

GOSPEL

Lk 6: 17, 20-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Happy are the poor. Woe to the rich!

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases.

Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said:

‘How happy are you who are poor; yours is the kingdom of God.

Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.

Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh.

‘Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.

‘But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now.

Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry.

Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.

‘Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.’

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

16 FEBRUARY 2025

‘BLESSED’ ARE YOU ...

Like Matthew’s Sermon on the Mount, Luke has Jesus teach his disciples. It occurs on a plain with the teacher surrounded by a great crowd of his disciples and others. We learn that his audience comes from around Judea, even from ancient Syria (Tyre and Sidon, in present-day Lebanon). In Luke, Jesus teaches about the primary qualities of discipleship and warns of the subtle attractions or seductions that compromise that discipleship.

Wealthy and poorer Greco-Romans make up Luke’s late first-century Gospel audience, and Luke directs Jesus’ words deliberately at them. The first half of his teaching is to those who are economically poor, hungry and grieving. Those are the members of Luke’s world who do not have the power or status to respond to their social, economic or personal situation. They are utterly powerless and live, perhaps, on the margins of Luke’s Gospel household. God will reverse their status. Luke reminds them that they are ‘blessed’ by God.

The translation, ‘happy are you...’ doesn’t capture the powerful sense of Jesus’ teaching. To be happy is a personal emotive response to good fortune. To be ‘blessed’ comes from above. This is God’s act, God’s gift, independent of one’s emotional state. Blessedness places one in the realm of the holy. The second half of Jesus’ teaching is addressed to those in the Lukan household who are wealthy, have all they need and are dismissively laughing, perhaps at others’ misfortune. Their situation will also be reversed. Jesus’ words are insightful and sobering. They invite us, contemporary disciples, to identify what we struggle with and what seduces us.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Jer 17: 5-8

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

A curse on those who trust in humanity; a blessing on those who trust in the Lord.

The Lord says this:

‘A curse on the man who puts his trust in man,
who relies on things of flesh,
whose heart turns from the Lord.
He is like dry scrub in the wastelands:
if good comes, he has no eyes for it,
he settles in the parched places of the wilderness,
a salt land, uninhabited.

‘A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord,
with the Lord for his hope.
He is like a tree by the waterside
that thrusts its roots to the stream:
when the heat comes it feels no alarm,
its foliage stays green;
it has no worries in a year of drought,
and never ceases to bear fruit.’

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PSALM

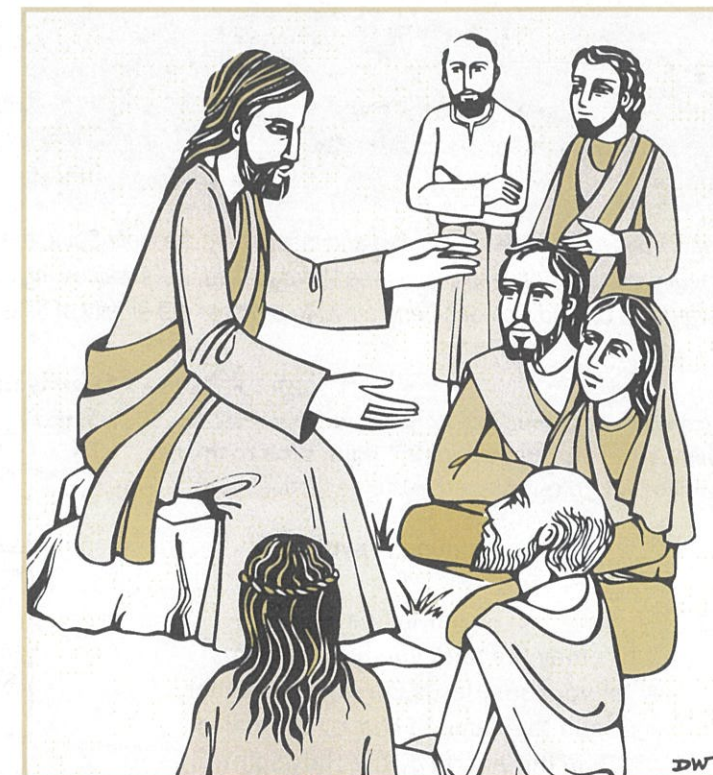
Ps 1: 1-4. R. Ps 39: 5

R. Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

1. Happy indeed is the man / who follows not the counsel of the wicked; / nor lingers in the way of sinners / nor sits in the company of scorners, / but whose delight is the law of the Lord / and who ponders his law day and night. **R.**

2. He is like a tree that is planted / beside the flowing waters, / that yields its fruit in due season / and whose leaves shall never fade; / and all that he does shall prosper. **R.**

3. Not so are the wicked, not so! / For they like winnowed chaff / shall be driven away by the wind. / For the Lord guards the way of the just / but the way of the wicked leads to doom. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 15: 12, 16-20

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

If Christ is not raised from the dead, your faith is in vain.

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people.

But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

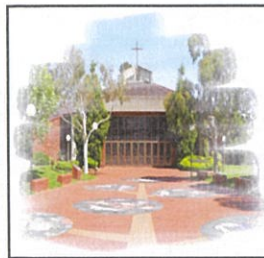
Lk 6: 23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad;

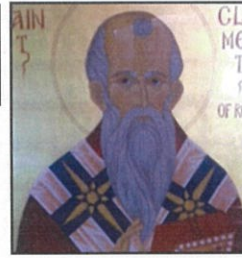
your reward will be great in heaven.

Alleluia!



St Clement of Rome Church

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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 Secretary: Bernadine De Silva , **Parish/School Sacramental Coordinator:** 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 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time.
Today's theme is : Happy are the poor. Woe to the rich!
We invite you to reflect on this theme throughout the Mass.



Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity
and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen

Looking for volunteers to run Children's Liturgy



We are excited to announce the launch of our brand-new Children's Liturgy, beginning on the first Sunday in March! The plan is to run it on the first and third Sunday of each month.

We are looking for volunteers to help run this ministry. If you're interested in spending time with the children, reading the gospel with them and doing some collaborative and fun activities, we would love to have you on board. Please reach out to us.....

Let's make this a meaningful and fun experience for the children in our community!

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.

Congratulations on 60 wonderful years!

Join us in congratulating
Warwick & Beverley Wright
as they mark their 60th Wedding Anniversary!



MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS

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

Reconciliation: Sat 9.45am (and on request). **Marian Devotions & Eucharistic Adoration :** Sat 8.40am
Baptisms: Welcoming (3rd weekend) & Baptism (4th weekend) every month. **Weddings:** By Appointment

PARISH DIARY

Mon 17th Feb @ 9.15am—no Mass
Tue 18th Feb @ 9.15am—Italian Mass
Wed 19th Feb @ 9.15am — no Mass
Thurs 20th Feb @ 9.15am— Mass
Fri 21st Feb @ 9.15am—School Mass Prep,1,5 & 6
Sat 22nd Feb @ 9.00am— ASRE Reconciliation
Classes in the parish office
Sat 22nd Feb @ 9.15am—Mass & Reconciliation

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently, and for the repose of the souls of **Luigi Misuraca, Teresa Cugnetto, Luigi Francavilla, Maria Lauletta** 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.

Changes to the After-School Sacramental Program

We are pleased to inform you of some exciting changes to our after-school sacramental program. This year, with the exception of the sacrament of reconciliation, we plan for our children to receive the sacraments of first eucharist and confirmation at the same time as the school children. The sacramental classes will be held separately, but will align with the main sacrament dates of the school.



We are excited about this new approach and look forward to creating a unified system for both the school and the parish. Thank you for your support as we implement these changes.

While we work on the class dates for the Sacraments of First Eucharist & Confirmation, Please see below class dates for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

ASRE—Sacrament of Reconciliation 2025

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Saturday 15 th Feb	9.00 -10.00am	ASRE Reconciliation 1
Saturday 22 nd Feb	9.00 -10.00am	ASRE Reconciliation 2
Saturday 1 st Mar	9.00 -10.00am	ASRE Reconciliation 3
Saturday 15 th Mar	9.00 -10.00am	ASRE Reconciliation 4
Saturday 22 nd Mar	9.00 -10.00am	ASRE Reconciliation 5
Saturday 29 th Mar	9.00 -10.00am 9.45am	ASRE Reconciliation 6 Sacrament of Reconciliation

St Kevin's Templestowe, Playgroup and Youth Group

Little Kev's Playgroup every Monday, commenced on the 10th Feb & Youth Group every Saturday commencing from 15th Feb. Please see the notice board for more information or call the parish office 9850 5983.

New Ways of Giving



Support our Church with ease!
simply scan the **QR code** with your phone camera to donate directly or Use our **contactless EFTPOS Machine** located in the church foyer by tapping your debit or credit card.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT

LITURGY ROSTER SAT 5.30PM SUN 9.00AM

DATE	ROLE	SAT 5.30PM	SUN 9.00AM
15/16 Feb	Sacristan	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	Commentator	Paul Sammut	Mark Gregor
	Reader	May Teh	Christine Landsberg
	Special Ministers	John Bruce	Fulvia Gerasolimo
		May Teh	Pina La Mattina
		Martin Teh	Ricardo La Mattina
22/23 Feb	Sacristan	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	Commentator	May Teh	Christine Landsberg
	Reader	John Bruce	Tim Landsberg
	Special Ministers	Enza Wilcocks	Agnes Lu
		Warwick Wright	Gloria Ng
		John Bruce	Maria Papalia

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL' EUCHARISTIA
23/02	J FAGGION P LOMBARDO	FAM L VETTORETTO	C TRAVAGLINI T RECINELLA

Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage 2025

An opportunity to make the journey of a lifetime

Bookings are open for the Archdiocese of Melbourne's Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage 2025. This pilgrimage is open to Catholics aged between 18 and 30 years. Harvest Journeys is the pilgrimage provider, and Fr Jude Johnson will accompany the pilgrims as their chaplain. This graced and hope-filled journey will take in the towns and cities of Italy, the homes of great saints like St Francis and St Clare—and soon-to-be canonised saints Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati—before culminating in a visit to the Eternal City of Rome, where we will walk through the Holy Doors of St Peter's Basilica and participate in the Jubilee celebrations.

Embark on an incredible pilgrimage to encounter God and deepen your faith with fellow pilgrims.

Registrations for this pilgrimage will close on Friday 11 April 2025. Book now and be a pilgrim of hope!

<https://melbournecatholic.org/events/journey-to-rome-for-jubilee-2025>

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.