



# St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

## One Family

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<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/endeavourhills>



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, 25-26 July, 2026

### THE PSYCHOLOGY OF MISSION

What is fascinating about Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* is that it begins by highlighting a human emotion - joy. As he says in the opening line, "The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus." This is not so much about intellectual assent to a doctrine of faith; it is about experiencing a feeling of great happiness.

When we move to the second line of the English version of this exhortation, Pope Francis goes on to talk about gift and freedom. There is the "offer of salvation" which gives rise to this joy. And there is the sense of release from situations of moral decay, grief, depression and isolation. Or, to put it in Francis' words, this joy sets us "free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness".

So, the context of this address is one of global stress. Francis will go on to talk about "an economy of exclusion" and "sterile pessimism" and the challenge to stand for "common good and peace in society" and the "inclusion of the poor in society". But it comes back to the need for us to be a people who are constantly imbued with "the joy of the gospel". As he says, "With Christ joy is constantly born anew." Hence, Francis urges us to "embark on a new chapter of evangelisation marked by this joy".

As he opens up his reflections on how joy is a key theme of the Bible, Francis sets the context. This further outlines the social landscape against which he is challenging us to be missionaries of joy. "The great danger in today's world, pervaded as it is by consumerism, is the desolation and anguish of a complacent yet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and a blunted conscience." This sums up well the dark paths that easily ensnare us as we grapple with the overwhelming influence of social media. No wonder we need to be set free!

The consequences are summed up in this sentence *"God's voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades."*

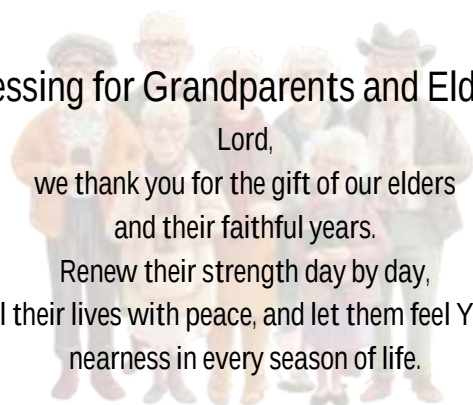
This is not a papal document that uses language we hardly understand. This is a pope who speaks clearly and directly about a situation that many talk about. This is a world of people who experience constant stress in trying to make ends meet as the cost of living rises in the midst of a global fuel crisis and ongoing wars in the Middle East, Ukraine, Myanmar and other places around the world. A new Ebola outbreak gives rise to the fear of yet another global pandemic since we have only recently emerged from the trauma of COVID—19.

This is why Pope Francis invites us "to a renewed encounter with Jesus Christ." There is something both deeply human and profoundly spiritual about this document. No wonder Pope Leo wants church leaders to study this exhortation in greater length because he could see that we have yet to appreciate how Francis was tapping into a human need to be freed from the snares that entrap us in this highly commercialised world and the need to recover that joy which comes from a vital and ever-developing relationship with our saviour and brother, Jesus Christ.

(by Fr. Tom Rouse in *Far East Magazine*)

### Blessing for Grandparents and Elderly

Lord,  
we thank you for the gift of our elders  
and their faithful years.  
Renew their strength day by day,  
fill their lives with peace, and let them feel Your  
nearness in every season of life.



#### Masses

**Monday**  
9am

**Tuesday**  
9am Mass

**Wednesday**  
7pm Mass

**Thursday**  
9am Mass

**Friday**  
9am Mass

**Saturday**  
6pm Mass

**Sunday**  
9am, 11am, 6pm

**Reconciliation**  
**Saturdays**  
10am—10.30am

**Parish Priest:**  
Fr Brendan Connell CP

**Assistant Parish Priest**  
Fr. Tuan Paul Anh-Do CP

**Parish Staff:**  
Gillian Velupillay (Bursar)  
Didi Karkas (Secretary)  
Valerie Ferreira  
(Safeguarding Officer)

**St Paul Apostle North**  
**Primary School**  
Ph. 9700 6068  
Principal  
Cathy Mason

**St Paul Apostle South**  
**Primary School**  
Ph. 9700 3663  
Principal  
Mr Paul Gleeson

**St John's**  
**Regional College**  
Ph. 9791 3366  
Principal  
Mr Tim Hogan

Readings for NEXT WEEK  
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, 2026

**First Reader:**        *Isaiah 55: 1-3*

A reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: "Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David."

The Word of God

**Psalm**

The Lord is gracious and merciful,  
Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
The Lord is good to all,  
and his compassion is over all that he has made

The eyes of all look to you,  
and you give them their food in due season.  
You open your hand  
satisfying the desire every living thing

The Lord is just in all his ways,  
and kind in all his doings  
The Lord is near to all who call on him  
to all who call on him in truth

**Second Reader:**        *Romans 8: 35, 37-39*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters,  
Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or

nakedness, or peril, or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor Angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord

This is the Word of God

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Man does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. Alleluia!

**Gospel:**                *Matthew 13:44-52*

When Jesus heard that Herod had beheaded John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns.

When he went ashore, Jesus saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick.

When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat."

They replied, "We have nothing but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then Jesus ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass.

Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.

And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full.

And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children

The Good news of the Lord

**Reflection**

"What are the 'five loaves and two fish'—your unique gifts, time, or resources—that you can place in Jesus' hands today, trusting that He will multiply them to bless those around you?"

We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

St Paul Apostle safeguarding policies can be found on our website at

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/endeavourhills> or in hardcopy in the Sacristy



**ADORATION GROUP** is inviting everyone to join on **TUESDAY 28 July** between 6-7pm to attend our Church Chapel for prayers of the sick and lonely for healing both physical and spiritual. Come along, bring your family and friends for an hour, even if you can make it for 30 minutes, let's pray together for the healing of our loved ones. Further details please contact John Hendriks 0418308051 or [Johnhendriks@gmail.com](mailto:Johnhendriks@gmail.com)

### **SAFEGUARDING CORNER**

The Melbourne Catholic Archdiocese provides Safeguarding Essentials which is a suite of online training modules for all Church personnel (clergy, staff and volunteers) within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne.

The Level 1 Safeguarding Essentials training module provides information for all Church personnel and is mandatory.

### **How often does the training and SCYP COC need to be completed?**

- Clergy and staff will be required to complete the training and SCYP COC on an annual basis.
- Volunteers will be required to complete the training and SCYP COC every 3 years.

### **COME AWAY**

Come Away Retreats are conducted at the Holy Cross Centre. This retreat is for those:

- seeking peace in their hearts
- Needing quiet time to reflect on their life
- those caring for others

A time for both sharing and quiet time in the beautiful garden setting of Holy Cross; guided meditation, silence, Mass and Anointing, opportunity for individual guidance. Session times: 9.30 a.m. (start with a cuppa) to 3.00 p.m. (BYO lunch)

During this day of reflection opportunities will be offered for:

Prayer/meditation  
Mass/Communion Service  
Silence/solitude  
Small group sharing (optional)  
Anointing

Our next session is Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
There is no need to book for these days unless you are a group. We would appreciate knowing numbers to enable us to have enough hand out material ready.

This long-standing Passionist Ministry at Holy Cross is valued by many. We invite you to support it financially according to your means. Suggested Donation \$30

For more information, please phone 9846 6014

### **WE ARE CALLED**

ACU (Australian Catholic University) Campus Ministry and Vocations Melbourne invite you to come and explore what life looks like in Catholic Religious Orders, Diocesan Priesthood, and Married life. Hear from speakers who will share what answering a call looks like, what challenges lie ahead and the many joys you find along the way. Saturday 1 August GREG CRAVEN CENTRE, LEVEL 7, ST TERESA OF KOLKATA BUILDING, ACU MELBOURNE 9AM-1PM  
This is a Free event, but booking is necessary via [trybooking.com/DNKHK](http://trybooking.com/DNKHK) or use the QR code



### **COMMUNITY AROUND US**

Those with early Dementia and their carers are invited to come along to this FREE fun singing group which is led by professional singing teacher. The aimed is encouraging social interaction with activities to aid memory retention. This activity runs every SECOND THURSDAY between 1pm-2pm at ANDREW CENTRE (2-6 Hanna Drv, Endeavour Hills) Ph. 03 9700 4944. Afternoon Tea provided

### **Readings:**

#### **17 Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A**

1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12  
Romans 8: 28-30  
Matthew 13:44-52

[www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com)

#### **18 Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A**

Isaiah 55:1-3  
Romans 8:35. 37-39  
Matthew 14:13-21

[www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com)

### **This weekend we pray for:**

#### ***Those who are sick***

Ranjane Jeganathan, Edgar Tellis, Joanne Folino, Cecil Harper, Peter Shaw-Dennis, Peter Van Helmond, Pandry Jackson, Irma Dias, Fr Chris Mithen CP, Kerryne Carney, Mary Antoun, Anne McCallister, Neville Akom, Terry Gough, Cecile Potier, Mavis David, James Mendis, Oliver Mendis, Hector de Santos, Teariki Sword, Rui Manuel Campos, Ruby Reid, Danny Sugunasekera, Dorothy Locke, Piper Anne Spriggs, Grace Sprigg, Ronella Tyrell **and All those in aged care or homebound with chronic health issues**

#### ***Those who have died***

Stephen Chapman, Eduardo Dias, Sally D'Cruz, Yvonne Sherwin, Beatrice Cramer, Sandra Quodros, Monica Tissera, Clare Foster, June Kitto, Cheryl Anthony, Mariana Villaseca, V. Karunainathan, Michael D'Silva, Percy Macleod, Cynthia Macleod, Filomena Boavida **and all who are named in our church memorial book**

***May they rest in peace***

**St Paul Apostle Parish Endeavour Hills**  
**MINISTERS OF WORD/ COMMENTATORS 2026**

|                              | <b>Saturday—6pm</b>          | <b>Sunday 9am</b>                    | <b>Sunday 11am</b>            | <b>Sunday 6pm</b>                  |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday</b> | Mary Pegram<br>Liz Spear     | Virendra Jayetileke<br>Janina Gorski | Anne Astin<br>Rinku Arora     | Stephen Nasalio<br>William Roncon  |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</b> | Marg Daly<br>Liseby Lapierre | Dezire Tenisio<br>Rosa Mitchell      | Mars Sota<br>Beth Sota        | Charlene Nheu<br>Mignonne Meerwald |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b> | Liz Flood<br>Trevor Saldanha | Agnes Giam<br>William Round          | Alvita Dias<br>Harendra Alwis | Jeremy Ferrao<br>Reg Young         |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b> | Mark Rolfe<br>Karen Rolfe    | Mary Moore<br>Jodicee Tenisio        | Mary Heaton<br>Anne Astin     | Marg Keating<br>William Roncon     |
| <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b> | Marg Daly<br>Trevor Saldanha | Dezire Tenisio<br>Jodicee Tenisio    | Mary Heaton<br>Jennifer Tanti | Lakni Weerasekera<br>Charlene Nheu |

**St Paul Apostle Parish Endeavour Hills**  
**MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST 2026**

|                              | <b>Saturday—6pm</b>                                   | <b>Sunday 9am</b>                                                                         | <b>Sunday 11am</b>                                                                                 | <b>Sunday 6pm</b>                                          |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday</b> | Riona Alveyn<br>Lionel Alveyn<br>Lien Phan            | Mary Moore<br>Nila Fernando<br>Glenys Tran<br>Rohan Wickramasinghe<br>Jennifer Cunningham | Vianney Clark<br>Antionette Gargano<br>Stephen Herbert<br>Binitha Mathew<br>Patricia D'Souza       | Anne Kankanige<br>Peng Chee<br>Vonny Lai                   |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</b> | Gertrude Akom<br>Mima Arena<br>Carmeline Don Paul     | Sig Romano<br>Anabela Costa<br>Aloma Pereira<br>Folole Faleafa<br>Rinku Arora             | Dominique Maclou<br>Sai Dlinger<br>Naomi Falo<br>Stephen Nasalio<br>Santhanamary                   | Jenny Catania<br>Brendan Keating<br>Lakni Weerasekera      |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b> | Celine Quinless<br>Riona Alveyn<br>Lionel Alveyn      | Mary Moore<br>Nila Fernando<br>Dalreen Fernandes<br>Jennifer Cunningham<br>Sig Romano     | Vianney Clark<br>Antionette Gargano<br>Binitha Mathew<br>Patricia D'Souza<br>Marie Claire Maillard | Vonny Lai<br>Charlene Nheu<br>Marg Keating                 |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b> | Bernie Henstridge<br>Lien Phan<br>Celine Quinless     | Aloma Pereira<br>Michelle Boissezon<br>Rohan Wickramasinghe<br>Kyle Hoad<br>Emma Hoad     | Naomi Falo<br>Dominique Maclou<br>Lauren Rafferty<br>Stephen Herbert<br>Santhanamary               | Mignonne Meerwald<br>Swineetha Disanayake<br>Jenny Catania |
| <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b> | Bernie Henstridge<br>Carmeline Don Paul<br>Mima Arena | Sig Romano<br>Anabela Costa<br>Nila Fernando<br>Rinku Arora<br>Kyle or Emma Hoad          | Binitha Mathew<br>Stephen Herbert<br>Vianney Clark<br>Patricia D'Souza<br>Marie Claire Maillard    | Marg Keating<br>Peng Chee<br>Jenny Catania                 |

Please note that the above rosters are subject to the completion of the required SAFEGUARDING documents and training

