



THE SAVING WORD

PENTECOST SUNDAY / C

8 JUNE 2025

FIRST READING

Acts 2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PSALM

Ps 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34. R. v. 30

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. (or Alleluia!)

1. Bless the Lord, my soul! / Lord God, how great you are! / How many are your works, O Lord! / The earth is full of your riches. **R.**

2. You take back your spirit, they die, / returning to the dust from which they came. / You send forth your spirit, they are created; / and you renew the face of the earth. **R.**



3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever! / May the Lord rejoice in his works! / May my thoughts be pleasing to him. / I find my joy in the Lord. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 8:8-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son of God.

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son of God. The spirit you received is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again; it is the spirit of sons, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba, Father!'

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

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ST JOSEPH'S, ELSTERNWICK

71 Orrong Road, Elsternwick 3185

www.melbcatholic.org/elsternwick

Facebook



Mass

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

Reconciliation

Friday after Mass, Saturday 6:00pm

Thanksgiving & Special Collections

Church: \$TBA Presbytery: \$TBA

Special Collection: -

Next Week's Roster

Lector - Saturday: S Bettoni

Lector - Sunday: M Nelson

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

Church: \$TBA Presbytery: \$TBA

Special Collection: -

Next Week's Roster

Lector: D Duffy

Thanksgiving



Thanksgiving



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

Mon 9 Jun: Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

Wed 11 Jun: St Barnabas

Fri 13 Jun: St Anthony of Padua

Sun 15 Jun: The Most Holy Trinity



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

Please share this with all those who would like to be part of a spiritual journey towards becoming a Catholic.

We also welcome new Facilitators to assist us with the program. Please email to register interest a.s.a.p.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (Wis 1:7)

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (Acts 2:4, 11)

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill*: **Paulette Dobbin, Tony Messina**

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

Recently Deceased: **Joseph Waller**

Death Anniversary: -

Upcoming Special Collection: Catholic Mission

On the weekend of 21-22 June, a special collection will be taken up for the Propagation of Faith.

Please give generously to help continue this life-giving program by using the appeal envelope or visiting the Catholic Mission website.

Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.



Parish Celebration!

We will celebrate the amalgamation of our 2 parishes on Sunday, 29 June 2025.

1. Mass will be celebrated at 9:00am at Holy Cross and at 10:30am at St Joseph's.
2. A light lunch will be served at 12-noon. For catering purposes, please RSVP using the clipboards at the church foyer by Sunday 22 June.
3. Altar Servers are requested to assist at 10:30am Mass.
4. If you would like to contribute to entertainment during the meal, e.g. to sing a song or read a poem, we are looking for 4 short acts to be a part of the program. Please contact the Parish Office by Friday, 13th June.
5. Volunteers to assist with decoration, set-up and pack-up of the school atrium will be most welcomed. Please indicate availability on the RSVP form.

Parish Social Lunch

All parishioners and friends are invited to a social lunch at The Camden Hotel, 414 Hawthorn Road, Caulfield South, on Wednesday, June 11th, 12:30pm.

Please come along for an afternoon of fun and friendship. Transport available if required.

RSVP: Denise - 0410311326 by Monday June 9th.

Legion of Mary - Recruitment

The Legion of Mary Curia/Senatus is planning to start a new Praesidium in St Joseph's and Holy Cross Parish.

To facilitate this, some of their representatives will speak at all Masses this weekend, in hope of recruiting enough members to proceed. We welcome their team.

The Feasts of St Aloysius & St Anthony of Padua



A combined celebration of the Patron Saints of the parishes of St Aloysius and St Anthony's will be held on 14th & 15th June



The main Mass will be at St Anthony's Church at 11am on Sunday, followed by a BBQ at Padua Pavilion. After all the other Masses, there will be a cuppa. All welcome!

Novena to St Anthony will begin on 4th June in preparation for the actual Feast Day on 13th June.

Before weekday Mass, Rosary at 8:45am followed by Novena and Mass at 9:15am.

Young Adults Hosting Mass: Saturday 28 June

The Young Adults aged 18-35 from our 3 churches come together every 4th Saturday of the month to host the 6:30pm Vigil Mass at St Joseph's.

For those who are slightly older but still young-at-heart, you are most welcome to join the group as Youth Coordinators. This is an important role, as you will be supporting the Young Adults and also guiding our Youth aged 7-17 at Mass and during fellowship.

Praise & Worship

All welcome to the Praise & Worship session hosted by Young Adults on Friday, 18 July from 7-8pm at Holy Cross Parish Hall, followed by a cuppa. Please bring a plate to share.

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.

June 10: Worship - I have called you friends

July 1: Hospitality - Transformation for host and guest

August 12: Service - Beyond the church doors

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

Repeat Sessions: Wednesdays 6:30-9:00pm at Club Italia, 128-132 Furlong Rd, Sunshine. 11/6, 2/7, 13/8, 10/9

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

Pentecost Sunday, Year C

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus,
Once, a huge cargo-ship got stuck in the muck of shallow waters.



The whole day through, the captain and the crew tried to get the ship out of the muck. When all their efforts were of no success, the captain said, "Leave it alone". The captain himself went back to his cabin and waited; they waited for the high tide to come. That night, when the high tide came, the waters lifted the thousand ton tanker off the muck and carried it back into the ocean.

This is one little way of understanding the power of the Holy Spirit. On the day of Pentecost a similar but a spiritual tidal wave swept over the disciples. We read in today's first reading, 'On the 50th day after the Resurrection of Jesus, when the disciples were all together in prayer, there came from heaven a sound as of a violent wind which filled them and the entire house'. It changed their lives and enabled them to change the whole world.

On that day, the infant Church truly sprang into life. That day, what was thought to be impossible was made possible by the Holy Spirit. It seemed so unlikely that the small group of unlearned, timid fishermen would come out into the open to preach to the world, Jesus crucified. Earlier, they were so fearful and lacked conviction and enthusiasm. But the spiritual tidal wave gave them a lift and it drove them to places unknown to them to accomplish a mission that was otherwise impossible.

In fact, Jesus himself had instructed them not to go about preaching, unless and until they were filled with the Holy Spirit. It shows how important is the Holy Spirit in the life of any one. Without the Holy Spirit, we cannot do anything properly.

The Holy Spirit is not something but Someone. Holy Spirit is a Person. He is the 3rd Person of the Holy Trinity. The essence of this Person is Love. The Father loves the Son so intently; and in turn the Son loves the Father so intently. The intensity of the love between God the Father and God the Son is so great that, that love is a Person, whom we call God the Holy Spirit.

"Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful."

Fr Leenus

Teacher: What do you want to be when you grow up?

Johnny: I want to follow in my father's footsteps and be a policeman.

Teacher: I didn't know your father is a policeman.

Johnny: He isn't. He's a burglar.

Tony's Cafe Birthday Party

Tony's Café will be turning 16 soon and we are celebrating with a morning tea on Tuesday 17th June.

Please come along and join us at St Anthony's Parish Hall, 164-168 Neerim Road. All are welcome to attend.

If you would like to bring a plate of food to share, please notify Gwen or Veronica through the parish office. More details to follow.

Christmas-in-July Dance at St Anthony's

Fundraising for Church Maintenance. Food on sale and BYO drinks. Music by Floyd Solo Band. Dress code is semi-formal. Tickets on sale from next weekend. Adults \$30pp, below 14-yrs \$15pp, below 6-yrs free (no seat).



Registration Open!

The ACYF is wonderful opportunity for engagement with other young people while experiencing talks, prayer, workshops, live concerts, games, Mass and much more.

It is right at our own doorstep and an opportunity not to miss! You are encouraged to register with your Parish using the form available at our church foyers.

Parents need to complete the forms for those under 18.

The Parish of St Joseph's & Holy Cross and The Parish of St Anthony's & St Aloysius will register a 'combined contingent' for those who would like to attend or lead.

- Sunday, 30 November - Tuesday, 2 December
- Year 9 - 25 years plus Leaders 25+
- Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre
- \$390-410 per person for the entire Festival. Travel and food at additional cost.



The Spirit himself and our spirit bear united witness that we are children of God. And if we are children we are heirs as well: heirs of God and coheirs with Christ, sharing his sufferings so as to share his glory.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 14:15-16, 23-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

The Holy Spirit will teach you everything.

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father

and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever.

‘If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him.

Those who do not love me do not keep my words.

And my word is not my own; it is the word of the one who sent me.

I have said these things to you while still with you;

but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit,

whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything

and remind you of all I have said to you.’

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word

‘PEACE BE WITH YOU’

We live in a world of fear. It surrounds us: the political aggression evident globally, the social issues that depress, even personal challenges that come from relationships and life choices. The fear of tumultuous unrest or personal failure dominates our hearts at times.

Today’s Gospel offers us a calming voice. Pentecost is a celebration of God’s Spirit present, efficacious and penetrating—even into those areas of life and our world that seem so strained, tense and violent. Jesus comes into a room of fearful disciples. They are afraid of the religious authorities—what they did to Jesus could also happen to them. Into their midst the Risen Jesus comes. He stands *among* them, not away from them, or outside them. But *in* the midst of their fears. Twice he offers them the word that they need to hear, ‘Peace be with you.’ It’s a word that we need to hear personally, and that the world needs to know.

‘Peace’ comes from the gift of Jesus’ own spirit. His reassurance of his presence, the evidence of his suffering before them in his wounds, and his gift of peace is a strong affirmation. ‘Peace’, ‘shalom’ in Hebrew, is a prayer for wholeness in the midst of fear and suffering. It is the gift that Jesus wants for us, and for the world. The Gospel ends with the invitation to mission, to spread this peace that brings wholeness and forgiveness of sin.

Fr Michael Trainor