

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;

and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**

Lk 18:9-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*The publican returned to his home justified; the Pharisee did not.*

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people who prided themselves on being virtuous and despised everyone else. 'Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of mankind, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I get." The tax collector stood some distance away, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." This man, I tell you, went home again at rights with God; the other did not. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.****A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

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# Breaking Open the Word



THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

26 OCTOBER 2025

**PONDERING OUR ATTITUDES**

Today's Gospel presents us with a mirror to help us reflect on the way we regard others. It is especially pertinent when we feel assured that our religious attitude and approach to our Faith and God is correct. It is even possible that out of this attitude we can regard others, especially those from other faith traditions, as uninformed or perhaps targets of divine condemnation.

Jesus offers Luke's audience an opportunity to reflect on similar attitudes. It takes the form of a parable focused on two people: a person of religious scrupulosity and a public sinner. The first is called a 'Pharisee', an identification that requires nuanced historical understanding. For Luke writing in the mid-80s of the first century in the period after the destruction of the Temple in 70 CE, Pharisees enabled Judaism to survive and grow. They represented its leadership. To followers of Jesus at that same period they represented those who were critical of the Jesus-movement and didn't join in. In the time of Jesus, in the 30s, the situation was very different. They were very attuned to Jesus' mission and, like him, concerned about authentic Jewish faith and Torah practice.

In the story in Luke's Gospel, Jesus compares a 'Pharisee' (in this later historical understanding) to a tax-collector judged a sinner, collaborating in Rome's oppressive taxation system. This 'sinner' recognises his need for God's mercy; the Lukan Pharisee, self-assured about his religious credentials, arrogant and without any need for God, is self-focused. These parable characters invite us to ponder our attitude to God and others.

**Fr Michael Trainor****FIRST READING**

Sir 35:12-14, 16-19

A reading from the book of Sirach

*The prayer of the humble will penetrate the heavens.*

The Lord is a judge who is no respecter of personages. He shows no respect of personages to the detriment of a poor man, he listens to the plea of the injured party. He does not ignore the orphan's supplication, nor the widow's as she pours out her story. The man who with his whole heart serves God will be accepted,

his petitions will carry to the clouds. The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds, until it arrives he is inconsolable, nor will he desist until the Most High takes notice of him, acquits the virtuous and delivers judgement. And the Lord will not be slow, nor will he be dilatory on their behalf.

■ **The word of the Lord.****RESP PSALM**

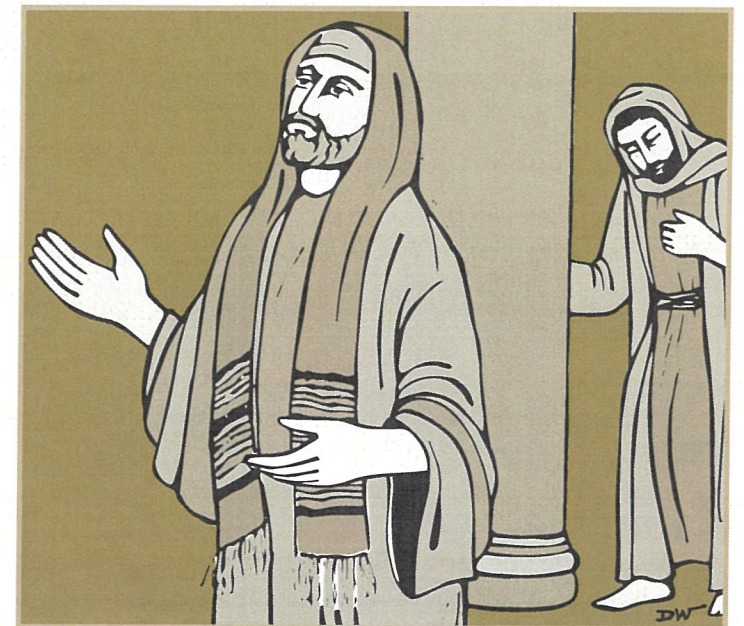
Ps 32:2-3, 17-19, 23. R. v. 7

**R.** The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, / his praise always on my lips; / in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. / The humble shall hear and be glad. **R.**

2. The Lord turns his face against the wicked / to destroy their remembrance from the earth. / The just call and the Lord hears / and rescues them in all their distress. **R.**

3. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; / those whose spirit is crushed he will save. / The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. / Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. **R.**

**SECOND READING**

2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

*All that remains is the crown of righteousness reserved for me.*

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

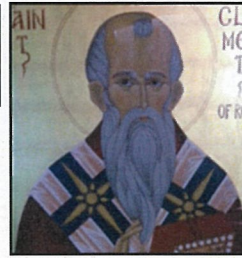
The first time I had to present my defence, there was not a single witness to support me. Every one of them deserted me – may they not be held accountable for it. But the Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

■ **The word of the Lord.**



# St Clement of Rome Church

**Address:** 9 –21 Egan Drive, Bulleen 3105 - **Phone:** 9850 3262  
**Email:** bulleen@cam.org.au, **Web:** <https://www.melbcatholic.org/bulleen>  
<https://www.facebook.com/stclementsparishbulleen>  
**Office Hours:** Tue—Thur 9am-5pm



**Parish Priest :** Very Rev Mark Reynolds EV (Episcopal Vicar for Catholic Schools)  
Mark.Reynolds@cam.org.au

**Italian Chaplain:** Fr Vito Pegolo (0419 736 890), **School Principal:** Mr Michael Watt (9850 1216)

**Parish Administration & Finance :** Bernadine De Silva, **Pastoral Worker:** Marilyn Robert  
**St Vincent de Paul Helpline** (1800 305 330)

**Parish Vision Statement :** Guided and inspired by the Holy Spirit, the Parish of St Clement of Rome seeks to be a community of authentic disciples of Jesus, living the Word of God. As a welcoming community, through humble service, we acknowledge our stewardship of God's creation and strive to promote the dignity of all God's people.

## JUBILEE 2025—PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Welcome to St Clement of Rome as we celebrate The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
**Today's theme is :** The publican returned to his home justified; the Pharisee did not  
We invite you to reflect on this theme throughout the Mass



Dear Parishioners,

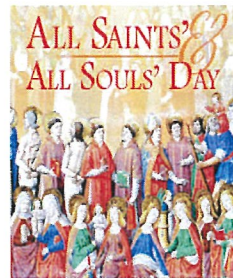
As we continue our parish offertory renewal, we invite those who have not yet returned their Pledge Cards to do so. You may place your completed card in the offertory collection, in the designated boxes in the church foyer, or drop it off at the parish office.

If you were unable to collect a Pledge Pack, generic Pledge Cards are available in the foyer this weekend. These can be filled out and returned immediately in the box provided. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to our parish community. Every offering, no matter the amount, is an expression of love and gratitude to God. Your support ensures that our parish can continue to serve and grow in faith together.  
Fr Mark



**APOLOGIES.....Parish Offertory Program Letters**—It has been brought to my attention that the financial details included in the letters that current contributors received are, in a number of instances, incorrect and some extremely so, due to a system error. I sincerely apologise for this mistake, which understandably, has annoyed and frustrated some of you. Please be assured that I have addressed the matter with our Archdiocesan System Administrators and the Philanthropy Office and made them fully aware of my disappointment and advised them of the distress this has caused, particularly to many of our generous parishioners.  
Fr Mark

## Celebrating All Saints and All Souls Day—Next Weekend



The Catholic tradition offers us November, which begins with All Saints Day and All Souls Day as the Month of special remembrance for those who have died. All Saints Day, 1st November is a day of solemnity and All Souls Day commemorates all the faithful departed. To highlight the communion with those who have gone before us, a special **Remembrance Book** will be placed in the Foyer and you are invited to write the names of your deceased loved ones as you attend Mass throughout November. During the weekend Masses, the book will be taken up in procession and the Mass will be offered for all those remembered. Please place your offerings in the envelopes provided. Thank you.

## MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS

**Mass Times:** Sat 5:30pm (*Vigil*), Sun - 9am & 11am (*Italian*)  
Tues 9:15am (*Italian*), Wed-Fri 9:15am (unless informed)

**Reconciliation:** Sat 5:00pm (and on request)

**Baptisms:** 1st & 3rd weekend every month. **Weddings:** By Appointment

**We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand.  
We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently on this land.**

## PARISH DIARY

Sun 26th Oct @ 9am—Mass  
Sun 26th Oct @ 11am—Italian Mass  
Tue 28th Oct @ 9.15am—Italian Mass  
Wed 29th Oct @ 9.15am—Mass  
Thurs 30th Oct @ 9.15am—no Mass  
Fri 31st Oct @ 9.15am—Mass  
Sat 1st Nov @ 5pm —Reconciliation followed by Mass @ 5.30pm

## Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently,  
**Mario De Rango** and for the repose of the souls of **Francesco Fusca, Romeo Dela Cruz** and all those, whose anniversaries occur at about this time.  
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.



**Parish morning tea next Sunday after 9am Mass**  
Please bring a plate to share.

## St Vinnies Christmas Hampers—Volunteers needed

We are seeking volunteers to assist with the distribution of Christmas hampers this year. Your help can make a big difference to families in need during the festive season. If you are able to assist, please contact the parish office.



## Word of Life – Weekly Reflections in October

Wednesdays – 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th  
10.00AM to 11.00AM

The Clifton Centre, St. Clement of Rome, Bulleen

You are warmly invited to come together after the 9.15AM Mass on Wednesdays in October to join us for a special weekly reflection on the readings of the day.

This session is for fellowship and deeper understanding of the Scripture. We hope you can join us for this enriching experience.

Please register your interest by writing your names on the clipboard at the church foyer for organising purposes.

## New Ways of Giving

To Support our Church with ease, we've introduced a new EFTPOS terminal. This is an easy and secure way to donate, but please note that it is not an alternative to your regular stewardship envelopes.

You can also donate by scanning this QR code with your phone camera.  
Thank you for your generosity!



| LITURGY ROSTER | SAT 5.30PM               | SUN 9.00AM      |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 25/26 Oct      | <b>Sacristan</b>         | Sue De Bortoli  |
|                | <b>Commentator</b>       | Paul Sammut     |
|                | <b>Reader</b>            | May Teh         |
|                | <b>Special Ministers</b> | May Teh         |
|                |                          | Martin Teh      |
|                |                          | Enza Wilcocks   |
|                |                          | Shirley Pyndiah |

|          |                          |                  |                  |
|----------|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 /2 Nov | <b>Sacristan</b>         | Maria Papalia    | Grace Cannatelli |
|          | <b>Commentator</b>       | May Teh          | Tim Landsberg    |
|          | <b>Reader</b>            | Jacinta Zieba    | Jan McQueen      |
|          | <b>Special Ministers</b> | Warwick Wright   | Shirley Pyndiah  |
|          |                          | Virginie Mindiel | Grace Cannatelli |
|          |                          | Zina Scalzo      | Anne Fusca       |

## ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

| DATE  | LETTORI                 | OFFERTORIO    | MINISTRI DELL' EUCHARISTIA   |
|-------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| 02/11 | G BAGLIERI<br>G VARASSO | FAM SOR RATTI | L VETTORETTO<br>G VETTORETTO |

## Important reminder for all Parish Ministry Volunteers

Please ensure that you are up to date with the safeguarding requirements, whether or not it involves direct or indirect contact with children and young people. We encourage you to visit our website for more details and to complete or finalise any necessary documentation. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Thank you!

**MISSIONARIES OF HOPE**  
among all peoples

We would like to thank you for your generosity supporting the Church in Zambia and missionaries like Sr Jane and Kayula.

**Thanks to your kindness, women like Sharon will have the skills to provide for their families, and mothers like Grace can give birth with dignity. Your gift will also support a variety of Church programs around the world.**

To learn more about the impact your support is making, please visit [catholicmission.org.au/our-work](https://catholicmission.org.au/our-work). Here, you can also sign up to our regular newsletter to keep up to date with the latest news.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please do so at [catholicmission.org.au/mission](https://catholicmission.org.au/mission). Your action will make a profound change on people's lives.

Free call: 1800 257 296  
[catholicmission.org.au/mission](https://catholicmission.org.au/mission)