



THE SAVING WORD

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST / A

7 JUNE 2026

FIRST READING

Deut 8:2-3, 14-16

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

He gave you food which you and your ancestors did not know.

Moses said to the people: 'Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and to know your inmost heart – whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

'Do not then forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

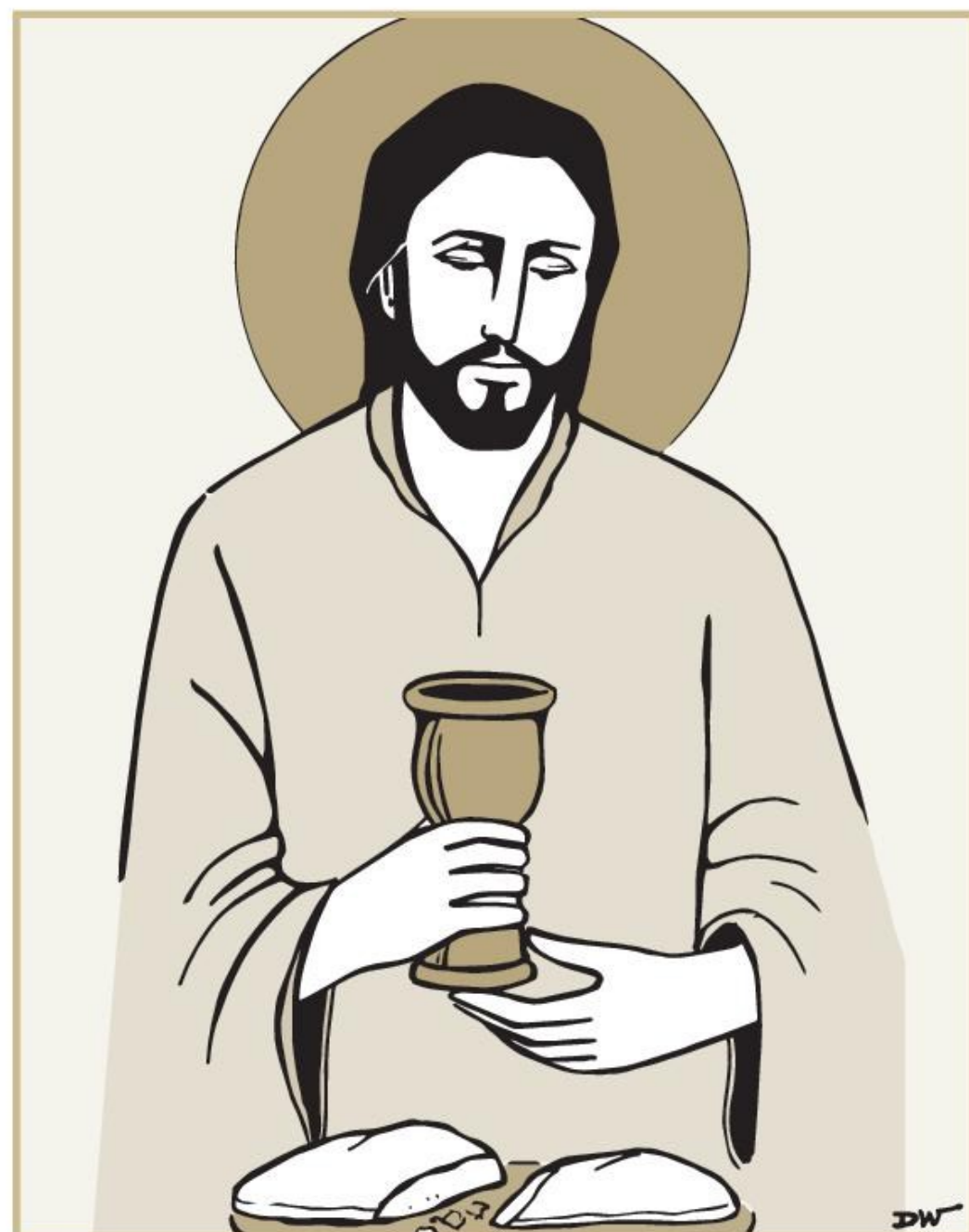
Ps 147:12-15, 19-20. R. v. 12

R. Praise the Lord, Jerusalem. (*or* Alleluia!)

1. O praise the Lord, Jerusalem! / Zion, praise your God! / He has strengthened the bars of your gates, / he has blessed the children within you. **R.**

2. He established peace on your borders, / he feeds you with finest wheat. / He sends out his word to the earth / and swiftly runs his command. **R.**

3. He makes his word known to Jacob, / to Israel his laws and decrees. / He has not dealt thus with other nations; / he has not taught them his decrees. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 10:16-17

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

Though we are many, we form a single body because we share this one loaf.

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 6:51-52

Alleluia, alleluia! / I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; / whoever eats this bread will live for ever. / Alleluia!



The Parish of St Joseph's, Elsternwick & Holy Cross, Caulfield South
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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: \$1108.25 Presbytery: \$1158.25
Special Collection: -

Next Week's Roster

Lectors:

Saturday 6:30pm R Rodrigues
Sunday 9:00am D Sarah 10:30am E Zheng

Counters: M Beaumont & B Leong

Upcoming Week's Liturgical Calendar

Thu 11 Jun: St Barnabas
Fri 12 Jun: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
Sun 14 Jun: 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Thanksgiving



The Most Holy Body & Blood of Jesus



Our First Reading recalls God providing manna to the Israelites in the desert, prefiguring the Eucharist as spiritual food.

In the Second Reading St. Paul explains that sharing the blessing-

cup and broken bread is a communion in the body and blood of Christ, binding all believers together.

In our Gospel Jesus declares "For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink," emphasizing that partaking in him brings eternal life.

The Feast of the Most Holy Body & Blood of Jesus also known as Corpus Christi highlights the sacramental and sacrificial reality of Christ's presence and invites us into a deeper Eucharistic devotion.

Trivia Lunch - 10th June 2026

Join us at the Holy Cross Parish Hall every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 12-noon. Bring your own lunch and enjoy the Trivia session and a catchup. All are welcome.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (cf. Ps 80:17)

He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (Jn 6:57)

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill*: Paul Donohoe, Tamara Bryan, Kevin Bryan, David Milne, Bernd Neubauer, Lila Wati

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

Recently Deceased: -

Death Anniversary: -

Sacrament of The Eucharist

This Sunday, as we celebrate the Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), six children of our Parish will receive the Sacrament of The Eucharist for the first time. Our Parish community congratulates them on this very important milestone of their faith journey. We pray for the children and their families to continue keeping God at the centre of their daily lives.



Special Collection: 6 - 7 June 2026 Propagation of the Faith

The Catholic Mission is supporting the construction of a primary school in Malawi after cyclone Ana so that children in this community can learn, grow and look to the future with hope.

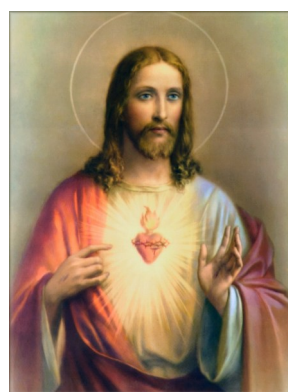
Our generosity helps people to see with the eyes of the Church: to notice a child they will never meet, and to respond as neighbours in Christ. In that sense, mission is never far away. It becomes present in prayer, in witness and in the quiet generosity of ordinary Catholics.

Donations can be made via the envelopes in the church OR scanning the QR code OR online: catholicmission.org.au/united



Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Friday 12 June, 10am Mass at St Joseph's, Elsternwick



First Class Relics of both St Margaret Mary Alcoque and her confessor St Claude de le Clombiere.

Adoration, Prayers of the Feast and Holy Mass starting at 7pm on Friday, 12 June at St Joseph's Church, Elsternwick.



The Combined Societies of Mary.
www.combinedsocietiesofmary.com
Enquiries: Joy Hunt 9509 2207

Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

O most holy heart of Jesus, fountain of every blessing, I adore you, I love you, and with lively sorrow for my sins I offer you this poor heart of mine.

Make me humble, patient, pure and wholly obedient to your will. Grant, Good Jesus, that I may live in you and for you. Protect me in the midst of danger. Comfort me in my afflictions. Give me health of body, assistance in my temporal needs, your blessing on all that I do, and the grace of a holy death. Amen.

PPC Meeting held on 26th May 2026

Summary of our recent meeting:

- 1. Presbytery Renovations: Quotations from builders and contractors are being sourced.
- 2. Community Space and Surroundings: Two architects recommended by the Diocese received our strategic brief and completed an initial site survey to understand our needs. A return brief detailing fee structures for various scopes of work will be presented for our consideration before we decide which firm to engage.
- 3. Small Group Discipleship: All 4 training sessions have been completed; with 2 sessions focused on principles and approaches, while the other 2 looked at the practical steps of starting the small groups. With Everett's guidance, it was recommended that each parish start their own small group/s and come together for occasions involving both parishes. Start small grow big!
- 4. Pastoral Council (PPC) and Finance Committee (PFC) Members: We are seeking additional members to the PPC and PFC as the 2-year term of existing committee members will be coming up for renewal soon. Our Young Adults are encouraged to nominate a representative to the PPC. Applications will be vetted by the our ex officio and current members.
- 5. Parish Offertory Program: Campaign will take place over 4 weekends in June with guidance from the CAM Philanthropy Team.
- 6. Parish Calendar: Priority upcoming events will be Holy Cross Feast and Christmas Carols at St Joseph's.
- 7. Revisiting the Pillars: It has been nearly 2 years since we last completed the Pillars-of-our-Parish exercise. A revisit will be coordinated to regroup pillars. Elected pillar group leaders need to manage their own pillar to help it flourish. A sub-committee with members from St Anthony's and St Joseph's & Holy Cross, together with our Clergy, will share ideas to facilitate this Pillars exercise.

Novena to St Anthony at Glen Huntly

A 9-day Novena started on Thursday, 4th June at St Anthony's Church. Rosary at 8:40am, followed by the Novena, and Mass at 9:15am. Booklets are also available in the church foyer. For those who would like to pray it from home, the Novena prayers can be accessed from St Anthony's Parish website <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/glenhuntlycaulfield>.

St Anthony & St Aloysius Feast Day Celebrations

The Feast of St Anthony of Padua together with the Feast of St Aloysius Gonzaga will be celebrated at St Anthony's Church at all Masses of 13 and 14 June. The main celebration will be the 11am Sunday Mass, which will be followed by a social function in the Padua Pavilion. If possible, please bring a plate of food to share! Light refreshments will be served at the church after the other Masses. All welcome. Please contact St Anthony's parish office if you are able to help with setting up, food reception, serving, and packing up.

Tony's Café Turning 17!

- Please join us in celebrating the birthday of Tony's Café. Afternoon tea on Thursday 11 June at 1:30pm.
- Thank you for your egg cartons which are very useful in helping distribute the eggs we receive.
- Now that the colder weather is upon us, some of the Café's male guests need warm jumpers or windcheaters in good order. Please bring donations to St Anthony's Hall on Tuesdays or Thursdays or leave them in the marked boxes at our church foyers.

The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

Dear brothers and sisters

Jesus instituted the Sacrament of the Eucharist on Holy Thursday during the Last Supper. He also instructed his disciples saying, "do this in memory of me". Accordingly, right from the start of Christianity "the Holy Mass" is being celebrated. But only in 1264 the Church included in the Liturgical Calendar the Feast of "Corpus Christi" to honour the Eucharist, now called "the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ."



A feast like this gives us an opportunity to appreciate and thank God for Christ's abiding presence with us in this Sacrament. It is also an opportunity for us to seek a closer relation with Jesus, present in the Eucharist. Sadly, not everyone believes in the real presence. Even among us who believe in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, we do so in varying degrees. Some believe in it without any doubting, others believe but with a lot of doubt.

Nearly 1300 years ago, a Basilian monk in Lanciano, Italy, was doubting the real presence of Our Lord Jesus in the Eucharist. He used to pray constantly for relief from his doubts. He doubted so much that he wanted to leave his priesthood. But one morning, while he was having a strong attack of doubt, he began the celebration of the Mass for the people of the town. The consecrated bread and wine caused his hands to shake, indeed his whole body. The host had turned into Flesh. The wine had turned into Blood. But that's not all. The miracle is ongoing. The Host-turned-Flesh, and the Wine-turned-Blood, without the use of any form of preservative, is still present in the reliquary. Later a pilgrim priest commended "Remember, this miracle that you are witnessing now, and that you have travelled so far to witness, happens every day in every church in the world, at the consecration of the Mass."

Many tests have been made over the years. The most recent, extensive scientific research done in 1970, used the most modern scientific tools available. The results of the tests are as follows: The flesh is real flesh. The blood is real blood. The flesh consists of the muscular tissue of the heart. The flesh and blood belong to the human species. The flesh and blood have the same blood type (AB+) This is consistent with all other similar miracles.

Let us always approach the Eucharist with a livelier faith, not doubting even a bit.

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend, we begin the Offertory Giving Program, which will continue over the next three weeks.

The call to generosity is God's invitation for us to deepen our faith and is a vital part of our identity as Christians.

I encourage you to prayerfully engage in this time of reflection and discernment. Together, we look forward to growing deeper in our relationship with Christ through this process. God bless.

Fr Leenus.

During a Mass, the red sanctuary lamp caught the eye of Little Johnny. At the end of the Mass the priest said, 'Go, the Mass is ended'. Hearing this, Little Johnny shouted on top of his voice, 'Don't go, don't go, the light is still red'.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

Jesus said to the Jews:

‘I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.

Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.’

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: ‘How can this man give us his flesh to eat?’ they said. Jesus replied:

‘I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you.

Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood

has eternal life,

and I shall raise him up on the last day.

For my flesh is real food

and my blood is real drink.

He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him.

As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father,

so whoever eats me will draw life from me.

This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate:

they are dead,

but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.’

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word

THE LIVING BREAD

Have you ever sat at the deathbed of someone you love, or looked at media reports of destruction of people's houses and living quarters in parts of the world dominated by violence, or realised the effects of global warming, or seen the tragedy of life in the faces of the young that flash across our TV screens? In our depths, we desire life; life for those who are dying, for those close to us, for those whose lives are tragically shortened by war, for our natural world, for the young.

This very theme is the focus of today's Gospel text from John 6. Called the 'bread of life discourse', this chapter unpacks John's theology of the Eucharist. The final section of this long Chapter is about the life that Jesus offers. This life comes from the 'living bread which has come down from heaven'. This is a rich theological symbol at many levels: it is the life, the 'bread', given to the Jews through God's gift to them in the Torah (the first 5 books of the Bible). There they find how to live in covenantal partnership with God; it is the wisdom that comes from Jesus' teaching; it is the Eucharistic bread received into the community in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

The reality of this symbol is underscored using the word 'flesh'—another rich symbol emphasising Jesus' presence in its abundance. To eat this eucharistic bread and drink his blood offers communion with him in his fullness, and the promise of a life that will outlive the grave and any suffering and tragedy that confronts. Communion with him brings us true life.

Fr Michael Trainor