



SUNDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER, 2025. 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. YEAR C

Reflection on the Gospel - (Luke 16:1-13)

The fourth week in the Season of Creation confronts us with the issue of the strategies we may need to employ if we are to create more sustainable ways of inhabiting the planet.

A measure of cunning may be helpful. In *Dancing with Strangers*, Melbourne-based historian Inga Clenninden offered a new perspective on the famous incident of the spearing of Governor Arthur Phillip at Manly Cove on September 7, 1790.

The “accident” at Manly was no accident, she argued, but a carefully staged and brilliantly executed response to the indignities inflicted by the British, albeit unwittingly, on the local inhabitants.

The hero at Manly Cove is Baneelon (later known as Bennelong) who secures, for a time at least, the honour and survival of his people. He does so with all the cunning, if not the subterfuge, of the steward in Luke’s parable, and wins an uneasy approval. An ever present motif in the story of these early British-Australian encounters is the understanding of possessions and land peculiar to each.

From eighteenth century Manly Cove back to first-century Palestine is quite a leap. At stake in both arenas are survival and honour.

Luke’s unlikely hero is a property manager or steward accountable to a land owner (the master) for the collection of rent from land poor tenants who work the land and pay their rent in produce. The steward is reported for mismanagement. He is called in, asked to produce the books and told he is about to be sacked. He thinks quickly, approaches the debtors, reduces their sizeable

debts by the stroke of a pen, and thus gains their undying loyalty. He then hands over the books.

While he has engaged in a series of smart moves, he is far from honest!

The master is caught in a cleft stick: his steward has outwitted him and secured his own survival; the master has no honourable redress. He shakes his head and acknowledges the cunning or practical wisdom of the steward. It must be noted that there is no critique in this parable of the injustices inherent in a system that maintains privilege and subordination. That may be a matter of consideration for disciples in our times.

The parable reminds us, rather, that disciples need to have the practical wisdom or cunning of the steward, though to different ends. The parable gives way to a number of sayings about money and its use or misuse. While “money” as a means of exchange has long been an integral part of life in the Earth community, it can become an obstacle or even a substitute for right relationship with God.

The implication in the final saying is that disciples are called to “enslave” themselves to God. Contemporary attitudes to slavery might suggest that we find more appropriate expressions for our relationship with God. Not everything in the Gospel parables is to be emulated.

By Sr. Veronica Lawson, RSM

DEATHS & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for those who have died recently.

We also pray for **Rocco Mafrica** and all whose anniversary occurs at this time.

May they rest in peace.

First Reading: Amos 8:4-7

A reading from the prophet Amos

Listen to this, you who trample on the needy and try to suppress the poor people of the country, you who say, 'When will New Moon be over so that we can sell our corn, and sabbath, so that we can market our wheat? Then by lowering the bushel, raising the shekel, by swindling and tampering with the scales, we can buy up the poor for money, and the needy for a pair of sandals, and get a price even for the sweepings of the wheat.' The Lord swears it by the pride of Jacob, 'Never will I forget a single thing you have done.'

The Word of the Lord. (R.) Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 112:1-2, 4-8. R. cf. vv.1, 7

(R.) Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

1. Praise, O servants of the Lord,
praise the name of the Lord!
May the name of the Lord be blessed
both now and for evermore! **(R.)**
2. High above all nations is the Lord,
above the heavens his glory.
Who is like the Lord, our God,
who has risen on high to his throne
yet stoops from the heights to look down,
to look down upon heaven and earth? **(R.)**
3. From the dust he lifts up the lowly,
from the dungheap he raises the poor
to set him in the company of princes,
yes, with the princes of his people. **(R.)**

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-8

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy

My advice is that, first of all, there should be prayers offered for everyone – petitions, intercessions and thanksgiving – and especially for kings and others in authority, so that we may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this is right, and will please God our saviour: he wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth. For there is only one God, and there is only one mediator between God and mankind, himself a man, Christ Jesus, who sacrificed himself as a ransom for them all. He is the evidence of this, sent at the appointed time, and I have been named a herald and apostle of it and – I am telling the truth and no lie – a teacher of the faith and the truth to the pagans. In every place, then, I want the men to lift their hands up reverently in prayer, with no anger or argument.

The Word of the Lord. (R.) Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: 2 Cor 8:9

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There was a rich man and he had a steward who was denounced to him for being wasteful with his property. He called for the man and said, "What is this I hear about you? Draw me up an account of your stewardship because you are not to be my steward any longer." Then the steward said to himself, "Now that my master is taking the stewardship from me, what am I to do? Dig? I am not strong enough. Go begging? I should be too ashamed. Ah, I know what I will do to make sure that when I am dismissed from office there will be some to welcome me into their homes."

'Then he called his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, "How much do you owe my master?" "One hundred measures of oil," was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond; sit down straight away and write fifty." To another he said, "And you, sir, how much do you owe?" "One hundred measures of wheat," was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond and write eighty."

'The master praised the dishonest steward for his astuteness. For the children of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind than are the children of light.

'And so I tell you this: use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity. The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own? 'No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.'

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

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
He came down from heaven, *(All bow)*
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Communion Antiphon: Psalm 118:4-5

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully
kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

HOSPITALITY SUNDAY

This weekend, after the 5pm and 9.30am Masses at
St. Augustine's, all welcome to stop for a cuppa and
chat after Mass.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS: RCIA

RCIA is a process of discernment and learning for
those who are not baptised and wanting to find out
more about Catholic faith and for those already
baptised in another Christian tradition who now
desire to further their faith journey with the Catholic
Church. For further information please contact Fr
Werner or the Parish Office at yarraville@cam.org.au
(03) 9314 7710.

MASSES DURING SEPTEMBER

While Fr. Werner is away on annual leave
there will be no weekday Masses at
Yarraville or Kingsville for the month of
September. This weekend, 20th & 21st
September Fr John Hodgson CSsR will
celebrate 5.00pm & 9.30am Masses at St.
Augustine's and 11.00am Mass at Corpus
Christi. Fr Joseph Hieu Nguyen CSsR will
celebrate 8.00am Mass at Annunciation,
Please make Fr. Hodgson and Fr Nguyen
welcome.

Please Note: Change in Office Hours for
September while Fr. Werner is away.
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays:
9.30am – 2.30pm

CBC YARRAVILLE REUNION

Our annual reunion of students who attended
Christian Brothers' College Yarraville will be held at
the Yarraville Club in Stephen St Yarraville **from**
12.30 on Saturday October 4th. We subsidise the
cost and also we make a donation to the primary
school each year. The cost to attend is \$45, banking
details can be obtained by email to
Paul Baulch: cbcayarravilleoldboys@gmail.com

MARCH FOR THE BABIES

1pm Saturday 11 October at Treasury Gardens, Cnr
Spring Street and Wellington Pde Melbourne. This is
the 12th annual march to remember the ever
increasing number of babies killed by abortion in the
State since the Government legalised abortion.
Wear pink and blue. www.marchforthebabies.com

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

278 Victoria Parade East Melbourne

- Engaging Your Faith online presentations**
From \$25 per session. Choose from 13
sessions, from 13 – 30 October. For more
information: ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/
- Knox Public Lecture by Prof. Myriam Wijlens**
Wednesday 15 October at 7.30pm
For more information:
ctc.edu.au/knox-public-lecture/
- Online Information Session**
Monday 27 October at 7pm (AEDT)
Register via our website:
ctc.edu.au/information-session. For more
information contact: ctc@ctc.edu.au

PARISH PRIEST

Rev Fr Werner Utri

Mobile No. 0401 158 113

PARISH SECRETARY

Emilia Balkan

Parish Website:

www.melbatholic.org/yarraville

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Pat Mc Laughlin

patmac766@gmail.com

PARISH CHURCHES

ST AUGUSTINE'S

71 Somerville Road Yarraville

(03) 9314 7710

yarraville@cam.org.au

CORPUS CHRISTI

376 Geelong Road, Kingsville

ANNUNCIATION

4 Nolan Avenue, Brooklyn

kingsville@cam.org.au

PARISH NEWSLETTER



To receive an Email copy of our newsletter, scan the QR code.

LITURGY TIMES

TUESDAY MASS

No Mass this week

WEDNESDAY MASS

No Mass this week

THURSDAY MASS

No Mass this week

FRIDAY MASS

No Mass this week

SATURDAY MASS

Corpus Christi 9.30am

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

St Augustine's...5.00 pm

SUNDAY MASS

Annunciation.....8.00 am

St Augustine's.....9.30 am

Corpus Christi..11.00 am

St Augustine's..11.30 am
(Polish)

RECONCILIATION:

SATURDAYS after 9.30am

Mass at Corpus Christi

St. Augustine's...4.15pm

NEXT ITALIAN MASS

Thursday 2nd October at
11am at St. Augustine's

COLLECTIONS

THE FIRST COLLECTION is for the support of the Priests of our Parish, the Archbishop, Priests on special duties and retired priests.

THE SECOND COLLECTON which includes the envelopes, is for the support of the running costs of the Church and pastoral initiatives.

We encourage people to set up a **Direct Debit** Payment to our bank accounts for the Presbytery and the Church, using these account details.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S YARRAVILLE

St. Augustine's Yarraville Church Account:

BSB 083347 Account No. 638052213.

St. Augustine's Yarraville Presbytery A/C:

BSB 083347 Account No. 638051413

CORPUS CHRISTI KINGSVILLE &

ANNUNCIATION BROOKLYN

Corpus Christi Kingsville Church Account:

BSB 083347 Account No. 485182315

Presbytery Account:

BSB 083347 Account No. 638051413

QR Codes for one off donations.



This QR code is unique to the **Parish of St. Augustine's** and gives you access to giving a donation via **Credit card**.



This QR code is unique to the **Parish of Corpus Christi Kingsville**

There are census cards at the back of the church for new subscribers wishing to use weekly envelopes. Record details and put the card on the collection plate at Mass.

SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL VULNERABLE PEOPLE

At Yarraville, Kingsville and Brooklyn, we hold the care, safety and well-being of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our communities. The Parish Statement of Commitment and Reporting Process are on display at the entrance of all the Churches and all Diocesan Policies are available on the website or at the parish office.

www.cam.org.au/Professional-Standards/Statements

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY - We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEK

(20th & 21st September)

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

READERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm Kath Baker

9.30am Pat McLaughlin

Sam Polzella

COUNTING.....John Ryan

READERS: **Corpus Christi**

11.00am Edith Fletcher

Val Taylor

MINISTERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm.....Joseph De Bono

9.30am.....Phillip Marques

MINISTER: **Corpus Christi**

11.00am.....Imelda Gibson

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK

(27th & 28th September)

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

READERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm Krystyna Biront

9.30am Pina Guzzardi

Anna Messina

COUNTING.....Phillip Marques

READERS: **Corpus Christi**

11.00am Cass Polino

AJ Polino

MINISTERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm.....Greg Buhagiar

9.30am.....Liam McEwen

MINISTER: **Corpus Christi**

11.00am.....Khanh Nguyen

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Many thanks for your donations of non-perishable food. Cereal, long life milk, tea, coffee, milo, soup, pasta, pasta sauce, baked beans, spaghetti, tins of tuna, tinned fruit, rice, jam, biscuits; washing powder/liquid, shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste and brushes are always needed.

Mary Mackillop Spirituality Centre

St. Joseph's by the Sea Williamstown
16 Esplanade Williamstown. 3016
(03) 9397 6012. mmsm.org.au