



THE SAVING WORD

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

17 NOVEMBER 2024

FIRST READING

Dan 12:1-13

A reading from the prophet Daniel

When that time comes your own people will be spared.

'At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 15:5, 8-11

R. Keep me safe, O God;
you are my hope.

1. O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; / it is you yourself who are my prize. / I keep the Lord ever in my sight: / since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **R.**

2. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; / even my body shall rest in safety. / For you will not leave my soul among the dead, / nor let your beloved know decay. **R.**

3. You will show me the path of life, / the fullness of joy in your presence, / at your right hand happiness for ever. **R.**

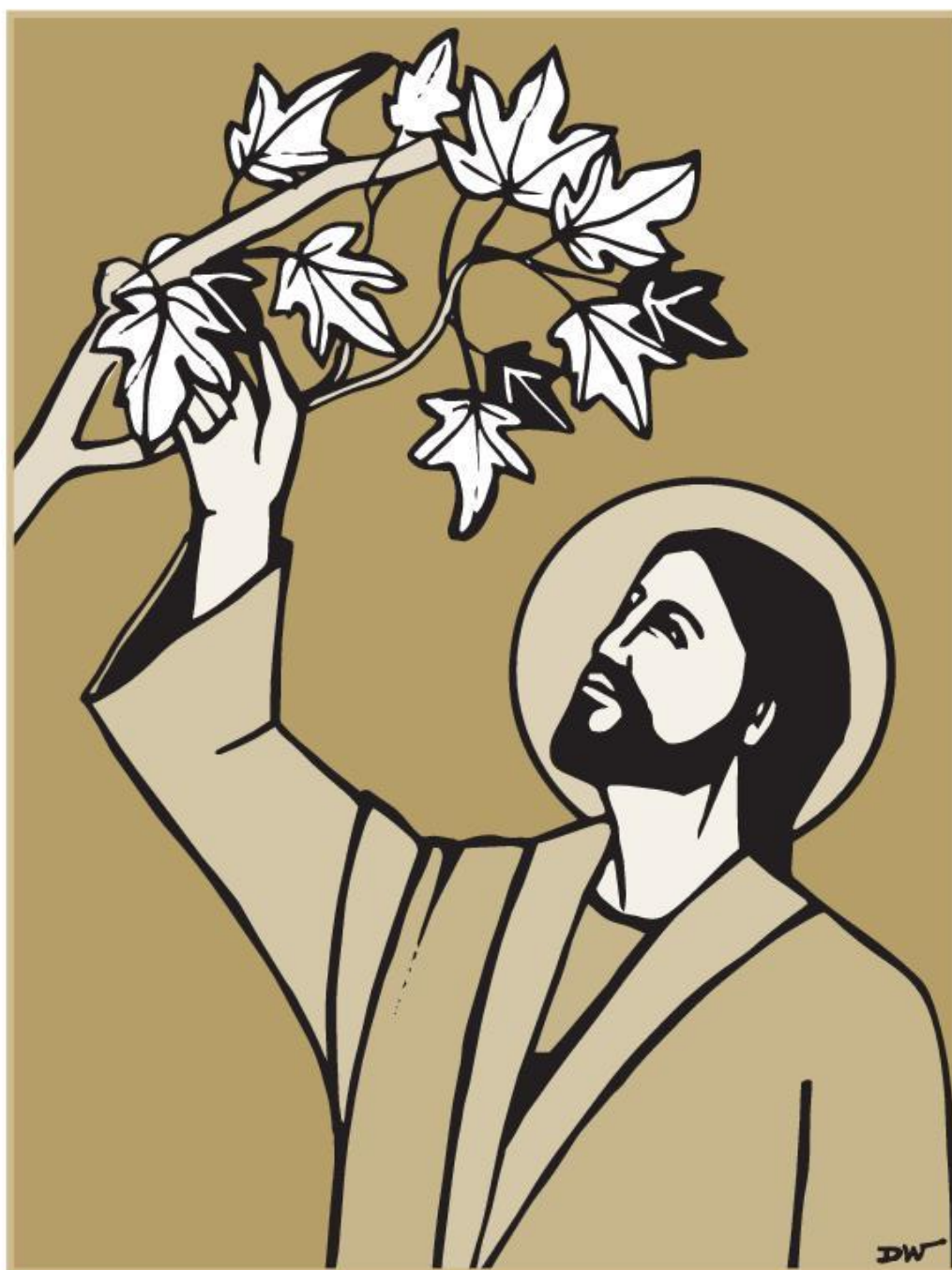
SECOND READING

Heb 10:11-14, 18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

By a single offering he has achieved the eternal perfection of those who are sanctified.

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices



which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 21:36

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful, pray constantly,
that you may be worthy to stand before
the Son of Man.

Alleluia!

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES 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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Mail: PO Box 664, Elsternwick, VIC 3185

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Email Holy Cross: caulfieldsouth@cam.org.au

ST JOSEPH'S, ELSTERNWICK

71 Orrong Road, Elsternwick, VIC 3185

Mass

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

Reconciliation

Friday after Mass, Saturday 6:00pm

Thanksgiving & Special Collections - 2 weeks

Church: \$415.00 Presbytery: \$425.00

Special Collection: \$416.00 (Catholic Mission)

Next Week's Roster

Lector - Saturday: J Lam

Lector - Sunday: P Donohue

Counters: B Leong & E Ambrose

HOLY CROSS, CAULFIELD SOUTH

707 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield South 3162

Mass

Thursday 10:00am and Sunday 9:00am

Reconciliation

Thursday after Mass

Thanksgiving & Special Collections - 2 weeks

Church: \$334.60 Presbytery: \$344.60

Special Collection: \$180.00 (Catholic Mission)

Next Week's Roster

Lector: A Powell

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

Thu 21 Nov: The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Fri 22 Nov: St Cecilia

Sun 24 Nov: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Our New Parish Website

Both St Joseph's and Holy Cross Parishes now have their own website.

St Joseph's: www.melbcatholic.org/elsternwick

Holy Cross: www.melbcatholic.org/caulfieldsouth

Although we are partnered parishes, we will for the time being, maintain two separate websites. Most information will be replicated. When you visit our website, you can **subscribe** to our weekly News Bulletin via the 'News' tab, or contact the Parish Office.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (Jer 29:11, 12, 14)

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (Ps 72:28)

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill: **Richard Grant, Paulette Dobbin, Eamonn Whelan, Tony Messina, Steve Genge & family, Jenny**

Recently Deceased: **Giovanna Morgan**

Death Anniversary & Remembrance: **Annie Driver**

Young Adults Hosting Mass

This Saturday, 16 November, the Young Adults from our 3 parishes are the hosts for the 6:30pm Mass at St Joseph's Church. It is lovely to see the young people of our parishes taking the initiative to bring extra joy to our Mass celebrations. Well done!

First Eucharist this Sunday

Congratulations to the children who will be receiving their First Eucharist this Sunday at St Joseph's 10:30am Mass.

Our parish community compliments them, their parents and teachers on their preparation for this very important milestone of their faith journey.

May they all continue to keep God at the centre of their daily life.

Trivia Lunch @ Holy Cross Parish Hall

Join us on Wednesday, 20th November at 12-noon.

Bring a plate to share and enjoy the trivia session and a catchup. All are welcome.

Pallottine Cenacle Prayer Session

Pallottine Cenacle Prayer at St Patrick's Murrumbena on Friday, 22 November at 7:30pm.

All are welcome to participate.

Volunteers' Thanksgiving Mass & Supper

To acknowledge the hard work and dedication of all our volunteers, a special Thanksgiving Mass will be held at Holy Cross Church at 7pm on Friday, 29 November, followed by a light supper at the Parish Hall.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, 27 November, using the clipboards at the church foyers for us to organise catering. Thank you.

Thanksgiving Envelopes Ready For Collection

You can now collect your Thanksgiving Envelopes from the Church Foyer if you have registered to receive them.

Please note that you will only receive envelopes from November 2024 until end June 2025. A new batch with dates starting July 2025 will be printed closer to time.

Update on Proposed Amalgamation

After the 10:30am Mass last Sunday, 10 November 2024 at St Joseph's Church, we held an Information Session in the church regarding the proposed amalgamation of St Joseph's, Elsternwick and Holy Cross, Caulfield South.

The session was organised to give parishioners from both our parishes, the opportunity to come together, discuss the recent amalgamation announcement and ask any questions they may have regarding the process.

There was a total of 20 attendees which included parishioners from both parishes, members of our Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) and Parish Finance Committee (PFC) and clergy.

A list of 'Frequently Asked Questions' (FAQs) has now been compiled to address queries received:

- by Fr Leenus and members of the PPC and PFC
- from the 'Questions / Concerns' boxes left at the church foyers after the amalgamation announcement
- during the Information Session last Sunday

We will continue to engage with all of you, provide ongoing communication and any additional information related to the process.

Please feel free to speak with Fr Leenus, the Parish Office or any of our PPC and PFC members if you have any queries. Additionally, you may send us an email or continue to use the 'Questions / Concerns' boxes.

The speaker notes from the announcement weekend, the names of our PPC members as well as the FAQs have now been posted on our church notice boards. The FAQs will continue to be updated as we receive further queries.

Fundraiser Dinner Dance at St Anthony's



St Anthony's Fundraising Committee is organising a Dinner Dance on Saturday, 23rd November 2024 at St Anthony's Parish Hall.

Tickets are available at St Anthony's Church foyer or contact the Parish Office. Ticket prices are as follows:

- Adults (15 years+) \$60
- Child (7 to 14 years) \$30
- Child (6 years and under) Free

All proceeds go to St Anthony's Church Maintenance.

Please use the clipboard at the church foyer to express your interest. Accordingly the tickets will be organised for you. Thank you!

The Christmas Travelling Crib



Enrol now on the clipboard in the Church Foyer. Register your name and state your preferred date.

There are 7 travelling Cribs seeking a stop-over for two days at the homes of families the parishes and schools of St Anthony's, St Joseph's and Holy Cross commencing December 1 until Christmas Eve.

Advent Scripture Reflection

'Advent Scripture Reflection' sessions will be held on 4 consecutive Mondays at St Anthony's Church, commencing on November 25 from 7pm to 8pm. The sessions will be conducted by Fr Pat and team. All welcome!



33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus,

In today's Gospel, Mark gives his Christian community Jesus' vision of the future. It is a vision of hope in the midst of suffering. Christ is right here with his Christians, in them, strengthening them. They face death because Jesus himself went first and showed us the way. It gives us an idea of the raw courage of Jesus who gathers us, associates us with his pain, but especially with his victory.



Jesus used two images to show what was happening to him. One was the cloud-riding Son of Man drawn from Daniel 7:13, first applied to good-living Jewish people who in the face of persecution, mass defection from the faith, remained true and died believing that even as they went to their death God would have the last word. Jesus applied this image to himself, that as he went to death true to his mission the Father would vindicate him. The second image to show how close was his death was the fig tree. It is a sign that summer is near; the new era brought about by the death of Jesus, Son of Man, gives us hope.

For Mark the heavens will be shaken, Rome and its deities in the heavens, shaken, when the Son of Man will be revealed through his followers. Jesus will be near when the moment of crisis comes suddenly. He will be standing at the gate, ready to accompany the Christian to court. It was this vision of Christ who sees everything and weighs every deed that gave Christians hope.

Christ will live on even when everything ceases to be. All will appear before him. This is God's consolation, the comfort of faith for all who hold to Jesus' words to the end. This hope extends beyond today and tomorrow, beyond death to eternity. It empowers us, provided we have the faith to be aware of God, Christ and eternity. Heaven and earth will pass away but my words will not pass away. Hold on to them with steadfast faith and hope.

Fr Pat.

Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Carols at St Anthony's Parish Hall starting 6pm on Sunday, 15 December. All are welcome to attend. Please contact the Parish Offices if you would like to be a part of the performing line-up.

Invitation to the Archdiocesan Celebration

Archbishop Peter Comensoli is inviting representatives from each parish to attend the Archdiocesan Celebration on Sunday, 24th November 2024, 11am Solemn Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral. The representatives will be commissioned to return to the communities with joyful proclamation of the upcoming Year of Jubilee.

The Mass will be followed by a Festival in the Cathedral Grounds which will mark "One Year to Go" until **Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF)** to be held in Melbourne next year.

Please let the Parish Office or Fathers know if you are able to represent the Parish at this celebration.

See the Invitation on our Notice Boards.



Now available for sale after weekend masses:
2025 Columban Calendars: \$10.00 each

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

He shall gather his elect from the four winds.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word

TIMES OF GREAT DISTRESS

The time we live in could be described as a time of great distress. News of wars, destruction, floods, fires and so much more assail us. There are still some who stand on street corners with a sign proclaiming, 'The End Is Nigh'. Still others raise alarms on websites and social media. Our first reading today, taken from the last chapter of Daniel, presents Michael the Archangel warning of the end, of a time of great distress. He recounts the resurrection of the dead where those sleeping in the dust will be separated: some will be awakened 'to everlasting life' and others 'to shame and everlasting contempt'.

Paralleling this, in the Gospel of today, Jesus speaks to his disciples as his Passion looms. He speaks in apocalyptic, end-times, language of 'a time of distress' when the lights in the sky will fall. These events hail the coming of the Son of Man who will gather his chosen. This is the hope of what will come beyond the trials and crucifixion of Jesus, an assurance of God's presence echoed in Jesus' words, 'Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away'.

In days of distress we, like the disciples, can hear Jesus' words, the Good News, if we remain faithful. The emphasis is not on what will pass away but on the saving grace of God who has sent his son, Jesus, and will raise him for the salvation of all. The end is not the end for those awakened to everlasting life.

Dr Rosemary Canavan