

SUNDAY MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

FIRST READING: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 128.

RESPONSE:

Blessed are all who fear the Lord.

1. Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be blessed and prosper. **R**
2. Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive around your table. **R**
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Sion.
May you see Jerusalem prosper all the days of your life!. **R**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! Abide in me, and I in you, says the Lord; he who abides in me bears much fruit. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Live the Word

Mon 16 Nov (St Gertrude, V)

Revelation 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Psalm 1; Luke 18:35-43

St Gertrude expressed profound devotion to the Sacred Heart, describing his Heart as a "glowing furnace of Love", granting her the "priceless familiarity of your friendship". Sit with this image in your prayer.

Tue 17 Nov St Elizabeth of Hungary, R

Revelation 3:1-6.14-22; Psalm 15; Luke 19:1-10

Born a princess, Elizabeth proclaimed "How could I bear a crown of gold when the Lord bears a crown of thorns? And bears it for me!", reflecting her rejection of earthly vanity in favour of imitating Christ's suffering.

Wed 18 Nov (Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts Peter & Paul, As)

Acts 28:11-16.30-31; Psalm 98; Matthew 14:22-33

St Peter: "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." – John 21:17. St Paul: "To me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain." – Philippians 1:21

Thu 19 Nov Liturgy of the Day

Revelations 5:1-10; Psalm 149; Luke 19:41-44

It can be so easy to shut out Jesus' words of eternal life and love because we are too busy or we don't make the time to stop and listen. We have the freedom to shut the door on God, but God will never do the same to us.

Fri 20 Nov Liturgy of the Day

Revelations 10:8-11; Psalm 119; Luke 19:45-48

God knows that the greatest thing given to us is our freedom, because therein is our power to love. God leaves us free to make choices, but we must take responsibility for their consequences in our lives.

Sat 21 Nov Presentation of Our Lady

Zechariah 2:14-17; Resp: Luke 1; Matthew 12:46-50

From the beginning of her life she was dedicated to God. She herself became a greater temple than any made by hands. "In her, God spun a garment with which to save us." – St Ephrem (306-373 AD)

Sun 22 Nov CHRIST THE KING

Ezekiel 34:11-12.15-17; Psalm 23; Matthew 25:31-46

"This King, full of goodness and mercy, lovingly embraces me, seats me at his table, waits on me himself, gives me the keys to his treasures and treats me in all things as his favourite." – Br Lawrence OCD

KEY: **SOLEMNITY**; **FEAST**; **Memorial**; (Optional Memorial)
V=Virgin; R=Religious; As=Apostles

Catholic Link

SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT AND WATCHFUL FAITH

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year A
Divine Office: Week 1 • 15 November 2026

Magnifica Humanitas, the Family, and Education

Magnifica Humanitas received much media coverage. For many "sleeping" Catholics, people of other faiths and people of goodwill, it may have seemed like a bolt from the blue, but it is squarely situated within Catholic Social Doctrine, and in fact celebrates the 135th anniversary of the first social encyclical by Pope Leo XIV's namesake, Pope Leo XIII, *Rerum Novarum*.

Times change. Pope Leo XIV's focus is on ethical, political, economic, and spiritual implications of artificial intelligence – not all negative. He places himself within the reforms and "the pastoral approach of the Second Vatican Council, which invites us to listen, discern and interpret the signs of the times." (par 23, *Gaudium et Spes*) As we have frequently stated in our present *Link* series, with watchful faith the Church is not afraid to encounter human knowledge and reason.

Last week we urged Catholics to get to know the encyclical first hand. No doubt the topic of AI comes up in conversations. Catholics can therefore show we don't condemn AI, we see its value but are concerned with ethical issues that affect the raising and education of our children. Let's try to give a few pointers while still encouraging reading the original.

All Catholic Social Doctrine proclaims the family as the foundational unit of society. The dignity of each person is dependent on the genuine possibility of families to lead a dignified human life. This is probably where the first potential challenge with technology occurs, as parents try to navigate their children into the critical and responsible use of technologies. Pope Leo's encyclical identifies a kind of mismatch between how technology moves and how human beings learn and

mature. Children may be light years ahead of parents on the technical front, but the parental and educational challenge remains for children to "grow in wisdom and stature and favour with God and neighbour" (Luke 2:52). [That bible quote is about Jesus himself around age 12!]

In a subsection titled "An educational alliance for the digital age", Pope Leo reminds us that education is a long journey requiring patience and therefore needs time for development and for engagement with reality beyond appearances, because every technology "shapes those who use it." (par. 140).

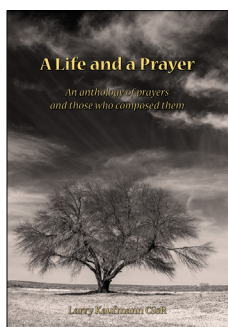
The encyclical is frank that parents cannot bear this burden alone. Pope Leo respects the difficulty for parents to resist on their own the "influence of business models that monetize attention and time." This leads to one of the strongest positions in Magnifica Humanitas where the Pope calls for "farsighted public policies ... to oppose the immediate interests of platforms, concentrated in a few hands, when they conflict with the well-being of minors." He does, however, acknowledge legislative initiatives in some countries "setting age limits, holding service providers accountable rather than shifting the whole burden of control onto families, and for providing specific protections against all forms of online sexual exploitation and violence." The burden of protection cannot be dumped onto parents alone while platforms and service providers remain largely unaccountable.

"The time has come" (Mark 1:15) to keep watchful faith in an age when digital tech and AI platforms with budgets bigger than some countries, let alone "schools of thought", have inordinate influence.



Image by Gerd Altmann from Pixabay

The lives of saints and other holy people show us what ordinary human beings, aided by the grace of God, have managed to accomplish. They give us examples of greatness and nobility of spirit. This booklet is an anthology of lives of some great people and the prayers they composed. Written by Fr Larry Kaufmann CSSR.



R50
plus delivery

Order from our website www.rpp.org.za or email orders@rpp.org.za. Enquiries: 082 667 3857.



Redemptorist
Publications
SouthAfrica

Copyright. Do not reproduce without permission. © Redemptorist Pastoral Publications.
Phone 082 667 3857. Email: janet@rpp.org.za. Internet: <https://rpp.org.za/>.