

Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.”

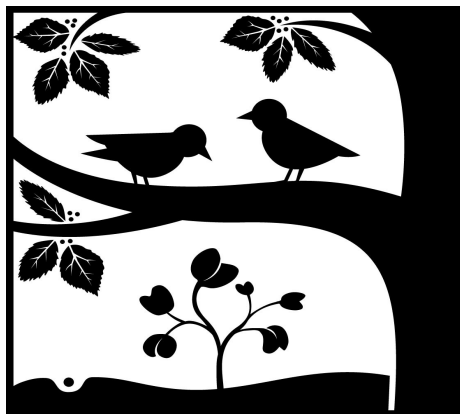
He put another parable before them, ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.’

He told them another parable, ‘The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.’ In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables
and expound things hidden since the
foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, ‘Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.’ He said in reply, ‘The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!’

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we hear how the Spirit of God dwells in all of us, helping us in our weakness. The first disciples had Jesus to explain the parables; we have the Spirit to enlighten us. It is the Spirit who helps us to interpret the teaching of Jesus and to be receptive to the challenges that they pose.

The presence of sinners in the kingdom of God is often a stumbling block to good people. There will be a time for separation and judgment, but the time is not now. This means that the righteous will have to live with the sinner and, even more challengingly, show them the same kind of concern that they show to others. The presence of sinners does not necessarily erode the quality of the kingdom. Rather, it provides disciples an opportunity to rise to the occasion of generosity and forgiveness.

There are two images of judgment in the readings. The one in the gospel is terrifying and decisive. The wicked are bound together into bundles and readied for burning. We must remember that this is a parable. In the first reading and in the psalm response the justice of God is said to be lenient, clement and kind. The power of God is demonstrated not in retribution but in mercy. God is said to be ‘merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in kindness and fidelity’, and repentance is a very real possibility. This is the image that gives us hope.

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ST MARTIN DE PORRES Catholic Parish Avondale Heights

Today's Celebration is on pages:
Old Missal: 307 New Missal: 423



16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

19 July 2026

First Reading Wisdom 12:13.16-19

A reading from the book of Wisdom

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

There is no god, other than you,
who cares for everything,
to whom you might have to prove that you
never judged unjustly.

Your justice has its source in strength, your
sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all.
You show your strength when your sovereign
power is questioned

and you expose the insolence of those
who know it;

but, disposing of such strength, you are mild
in judgement,
you govern us with great lenience,
for you have only to will, and your power
is there.

By acting thus you have taught a lesson
to your people
how the virtuous man must be kindly to his
fellow men,
and you have given your sons the good hope
that after sin you will grant repentance.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R. v.5

(R.) Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice. (R.)
2. All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds
you who alone are God. (R.)
3. But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me. (R.)

Second Reading Romans 8:26-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that
could never be put into words.*

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness.
For when we cannot choose words in order to
pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our
plea in a way that could never be put into
words, and God who knows everything in our
hearts knows perfectly well what he means,
and that the pleas of the saints expressed by
the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven
and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the
mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!**

Gospel Matthew 13:24-43

**A reading from the holy Gospel according
to Matthew**

Let them grow together until the harvest.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner’s servants went to him and said, “Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?” “Some enemy has done this” he answered. And the servants said, “Do you want us to go and weed it out?” But he said, “No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it.

St Martin de Porres Parish

158 Military Rd, Avondale Heights Vic 3034

www.melbcatholic.org/avondaleheights

Parish Priest: Fr. Paul Tru

Secretaries: Lee Tran: Wednesday - Friday

Charles Meneze: Tuesday

Office Hours: Closed Monday

10am - 3pm Tuesday - Friday

Pastoral Assoc: Sr. Cres Villas, asjm

Sr. Connie Mamo, asjm (Vol)

Phone: 9337 6016

E-mail: avondaleheights@cam.org.au

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am

Vietnamese 11:00am

Weekday Masses

Monday to Friday 9:15am

Benediction Wednesday after Mass

Reconciliation Wednesday 10.00am

Saturday 5:30pm

St Martin de Porres School

Principal: Stefanie Harvey

Secretaries: Mary Carmuciano

Maria Aloe

Phone: 9331 9000

E-mail:

principal@smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

www.smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

The Augustinian Sisters

Convent: 2 Venice Court,
Avondale Heights

Phone: 9337 4595

E-mail: sisaugustinian@gmail.com

Website: www.asjmoz.org

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility.

The Parish of St Martin de Porres and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. Child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of everyone.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick:

Sandra Sammut; Vlad; George Pinpin; Susie; Kay; Kimberly Damanik; Zac; Peter Falzon; Jan, Miecia, Zyguh; Janice Murray; Mellisa; Rossini Burns; Anna; Franca; Nancy Green; Mark; Nazzi & Teresa Demaio; Emily & Grace; Monica Marland.

Recently Deceased:

Gabriele Di Filippo; Giovanni Di Grande; Angela Sammut; Helen Grabner; Cameron Reyntjes; **Tecla Alessi; Mirjana Ritosa; Alfred Spiteri; Teresa Dinh Thi Phuong; Nazareth Sranze; Carmela Gurrisi.**

Anniversaries & Remembrances:

Tony Cerchiara; Maria Loschiavo; Filomena, Charlie, & Vince Gurrisi; Eric & Josephine Carmuciano; Dominic Cumbo; Bernarda & Francis Grima; Teresa, Emmanuel, Tonina, Phillip Sammut; Emmanuel & Nazarena Farrugia; Adam Hood; Rita & Carmelo De Bono; Joseph Consiglia.

Parish Support Programme:

Pays Wages, Electricity, Cleaning, Insurance,
Pledge: \$2,588 Received: \$2,440
Loose: \$901

Presbytery: Supports Parish Priest,
Retired Priests & Cathedral. \$1,394

The Kids Bulletin

A fun way for children to learn about our Catholic faith. Weekly updates, please visit thekidsbulletin.com/



Catholic Theological College

will again be welcoming visitors as part of the 2026 Open House Melbourne weekend.

The campus comprises a bluestone building, designed by William Wardell, that housed Catholic secondary schools (Parade College 1871-1967 and Cathedral College 1968-94) and a new building designed by Gregory Burgess.

The stability and formality of the original building contrasts with the fluidity of the new—the past and future are both alive in the newer facility.

A crisp, transparent connection links the buildings at two levels, allowing the new to grow out of the old with respect and unity.

The site was the winner of the 2001 Heritage Property Award of the Australian Property Institute, and received a commendation in the 2000 Victorian Architecture Awards of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects.

A brochure will be available for visitors to do a self-guided tour of the building.

The open day is free of charge and no bookings are required.

Date: Saturday 25 July 9am-3pm

Venue: Catholic Theological College
278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne
(Enter via the reception/foyer area)

Vocations Expo with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli

Date: Saturday 1 August 9am-1pm

Venue: Greg Craven Centre
Level 7, St Teresa of Kolkata Building
Australian Catholic University
115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy

ACU 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.

We will be joined by the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia, the Capuchin Friars, the Family Accompaniment team from Proclaim: Office for Mission Renewal, and the Melbourne Vocations Office, as well as representatives of Pauline Books and Media, giving you the opportunity to meet people living out their vocation, ask questions about discernment and discover the many ways God may be calling you to serve and love through your state of life.

Book your free spot today!

Book via QR code or
trybooking.com/DNKKH



St Mary Magdalene

Feast 22nd July

Saint Mary Magdalene,
you lived a sinful life,
but when you encountered Jesus,
you repented and followed Him.
You were faithful to Him throughout
His ministry
and were a witness to His death and
resurrection.

Please pray for me,
that I may always have the courage to
repent of my sins
and stand with you at the foot of the Cross
so that I may also be a witness to the
transforming effects of the
Resurrection.

Saint Mary Magdalene,
pray for me.

Amen



Devotion to Divine Mercy

Mondays: 2.30pm Rosary
3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

followed by Stations of the Cross, 4pm finish.



Christian Meditation 2026

Maranatha ... Come Lord Jesus

All welcome: Monday 10 - 11am
Parent's Room in the Church

Term 3: July 27; Aug 10 & 24; Sep 7.

Deacon Matthew Pinson SJ

We welcome Deacon Matthew who will serve the 9:30am Sunday masses for pastoral experience until his priestly ordination on the 8th of August 2026 in Sydney. Please make Deacon Matthew welcome and pray for him as he prepares to be ordained a Priest.

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you and ask that you make yourself known to us by completing the New Parishioners Form in Documents and Forms under Recommended Links on our website and return it to the Parish Office. Thank you.