

the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God, and he said:

‘Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace,
just as you promised;
because my eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared for all the nations
to see,
a light to enlighten the pagans
and the glory of your people Israel.’

As the child’s father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, ‘You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.’

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God’s favour was with him.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Shorter form, Lk 2: 22-32

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD / C

2 FEBRUARY 2025

A LIGHT TO ALL

The Torah, the first part of the Old (First) Testament, legislates the consecration by an Israelite family of the first-born male child to God (Exodus 13:2,12). Mary and Joseph are faithful adherents to Jewish law and represent Luke’s intention to illustrate that what unfolds in the couple and their child is in continuity with God’s plan expressed in the First Testament.

The two beloved and holy characters that Jesus’ parents next meet in the temple, Simeon and Anna, further underscore this connection. Simeon is a prophet and bearer of God’s Spirit who desires the “comforting” of his people. Guided by the Spirit he comes to the Temple and takes Jesus into his arms. He blesses God and reaffirms the future ministry of Jesus, to bring God’s salvation and light to all, while also being a sign of contradiction and rejection.

A second wizened prophet, Anna, also appears and attests that the child will be the cause of Israel’s liberation. Our reading ends on a note about Jesus’ growth, maturity, wisdom and gracefulness. The two prophetic figures that occupy this story affirm Jesus’ nature and his future ministry. He is linked to Israel’s history. He, like the two who attest to him in the Temple, will also be a prophet to God’s people, bringing liberation for the oppressed and challenge those who oppress. Our invitation this Sunday is to draw close to this child, to allow him to comfort and free us, and accompany us in moments of contradiction and difficulty.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Mal 3:1–4

A reading from the prophet Malachi

The Lord whom you seek will come to his temple.

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his Temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner’s fire and the fullers’ alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 23: 7-10. R. v. 8

R. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

1. O gates, lift up your heads; / grow higher, ancient doors. / Let him enter, the king of glory! **R.**

2. Who is the king of glory? / The Lord, the mighty, the valiant, / the Lord, the valiant in war. **R.**

3. O gates, lift high your heads; / grow higher, ancient doors. / Let him enter, the king of glory! **R.**

4. Who is he, the king of glory? / He, the Lord of armies, / he is the king of glory. **R.**

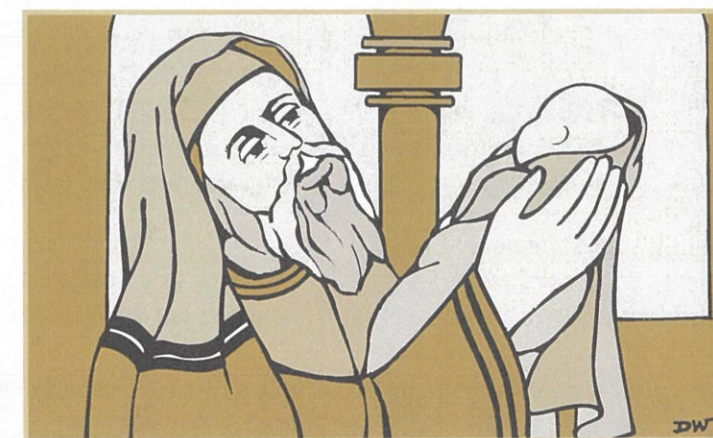
SECOND READING

Heb 2:14–18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

He had to be made like us in all things.

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself;



he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God’s religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 2:32

Alleluia, alleluia! / This is the light of revelation to the nations, / and the glory of your people, Israel. / Alleluia!

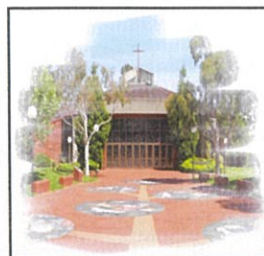
GOSPEL

Lk 2:22–40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

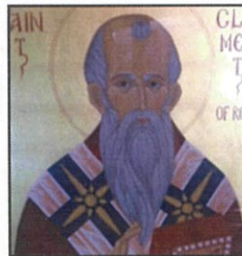
My eyes have seen your saving power.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel’s comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by



St Clement of Rome Church

Address: 9 –21 Egan Drive, Bulleen 3105 - **Phone:** 9850 3262
Email: bulleen@cam.org.au, **Web:** <https://www.melbcatholic.org/bulleen>
<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.

Welcome to St Clement of Rome as we celebrate the Presentation of the Lord.
Today's theme is : My eyes have seen your saving power.
We invite you to reflect on this theme throughout the Mass.

JUBILEE 2025

Jubilee years are a time of newness. They have been celebrated throughout the history of the Church, but their roots go back to the Old Testament, when the Israelites were commanded to celebrate a jubilee every 50 years.

As we approach the Jubilee Year of Hope, a special day of formation and planning has been scheduled to help the parishes start 2025 with confidence and renewed hope. We will keep you informed about the activities following the planning session. In the meantime, let us take this opportunity to familiarise ourselves with jubilee prayer. Stay tuned for further updates.



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

**Congratulations & welcome
to God's family
at St Clement's Parish
Mila Prince
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.



Our Lady of the Perpetual Help Novena

Will be resumed on Sat 8th Feb at 8.40am.

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

Sun 2nd Feb @ 9am—Mass & Baptism
Mon 3rd Feb @ 9.15am—no Mass
Tue 4th Feb @ 9.15am—Italian Mass
Wed 5th Feb @ 9.15am — Mass
Thurs 6th Feb @ 9.15am— Mass
Fri 7th Feb @ 9.15am—no Mass
Sat 8th Feb @ 9.15am— Mass & Reconciliation

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

*We pray for those who have died recently,
Zaldilia Nuccitelli and for the repose of the souls of
Anna Maria Hwa, Chen Mi Hwa, Anthony Schieven 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.*

Changes to the After-School Sacramental Program

We are pleased to inform you of some exciting changes to our after-school sacramental program. This year, with the exception of the sacrament of reconciliation, we plan for our children to receive the sacraments of first eucharist and confirmation at the same time as the school children. The sacramental classes will be held separately, but will align with the main sacrament dates of the school.



We are excited about this new approach and look forward to creating a unified system for both the school and the parish. Thank you for your support as we implement these changes.

While we work on the class dates for the Sacraments of First Eucharist & Confirmation, we have posted the class dates for the sacrament of reconciliation on our website. Please register your interest by completing the registration form available on the website.

ASRE—Sacrament of Reconciliation 2025

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Saturday 15 th Feb	9.00 -10.00am	ASRE Reconciliation 1
Saturday 22 nd Feb	9.00 -10.00am	ASRE Reconciliation 2
Saturday 1 st Mar	9.00 -10.00am	ASRE Reconciliation 3
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

Lourdes Day Mass : Sat 8th February 2025 at 10.30am—St Patrick's Cathedral

New Ways of Giving



Support our Church with ease!
simply scan the QR code with your phone camera to donate directly.
Thank you for your generosity and support!

LITURGY ROSTER SAT 5.30PM SUN 9.00AM

1 /2 Feb	<i>Sacristan</i>	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	<i>Commentator</i>	Jacinta De La Cruz	Grace Cannatelli
	<i>Reader</i>	Rene De La Cruz	Rocco Gagliardi
	<i>Special Ministers</i>	Zina Scalzo	Gloria Ng
		May Teh	Maria Papalia
		Martin Teh	Shirley Pyndiah

8/9 Feb	<i>Sacristan</i>	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	<i>Commentator</i>	Rene De La Cruz	Rocco Gagliardi
	<i>Reader</i>	Paul Sammut	Mark Gregor
	<i>Special Ministers</i>	Enza Wilcocks	Grace Cannatelli
		Warwick Wright	Anne Fusca
		John Bruce	Rita Gagliardi

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL' EUCHARISTIA
09/02	T CARAFA L DEL TONDO	FAM E CASTRIOTTA	L CIAMPA G BAGLIERI

"THANK YOU" from ST VINCENT DE PAUL

During December 2024 the Conference received \$2,520 in donations.

Parishioners also donated a station wagon load of **foods under the Christmas tree** that were delivered to Doncare.

The St Clement of Rome School families collected *many* shopping trolleys of foods that were delivered to people in our community as hampers and what was left over was taken to local food banks to be distributed.

Your SVDP Conference had a lot of work to do and we're grateful for the assistance of Parishioners who answered our call for help.

"Thank You" to Parishioners and School families for your generous support.

SVDP President - Warwick Wright