

with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:
'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him;

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word

THE BREATH OF LIFE

Fear surrounds Jesus' disciples in this story from John's Gospel set on the night of his resurrection. They are closed in a room out of fear of the Jewish authorities. The Risen One comes into their midst, into the centre of their fears, and proclaims, 'Peace be with you.' Jesus offers his frightened disciples peace at a time when they feel a sense of potential annihilation by the very ones who had manufactured Jesus' execution.

His 'peace' is more than an encouragement not to worry; it is a prayer, his gift, for their wholeness and holiness. The prayer is accompanied by his breathing upon them—an echo of an earlier 'breathing' when Jesus 'breathes down' his spirit on to his mother and the Beloved Disciple at the moment of death. This is John's Pentecost scene. For John's audience, 'breathe' was a sign of life. Here, in the room's enclosure, Jesus' breathes onto his disciples his life which offers forgiveness.

The story concludes with Thomas and it is not about his 'doubting'. It is rather about his connection with the other disciples. Disconnected from them, he does not believe. When he reconnects with them a week later and Jesus reappears, Thomas comes to faith in the Risen Jesus. Two points emerge from this powerful story: Jesus' presence dispels fear; Easter faith is restored and deepened through belonging to a community of believers.



Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY) / C

27 APRIL 2025

FIRST READING

Acts 5:12-16

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 117:2-4, 22-27. R. v. 1

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, love is everlasting, (or Alleluia!)

1. Let the sons of Israel say: / 'His love has no end.' / Let the sons of Aaron say: / 'His love has no end.' / Let those who fear the Lord say: / 'His love has no end.' **R.**

2. The stone which the builders rejected / has become the cornerstone. / This is the work of the Lord, / a marvel in our eyes. / This day was made by the Lord; / we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

3. O Lord, grant us salvation / O Lord grant success. / Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes. / We bless you from the house of the Lord; / the Lord God is our light. **R.**

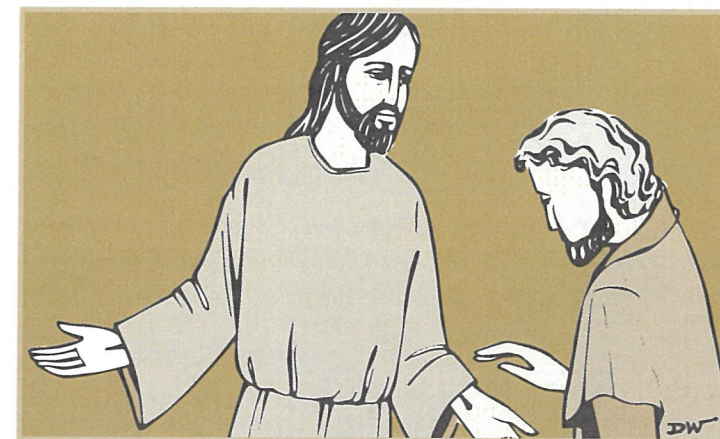
SECOND READING

Apoc 1:9-13, 17-19

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus;



it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!

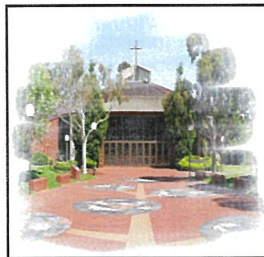
GOSPEL

Jn 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

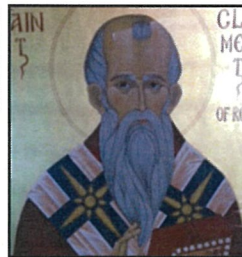
After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled



St Clement of Rome Church

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<https://www.facebook.com/stclementsparishbulleen>
Office Hours: Mon (closed) Tue—Thur 9am-5pm Fri 9am—4.30pm



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Mark.Reynolds@cam.org.au

Italian Chaplain: Fr Vito Pegolo (0419 736 890), **School Principal:** Mr Michael Watt (9850 1216)
Parish Secretary: Bernadine De Silva , **Parish/School Sacramental Coordinator:** Marilyn Robert
St Vincent de Paul Helpline (1800 305 330)

Parish Vision Statement : Guided and inspired by the Holy Spirit, the Parish of St Clement of Rome seeks to be a community of authentic disciples of Jesus, living the Word of God. As a welcoming community, through humble service, we acknowledge our stewardship of God's creation and strive to promote the dignity of all God's people.

JUBILEE 2025—PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Welcome to St Clement of Rome as we celebrate the Second Sunday of Easter
Today's theme is : After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them
We invite you to reflect on this theme throughout the Mass



May Pope Francis rest in eternal peace. His life of humble service, profound faith, and tireless devotion to humanity leaves an enduring legacy for the Church and the world.

Mass Count 2025

Over the four weekends in May, beginning from next weekend, the annual Mass Count will take place at St Clement's at all Masses. Collectors at weekend Masses are asked to help with the forms please. Thank you.

CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal

Next weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. As the Catholic Church's mission in action, CatholicCare Victoria delivers programs and services to support families, children, young people and individuals to help everyone reach their full potential. Your support and generosity will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community. You can donate using the appeal envelope available in our parish, donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.

'Thank You' from Caritas

Caritas Australia would like to express our heartfelt thanks for your incredible support of Project Compassion this Lent. If you still have your Project Compassion box or donation envelope at home, please return them next week at Mass.



**Community Mass,
Art Exhibition & Pizza Supper**

The St Clement of Rome staff and students warmly invite you and your family to attend our art exhibition celebrating our learning about Holy Week.

Each student has created a piece of artwork representing their understanding of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

When: Saturday 3 May, 2025
Time: Community Mass at 5:30pm followed a by pizza supper at the art exhibition
Where: Clifton Centre

We look forward to seeing you at Mass and the art exhibition following.

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS

Mass Times: Sat 5:30pm (*Vigil*), Sun - 9am & 11am (*Italian*)
Tues 9:15am (*Italian*), Wed-Sat 9:15am (unless informed)

Reconciliation: Sat 9.45am (and on request). **Marian Devotions & Eucharistic Adoration :** Sat 8.40am
Baptisms: 1st & 3rd weekend every month. **Weddings:** By Appointment

PARISH DIARY

Mon 28th Apr @ 9.15am—no Mass
Tue 29th Apr @ 9.15am—no Italian Mass
Wed 30th Apr @ 9.15am—no Mass
Thurs 1st May @ 9.15am—Mass
Fri 2nd May @ 9.15am—Mass
Sat 3rd May @ 9.00am—ASRE 1st Com in the PO
Sat 3rd May @ 9.15am—Mass/Reconciliation
Sat 3rd May @ 5.30pm—Term 2 weekend Mass/Art Exhibition & Supper

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently, **Pope Francis, Keith Stackpole** and for the repose of the souls of **Giovanni Tieri, Ginetta Tieri, Michele Tieri, Gregorio & Maria Cusmano, Giuseppe Colangelo, Antonio Raulli** and all those, whose anniversaries occur at about this time. *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Mass offerings

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has been advised by the Vatican that the practice of only one Mass offering per Mass can now change to several offerings per Mass. This change comes into affect immediately. It often happens on a Sunday that there are requests from a number of people for a Mass to be offered on the same day at the same time. This change will now greatly assist such occasions. If however you do not wish not have the Mass offered with another offering, please say so but be advised that the Mass may have to be celebrated on another date.
Fr Mark

ASRE—Sacrament of Eucharist 2025

Please see the dates below for the Sacrament of Eucharist classes. Enrolments closed. Classes commenced last Saturday.



DATE	TIME	EVENT
Saturday 3 rd May	9.00 -10.15am	ASRE Eucharist 2
Saturday 10 th May	9.00 -10.15am	ASRE Eucharist 3
Saturday 17 th May	9.00 -10.15am	ASRE Eucharist 4
Saturday 24 th May	9.00 -10.15am	ASRE Eucharist 5 followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation.
	5.30pm	Sacrament of First Eucharist

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL' EUCHARISTIA
04/05	J FAGGION P LOMBARDO	FAM L VETTORETTO	C TRAVAGLINI T RECINELLA

New Ways of Giving

To Support our Church with ease, we've introduced a new EFTPOS terminal. This is an easy and secure way to donate, but please note that it is not an alternative to your regular stewardship envelopes.

You can also donate by scanning this QR code with your phone camera.
Thank you for your generosity!



LITURGY ROSTER		SAT 5.30PM	SUN 9.00AM
26/27 April	Sacristan	Sue De Bortoli	Francis & Gloria Ng
	Commentator	Rene Dela Cruz	Tim Landsberg
	Reader	May Teh	Jan McQueen
	Special Ministers	Enza Wilcocks	Agnes Lu
		Warwick Wright	Gloria Ng
		John Bruce	Maria Papalia
3 /4 May	Sacristan	Sue De Bortoli	Francis & Gloria Ng
	Commentator	May Teh	Jan McQueen
	Readers	Pal Sammut	Maria Papalia
		Zina Scalzo	Rita Gagliardi
	Special Ministers	May Teh	Pina La Mattina
		Martin Teh	Ricardo La Mattina

Important notice for all Parish Ministry Volunteers

For Parishioners who wish to become volunteers or continue as volunteers, it is necessary that all Safeguarding Requirements are current. The necessary requirements include :

1. A valid Working with Children Check
2. A signed Code of Conduct
3. Completion of the safeguarding training module

Over the coming weeks, to help our volunteers, the Parish will be contacting people who currently do not meet all the requirements. We understand that meeting the requirements may seem daunting but we are keen to help, so that you are able to continue the very valuable work that you do for our Parish.

The Safeguarding Requirements for Parish volunteers have been determined by the Archdiocese of Melbourne in response to Victorian Government Legislation, Australian Government Legislation and critical incidents. To ensure that our Parishes continue to be safe spaces for children, young people and vulnerable adults, the Archdiocese of Melbourne and its Parishes will this year, be audited, by *Australian Catholic Safeguarding Limited*.

Thank you for your co-operation in ensuring the safety and well-being of all in our parish community.

**We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand.
We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently on this land.**