his deeds. The Lord supports all who fall and raises all who are bowed down. (R.)

Second Reading 2 Thes 1:11-2:2

The name of our Lord Jesus Christ will be glorified in you and you in him.

We pray continually that our God will make you worthy of his call, and by his power fulfil all your desires for goodness and complete all that you have been doing through faith; because in this way the name of our Lord Jesus Christ will be glorified in you and you in him, by the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

To turn now, brothers, to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and how we shall all be gathered round him: please do not get excited too soon or alarmed by any prediction or rumour or any letter claiming to come from us, implying that the Day of the Lord has already arrived.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 3:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

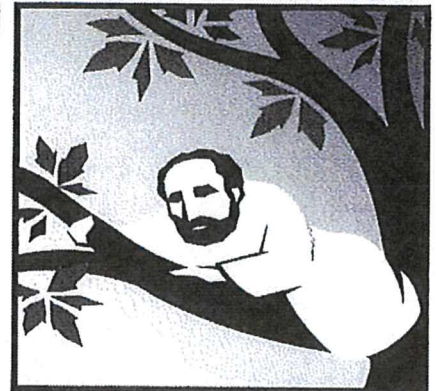
God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 19:1-10

The Son of Man came to seek and to find that which was lost.

Jesus entered Jericho and was going through the town when a man whose name was Zacchaeus made his appearance; he was one of the senior tax collectors and a wealthy man. He was anxious to see what kind of man Jesus was, but he was too short and could not see him for the crowd; so he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to catch a glimpse of Jesus who was to pass that way. When Jesus reached the spot he looked up and spoke to him: 'Zacchaeus, come down. Hurry, because I must stay at your house today.' And he hurried down and welcomed him joyfully. They all complained when they saw what was happening. 'He has gone to stay at a sinner's house' they said. But Zacchaeus stood his ground and said to the Lord, 'Look, sir, I am going to give half my property to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody I will pay him back four times the amount.' And Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because this man too is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek out and save what was lost.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Zacchaeus was an over-the-top character, not only figuratively but, in this incident, quite literally up in a sycamore tree. He thought he was keeping an eye out for Jesus, but Jesus was keeping an eye out for his sort of character!

'Zacchaeus' means 'clean'. But his fellow Jews regarded him as a filthy collaborator with the Romans. However, Jesus looked up and saw Zacchaeus in a double perspective, not only as he was but as he could become if only he responded to the grace on offer. He did, and the response was truly 'over the top'!

We come to Mass to catch a glimpse of Jesus in the scriptures and sacrament. But, we find that our Risen Lord is constantly gazing at us. He is the Divine Seer who sees us as we are, but also as we are capable of becoming.

We could pause for a moment to pray to become more conscious of the gaze of the Divine Seer. There could be 'over-the-top' consequences!

mtate@bigpond.com

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ST BRENDAN'S PARISH NEWS



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 Website: sheppartoncatholic.org.au
 Facebook: sheppartoncatholic
 Parish Priest: Fr Joe Taylor
 Priest in Residence: Fr Varghese Vithayathil
 Associate Priest: Fr. Jackson Saunders
 Deacon: Francois Baguma
 Office Manager: Diane Teitzel
 Child Safe Officer: Jason Giuliani Ph: 5821 2633
 Office Hours: Mon to Fri 9am - 2pm



*Christ in community ...
 the heart of our faith*

Recently Deceased: Ken Gash, Sue McManus

Anniversaries: Rosina Care, Gavan Connelly,
 Carmela Scarcella, Desma Bicknell.

Readers & Commentators 5 & 6 November 2022

6pm	Sr. Bing	M. Johnson
8am	H. Martin-Lefevre	J. Martin-Lefevre
11am	P. White	S. White

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of years. We pay respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside Aboriginal Australians in truth and justice.



Blessing of all Married Couples:
 A special blessing will be held at all Masses this weekend



Please be aware:
 The Parish office will be closed Tuesday November 1 for Melbourne Cup day.

SERRA CLUB MASS: 7.15pm, Friday November 4

Followed by a cuppa in the MPJC. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be held from 5pm until the beginning of Mass.



All Saints Feast Day
 9.10am, Tuesday
 November 1, 2022



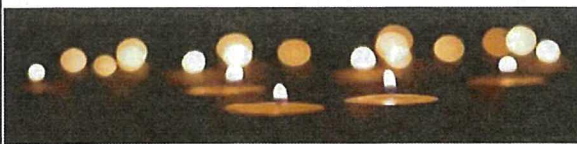
All Saints Feast Day
 9.10am, Wednesday
 November 2, 2022



October is the month of the Holy Rosary

Mass Intentions for November ...

these intentions will be prayed for at Masses during the month of November. There are yellow envelopes on the table at the back of the church or piety store area for you to use for this purpose.



REMEMBRANCE BOOK

For the month of November the Remembrance book will be on the table in the Piety Store entrance of the Church. You are invited to enter the names of your loved ones at any time throughout the month. Our special Remembrance book for babies is also located in this entrance near the beautiful enclosed Remembrance Garden.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE



St Brendan's Parish Bereavement Team invite all parishioners, families and friends to our Mass 7.30pm, Thursday November 3

You will be invited to light a candle during the Mass for those who have passed, particularly in the past 2 years. Join us for refreshments in the MPJC after Mass.

I plead with you –
 never, ever give up on hope,
 never doubt, never tire,
 and never become discouraged.
Be not afraid.

– Pope John Paul II



Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am & 11am **PRAYING With CHILDREN**
SUNDAY LITURGY

Saturday 8.30am *Syro Malabar Rite*, Sunday 5.30pm *Syro Malabar Rite*

Rosary— The Rosary is prayed in the Marian Chapel after weekday Masses and after the 8am Mass on Sunday.

Holy Hour— Thursdays 7pm to 8pm

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday 9.10am



PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME

Reconciliation Saturday 9.45am to 10.30am (in the Church)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament— Fridays 5pm to 6pm

Baptism Preparation Program For Primary Age Children (Year 3 and higher)

Special Baptism Preparation Program, early 2023

This will be the only opportunity for children to be baptised prior to the 2023 Sacramental Program beginning.

For more information or to enrol your child for Baptism please contact Laura before 4th December 2022

sacramental.coord@bigpond.com
or phone 5821 2633 Wednesdays (9am-2pm)



Melbourne Cup Sweep 2022



THANK YOU to everyone who has registered to go in the DRAW for our 2022 Melbourne Cup Sweep.

The draw for the horses will be made on Monday 31st October and those who have entered will be notified that day.

Winners will be notified Tuesday 1st November.

1st Place: \$350, 2nd Place: \$150, 3rd Place: \$50

If you would like tickets please contact Mary Pelly on 58 21 1264 as soon as possible.

Thank you and may the best horse win!



We are saddened to advise of the passing of 14 year old Mausgras.

Such a faithful companion for Fr. Joe who he will miss dearly.

'The love of all living creatures is the most noble attribute of man' - unknown

Priest Retirement Foundation Collection

Thankyou for all who contributed to the Priest Retirement Foundation Collection, we have now received \$2,296.95.

The clean up continues...

This week has seen many situations that have challenged me and my way of looking at how we cope in a crisis.

It is so difficult when our possessions are destroyed, homes muddied and smelly, which can seem never ending.

I feel this week has seen me wanting to help those affected, in a physical, tangible way. Like helping to clean and cart rubbish away.

Although I realize that this is valuable help, I have also found that sometimes this is not what was needed.

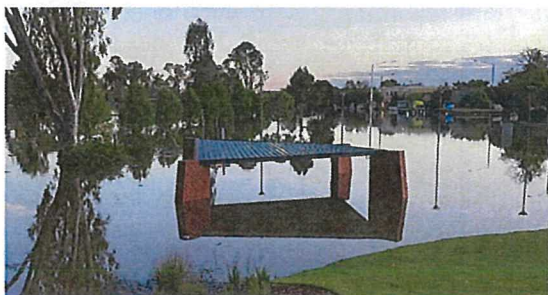
Rather, to sit down, to listen, and to acknowledge the pain, loss and devastation as people tell their stories.

In speaking to those effected, I am hearing that what has been important is the people who have surrounded them with love and support, the loss of possessions is being slowly replaced with gratitude for these lovely people.

The effects of these last few weeks will stay with those affected for a long time—

let us keep watch over them, reaching out, discerning what help is needed.

Take care of each other, Anthony



Planned Giving Programme update:

Despite our Planned Giving Programme being POSTPONED for 2022, we are asking that if you have been receiving WEEKLY ENVELOPE PACKS, that you please consider switching over to our DIRECT DEBIT system.

This would assist the Parish office greatly as it will REDUCE COSTS in printing envelopes and in turn create less handling of cash—allowing the office to become more efficient.

Feel free to call the Parish office on 5821 2633 between 9am and 2pm to discuss the direct debit system or anything else regarding Planned Giving.



During the advent season—the Parish is hoping to host some activities. We are looking for a small committee to help coordinate these.

Some ideas suggested include an afternoon kids Christmas film viewing or Christmas card making. Please contact Katie Mills on 0417 504635 if you are interested in assisting with this.



OFFICIAL OPENING AND AWARDS PRESENTATION

Friday 11 November 2022 Remembrance Day  | 6pm-8pm

Bookings: www.trybooking.com/BXFWG or scan QR code

Livestream: links.powerav.com.au/cjy

Open for Viewing 11-27 November 2022 | Open Wed-Sat 10am-4pm

Sacred Heart Cathedral Bendigo

Online from Monday 14 November 2022

www.ceosand.catholic.edu.au

Vote for People's Choice Awards

until Sunday 27 November 2022

Enquiries Claire Spinelli E: cspinelli@ceosand.catholic.edu.au | M: 0407 721 088



Poppies: extracted from WWI, Ashton Commissio,
Yr 5, St Mary's PS Moorapna

Would you like to advertise your business
in our bulletin? Please contact Diane on
5821 2633 or email:
shepparton@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Sandhurst World Youth Day 2022

Our Lady, Mother of God Church,
Wangaratta South



CANCELLED

Saturday November 19

On the Lighter Side

A seminarian was asked to give an impromptu homily on Zacchaeus. In three short sentences he said: "First, Zacchaeus was a man of small stature; so am I. Second, Zacchaeus was very much up a tree; so am I. Third, Zacchaeus made haste and came down; so will I."




**PLEASE HELP US
SUPPORT THOSE AFFECTED
BY THE FLOODS**

Your support can provide financial and emotional assistance to families currently affected.

**WE ARE
HERE**

DONATE NOW

Please call 13 18 12, visit vinnies.org.au or scan the QR code.

 St Vincent de Paul Society
VICTORIA *good work!*

Wordsearch

Try to find these words:

better	greedy	marriage	sorry
dishonest	heaven	Pharisee	tax
eating	humble	pleasing	temple

R H J W H L J C G Z R Z H J Z U I
E I P B E S O B B G Y J E P W C S
T F I X A F F Y U B F I U L H C E
T N X P V W M A G D E E K E X S M
E A M N E S W I U Q O E S A M A N
B O V G N Z M X X W W A V S J Y K
I Y U I N C W J A S N E T I E O H
E N J T E I R M T N G E H N T O X
Q C Q S H J T Q F A Y S U G Q O Q
H C H E T O X A I B F I R H T N A
G S U N V G X R E E M R Y G R G N
X K M O C H R T Y N O A D R G M M
N D B H D A L P D D F H N H R E J
Q E L S M F I A H K E P O R P O B
V I E I X M T E L P M E T A A A S
U A V D S K D N I W Z X R P Z N W
D L Z H N O C S W X D A L G W K U

What is All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day?

All Saints' Day is a solemn holy day of the Catholic Church celebrated annually on November 1.

The day is dedicated to the saints of the Church, that is, all those who have attained heaven. It should not be confused with All Souls' Day, which is observed on November 2, and is dedicated to those who have died and not yet reached heaven.

Although millions, or even billions of people may already be saints, All Saints' Day observances tend to focus on known saints --that is those recognized in the canon of the saints by the Catholic Church.

All Saints' Day is also commemorated by members of the Eastern Orthodox Church as well as some protestant churches, such as Lutheran and Anglican churches.

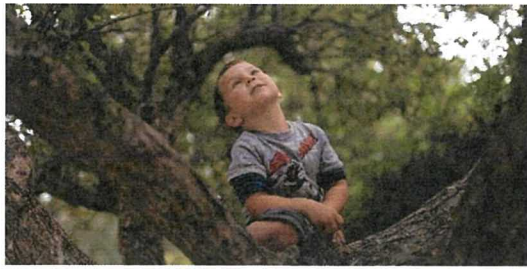
All Saints' Day is one of the Solemn Feast Days of the Church.

Other countries have different rules according to their national bishop's conferences. The bishops of each conference have the authority to amend the rules surrounding the obligation of the day.

All Saints' Day was formally started by Pope Boniface IV, who consecrated the Pantheon at Rome to the Virgin Mary and all the Martyrs on May 13 in 609 AD. Boniface IV also established All Souls' Day, which follows All Saints.

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

30 October 2022 - Year C

“The Son of Man came to seek out and save what was lost.”

Something to Think About

If Jesus were to visit your city or neighbourhood, to what lengths would you go to see him?

The Story

This is the story of a man who was keen to see Jesus but he couldn't. Why not? Firstly because he was too short to see over the crowds and secondly because no one would make room for him. He was a tax-collector, so nobody liked him. Zacchaeus was so determined to see Jesus that he climbed a tree which wasn't very dignified for a wealthy man! Jesus not only stopped but went to eat with Zacchaeus. Zacchaeus had a change of heart after being with Jesus and paid back all the money he had taken from people – four times over!

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

19:1-10

Jesus was going through Jericho, where a man named Zacchaeus lived. He was in charge of collecting taxes and was very rich.

Jesus was heading his way, and Zacchaeus wanted to see what he was like. But Zacchaeus was a short man and could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree.

When Jesus got there, he looked up and said,
"Zacchaeus, hurry down! I want to stay with you today."
Zacchaeus hurried down and gladly welcomed Jesus.

Everyone who saw this started grumbling,
"This man Zacchaeus is a sinner! And Jesus is going home to eat with him."

Later that day Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord,
"I will give half of my property to the poor. And I will now pay back four times as much to everyone I have ever cheated."

Jesus said to Zacchaeus,
"Today you and your family have been saved, because you are a true son of Abraham. The Son of Man came to look for and to save people who are lost."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Video

[God's Story: Zacchaeus](#)



Group Discussion

Jesus knew that Zacchaeus had some goodness in him and he reached out to that inner goodness. How quick we can be to judge and condemn. How ready are we to look for the goodness in others even though it may not be obvious? Invite the children to think of anyone they may have misjudged and to contemplate their readiness to seek the goodness in others.

Praying For Others

Leader: Let us pray now for the leaders of our Church, our world, for those in our community and for our own needs.

Reader 1: We pray that our leaders will work for peace and justice. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for people who are misunderstood. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 3: We pray for people who feel excluded and unloved. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 4: We pray that we will try hard to make time for Jesus. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We pray that we will welcome others. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Invite the children to pray for their own special intentions.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

Prayer



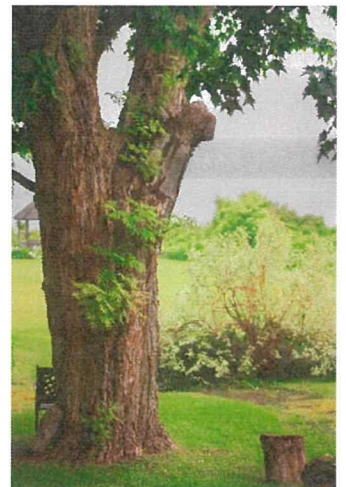
Dear Jesus,
Help us to keep our eyes on you like
Zacchaeus did.
Teach us to be open to the ways
you encourage us to grow in love.
Amen.

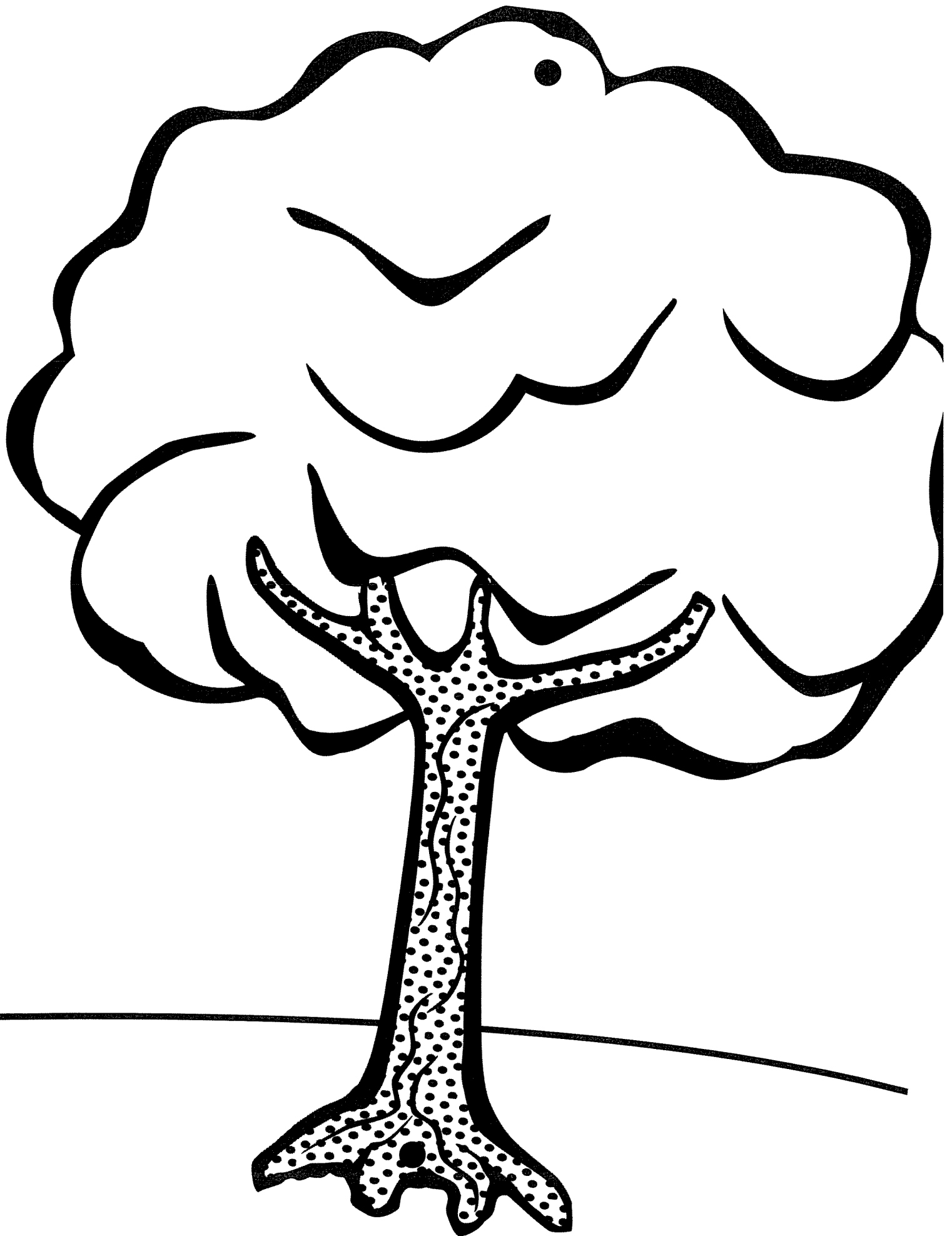
Group Activity

Zacchaeus in the Tree Craft

You will need: two-page template for each child printed on cardboard, wool or yarn, scissors, hole punch, glue, sticky tape, coloured markers or crayons.

1. Colour the tree, Zacchaeus, and Jesus.
2. Punch a hole at the top and bottom of the tree on the large black dot.
3. Cut 40 cm of wool. Lace the wool through the holes and tie it behind the tree (see below).
4. Cut out Zacchaeus and Jesus.
5. Glue Jesus on the ground beside the tree. Use clear tape to attach Zacchaeus to the wool.
6. Move Zacchaeus up and down the tree to retell the story!

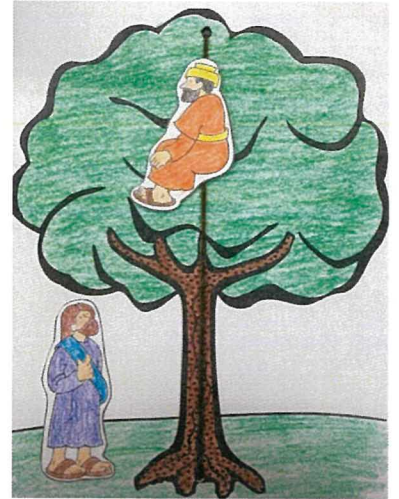




Zacchaeus in the Tree Craft

You will need:

- Templates on cardboard
- Wool
- Glue
- Sticky Tape
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Coloured markers or crayons



Step 1: Print out page 1 & 2 for best results on cardboard.

Step 2: Colour the tree, Zacchaeus, and Jesus

Step 3: Punch a hole at the top and bottom of the tree on the large black dot.

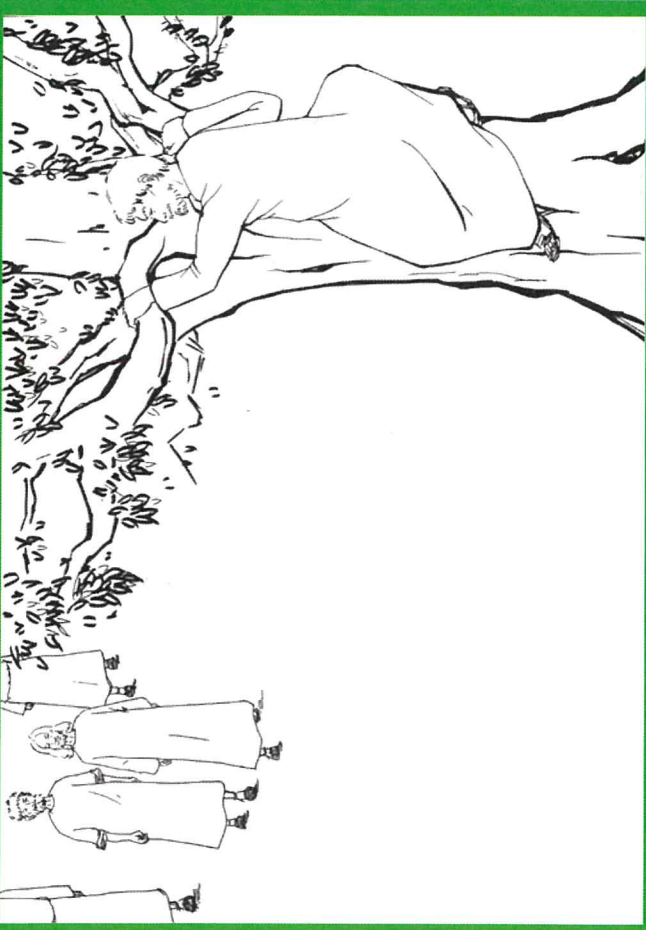
Step 4: Cut 40 cm of wool. Lace the wool through the holes and tie it behind the tree (see below).

Step 5: Cut out Zacchaeus and Jesus

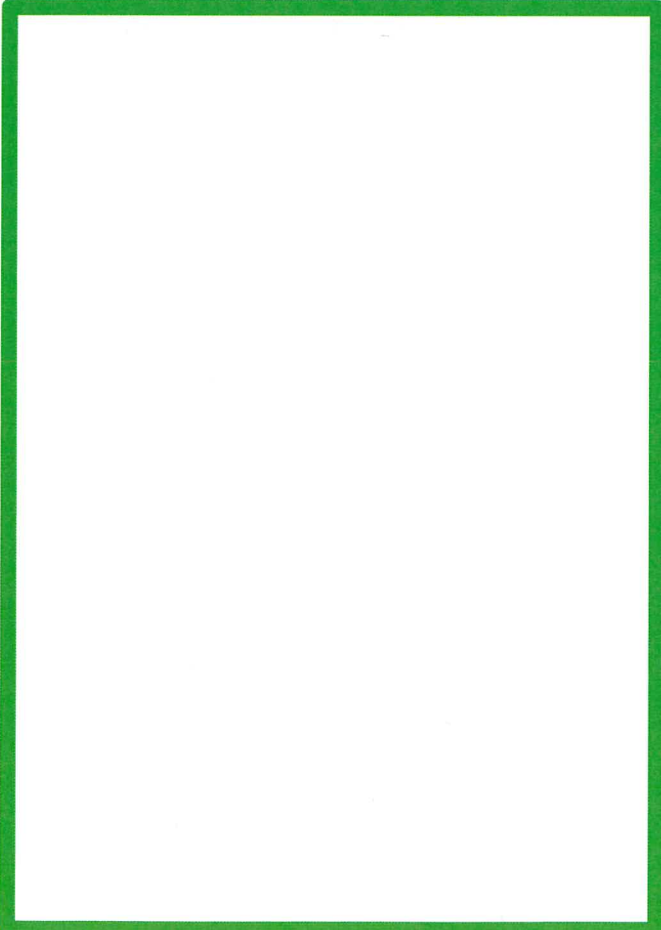
Step 6: Glue Jesus on the ground beside the tree. Use clear tape to attach Zacchaeus to the wool.

Step 7: Move Zacchaeus up and down the tree to retell the story!





ZACCHAEUS
DRAW WHAT
HAPPENS NEXT
+ COLOUR THE
PICTURES



Along the track

A Tiny Ripple

Psalm 23 is a beautiful piece of poetry. It is uplifting, encouraging, its imagery speaks to our deepest souls. Fresh and green pastures in the barren wilderness, quiet, refreshing waters, safe paths even in deep, dark valleys. One wonders what were the circumstances that lead to this beautiful psalm being written.

One line stands out, though: 'Surely your goodness and kindness will follow me all the days of my life' - Ps 23 6. Do they? There are some days, sometimes in our lives where we certainly doubt that is happening. We see some people who seem beset by tragedy or really hard times. We might even experience such times ourselves. So it may be hard to believe that God's goodness and kindness are following us, that they are always close by.

In the wilderness quite near to where Psalm 23 was inspired, the Valley of the Shadows (sometimes called the Valley of the Shadow of Death) offers an extraordinary experience. It is located parallel to the Jordan River to the south of Jericho in the Judean Hills. Despite the fearsome Biblical name of the valley, this place is one of the most beautiful locations to be found in the Judean Desert. The jagged rock cliffs carved out of millennia of watercourses offers a very peaceful stillness, a respite from the heat. But it is another feature that makes it memorable. Its echo. Even the quietest voices come back and, in some places, three or four times! As you walk away, you can still hear the sound of your voice reverberating along the valley, even after you have moved on.

Do we ever think about where we find goodness in our lives? Do we find kindness wherever we go? Do we spread goodness, do we show kindness or just take it? Like these echoes, even the smallest acts of goodness, the tiniest acts of kindness follow us, they come back. But do we wait for God's goodness and kindness or are we agents of it. As the prayer of St Francis reminds us, if we want to bring peace, it is in giving that we receive.

The Kingdom of God, Jesus assures us, is about mustard seeds, the smallest seeds that grow into such big trees where birds come and nest and where we find shade. The Kingdom is about small seemingly unimportant things, but which, in the long run, are the big things.

So every time a person reaches out to another, we are agents of the Kingdom. When we seek to improve the lot of others, when we stand up or an ideal or against an unjust situation, no matter how small that may seemingly be, or when we try to improve the lot of others, the mustard seed is growing.

Do we ever think about where we find goodness at work in our lives? It is so easy to take that for granted, to come to expect it, to think we deserve it. We don't. Do you ever think about those who bring kindness into our world or do we simply take them for granted too? During the pandemic lockdown, there were many small acts of kindness that were often noticed – the note in the letter box, the parcel on the doorstep, the phone call to see if everything was okay, just those little acts that broke the boredom and loneliness of the day.

Where does this goodness and kindness come from, why is it so important? Time and again we have heard of dreadful circumstances where evil seems to triumph – the Holocaust, the vicious religious wars of recent times, the upheaval of people from their country and forced to live in dreadful circumstances. But even here there are stories of goodness and kindness, simple stories that uplifted the hearts and minds. Even in these circumstances.

Every time we reach out to others, every time we show gratitude, every time we go out of our way to assist another, every time we work to improve the lives of others, the conditions under which they may live, we make a difference. We help to make goodness and kindness a reality, we send out a ripple of hope and when we join with others we can make this world a better place.

So how do we know? We listen for the echo. Just as in the Valley of Darkness we did not sing or talk or call out just to hear the echo, in life we do not show kindness or generosity to other for the reward. But in one way or another, it comes back.

Regards
Jim Quillinan

Email: jquillinan@dcsi.net.au

**I'm having a
tough time
at the moment**

**We're here
to help**

FREE Wellbeing Assistance

The recent floods have affected everyone in different ways, and it's common to feel like you're struggling with the stress and worry it has caused.

That's why there's **FREE** help available now for every Victorian who needs it, at your local Mental Health & Wellbeing Hub. If you need to chat or get some emotional support to process what's happened, Wellways are here to help.

For help you can call **03 5822 8600** or **1300 375 330**
or scan your phone here:



For support in the Goulburn Valley
call **1300 375 330** or **5822 8600**
www.partnersinwellbeing.org.au

wellways



Authorised by the
Victorian Government
1 Treasury Place, Melbourne