



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

5 OCTOBER 2025

FIRST READING

Hab 1:2-3; 2:2-4

A reading from the prophet Habakkuk

The just will live by faithfulness.

How long, Lord, am I to cry for help
while you will not listen;
to cry 'Oppression!' in your ear
and you will not save?

Why do you set injustice before me,
why do you look on where there is tyranny?
Outrage and violence, this is all I see,
all is contention, and discord flourishes.
Then the Lord answered and said,

'Write the vision down,
inscribe it on tablets
to be easily read,
since this vision is for its own time only:
eager for its own fulfilment, it does not deceive;
if it comes slowly, wait,
for come it will, without fail.
See how he flags, he whose soul is not at rights,
but the upright man will live by his
faithfulness.'

■ The word of the Lord.

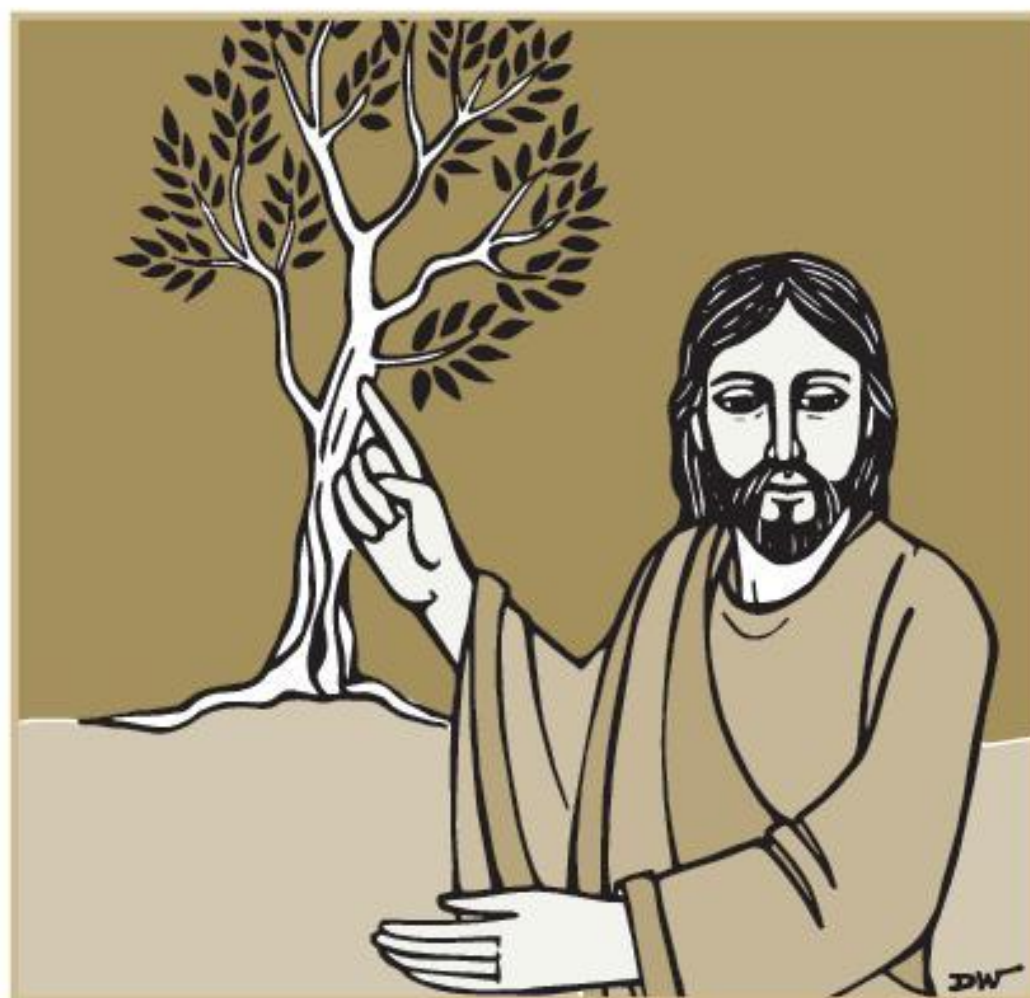
RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 94:1-2, 6-9. R. v. 8

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not
your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; / hail
the rock who saves us. / Let us come before
him, giving thanks, / with songs let us hail the
Lord. **R.**

2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; / let us
kneel before the God who made us / for he is
our God and we / the people who belong to his
pasture, / the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

3. O that today you would listen to his voice! /
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, / as on
that day at Massah in the desert / when your
fathers put me to the test; / when they tried
me, though they saw my work.' **R.**



SECOND READING

2 Tim 1:6-8, 13-14

A reading from the second letter of St Paul
to Timothy

Never be ashamed of witnessing to the Lord.

I am reminding you to fan into a flame the gift
that God gave you when I laid my hands on
you. God's gift was not a spirit of timidity, but
the Spirit of power, and love, and self-control.
So you are never to be ashamed of witnessing
to the Lord, or ashamed of me for being his
prisoner; but with me, bear the hardships for
the sake of the Good News, relying on the
power of God.

Keep as your pattern the sound teaching you
have heard from me, in the faith and love that
are in Christ Jesus. You have been trusted to
look after something precious; guard it with the
help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Pet 1:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of the Lord stands for ever:
it is the word given to you, the Good News.
Alleluia!



The Parish of St Joseph's, Elsternwick & Holy Cross, Caulfield South
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PARISH PRIEST: Rev Fr Leenus Neetany SAC

Permanent Deacon: Rev John Lam

Parish Coordinator: Joanna Lam

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

HOLY CROSS, CAULFIELD SOUTH

707 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield South 3162

Mass

Thursday 10:00am and Sunday 9:00am

Reconciliation

Thursday after Mass

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-mins before all Masses & Saturday 9:45-10:10am

Thanksgiving & Special Collections

Church: TBA Presbytery: TBA

Special Collection: -



Thanksgiving

Next Week's Roster

Lectors:

Saturday 6:30pm R Rodrigues

Sunday 9:00am S McMillan 10:30am La Bonne family

Counters: M Beaumont & B Leong

Upcoming Week's Liturgical Calendar

Tue 7 Oct: Our Lady of the Rosary

Sun 12 Oct: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Month of the Holy Rosary

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. According to an account by fifteenth-century Dominican, Alan de la Roch, Mary appeared to St. Dominic in 1206 after he had been praying and doing severe penances because of his lack of success in combating the Albigensian heresy. Mary praised him for his valiant fight against the heretics and then gave him the Rosary as a mighty weapon, explained its uses and efficacy, and told him to preach it to others.

On October 7, the Roman Catholic Church celebrates the yearly feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Known for several centuries by the alternate title of "Our Lady of Victory," the feast day takes place in honour of a 16th century naval victory which secured Europe against Turkish invasion. Pope St. Pius V attributed the victory to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who was invoked on the day of the battle through a campaign to pray the Rosary throughout Europe.

Parish Social Lunch

All parishioners and friends are invited to a social lunch at The Camden Hotel, 414 Hawthorn Rd, Caulfield South on Wednesday, October 8th, 12:30pm

Please come along for an afternoon of fun and friendship.

RSVP: Denise - 0410311326 by Monday, October 6th.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (cf. Esth 4:17)

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (Lam 3:25)

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill*: **Tony Messina**

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

Recently Deceased: **Fr Francis Burns**

Death Anniversary: -

We sadly convey the news that
Rev. Fr. Francis Edward (Ted) Burns
passed away on Monday, 29th September 2025.



We remember Fr Burns as an exceptional Priest and for all his good works at Klibur Domin, Timor Leste.

A Vigil Mass to honor his life will be held at
St Michael's Catholic Church, 460 Dryburgh Street,
North Melbourne at 7pm on Monday 6th October 2025.
A Requiem Mass for the repose of his soul will be held at
St Brendan's Catholic Church, 121 Knight Street,
Shepparton at 1:00pm on Tuesday, October 7th, 2025.

MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE

Feast of the Most Holy Rosary

Our Lady at Fatima declared: "Say the Rosary every day, to bring peace to the world"

The world definitely needs peace, our families need peace and our souls need the peace that the Rosary gives.

In praying the Rosary we meditate on the essential mysteries of the faith, but its power goes way beyond any explanation that one may give of this beautiful prayer.

1:30pm Sunday, 12th October at Holy Cross Church with Adoration, Prayers, Rosary Holy Mass.

* Free quality rosaries for all who attend

* Present during the afternoon and available for veneration at the conclusion of the afternoon will be the First Class Relics of St Louis De Montfort, one of the greatest Marian saints of all times, and St Gemma Galganni, an amazing lay Italian mystic.

The Combined Societies of Mary.
www.combinedsocietiesofmary.com
Enquiries: Joy Hunt 9509 2207



St Carlo Acutis' First Class Relic

Exhibition at Stella Maris Church in Beaumaris, and at St Joseph's Hall in Black Rock. Details on the notice board.



Lord, make us bearers of hope,
So that where there is darkness, your light may shine,
and where there is discouragement,
confidence in the future may be reborn.
Lord, make us instruments of your justice,
So that where is exclusion, fraternity may flourish,
And where there is greed, a spirit of sharing may grow.
Lord, make us builders of your kingdom,
Together with migrants and refugees,
And with all who dwell on the peripheries.
Lord, let us learn how beautiful it is
To live together as brothers and sisters.
Amen.



~ Written by Pope Francis in 2022 ~



St Joseph's and Holy Cross now has ten participants who have registered with our Parish for this event.

Our Pilgrims and Leaders will be organising fundraising activities in the next 2 months.

This weekend, the pilgrims will be hosting a cuppa after Sunday 10:30am Mass at St Joseph's Church. They will also be having a Cake Stall to raise funds for the group's expenses at the Festival. Please support their efforts.

We invite everyone to please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for the Festival.

Jubilee Year Pilgrimage 2025

Saturday 11th October, travel by car and bus visiting Churches to the west and north of Melbourne.



The Program

8am: Mass at St Anthony's Church

8.50am: Depart by bus and car.

9.30am: Polish National Shrine, Aberfeldie.

10.30am: St Mary McKillop Church, Keilor Downs

11.30am: St Mary's Star of the Sea, West Melbourne

12.15pm: St Patrick's Cathedral

1.30pm: Arrive back at St Anthony's

(Times may vary slightly)

If you are interested in joining the pilgrimage please complete the Expression-of-Interest on the clipboards at the church foyer. All very welcome.

There are three pilgrim churches in the Melbourne area which we have not visited. These are:

St Dominic's Camberwell,
Sacred Heart Croydon and
St Luke's Lalor.

There may still be time for us to complete these visits in November, so please let us know if you are interested.

March For The Babies

Come and march for the babies at 1pm on Saturday, 11th October.

Meet at the Treasury Gardens, corner of Spring Street and Wellington Parade, East Melbourne, for a peaceful walk through the CBD.

Please wear pink and blue for the babies.
www.marchforthebabies.com



27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Faith, the size of a mustard seed

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus,

We all have probably seen or at least heard of African Impala. They look like deer. They are capable of jumping as high as 3 meters. Yet in zoos, these animals are kept in enclosures with walls that are only one meter high. They do not dare to jump over the one-meter-high walls, though they are capable of it. The reason is that before they attempt a jump, they would want to see the spot across the wall where they would be landing. The one-meter walls do not let them see across the wall. So, they remain enclosed.

Like the African Impala we are also capable of big jumps, great achievements. But like them, we are often kept within walls of uncertainty, fear and doubt. Since we cannot see what lies ahead of us, often we dare not take big steps. Such big steps demand faith. Faith is the ability to trust what we cannot see. Faith makes us free from uncertainty, fear and doubt. Faith makes us "see" what our physical eyes cannot see.

According to Jesus even a bit of faith in God is enough to bring us great results. Because, when we have faith, it is God who is at work; and there is nothing that is hard for God. When we believe, God comes in and makes the impossible possible.

Today we heard Jesus saying that faith even of the size of a mustard seed is sufficient to uproot a tree or move a mountain. In other words, we don't need to have a great deal of faith to experience God's wonders in our lives. Jesus did not say, to move a mustard seed we need faith the size of a mountain, but that faith as small as a mustard seed is sufficient to overturn mountainous problems.

An American Journal once reported the results of a study conducted by doctors. The study showed that, the patients who had a high degree of faith in God, recovered from their illnesses much faster, than those who had lesser degree of faith or no faith at all.

So, when we are faced with any sort of difficult situations, however simple or complex it maybe, we will do well to call upon God in faith. God is the one who sees beyond the walls that surround us. So then, we shall not be reluctant or afraid to take the big leaps, placing our total trust in Him alone.

Fr Leenus

Q: Why was Cinderella kicked off her soccer team?

A: She kept running away from the ball.

VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING (VAD)

Many thanks to all who have sent the campaign letters to the politicians to oppose the Victorian government's plan to make the Voluntary Assisted Dying more readily available by amending the ACT by the end of 2025.

Those who would like to send the letters by post, should contact the Parish Office or Fr Pat.

If you prefer to send the letters by email, contact maritadunphy@yahoo.com or the Parish Office (with VAD in the subject line).

**Stand
Against
Euthanasia**

Plant Sale - 9th November at St Anthony's

Now is a good time to think about preparing seedlings if you would like to donate to the Plant Sale.

Donations of potting mix also very welcome.

Please support the upcoming Plant Sale. Proceeds go to Tony's Café.

Thank you!

GOSPEL

Lk 17:5-10

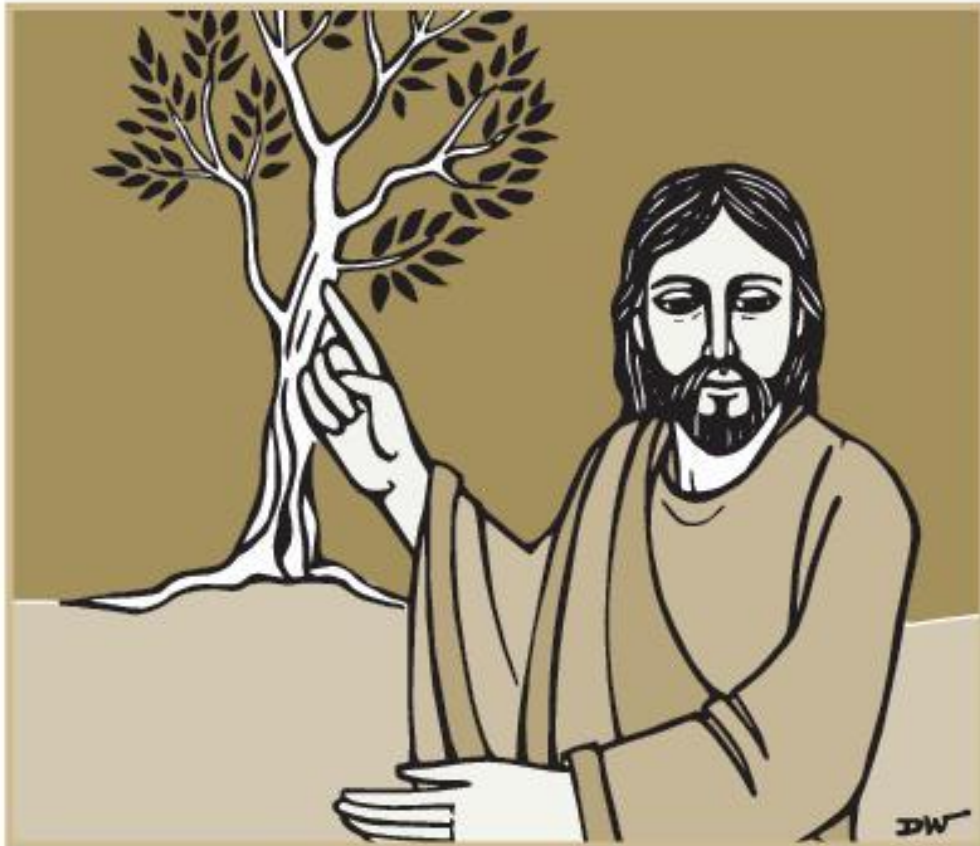
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

If you had faith!

The Apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith.' The Lord replied, 'Were your faith the size of a mustard seed you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea," and it would obey you.'

'Which of you, with a servant ploughing or minding sheep, would say to him when he returned from the fields, "Come and have your meal immediately"? Would he not be more likely to say, "Get my supper laid; make yourself tidy and wait on me while I eat and drink. You can eat and drink yourself afterwards"? Must he be grateful to the servant for doing what he was told? So with you: when you have done all you have been told to do, say, "We are merely servants: we have done no more than our duty."'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word

MERELY SERVANTS

There are two parts to today's Gospel. The first concerns faith. The apostles ask Jesus to 'increase their faith'. His response is not about making faith quantifiable but about allowing it to be active—no matter how limited one's faith seems to be. Faith makes what seems impossible (requesting a tree to be uprooted and planted in the ocean) possible. The imagery that Jesus uses accentuates the real nature of faith and assures Gospel listeners that faith helps disciples to act with confidence and see unimaginable possibilities for their lives with God.

This affirmation connects to the second part of today's proclamation. It is about acting with a spirit of humility, rather than from high status and arrogance. The final words of the Gospel – 'We are merely servants: we have done no more than our duty'—invites Luke's audience, and ourselves, to see that our conduct in fidelity to God is what is important, not how we are promoted or regarded differentially by others. The saying that exemplifies Luke's portrait of Jesus, as 'one who came to serve and not be served' encourages his disciples, seduced by status, to live similarly, 'rather than be served'.

This reversal of social expectation and status seeking is difficult in a world which promotes a popularity founded on worldliness, status seeking and entitlement.

Fr Michael Trainor