



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

13 JULY 2025

FIRST READING

Deut 30:10-14

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Let the instruction of the Lord God be near you.

Moses said to the people: 'Obey the voice of the Lord your God, keeping those commandments and laws of his that are written in the Book of this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul.

'For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach. It is not in heaven, so that you need to wonder, "Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" Nor is it beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder, "Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" No, the Word is very near to you, it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 68:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36-37. R. cf. v. 33

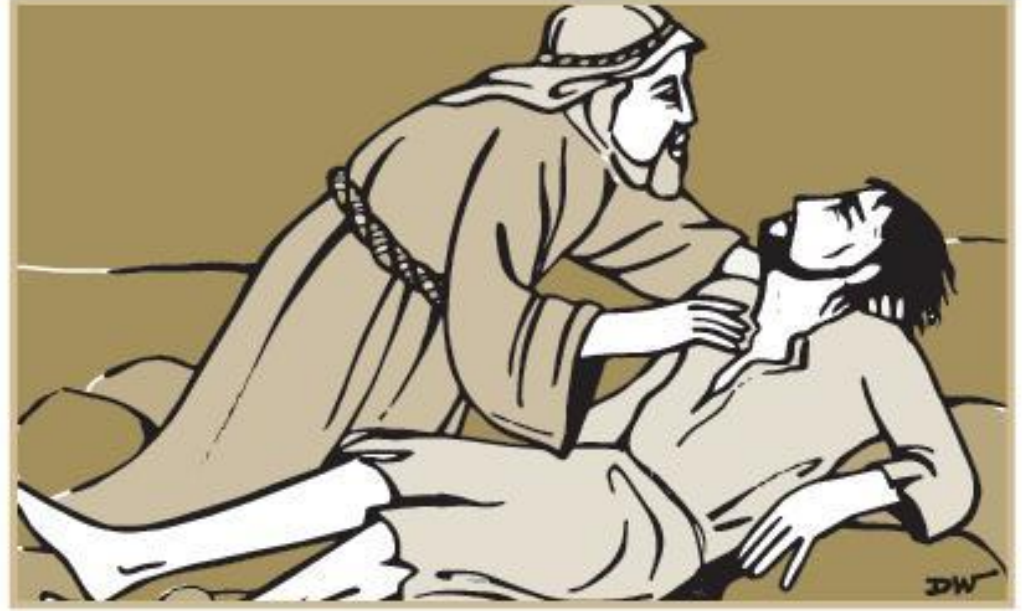
R. Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

1. This is my prayer to you, / my prayer for your favour. / In your great love, answer me, O God, / with your help that never fails: Lord, answer, for your love is kind; / in your compassion, turn towards me. **R.**

2. As for me in my poverty and pain / let your help, O God, lift me up. / I will praise God's name with a song; / I will glorify him with thanksgiving. **R.**

3. The poor when they see it will be glad / and God-seeking hearts will revive; / for the Lord listens to the needy / and does not spurn his servants in their chains. **R.**

4. For God will bring help to Zion / and rebuild the cities of Judah. / The sons of his servants shall inherit it; / those who love his name shall dwell there. **R.**



SECOND READING

Col 1:15-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

All things were created through him and for him.

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers – all things were created through him and for him.

Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity.

Now the Church is his body, he is its head.

As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Jn 6:63,68

Alleluia, alleluia! Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

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

PARISH PRIEST: Rev Fr Leenus Neetany SAC

Permanent Deacon: Rev John Lam

Parish Coordinator: Joanna Lam

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www.melbcatholic.org/stjosephholycross

ST JOSEPH'S, ELSTERNWICK

71 Orrong Road, Elsternwick 3185

Mass

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

Reconciliation

Friday after Mass, Saturday 6:00pm

Next Week's Roster

Lector - Saturday: R Rodrigues

Lector - Sunday: M Nelson

Counters: No Counting

HOLY CROSS, CAULFIELD SOUTH

707 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield South 3162

Mass

Thursday 10:00am and Sunday 9:00am

Reconciliation

Thursday after Mass

Next Week's Roster

Lector: D Duffy

Thanksgiving & Special Collections

Church: \$1043.75 Presbytery: \$1063.75

Catholic Mission: \$808.50

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

Upcoming Week's Liturgical Calendar

Tue 15 Jul: St Bonaventure

Sun 20 Jul: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Perpetual Adoration Chapel



The Perpetual Adoration Chapel was 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.

Trivia Lunch @ Holy Cross Parish Hall

Join us on Wednesday, 16th July at 12-noon.

Bring your own lunch and enjoy the trivia session and a catchup. All are welcome.



News Bulletin
Subscription

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (cf. Ps 16:15)

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (cf. Ps 83:4-5)

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill*: **Paulette Dobbin, Tony Messina, Carol Ann Burgess, Pauline Cresswell**

** Names will be published for a month, unless otherwise requested.*

Recently Deceased: -

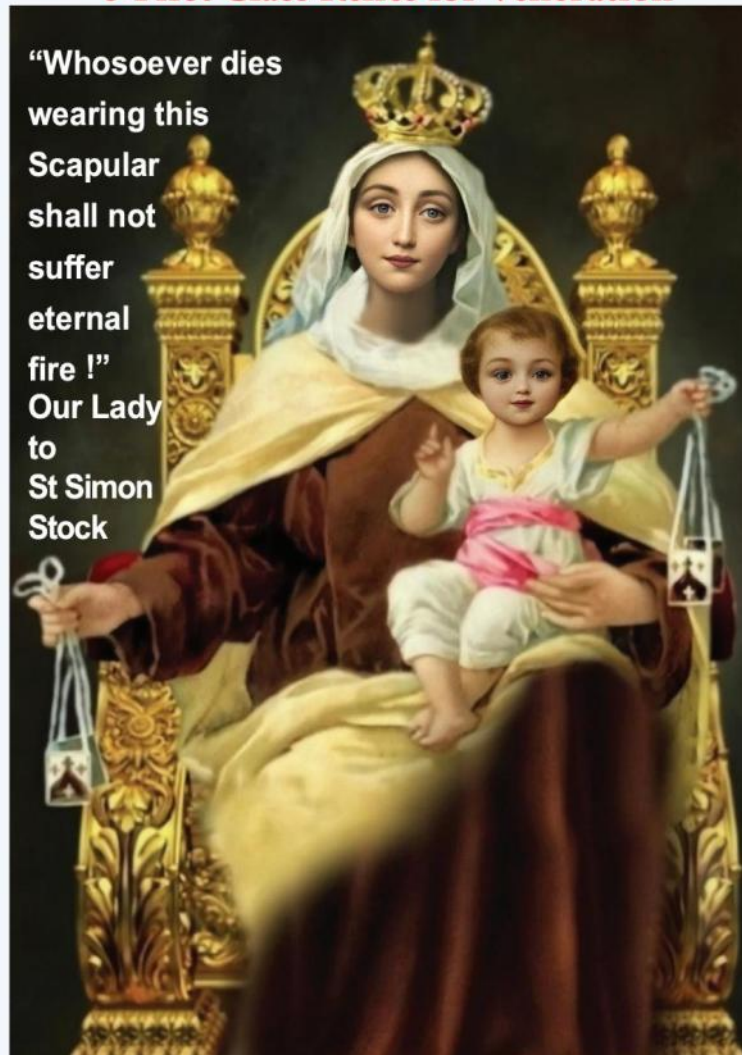
Death Anniversary: -

Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

The Combined Societies of Mary Welcomes You to a Special Celebration

3 Great Saints of Carmel, All Doctors of the Church

3 First Class Relics for Veneration



St Therese of Lisieux



St John of the Cross



St Therese of Avila

Sunday 13th July, 2025

Holy Cross Church 707 Glenhuntly Rd Caulfield Sth

1:30 pm Adoration Prayers, Enlightening Talk,

Benediction Holy Mass Veneration of First Class Relics

Enrollment in the Scapular Free Scapulars

Inquiries: Joy Hunt, 95092207 www.combinedsocietiesofmary.com



We hope to start the RCIA Program in July 2025, so the Catechumens are prepared leading up to Easter 2026.

Please ask those who would like to journey towards becoming a Catholic, to register with the Parish Office.

We also welcome new Facilitators to assist us with the program and look forward to meeting and discussing the RCIA Program with you.

Praise & Worship

All welcome to the Praise & Worship session on Friday, 18 July from 7-8pm at Holy Cross Parish Hall.

There will be a cuppa after. Please bring a plate to share.

Jubilee of Youth

To celebrate the 2,025th anniversary of the Incarnation of the Lord, youth and young adults are invited to participate in the international Jubilee of Youth as part of Jubilee 2025 from July 28th to August 3rd.

During that week, many youth and young adults from around the world will journey to Rome for the pilgrimage experience of a lifetime.

Here, at our local churches, to join this sacred time of grace, hope, prayer & pilgrimage, our Youth and Young Adults (aged 18-35) from our 3 churches will come together again on the 4th Saturday of the month to host the 6:30pm Vigil Mass at St Joseph's, on Saturday 26th July, followed by light supper.

At St Anthony's and St Aloysius Parish, they are also celebrating the Jubilee of Youth on Sunday 27th July at 11am Mass. This will be followed by fellowship with pizza and games!

Our Youth and Young Adults have been invited to attend the fellowship session. Venue to be announced.

This will be a great opportunity for those who have registered interest to attend Australia Catholic Youth Festival 2025 (ACYF) to come along to meet the rest of the young people who will also be attending the ACYF.



Safeguarding Children and Young People

All children and young people who come to our parish have a right to feel and be safe. For more info, visit: melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus,

The Jewish lawyer's question, "Who is my neighbour?" gives Jesus the opportunity to confront this old hostility. For the traditional Jew, to love one's neighbour was understood as loving someone who belonged to the Jewish community. To love outsiders while rejecting their beliefs was totally alien to their tradition.

Jesus' story tells of three travellers on the same road who see the same naked and wounded man by the roadside. The question is: how are they going to react to what they see? Will their seeing oblige them to act? Two Jewish officials, a priest and a Levite, continue their journey as if the purpose of living is to hurry on. At this point in the story, the hearers who thought of their community as priests, Levites, and Israelites were probably expecting the hero to be an Israelite. But the shock to the system is that the hero is a despised Samaritan, the one who is publicly cursed in synagogues. The one whose evidence is not acceptable in a court of law. He is the one Jesus holds up as the neighbour in the kingdom of God. He is the one who went beyond the limits of religion to extend the boundary of compassion.

Jesus questions his own people's attitude to the Samaritans. When someone says to him, "Yes, but we have our own way of doing things here." Jesus' response is to question that way.

Jesus is challenging the lawyer to be disloyal to that tradition. If loving your neighbour means being disloyal to your tradition then disloyalty itself becomes a virtue. The ultimate loyalty is love.

Jesus tells us that as his disciples we must be disloyal to those who would educate our hate. The Gospel comes to challenge our hate and to promote our love. And that challenge is always to extend the boundaries of our love to include our traditional enemies. If the Gospel does not liberate, then Christ died in vain. He died so that everyone could have life in his name.

Fr Pat Jackson SAC

Did you hear about the first restaurant to open on the moon?

It had great food, but no atmosphere.

Christmas-in-July Dance at St Anthony's

Saturday, 26 July 2025, 6pm.

This is a fundraising event for church maintenance. Food will be on sale at the venue and BYO drinks. Music by Floyd Solo Band. Dress code is semi-formal. Tickets are now on sale. Adults \$30, 6-14-yrs \$15, below 6-yrs free (no seat)



The Vibrant Parish Formation Series

Local and international guest speakers will share how we can strengthen the characteristics of a vibrant parish with Worship, Evangelisation, Formation, Fellowship, and Service using the TWG Renewal Framework.

Tuesdays: 6:30-9:00pm at Mulgrave Country Club, Corner of Wellington and Jells Roads, Wheelers Hill.

August 12: Service - Beyond the church doors

September 9: Evangelisation - Bridging the gap between parish and school

Contact the Parish Office if you wish to attend a session.

SPECIAL LEAGUE EVENT FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR
AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL - A PILGRIM PLACE

Pilgrins of Hope

A JOURNEY WITH THE LORD JESUS

WOMEN'S RETREAT

SATURDAY
6 SEPTEMBER 2025
9am - 4pm
Led by Fr Nicholas Pearce

Holy Mass celebrated by
Archbishop Peter A Comensoli
St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne
Talks, Adoration, Confession
Includes morning tea and lunch
Park Hyatt Melbourne

ARCHBISHOP PETER A COMENSOLI

FR NICHOLAS PEARCE

SILVANA SCARFE

MUSIC BY ALYSSA AGIUS

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF VICTORIA AND WAGGA WAGGA

Please book using the link below:

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1407033>

GOSPEL

Lk 10:25-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Who is my neighbour?

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, 'Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.' 'You have answered right,' said Jesus, 'do this and life is yours'.

But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him on to his own mount, carried him to the inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said "and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have." Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into brigands' hands?' 'The one, who took pity on him', he replied. Jesus said to him, 'Go, and do the same yourself'.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word

EXPECTATIONS UPENDED

The parable of the *Good Samaritan* from today's Gospel is one of our favourites. We know it so well, or we think we do, and has been with us from our earliest days. Today invites us to take a second look. Jesus tells the story to illustrate who is neighbour, affirming the two most important commandments from the Torah—one's total commitment to God (from Deuteronomy) and to love one's neighbour (from Leviticus).

Jesus tells the story to a religious interpreter of the Torah who would never think about Samaritans, other than in negative terms. So, for Jesus to make the Samaritan as the example of care for one who fell in with robbers is shocking to Jesus' questioner. The two religious leaders in the story, the priest and Levite, who 'pass by on the other side' would have been obliged under the Torah to assist anyone in the condition in which they find the abandoned and dying traveller. They fail in their religious duties. It is the unexpected one, the Samaritan, who is moved with 'compassion'—a visceral response that, in the Greek text, is linked to 'womb'.

The story Jesus tells upends expectations, even the expected cultural and social script of the day. I suspect Luke is dealing with something similar in the world of the Gospel audience. The late Pope Francis reminded us in his meditation on this same story of the importance of 'noticing'—of looking and observing so that we can respond. He invites us to see those in our world that we tend not to notice.

Fr Michael Trainor