Gospel Luke 18:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

God will see those who cry to him vindicated.

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. 'There was a judge in a certain town' he said 'who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, "I want justice from you against my enemy!" For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, "Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death."'

And the Lord said, 'You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection *by Greg Sunter*

In the gospel of Luke, widows represent the lowly of society. They also are a measure of how the society is travelling. In the Old Testament, God commanded the people to care for widows, orphans and strangers. Widows, in particular, were to be cared for by the whole community. From that point on, the level of compassion within the society could be measured by the care extended to the widows. A number of the prophets point to neglect of the widows as a sign that the community has turned its back on the covenant with God. The gospel of Luke picks up this prophetic tradition and on several occasions uses widows as the key figures in stories or parables.

In this parable, the widow is petitioning her local judge for justice against towards the widow, but the judge fobs her off repeatedly. The widow, knowing that her cause is just, persists and finally wears down the judge.

Another feature of the gospel of Luke is that the lowly and poor – represented here by the widow – are those who recognise their own condition and call on the mercy of God to lift them up. Jesus says that God will see justice done to those who cry out for God's help. Jesus' final comment about finding any faith on earth is a reminder that human beings have a tendency to think they can solve all their own problems and forget that they need God's action in their lives. The faithful in the gospel of Luke are those who know that they are in need of God's mercy and love and call out for it.

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ST MARTIN DE PORRES
Catholic Parish
Avondale Heights

Today's Celebration is on pages:
Old Missal: 836 New Missal: 949

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C ***19 October 2025***

First Reading Exodus 17:8-13

A reading from the book of Exodus

As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage.

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile, will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand.' Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him and on this he sat, Aaron and Hur supporting his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm till sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm Ps 120. R. v.2

(R.) Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

1. I lift up my eyes to the mountains:
   from where shall come my help?
   My help shall come from the Lord
   who made heaven and earth. (R.)
2. May he never allow you to stumble!
   Let him sleep not, your guard.
   No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,
   Israel's guard. (R.)
3. The Lord is your guard and your shade;
   at your right side he stands.
   By day the sun shall not smite you
   nor the moon in the night. (R.)
4. The Lord will guard you from evil,
   he will guard your soul.
   The Lord will guard your going and coming
   both now and for ever. (R.)

Second Reading 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

This is how the people of God become equipped and ready for every good work.

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures – from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation Heb 4:12

Alleluia, alleluia!
The word of God is living and active;
it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.
Alleluia!

St Martin de Porres Parish

158 Military Rd, Avondale Heights Vic 3034

www.melbcatholic.org/avondaleheights

Parish Priest: Fr. Paul Tru

Secretaries: Fleur Allen: Wednesday - Friday
Charles Meneze: Tuesday
Office Hours: Closed Monday
9:30am - 5pm Tuesday - Friday
Pastoral Assoc: Sr. Cres Villas, asjm
Sr. Connie Mamo, asjm (Vol)
Phone: 9337 6016
E-mail: avondaleheights@cam.org.au

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil	6:00pm
Sunday	8:00am & 9:30am
Vietnamese	11:00am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Friday	9:15am
Benediction	Wednesday after Mass
Reconciliation	Wednesday 10.00am
	Saturday 5:30pm

St Martin de Porres School

Principal: Stefanie Harvey
Secretaries: Mary Carmuciano
Maria Aloe
Phone: 9331 9000
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principal@smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au
www.smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

The Augustinian Sisters

Convent: 2 Venice Court,
Avondale Heights
Phone: 9337 4595
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Website: www.asjmoz.org

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility.
The Parish of St Martin de Porres and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. Child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of everyone.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick:
John Burns; Nancy Green; Alex Mather; Rose; Joseph Nguyen Ngoc Thi; Claudia & Thomas; Maria Nguyen Lam Quynh; Monika Marland; Andreu & Marita; Emily & Grace; Hazel; Robyn; Giovanni; Adamo; Mellisa.

Recently Deceased:
Phyllis Xerri; Domenica Barbante; Harry Degan (Ireland); Agata Barbaro; Sam Cianci; Thomas Davis; Phanxico Xavie Maria Tuyen.

Anniversaries & Remembrances:
Marianna Serrano (1st); Letizia Bellofiore (1st); Maria Vittoria Fernandes; Frank & Tony Patti; Horace Fenech; Rocco & Domenica Bonetti; Livia Cardillo; Victor Degabriele; Gregorio Pagliaro; Victor Micallef; Charlie Sciberras; Dominic Cumbo; Joseph & Consiglia Grima; Emmanuel, Teresa & Menu Sammut; Francis & Bernarda Grima; John & Tonina Darmanin; Emmanuel & Nazzarena Farrugia; Carmelo & Rita De Bono; Joseph Apap; Charlie Galea.

Parish Support Programme:
Pledge: $2,588 Received: $2.195
Shortfall: $393 Loose: $979
Presbytery: $1,808

Contributing to the Collections
You may wish to use the QR code if you have left your cash at home. Thank you for your generosity.

Christian Meditation
Maranatha ... Come Lord Jesus
All welcome: Mondays 10 - 11am
Parent's Room in the Church
Term 4: Oct 20; Nov 10 & 24; Dec 8.

Devotion to Divine Mercy
Mondays: 2.30pm Rosary
3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by Stations of the Cross, 4pm finish.

Bible Sharing with Sr Mayla
Wednesdays 10am in St Martin's Pastoral Centre. All Welcome!

CELEBRATION THIS WEEKEND

Baptism: Gabriela Elizabeth Madaffari

New Parish Support Envelopes
A Pastoral letter from Fr Paul, Parish Support receipts, and new envelopes will be at the back of the church in alphabetical street order – please take yours home today.
If you would like to join the programme, please complete the note below and place in the collection box at Mass or contact the Parish Office.

PARISH SUPPORT PROGRAMME

We encourage you to join our programme.

First Name:_____

Surname:_____

Phone No._____

Address:_____

Prayer for Students Undertaking Exams

Loving God,
be with me now,
as I prepare for my exams.
Thank you for the many talents and gifts you have given me
and for the opportunity of education.
Calm my nerves and anxiety, help me to remember all that I have studied,
to express it clearly and to answer the questions the very best that I can.
Holy Spirit, sit with me in my exam - and always.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the
seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

Pope Francis

Holy Mass

In Reparation for And Healing from ABORTION

25 October 2025 9am and Every 4th Saturday
St Patrick's Cathedral
Confessions from 8:30am
Followed by ***Rosary Procession***
See flyer on in the foyer for details.

NEW PARISHIONERS
We welcome you and ask that you make yourself known to us by completing the New Parishioners Form in Documents and Forms under Recommended Links on our website and return it to the Parish Office. Thank you.