

THE SAVING WORD

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

19 JANUARY 2025

FIRST READING

Isa 62:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

As the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

About Zion I will not be silent,
about Jerusalem I will not grow weary,
until her integrity shines out like the dawn
and her salvation flames like a torch.

The nations then will see your integrity,
all the kings your glory,
and you will be called by a new name,
one which the mouth of the Lord will confer.
You are to be a crown of splendour in the
hand of the Lord,

a princely diadem in the hand of your God;
no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken',
nor your land 'Abandoned',
but you shall be called 'My Delight'
and your land 'The Wedded'
for the Lord takes delight in you
and your land will have its wedding.
Like a young man marrying a virgin,
so will the one who built you wed you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride,
so will your God rejoice in you.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 95:1-3, 7-10. R. v. 3

R. Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all
the nations.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord, / sing to the
Lord all the earth. / O sing to the Lord, bless
his name. **R.**

2. Proclaim his help day by day, / tell among
the nations his glory / and his wonders among
all the peoples. **R.**

3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples, /
give the Lord glory and power, / give the Lord
the glory of his name. **R.**

4. Worship the Lord in his temple. / O earth,
tremble before him. / Proclaim to the nations:
'God is king.' / He will judge the peoples in
fairness. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 12:4-11

A reading from the first letter of St Paul
to the Corinthians.

*One and the same Spirit distributes different gifts
as he chooses.*

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. One may have the gift of preaching with wisdom given him by the Spirit; another may have the gift of preaching instruction given him by the same Spirit; and another the gift of faith given by the same Spirit; another again the gift of healing, through this one Spirit; one, the power of miracles; another, prophecy; another the gift of recognising spirits; another the gift of tongues and another the ability to interpret them. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who distributes different gifts to different people just as he chooses.

■ The word of the Lord.

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ST JOSEPH'S, ELSTERNWICK & HOLY CROSS, CAULFIELD SOUTH

PARISH PRIEST: Rev Fr Leenus Neetany SAC

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ST JOSEPH'S, ELSTERNWICK

71 Orrong Road, Elsternwick, VIC 3185

www.melbcatholic.org/elsternwick

Mass

Friday 10:00am, Saturday 6:30pm and Sunday 10:30am

Reconciliation

Friday after Mass, Saturday 6:00pm

Thanksgiving & Special Collections - 2 weeks

Church: \$TBA Presbytery: \$TBA

Special Collection: -

Next Week's Roster

Lector - Saturday: S Bettoni

Lector - Sunday: P Donohue

Counters: No Counting

HOLY CROSS, CAULFIELD SOUTH

707 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield South 3162

www.melbcatholic.org/caulfieldsouth

Mass

Thursday 10:00am and Sunday 9:00am

Reconciliation

Thursday after Mass

Thanksgiving & Special Collections - 2 weeks

Church: \$TBA Presbytery: \$TBA

Special Collection: -

Next Week's Roster

Lector: A Powell

ST ANTHONY'S, GLEN HUNTLY

74, Grange Road, Glen Huntly 3163

In Residence: Fr Pat Jackson SAC, Br Lindsay Rust SAC

Mass

Monday - Saturday 9:15am

Saturday 6:00pm

Sunday 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm

Reconciliation

30-minutes before all Masses & Saturday 9:45-10:10am

This Week's Liturgical Calendar

Tue 21 Jan: St Agnes

Fri 24 Jan: St Francis de Sales

Sat 25 Jan: The Conversion of St Paul The Apostle

Sun 26 Jan: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Perpetual Adoration Chapel



The Perpetual Adoration Chapel was a beautiful idea of our late Fr Varghese - built in 2018 to commemorate the centenary celebration of St Joseph's Church. The Chapel can be accessed 24/7 using a security tag. Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to apply for a tag.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (Ps 65:4)

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (Ps 22:5)

You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: Paulette Dobbin, Tony Messina, Steve Genge & family, Jenny, Ian and Sue Besomo, Stella Bai

Recently Deceased: David Allan Bayfield

Death Anniversary: Alfred Dowling

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Him, O Lord



Reverend Babu Varghese Kattikattu MC

Born: 5th October 1964

Priestly Ordination: 9th December 2006

Born to Eternal Life: 9th January 2025

A Life of Faithful Service and Dedication

Fr Varghese Kattikattu was appointed to the Parishes of St Joseph's, Elsternwick and Holy Cross, Caulfield South in 2015.

He was a man of dedicated service and compassion, and was deeply devoted to Our Lady. He led a life rooted in prayer and simplicity. Known for his humility, kindness, and generosity, he never compromised on matters of faith.

One of his legacies we can always treasure is the Perpetual Adoration Chapel at St Joseph's Church, reflecting his love for the Eucharist.

We will remember him as a remarkable priest, a dedicated servant of God, and a loving spiritual father.

May His Soul Rest In Peace

Thank You Bishop Tony

We thank Bishop Tony Ireland for celebrating this Sunday's 10:30am Mass with us at St Joseph's Church for the repose of the soul of Fr Varghese Kattikattu.

All are welcome to refreshments after Mass at the school atrium.

Feast of St Vincent Pallotti

Pallottine Family Celebration Day!

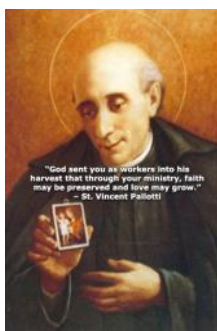
Wednesday 22nd January at Holy Cross Church, Caulfield South. Mass at 11:30am, followed by lunch at the Parish Hall.

There will be an update on The Flame of Love Orphanage at Keshero in the Democratic Republic of the Congo along with an opportunity to donate to it.

We want this to be an enjoyable day of celebration so bring along friends and family.

Kindly RSVP by email to our Parish Office, leave a voice mail message for Anne Dowling on 0429-869457, or let Fr Leenus know.

Your presence will help make it a delightful celebration!



Young Adults Hosting Mass

The young people from our 3 parishes were invited to attend this Saturday's 6:30pm Mass at St Joseph's Church, followed by fellowship at the Presbytery.

It is lovely to see the young people of our parishes taking the initiative to bring extra joy to our Mass celebrations. Keep up the good work!

Please encourage the young adults of all our parishes to participate in this initiative. It is an opportunity for them to meet and socialise among their peers in the safe space of our parish.

Children's Liturgy

During 10:30am Sunday Mass at St Joseph's, children are invited to Children's Liturgy, where the Gospel of the day is read and explained at a level that the children can understand.

Please feel free to accompany your child/ren to the session. If you would like to assist in the programme, kindly contact the Parish Office.

Safeguarding Children and Young People

The welfare of the children and young people in our care will always be our first priority and we have a ZERO tolerance for any form of abuse. For more information on Safeguarding: melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding

Holy Communion to the Sick and Elderly

Please let the Parish Office know if you or anyone you know would like to receive Holy Communion at their homes or aged care facilities.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

RCIA sessions held at St Joseph's Presbytery every Thursday at 6:30pm have resumed. Please share with anyone interested in becoming a Catholic.

Jubilee Year Pilgrimages

The Melbourne Archdiocese is offering two pilgrimages to Rome this year to experience walking through Holy Doors.

There are also local Pilgrim Places we can visit during the Jubilee Year.



Please scan the QR-code for more info regarding the Pilgrimages, including how to register. There is also more information on our notice boards.



2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Jesus turns water into Wine at Cana

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus,

Some points we may already know about this Gospel passage regarding the miracle of turning water into wine.

- It was the first of Jesus' miracles during his public ministry, as recorded in the Bible.
- It was a clear manifestation of the power of the Lord, and his concern for our needs.
- It was Mother Mary who expressed her concern regarding the running out of wine.
- It would have been a major crisis and disgraceful for the family.
- Mary knew right away the answer for the crisis. That is to appeal to her Divine Son.
- Jesus addresses Mary as 'Woman' instead of 'Mother'. He was not belittling her, but on the contrary, Jesus was giving her a title of great honour, recognizing and introducing her in the presence of the crowd as the Woman promised by God in the book of Genesis. Mary is the New Eve bringing forth the Messiah.
- Whether Mary expected a miraculous intervention, of water being changed into wine, we do not know; but she "pushed" her son to do something about the need.
- In any case, she clearly stood back, so to speak, once Jesus was involved in the situation, totally trusting in her Son.
- Mary says to the servants. "Do whatever he tells you." Mary tells us the same.
- "Do whatever Jesus tells you" are the last of the words of Mary in the Bible.
- The miracle at the Wedding Feast at Cana, the first sign performed by Jesus, is now one of the "Luminous Mysteries" of the Holy Rosary.

Mother Mary, pray for us!

Fr Leenus.

Teacher: "You know you can't sleep in my class."

Johnny: "I know Miss. But maybe if you were a little quieter I could."



Bishops Elect
Fr Thinh Xuan Nguyen
and
Fr Rene Ramirez RCJ



The Episcopal Ordination for the Bishops-elect is to take place at 10:00am on 1st February 2025 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne.

More information will be shared as planning gets further underway. Please keep the date and meanwhile keep praying for them.

Tony's Café Volunteers

All Volunteers are invited to a meeting at 10 am on Saturday 1st February in the Waratah Room, where we serve the meals. Please let others know. We look forward to seeing you all again.

Tony's Café is a soup kitchen which operates twice a week in the parish hall, 164 Neerim Rd. New volunteers are always welcome. The Café is currently in recess but will reopen for lunch on Tuesday 4th February.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. 2 Thess 2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 2:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
John.

*The first of the signs given by Jesus was at Cana in
Galilee.*

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said, 'Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews; each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them to the brim. 'Draw some out now' he told them 'and take it to the steward.' They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from – only the servants who had drawn the water knew – the steward called the bridegroom and said, 'People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink; but you have kept the best wine till now.'

This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word

THE FIRST "SIGN"

This Sunday we move from Luke's Gospel, the primary Gospel of our year, to John's Gospel and a scene at the commencement of Jesus' ministry. It is full of rich symbolism. The setting is a wedding feast to which Jesus, his mother and disciples have been invited. The feast is reminiscent of God's covenantal marriage with the Israelites on Mount Sinai (Exodus 19-24). This relationship is like a marriage in which the imagery of redolent, juicy wines celebrates its delightful intimacy (Isaiah 25:6-9). For John, Jesus is the living reminder of God's desire for humanity expressed initially in the Old ('first') Testament.

But there is a problem, as Jesus' Jewish mother points out: "They have no wine!" At her invitation the absence is addressed. She directs the servants to respond to whatever Jesus tells them. This dynamic, of responding to Jesus' word, lays at the heart of faithful discipleship. He directs them to fill with water the six stone water jars intended for ceremonial ablutions. Together, the jars hold around 90 to 100 litres of water that later becomes wine of the best quality, and in a great quantity, by today's metric system, 12 dozen bottles. A connoisseur's delight!

To interpret the story solely as a miracle is to miss the point. John calls it the first of Jesus' "signs" in the Gospel. A "sign" points to something deeper. This sign symbolically underscores God's joy with humanity revealed through Jesus and symbolised in a wedding feast with an extraordinary quantity of exquisite wine.

Fr Michael Trainor