



C'è una frase conclusiva, comune alle due parabole della XXVI e XXVII domenica, che svela il segreto intendimento del discorso complessivo di Gesù: "Perciò vi dico: vi sarà tolto il regno di Dio e sarà dato a un popolo che lo farà fruttificare" (Mt 21,41). La domanda posta da Gesù è la seguente: "Chi è allora il vero destinatario della promessa, il vero credente?". Anche la parabola dei due figli deve essere letta in questa prospettiva.

Molte volte, infatti, può verificarsi una forma di sintonia solo apparente, perché ultimamente interessata, tra la nostra volontà e quella del Padre. Siamo capaci di dirgli dei "sì" speciosi e superficiali, non maturati al sole di quella vera obbedienza interiore, che può solamente essere il frutto di una profonda conversione a Dio. Una forma di obbedienza disobbediente perché non tocca le radici del nostro cuore e non cambia la nostra esistenza.

In questa ipotesi è vero che, pur immersi in una vita ancora disordinata, coloro che hanno deciso di seguire Cristo, senza reticenze e senza cercare in ultima analisi il loro interesse, si riscatteranno e avranno la precedenza nel regno dei cieli.

La parabola ci fa capire quanto sia anche per noi reale il pericolo di partecipare, con apparente docilità, durante tutta la nostra vita, alle celebrazioni liturgiche e alle attività della Chiesa, senza mai diventare veri cristiani.

The point of this text is that it is not the ‘conventionally religious’—those who mouth all the right words and go through the rituals—who will enter the kingdom. Instead it is the ones who, by their actions, carry out God’s will and become the sons and daughters of God.

(the summit)

A special note of thanks to those who assisted in the preparation, the serving, and, cleaning up after the dinner. Thanks also to those who organized and sold raffle tickets.

Work on the removal of the existing split systems and the installation of the new systems has commenced. S&J Mechanical Electrical P/L have been assigned the responsibility of the project. The systems are expected to be installed and running by the end of September. There should be minimal disruption to weekday or weekend mass services. Voluntary donations are welcome.

One night an Admiral on a US Navy Battleship ordered a certain course. The navigation officer, seeing a light in the distance, reported that the battleship now seemed to be on a collision course with another ship. So, the Admiral ordered his radio officer to send a message to the on-coming ship that it should change its course 10 degrees to the south. The reply came simply, *"Change your course 10 degrees to the north."* After two more unsuccessful exchanges, the Admiral, now quite furious, came thundering into the radio control room, grabbed the microphone, and bellowed into it, *"Do you know that you are talking to an ADMIRAL in the UNITED STATES NAVY?!"* After a brief moment of silence, the even-tempered reply came back, *"This is a lighthouse; alter your course 10 degrees to the North."*
(frtonyshomilies)

Anniversaries: Shanie Liyanage, Kingsley De Zilva, Mable De Zilva, Angelo Guida, Salvatore Calvi, Vincenzo Calvi, Pasqualina Torchia, Angelo Torchia



On the third Sunday of Lent, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli will formally convoke a Synod for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. The synod calls the Melbourne Church to journey together in communion, participation and mission, echoing Pope Francis' vision of a 'listening Church' (*Evangelii Gaudium*, §31). Informed by Vatican II's teaching, the Church is 'a people made one with the unity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit' (*Lumen Gentium*, §4).

The synod assembly will be held across the weekend of 4–6 December 2026.

Further information is available at : <https://melbournecatholic.org/synod2026>

St. Matthew's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.