

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,
because by your cross you have redeemed
the world.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Jn 3: 13-17

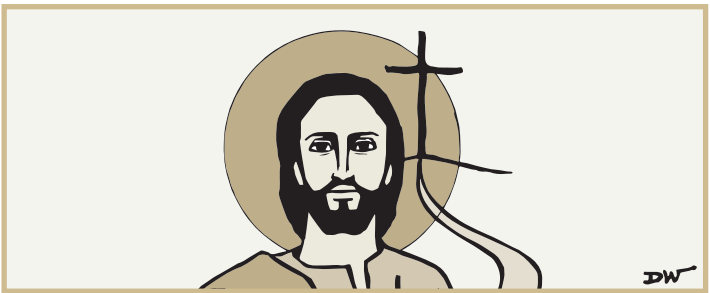
A reading from the holy Gospel according
to John.

The Son of Man must be lifted up.

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

‘No one has gone up to heaven
except the one who came down from heaven,
the Son of Man who is in heaven;
and the Son of Man must be lifted up
as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so that everyone who believes may have
eternal life in him.
Yes, God loved the world so much
that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may
not be lost
but may have eternal life.
For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be
saved.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Breaking Open
the Word

THE SAVING WORD

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS / C

14 SEPTEMBER 2025

LIFTED UP

Today’s Feast moves us away from our usual
journey through Luke’s Gospel. Instead,
our focus is with John’s Gospel. We are
in a different world. John 3 concerns the
engagement which Jesus has with Nicodemus,
a Jewish leader and, as we learn at the
Gospel’s end, a potential disciple. In this
chapter, the evangelist seeks to reflect upon
Jesus’ origins. John affirms that Jesus, God’s
Word and source of Wisdom, is from God.
He ‘came down from Heaven’. Jesus is God’s
exalted heavenly and human presence. He will
be ‘lifted up’, that is, in John’s story of Jesus’
passion and death, he will be ‘lifted up’ on the
cross and will be ‘lifted up’ in exaltation by
the Father in resurrection. Jesus’ death is also
his exaltation.

In today’s Gospel, the evangelist draws on the
imagery of the fashioned bronze serpent that
Moses ‘lifts up’, that we hear today in the first
reading from the *Book of Numbers*. The serpent
figure rescues the suffering Israelites. For
John, this, too, is Jesus’ quest: to rescue and
bring eternal life to suffering humanity. John’s
passage exudes hope and divine communion
with humanity and creation. God loves the
‘cosmos’ so much that God’s very being and
expression in the Word, Jesus, suffers for it.
This word, ‘cosmos’, comprises the whole of
creation, including humanity.

Palpable optimism permeates this Gospel
passage. For John, God wants nothing or
anyone to be ‘lost’. All are found in the Word
enfleshed in Jesus. God’s community with
creation and humanity is sealed and eternal.
This is such a rich Gospel for today’s Feast.
Every line deserves meditation.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING Num 21: 4-9

A reading from the book of Numbers.

*When those that were afflicted looked upon it, they
were healed.*

On the way through the wilderness, the
Israelites lost patience. They spoke against
God and against Moses, ‘Why did you bring
us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For
there is neither bread nor water here: we are
sick of this unsatisfying food.’

At this God sent fiery serpents among the
people; their bite brought death to many in
Israel. The people came and said to Moses, ‘We
have sinned by speaking against the Lord and
against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to
save us from these serpents.’ Moses interceded
for the people, and the Lord answered him,
‘Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard.
If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall
live.’ So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent
which he put on a standard, and if anyone was
bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze
serpent and lived.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 77: 1-2, 34-38. R. v. 7
R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

1. Give heed, my people, to my teaching; /
turn your ear to the words of my mouth /
I will open my mouth in a parable / and reveal
hidden lessons of the past. **R.**
2. When he slew them then they would seek
him, / return and seek him in earnest. / They
would remember that God was their rock, /
God the Most High their redeemer. **R.**
3. But the words they spoke were mere
flattery; / they lied to him with their lips. / For
their hearts were not truly with him; / they
were not faithful to his covenant. **R.**
4. Yet he who is full of compassion / forgave
their sin and spared them. / So often he held
back his anger / when he might have stirred up
his rage. **R.**



SECOND READING Phil 2: 6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians.

He humbled himself, therefore God has exalted him.

The state of Jesus Christ was divine,
yet he did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the
underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

■ The word of the Lord.

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PARISH, KILMORE

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Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri | 9.30 am – 4.30 pm
(Emails or calls outside of office hours will be attended to when we are next in the office.)

Parish Administrator: Rev. Fr Andrew Choi
Bookkeeper: Lorraine Nagle

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THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS - YEAR C

Sunday, 14 September 2025

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, celebrated each year on September 14, invites the faithful to contemplate anew the mystery of the Cross—an instrument of death that, through the obedience of Christ, has become the source of eternal life. In the Cross, we encounter the definitive revelation of divine love: a love that stoops down into the depths of human suffering and sin in order to redeem and transform it from within.

This feast recalls the historical recovery of the True Cross by Saint Helena, mother of Emperor Constantine, but it leads us far beyond the realm of archaeology or history. The Cross we venerate is not a relic of the past—it is a living sign of God's mercy and a summons to discipleship. To exalt the Cross is to acknowledge that, in the suffering and self-gift of Christ, we find the meaning of our own suffering, the measure of love, and the hope of glory.

In this context, the Church proposes to us the **Prayer Before the Crucifix**, a simple yet profound expression of the soul's longing to be conformed to Christ crucified. The prayer is traditionally offered while kneeling before a crucifix:

"BEHOLD, O good and loving Jesus, that I cast myself on my knees before you and, with the greatest fervour of spirit, I pray and beseech you to instil into my heart ardent sentiments of faith, hope and charity, with true repentance for my sins and a most firm purpose of amendment. With deep affection and sorrow, I ponder intimately and contemplate in my mind your five wounds, having before my eyes what the prophet David had already put in your mouth about yourself, O good Jesus: 'They have pierced my hands and my feet; they have numbered all my bones (Ps 21:17-18).' Amen."

The Church, in her maternal solicitude, attaches to this prayer the gift of spiritual graces. A **Plenary Indulgence** is granted to the faithful who, on any **Friday of Lent**, recite this prayer devoutly before a crucifix after receiving Holy Communion, provided they fulfill the usual conditions: sacramental confession, reception of the Eucharist, prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father, and interior detachment from sin. On other days, a **Partial Indulgence** is granted to those who offer the prayer with devotion. *(continued p.4)*

LET US PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

Sick List

Fr Prakash Cutinha, Fr Martino Jung, Pina D'agostino, Theo Aitchison, Susan Foster, Bernadette McWhinney, Nancy Purpera, Eva Aschberger, Julie Ahearn, Ben Mendis and all people who are in need of our prayers..

PLEASE NOTE: Names in the sick list will remain there for 4 weeks. If you wish for that person to continue to be prayed for, please advise the parish office again. If you are submitting the name of someone other than yourself and family, please obtain their permission.

Anniversaries

Catherine McKeogh, Tracy Stankard, Frank Scollo, Anne Cronin, Julian Camelleri, Frances Cecelia Preston, Tony Valentini, Margery Aitcheson, Mary Patricia Tierney, Abraham Villa, Toncka Abina and the anniversaries of all which occur at this time.

Recently Deceased

Sinead Marie O'Connell

CHURCHES

ST. PATRICK'S

37 Sutherland St, Kilmore

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

Cnr The Parade & McKenzie St, Broadford

OUR LADY OF THE WAY

30 Alcantara Blvd, Wallan East

ST. MICHAEL'S

33-35 Wandong Ave, Wandong

SUNDAY MASSES

Sat (Vigil)	5 pm, Broadford
	6.30 pm, Kilmore
Sun	8.45 am, Wallan
	10.45 am, Kilmore

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tue, Thu-Sat	9 am, Kilmore
Wed	9 am, Wallan

CONFESSION

30 minutes prior to each Mass & during Adoration (Thu)

DEVOTIONS

Adoration & Benediction

Thu 9:30 am, Kilmore

Divine Mercy Chaplet

15 minutes prior to each weekday Mass, Kilmore

Rosary

after each weekday Mass & Thu 2 pm in the Church, Kilmore

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St. Patrick's Parish is a Child Safe Environment. All children are to be supervised by a parent/guardian at all times.

ROSTER

FOR THIS WEEKEND (13/14 SEP)

BROADFORD (5pm, Sat 13 SEP)

Reader: P. Fleming

EMHC: A. Leahy

KILMORE (6.30pm, Sat 13 SEP)

Reader: R. Emmanuel

EMHC: M. Fleischmann

PowerPoint: P. Duff

WALLAN (8.45am, Sun 14 SEP)

Reader: P. Hutchinson

EMHC: C. Banon

EMHC: J. Sapiano

PowerPoint: F. Thompson

KILMORE (10.45am, Sun 14 SEP)

Reader: TBA

EMHC: C. Dodd

PowerPoint: K. Curry

FLOWERS: H. Clancy

HOME COMMUNION: H. Clancy

P. Duff

CLEANERS KILMORE: L. Beaumont

C. Eid

FOR NEXT WEEKEND (20/21 SEP)

BROADFORD (5pm, Sat 20 SEP)

Reader: C. Stokes

EMHC: P. Fleming

KILMORE (6.30pm, Sat 20 SEP)

Reader: M. Fleischmann

EMHC: V. Barro

PowerPoint: P. Duff

WALLAN (8.45am, Sun 21 SEP)

Reader: Q. Britto

EMHC: G. Pannuzzo

EMHC: P. Hutchinson

PowerPoint: F. Thompson

KILMORE (10.45am, Sun 21 SEP)

Reader: TBA

EMHC: L. Dunlop

PowerPoint: K. Curry

FLOWERS: Jeanette Jain

HOME COMMUNION: J. Dixon

M. Donovan

CLEANERS KILMORE: TBA

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

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OUR LADY OF THE WAY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Mr Terry Cooney

03 8609 1784 | ourladywallan.catholic.edu.au

ASSUMPTION COLLEGE

Principal: Mr Paul Finneran

03 5783 5000 | assumption.vic.edu.au

WORD OF A SAINT

St. Andrew Taegon Kim

Priest, Martyr (Feast: 20 September)

"We have received baptism and the honour of being called Christians. Yet what good will this do us if we are Christians in name only and not in fact?"

(continued from p.1)

In granting these indulgences, the Church does not offer a shortcut, but rather encourages us to enter more deeply into the mystery of Christ's Passion. The indulgence is a sign of the Church's confidence in the power of Christ's merits and a call to conversion, purification, and renewal. It is, ultimately, an invitation to abide in the shadow of the Cross, to find there the healing of our wounds and the true peace that the world cannot give.

May this feast rekindle in us a deeper love for the crucified Lord, and may the Cross be for each of us not merely a symbol, but a daily path—a school of love, a source of strength, and the promise of resurrection.

Rev. Fr Andrew Choi

S^T. PATRICK'S YOUNG CATHOLICS GATHERING

This monthly gathering will have the same format, but a different faith topic to discuss together each month - starting with a light supper and socialising, then a short presentation and a faith discussion, and closing with the Rosary with the attendees' prayer intentions. Please see the details below:

First gathering on Saturday 13 September at 7.30 pm (after 6.30 pm Mass) at St Patrick's Parish Office Meeting Room

Please note: this gathering is open to young adults aged 18 to 35

If you have any enquiries or would like to RSVP (for catering purposes), please speak to Fr Andrew or email andrew.choi@cam.org.au

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD 2025

With joy and gratitude to God, the Archdiocese of Melbourne announces the upcoming Ordination to the Priesthood of the following Deacons:

Rev. Joshua McDermid, Rev. Tuong Nguyen, and Rev. Ian Vergel

These Deacons will be ordained to the Sacred Priesthood through the *laying on of hands* and the *invocation of the Holy Spirit* by **Most Rev. Peter A Comensoli**, Archbishop of Melbourne, at **St. Patrick's Cathedral on Saturday 20 September 2025 at 10 am.**

All are warmly invited to attend this solemn and joyful celebration. Please keep Deacons Tuong, Joshua and Ian in your prayers as they prepare to dedicate their lives in service to Christ and His Church.

!! Please note: Due to Fr Andrew's attendance at the Ordination, 9 am Mass on 20 September is CANCELLED.

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

Today we are gathered on **Safeguarding Sunday**, a day when we pause to focus on our responsibility to protect and care for those who are vulnerable. In the Bible, we find a clear and strong message about **justice, compassion**, and **speaking up for those who cannot speak for themselves**. We are called to be a safe, welcoming and hope-filled Church.

In our everyday lives, let us be mindful of those around us who are vulnerable or marginalized. Who are the **"silent"** ones in our society, the ones without a voice? Today, God may be calling you to stand up for them. Whether it is through prayer, support, or direct action, we are invited to participate in God's work of justice.

For more information about Safeguarding in our Parish and Archdiocese, please visit our website: www.melbcatholic.org/s/kilmore

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We warmly invite all children to attend our monthly Children's Liturgy **this Sunday at 8.45 am Mass at Our Lady of the Way Church, Wallan.**

2PM ROSARY @ KILMORE

Next 2pm Rosary will be held on **Wednesday 17 September at 1 pm at Kate's place (12 Andrew Street, Kilmore).**