



THE SAVING WORD

MATTHEW

PENTECOST SUNDAY / A

24 MAY 2026

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.'

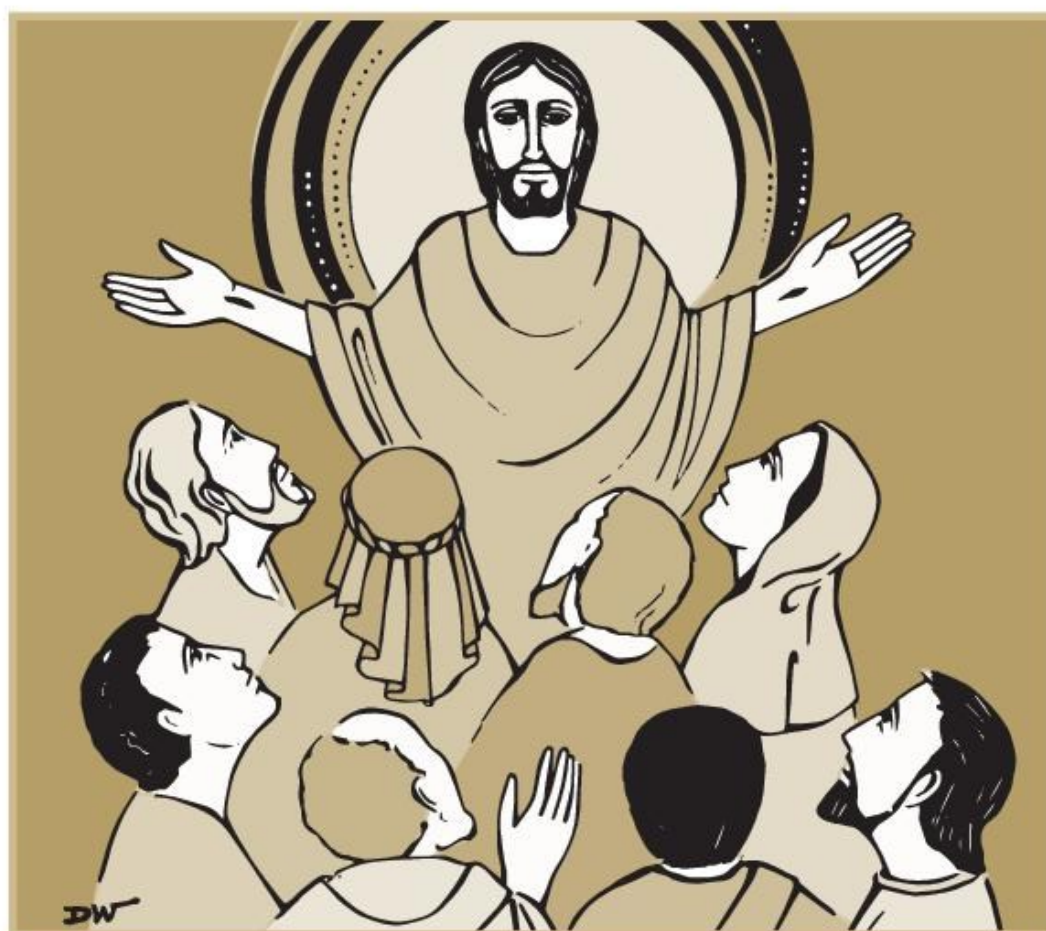
■ The word of the Lord.

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

1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so



The Parish of St Joseph's, Elsternwick & Holy Cross, Caulfield South
Parish Office: 707 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield South 3162 ☎ 95238407 ✉ elsternwick@cam.org.au
📮 P.O.Box 664, Elsternwick 3185 🌐 www.melbcatholic.org/stjosephholycross

PARISH PRIEST: Rev Fr Leenus Neetany SAC

Assistant Priest: Rev Fr Eugene San SAC
Permanent Deacon: Rev John Lam
Parish Coordinator: Joanna Lam

ST JOSEPH'S, ELSTERNWICK

71 Orrong Road, Elsternwick 3185

Mass

Wednesday and Friday 10:00am
Saturday 6:30pm, Sun 10:30am

Reconciliation

After weekday Mass and Saturday 6:00pm

HOLY CROSS, CAULFIELD SOUTH

707 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield South 3162

Mass

Tuesday and Thursday 10:00am
Sunday 9:00am

Reconciliation

After weekday Mass

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-mins before all Masses and Saturday 9:45am - 10:10am

Thanksgiving & Special Collections

Church: \$TBA Presbytery: \$TBA

Special Collection:

Project Compassion	\$ 239.35
Holy Land	\$1139.00
Catholic Care	\$ 782.00
Catholic Mission	\$ 100.00

Thanksgiving



Next Week's Roster

Lectors:

Saturday 6:30pm S Bettoni
Sunday 9:00am M Nelson 10:30am D Joseph

Counters: No Counting

Upcoming Week's Liturgical Calendar

Mon 25 May: Our Lady, Help of Christians
Tue 26 May: St Philip Neri
Sun 31 May: The Most Holy Trinity

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*: Paul Donohoe, Virginia Poloie, Tamara Bryan, Kevin Bryan, David Milne, Bernd Neubauer

**Names are published for a month, unless further requested.*

Recently Deceased: Bartolo Molino

Death Anniversary: -



Come Holy Spirit!

The disciples were gathered together when a sound like a mighty wind filled the house, and "tongues of fire" rested above each of their heads. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in different languages, enabling them to preach the Gospel to people from all nations

On Pentecost we celebrate the Spirit who gave birth to the Church's public mission and who continues to renew the face of the earth. Today we pray with the Church to continue to live it anew each day.

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord.

Youth & Young Adults Hosting Mass



This Saturday, 23rd May at St Joseph's Elsternwick, starting with 5:30pm Eucharistic Adoration, followed by 6:30pm Vigil Mass.

This Mass is also in honour of Mary Queen of Apostles, patroness of the Pallottines and UAC.



After Mass, the Young Adults have organised a gathering with a presentation, discussion, and games!

Safeguarding Children and Young People

Our parishes are committed to Safeguarding Children and Young People. All children and young people who come to our parish have a right to feel and be safe. All volunteers are reminded maintain a current Working With Children Check and complete the Safeguarding online training.



Mass Count during May

Our parish will be undertaking its annual Mass Count during the next few weekends of May.

The National Count is a simple but powerful way for parishes to contribute to a national picture of Catholic life in Australia. These statistics are for the purposes of pastoral planning activities and allows for comparisons to be made across the years for our Archdiocese.

Social Afternoon Tea at Holy Cross Hall



Wednesday May 27th at 2:00pm

Musical theme: Please bring a musical item to share - CD, tape, record or maybe a song to sing.

Please bring a plate. All welcome.

Pope Leo to Publish Encyclical on AI

Magnifica humanitas, will be published on 25 May and will address AI and the protection of human dignity, the Vatican has announced.

Pope Leo has addressed the issue of AI in venues ranging from a sports stadium packed with teenagers, whom he told to use AI ‘in such a way that if it disappeared tomorrow, you would still know how to think’, to a gathering of legislators from 68 countries, where he insisted that artificial intelligence is a tool meant to serve human beings, not replace them. The Pope has also warned priests not to use chatbots to write their homilies and expressed concern for AI’s potential effect on children’s ‘intellectual and neurological development’.

The Pope’s 2026 message for the 60th World Day of Social Communications, published in January, has been his most robust document on AI and protecting human dignity to date. In the papal message, he underlined that ‘our faces and voices are unique, distinctive features of every person’ that reveal ‘a person’s own unrepeatable identity’ and that by ‘simulating human voices and faces, wisdom and knowledge, consciousness and responsibility, empathy and friendship’, AI systems ‘encroach upon the deepest level of communication, that of human relationships’.

Pope Leo also warned that AI systems ‘have increasingly taken control of the production of texts, music and videos’, putting ‘much of the human creative industry at risk of being dismantled and replaced with the label “Powered by AI”, turning people into passive consumers of unthought thoughts and anonymous products without ownership or love’.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/pope-leo-xivs-encyclical-on-artificial-intelligence-is-coming-heres-what-he-has-said-on-ai-so-far>

St Anthony’s Feast

Celebration of the Feast will take place at St Anthony’s Church at all Masses on the 13 and 14 June weekend.

After the 11am Mass, there will be also a social time. More details will be available soon!

Novena to St Anthony will begin on 4 June at St Anthony’s Church in preparation for his feast day. Weekdays Rosary at 8:45am followed by Novena and Mass at 9:15am.



Young Men of God Movement Conference 2026

17-19 July at Belgrave Heights Convention Centre.

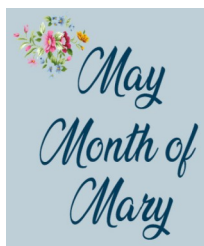
A men’s weekend away to deepen your faith, strengthen brotherhood and grow in leadership. Inspiring speakers, fellowship and food. Give God permission to led you on the path of authentic, Christ-centered living. Open to all men 18yrs and above. Registration: Fr Terrence 0426-897764

Help Needed at Tony’s Café

- 1. Thursday mornings during May 9am – 12noon, to travel in the parish van to collect from Foodbank. Must be able to lift and load. Working with children and safeguarding documents required. Help available to complete these. Please email Gwen via the parish email.
- 2. We would also be grateful for empty egg cartons and large rubber bands to seal the cartons.

Rosary by Youth

Our Young People will lead the Rosary to celebrate the month of May, the month of Mary. 7pm every Friday during the month of May commencing 1st May at St Anthony’s Church. Everyone is welcome.



St Anthony’s Church Open on Fridays

St Anthony’s Church is open every Friday from 8:30am-5pm. You are invited to use this time for individual prayer, quiet time, meditation or simply spending time with the Lord.

Pentecost Sunday

Dear brothers and sisters

What does Pentecost mean for you and me today? We don’t experience the Spirit as a mighty wind and tongues of fire. I wonder what we would do if it happened. Often the Spirit works in us quietly; but imagine the power if we prayed and witnessed as a loving community. The Spirit comes to tell us, “Don’t die with the music in you, don’t die full of unrealized courageous intentions.”



The Spirit awakens faith, and it’s faith that gives us the heart to dare something with our lives, even when illness limits our capacity to do great things. The one Spirit comes to each one of us differently to equip us with gifts for ministry, like the rain which adapts itself to the variety of trees and plants to bring them growth according to their capacity. That capacity is a heart open to receive it.

What we celebrate at Pentecost is the coming of the Advocate, the one who enables the apostles to be witnesses to Jesus’ claims in the world. Before the coming of the Spirit, the apostles were incapable of acting as witnesses; they were frightened men who were too confused and hurt to act as effective witnesses on behalf of Jesus. With the help of the Spirit, they are graced with a new courage.

Their courtroom is the market-place of the world, and they are willing to testify to the truth of Jesus’ claims to anyone who has ears.

As we know from experience, there will always be opposition to face, there will always be people to persuade. The Spirit continues to be the Advocate, calling on generations of Christians to come forward as witnesses to Jesus.

We are the witnesses to continue the case on behalf of Jesus. The disbelieving world still looks to Jesus’ witness to stand up for Jesus—not so much by words only, but by the quality and courage of our lives.

The world is not dying from lack of information. It might be dying from not having life in Jesus’ name, the Son of God, and that believing, they may have life in his name.

Fr Pat.

The oldest computer was owned by Adam and Eve. It was an Apple with very limited memory. Just 1 byte and everything crashed!

Melbourne Synod 2026

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli has formally convoked a Synod for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. A synod is a gathering of God’s people – bishops, priests and representatives – who come and discern together about matters regarding faith, governance, and pastoral care. This process involves prayer, dialogue, and consultation, aiming to foster a deeper understanding of the Church’s mission in the contemporary world.

Towards Synod 2026 Preparations for a Synod to be held in the Archdiocese of Melbourne in 2026 are now underway. A synodal gathering is focused on pastoral renewal and can result in decrees or pastoral plans that guide the diocese in its planning. Archbishop Peter A Comensoli has invited the community to focus on three key themes for the Synod:

- 1. Young Discipleship
- 2. Missionary Leadership
- 3. Formation and Participation.

‘They have emerged consistently and clearly through all the listening, discernment, and consultation undertaken in recent years across the Archdiocese,’ the Archbishop said, ‘including the Plenary Council process, the global Synod, and our local pastoral initiatives. Together, they will now form the foundational focus of our Archdiocesan Synod.’

For more info: <https://melbournecatholic.org/synod2026>

it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

■ 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 20:19-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you'.

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



Unauthorised reproduction of this bulletin prohibited.
Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135.
Tel 02 9394 3400 Email: sales@stpauls.com.au Scripture readings taken from The Jerusalem Bible, © 1966 Hodder & Stoughton Ltd. All rights reserved. Psalm text from **The Psalms, A New Translation**, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2026. No 2144. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

Breaking Open the Word

PEACE BE WITH YOU

In today's story from John, set on Easter day, Jesus' disciples are frightened. The doors of the room where they gather are locked. They are frightened of the religious authorities. Perhaps they think that what happened to their hero, Jesus, might also happen to them. Into the midst of their fear and locked room, the Risen Jesus comes. His first words are of peace, 'Peace be with you'. This is more than a statement to be calm and not frightened. It is Jesus' gift of wholeness, of *shalom* (Hebrew). It is his prayerful gift for them to come to a deep spirit of internal communion and calmness trusting in his presence.

It is this fearful group of disciples that Jesus commissions to be on mission—a theme familiar from Matthew's Gospel last week: The future of the Jesus movement is not entrusted to a comfortable, secure and fully integrated group of leaders. It is to a group of ordinary, struggling people that the mission is given. But they are not alone in this. Jesus' breath is the externalisation of his presence and being. This is given to the disciples who imbue his spirit, calming them, and giving them the confidence to reveal God's communion with all, despite their foibles or spiritual struggles.

This is the spirit that forgives 'sin'—that experience or marker of disruption, dis-ease and fear. Jesus' breath, received by the Eleven is about to permeate the cosmos through the commissioned ministry and reaffirmed in John's Pentecost story.

Fr Michael Trainor