



THE SAVING WORD

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

20 JULY 2025

FIRST READING

Gen 18:1-10

A reading from the book of Genesis

Lord, do not bypass your servant.

The Lord appeared to Abraham at the Oak of Mamre while he was sitting by the entrance of the tent during the hottest part of the day. He looked up, and there he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them, and bowed to the ground. 'My Lord,' he said 'I beg you, if I find favour with you, kindly do not pass your servant by. A little water shall be brought; you shall wash your feet and lie down under the tree. Let me fetch a little bread and you shall refresh yourselves before going further. That is why you have come in your servant's direction.' They replied, 'Do as you say.'

Abraham hastened to the tent to find Sarah. 'Hurry,' he said 'knead three bushels of flour and make loaves.' Then running to the cattle Abraham took a fine and tender calf and gave it to the servant, who hurried to prepare it. Then taking cream, milk and the calf he had prepared, he laid all before them, and they ate while he remained standing near them under the tree.

'Where is your wife Sarah?' they asked him. 'She is in the tent', he replied. Then his guest said, 'I shall visit you again next year without fail and your wife will then have a son.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 14:2-5. R. v. 1

R. The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain? / He who walks without fault; / he who acts with justice / and speaks the truth from his heart; / he who does not slander with his tongue. **R.**

2. He who does no wrong to his brother, / who casts no slur on his neighbour, / who holds the godless in disdain, / but honours those who fear the Lord. **R.**



3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may; / who takes no interest on a loan / and accepts no bribes against the innocent. / Such a man will stand firm for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

Col 1:24-28

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

The mystery hidden for centuries has now been revealed to his saints.

It makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering now, and in my body to do what I can to make up all that has still to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body, the Church. I became the servant of the Church when God made me responsible for delivering God's message to you, the message which was a mystery hidden for generations and centuries and has now been revealed to his saints. It was God's purpose to reveal it to them and to show all the rich glory of this mystery to pagans. The mystery is Christ among you, your hope of glory: this is the Christ we proclaim, this is the wisdom in which we thoroughly train everyone and instruct everyone, to make them all perfect in Christ.

■ The word of the Lord.

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

PARISH PRIEST: Rev Fr Leenus Neetany SAC

Permanent Deacon: Rev John Lam

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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

Next Week's Roster

Lector - Saturday: M Ellis

Lector - Sunday: E Galero

Counters: No Counting

HOLY CROSS, CAULFIELD SOUTH

707 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield South 3162

Mass

Thursday 10:00am and Sunday 9:00am

Reconciliation

Thursday after Mass

Next Week's Roster

Lector: A Powell

Thanksgiving & Special Collections

Church: \$TBA Presbytery: \$TBA

Special Collection: -

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

Tue 22 Jul: St Mary Magdalene

Fri 25 Jul: St James, Apostle

Sat 26 July: Sts Joachim & Anne

Sun 20 Jul: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time



News Bulletin
Subscription



Team Meeting at 6:30pm, Thursday
24th July at St Joseph's Presbytery.

The program starts on Thursday 31st
July at 6.30pm. We are looking forward to finalizing
details for the program. See you there!

Perpetual Adoration Chapel

The Adoration Chapel was built in 2018 to
commemorate the centenary celebration of
St Joseph's Church. The Chapel can be
accessed 24/7 using a security tag.

Contact the Parish Office to apply for one.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (Ps 53:6, 8)

See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my
soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and
praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (Rev 3:20)

Behold, I stand at the door and knock, says the Lord. If
anyone hears my voice and opens the door to me, I will
enter his house and dine with him, and he with me.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill*: **Paulette Dobbin, Tony Messina,
Carol Ann Burgess, Pauline Cresswell, Fr Benno
Rausch SAC**

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

Recently Deceased: -

Death Anniversary: **Roberto Gonzales**

Jubilee of Youth

To celebrate the 2,025th anniversary of the
Incarnation of the Lord, youth and young
adults are invited to participate in the
international Jubilee of Youth as part of
Jubilee 2025 from July 28th to August 3rd.



**Here, at our local churches, to join this sacred time of
grace, hope, prayer & pilgrimage, our Youth and
Young Adults (aged 18-35) from our 3 churches will
come together again on the 4th Saturday of the month
to host the 6:30pm Vigil Mass at St Joseph's, on
Saturday 26th July, followed by light supper.**

At St Anthony's and St Aloysius Parish, they are also
celebrating the Jubilee of Youth on Sunday 27th July at
11am Mass. This will be followed by fellowship with
pizza and games!

**Our Youth and Young Adults have been invited to
attend the fellowship session. Venue to be announced.**

This will be a great opportunity for those who have
registered interest to attend Australia Catholic Youth
Festival 2025 (ACYF) to come along to meet the rest of
the young people who will also be attending the ACYF.

Registration Closing Soon!



If you haven't already registered your
interest, please do so before end-July for
the Parishes of St Joseph's & Holy Cross,
and St Anthony's & St Aloysius to register
a 'combined contingent'.

- 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.



1. Leaders, over the age of 25, will be needed, according to the number of young people attending. Leaders must have a valid Working With Children Card.
2. Please do not let the cost be a factor. This is a great opportunity for all young people and indeed the Melbourne Archdiocese. Remember, with God, all things are possible. *"Don't worry about anything. Instead, pray about everything." (cf Philippians 4:6-7)*

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

We would like to invite new members to join our PPC. Please send the Parish Office your application, for consideration and approval by Fr Leenus.

Catholic Theological College Open House

On Saturday, 26 July, from 9am - 3pm, CTC will open its doors to the public as part of the 2025 Open House Melbourne Weekend. We're excited to invite you to a special opportunity to experience the space through the eyes of the architect behind the design of CTC. Mr. Greg Burgess will be onsite to engage with visitors between 10am - 12pm. Whether you're curious about the inspiration behind the architecture, interested in the design process, or simply want to connect, this is a rare chance to ask questions and hear insights straight from the source. Don't miss this chance to step inside the story of the building and the mind behind it. Please invite your family and friends to come along and join the tour.

Mary Magdalene, The Musical

Have you ever dreamed of singing and acting in a Catholic musical? The Call of Guadalupe (COG) Theatre Group is a Catholic musical theatre group, endorsed by various bishops. On the 26th of July, you are invited to an afternoon tea on how you can be part of this exciting show. Join us for a special preview of Mary Magdalene the Musical (coming February/March 2026), featuring our talented performers and highlighting two decades of creative community impact through our shows, courses and outreaches. Please RSVP via trybooking.com/DBRJU or 0413398528 by 22nd July or cogtheatregroup@gmail.com. Donations will go to our soup kitchen and outreaches, and will be greatly appreciated.

SPECIAL LEAGUE EVENT FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR
AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL - A PILGRIM PLACE



CATHOLIC
WOMEN'S
LEAGUE OF
VICTORIA
AND WAGGA
WAGGA



PILGRINS OF HOPE

Pilgrins
of Hope

A JOURNEY
WITH THE LORD JESUS

WOMEN'S RETREAT

SATURDAY
6 SEPTEMBER 2025
9am - 4pm
Led by Fr Nicholas Pearce



ARCHBISHOP
PETER A
COMENSOLI



FR NICHOLAS
PEARCE



SILVANA SCARFE



MUSIC BY
ALYSSA AGIUS

Holy Mass celebrated by
Archbishop Peter A Comensoli
St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne
Talks, Adoration, Confession
Includes morning tea and lunch
Park Hyatt Melbourne

Please book using the link below:
<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1407033>

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus,
In telling the story of Jesus' visit to his women friends, Luke underlines the importance of the guest: Martha addresses Jesus as Lord while Mary sits at the Lord's feet. This is not a casual visit. In response to Jesus' presence, Martha becomes fully engaged in preparing a meal while Mary becomes fully engaged in listening to the Lord. The word of Jesus is for men and women: so Mary adopts the disciple's posture. Martha however, thinks that her sister should be doing something more important than listening to Jesus and she asks him to tell Mary to help with all the serving. In which case Jesus can sit alone and talk to himself! But Jesus is not allowing Martha to write his script, for he regards Martha as a woman who bustles her way into distraction. She is anxious about so many things that she cannot focus on the real priority of the moment. In all her fret and fuss Martha is missing the one thing that is needed now: to welcome the Lord by listening to the word that he speaks. It is Mary who exemplifies the true disciple who greets the Lord with hospitality. Remember when Jesus talked about the word of God as a seed, he described the good soil as those who "hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." That is Mary. Martha exemplifies another response to the word, those who are "choked by worries" so much that the word cannot bear fruit. We are all invited to welcome the word of God and give it our full attention. The way we continue having God as our guest is when we welcome his word and attend to it. When we receive the Eucharist, we can sit at the Lord's table and be the guest at his banquet. In that way, we are the Lord's host and his guest.
Fr Pat Jackson SAC

The teacher places a note in front of a pile of apples. "Only take one. God is watching." Further down the line is a pile of cookies. A little boy makes his own note. "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

CHRISTMAS
IN JULY



Christmas-in-July Dance at St Anthony's

Saturday, 26 July 2025, 6pm.

This is a fundraising event for church maintenance. Food will be on sale at the venue and BYO drinks. Music by Floyd Solo Band.

Tickets are now on sale. Adults \$30, 6-14-yrs \$15, below 6-yrs free (no seat)

Dress code is semi-formal.

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.
August 12: Service - Beyond the church doors
September 9: Evangelisation - Bridging the gap between parish and school
Contact the Parish Office if you wish to attend a session.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 8:15

Alleluia, alleluia! Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart, and yield a harvest through perseverance. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 10:38-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Martha took up the duties in the house. Mary chose the better part.

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word

A GOOD PART

Today's story seems to affirm the contemplative life (symbolised by Mary sitting at Jesus' feet and listening to him) over the active life (represented by a preoccupied Martha). This classic interpretation sets the two women at odds with each other. However, placed in the context of Luke's missionary and ministry-concerned world, something else is going on. The scene is set in *Martha's* house. She is the leader of the house and, conceivably, the representative in Luke's household Jesus-gatherings.

The issue that concerns Mary, and Luke's audience, is not helped by our English translation. Three translation corrections are necessary. (1) Martha being 'distracted with all the serving...' is better translated as Martha being 'taken up with much *ministry* (Greek, *diakonia*)' (2) Martha's question to Jesus, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself?' is better translated, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me alone to minister (Greek, *diakonein*)?' (3) Rather than Jesus saying to Martha that Mary 'has chosen the better part...' the Greek has Jesus saying that Mary 'has chosen a *good* part'. Interpretations (1) and (2) suggest that a real concern surfacing in Luke's world is about *ministry*. Interpretation (3) indicates that there is no competition between Mary and Martha.

Both actions, Martha's *diakonial* concerns and Mary's focus on Jesus' word, are important, the second not to be devalued. It is 'a good part'. These same issues preoccupy us: a concern about future ministry while focussing on Jesus' word.

Fr Michael Trainor