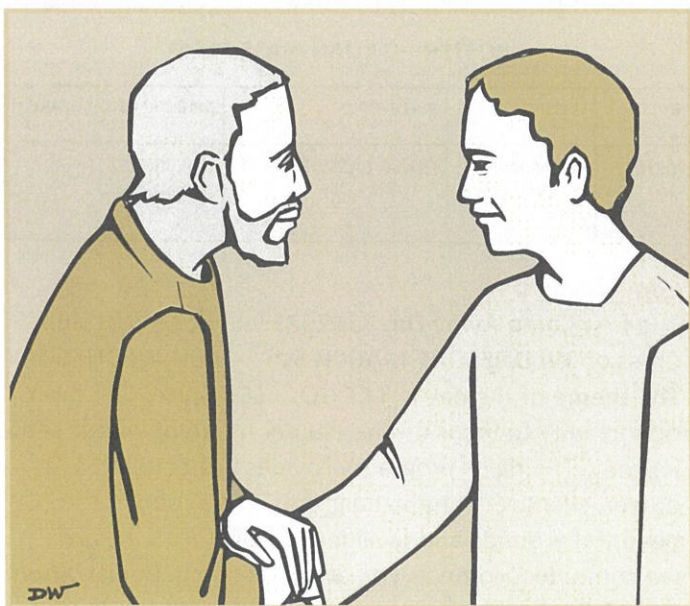


splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit; people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Breaking Open the Word



EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

THE SAVING WORD

2 MARCH 2025

REMOVE THE PLANK

Who thought that the Gospels and Jesus' words are humourless? Today's Gospel reflects on one of the key issues that touches all of us and does it in an exaggerated and humorous way. It is about judging others. In my criticism of others and judging them, according to Jesus, I ignore the bigger issue: my inability to self-reflect and see the larger personal weaknesses in my own condemning character. Jesus compares the 'splinter' in the other's eye to the huge 'plank' in one's own.

The eye, in Luke's world, was the gateway to the soul and the primary organ of decision making. For a disciple to be critical of others and not recognise the plank in their own eye is to be blocked from authentic soulful and considered living. This plank must be removed by careful and sustained spiritual surgery through closeness to Jesus. This is the ongoing quest for disciples journeying with Jesus.

In the second half of today's Gospel the image turns to the production of sound fruit. This is more about authentic discipleship than about agricultural production. It is again about the heart. Jesus' words encourage Luke's Gospel's audience, and us, to draw on the heart and live from its reservoir of goodness. As with the earlier humorous parable about seeing, we are invited to see deeply and act with integrity so that our hearts can grow in goodness. Authentic conduct will follow. This is the intent behind the Gospel's final piece of wisdom, that 'words flow out of what fills the heart'.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Sir 27: 4-7

A reading from the Book of Sirach.

Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 91: 2-3, 13-16. R. cf. v. 2

R. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord / to make music to your name, O Most High, / to proclaim your love in the morning / and your truth in the watches of the night. **R.**
2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree / and grow like a Lebanon cedar. **R.**
3. Planted in the house of the Lord / they will flourish in the courts of our God, / still bearing sap when they are old, / still full sap, still green, / to proclaim that the Lord is just. / In him, my rock, there is no wrong. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Cor 15: 54-58

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

Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is



sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Phil 2: 15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!

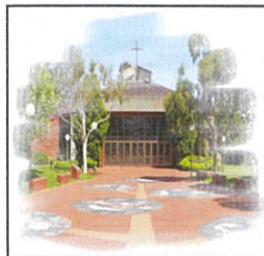
GOSPEL

Lk 6: 39-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

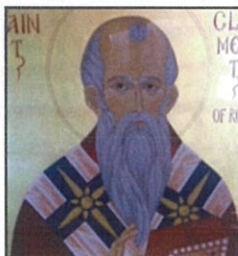
A person speaks from what is in his heart.

Jesus told a parable to his disciples. 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciples will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the



St Clement of Rome Church

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<https://www.facebook.com/stclementsparishbulleen>
Office Hours: Mon (closed) Tue—Thur 9am-5pm Fri 9am—4pm



Parish Priest : Very Rev Mark Reynolds EV (Episcopal Vicar for Catholic Schools)

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 Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time.
 Today's theme is : A person speaks from what is in his heart



The Rite for the burning of the Palms
 This Sunday at 9am Mass.

Ash Wednesday Masses : Wed 5th March at 9.15am (School Mass) & 7pm (Parish Mass).

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence from meat.

Project Compassion 2025

You can donate through donation boxes and envelopes available in the Foyer from next weekend or by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



Stations of the Cross

Will commence from Friday 7th Mar before Mass at 8.40am.
 All welcome to attend.

CABRINI - THE MOVIE

To celebrate women's achievement and raise awareness of bias and discrimination, as part of International Women's Week, March 2-8, the PPC invite you to join us to follow Francesca Xavier Cabrini's own inspiring story of her fight for humane treatment of immigrant orphans to America at the turn of the 20th century. The film will be shown on **Friday, March 7 commencing at 7.15pm in the Clifton centre.** The movie runs for approximately 2hrs 10 mins. All welcome.

Congratulations & welcome to God's family at St Clement's Parish
 Isaac Lachimea baptised at 9am this Sunday



Parish morning tea this Sunday after 9am Mass
 Please join us for a delightful morning tea after Mass in the Clifton Centre. All welcome.

Virtual Lent Series by Garratt Publishing

A series of 6 Virtual Lent Talks by 3 Australian biblical scholars from Yarra Theological Union, a College of the University of Divinity. Tuesdays 4,11,18,25 Mar and 1,8 Apr from 7-8pm via zoom. Online registration is essential. Zoom meeting details will be forwarded upon registration.

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: Welcoming (3rd weekend) & Baptism (4th weekend) every month. **Weddings:** By Appointment

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.

PARISH DIARY

Mon 3rd Mar @ 9.15am—no Mass
 Tue 4th Mar @ 9.15am—Italian Mass
 Wed 5th Mar @ 9.15am—School Mass & 7pm—Parish Mass
 Thurs 6th Mar @ 9.15am—Mass
 Fri 7th Mar @ 8.40am—Stations of the Cross
 Fri 7th Mar @ 9.15am—Mass
 Sat 8th Mar @ 9.15am—Mass & Reconciliation

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently, **Gabriella DiGrazia** and for the repose of the souls of **Maria & Domenico Paolilli, Giuseppe & Anna Marinelli, Antonietta Grande, Giovanna Bernabeo, Angel Mendoza** 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.

ASRE—Sacrament of Reconciliation 2025

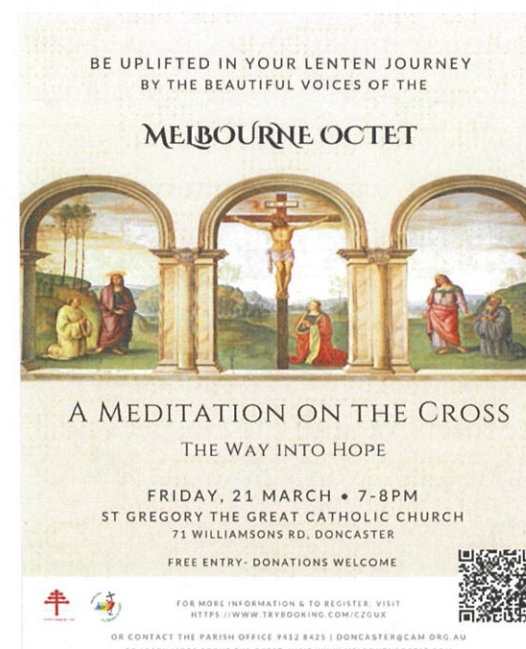
While we work on the class dates for the Sacraments of First Eucharist & Confirmation, Please see below class dates for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.



DATE	TIME	EVENT
Saturday 15 th Mar	9.00 -10.00am	ASRE Reconciliation 4
Saturday 22 nd Mar	9.00 -10.00am	ASRE Reconciliation 5
Saturday 29 th Mar	9.00 -10.00am 9.45am	ASRE Reconciliation 6 Sacrament of Reconciliation



Children's Liturgy—commencing this Sunday at 9am Mass



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
1 / 2 Mar	Sacristan John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	Commentator John Bruce	Tim Landsberg
	Reader Jacinta De La Cruz	Jan McQueen
	Special Ministers Zina Scalzo	Shirley Pyndiah
	Sacristan May Teh	Grace Cannatelli
	Martin Teh	Anne Fusca

8/9 March	Sacristan John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
1 Lent	Commentator Jacinta De La Cruz	Jan McQueen
	Reader Rene De La Cruz	Maria Papalia
	Special Ministers Enza Wilcocks	Fulvia Gerasolimo
	Warwick Wright	Pina La Mattina
	John Bruce	Ricardo La Mattina

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL' EUCHARISTIA
09/03	I ROMANIN E CASTRIOTTA	FAM G CASSINI	T RECINELLA J FAGGION

Come Away Day

The first **Come Away Day** for 2025 will be held at Holy Cross on **WEDNESDAY MARCH 5th – ASH WEDNESDAY**. The theme of the day is **'LET GO ... LET GOD'**. This is an opportunity to focus on the deeper meaning of our Lenten journey. The day's program provides opportunities for prayer, silent reflection and group interaction in the beautiful grounds and facilities of Holy Cross. All are welcome. Just come as you are. BYO lunch. **Registration is from 9.30am.** The program concludes with a celebration of the Eucharist with a departure time of around 3pm. The suggested cost is \$30.00 or a donation according to your means.

World Day of Prayer

Friday March 7th

Theme "I made you wonderful"
 Writer country—The Cook Islands

Morning service—10am

Holy Trinity Anglican Church
 106 Church Road, Doncaster
 Speaker :
 Rev Fr Kevin Dillon AM

Evening Service - 7.30pm

St Kevin's Catholic Church
 26 Herlihy's Road, Lwr Templestowe
 Speaker: Pastor David Jonassen