



SUNDAY 6TH APRIL, 2025. 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT. YEAR C

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL (JOHN 8:1-11)

On Ash Wednesday, we were reminded to turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel. Turning away from sin means different things for different people. Some are sinners like the woman in today's Gospel who finds forgiveness. Others are like her critics: not even recognising that they are sinners, they seem less inclined to turn away from sin.

Every woman in first century Palestine was the possession of a man: of her father initially; and then of her husband or successive husbands. Slaves, both men and women, were the property of the head of the patriarchal household and were expected to be sexually available to the master who was also husband and father. Even free women had fewer choices than men in regard to such matters as choice of life partners and social contact outside the family. In the context of Second Temple Judaism, a woman's sexual liaison with another man was a sin against her husband. Her shame was of less consequence than her husband's loss of status and honour.

We are told nothing of the circumstances of the woman "taken in adultery". We do not even know her name. We know that she could not have been alone in her adultery: there is a man involved who is at least as guilty as the woman. But only the woman is "brought" to Jesus in the public arena, as a spectacle for the assembled crowd.

Ironically, the lawyers have little interest in the woman or in her fate. Their interest is in Jesus. They want to test him and catch him out on his attitude to the Law of Moses. They objectify the woman in the interests of their legal debate.

In other words, Jesus is the one on trial in this public setting, and the woman is no more than a dispensable object in the process, a means to a sinister end. Her life is of little concern to her accusers who ask Jesus for a legal opinion on her case.

Should the full force of the law be exercised? Should she be stoned to death? Jesus does not dignify their manipulation with a response.

Rather, he takes away their power over the woman by bending down and writing with his finger on the ground. What does he write? We can never have an answer to that question.

Her accusers keep asking Jesus to provide a ruling. He subverts their ploy by confronting them with their own sinfulness: let the one without sin cast the first stone.

They move off one by one and the woman is finally accorded the dignity of responding for herself. She is freed from the burden of condemnation. She can move forward with a strong sense of her worth and the realisation that she has encountered the mercy of God in the person of Jesus.

By Sr. Veronica Lawson, RSM

DEATHS & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for **Catherine Canterbury,**
Mary McMahon and Teresa Tuoi Tran
who died recently;
and for **Josip Jelincic, Gerald Bradmore and**
Maria Pham Thi Tin
whose anniversaries occur about this time.
May they rest in peace.

SEASON OF LENT

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

- at **St. Augustine's on Tuesday 8th April**
after the 6pm Mass.
- at **Corpus Christi on Friday 11th April at 6pm**
in Vietnamese.

LIGHT IN THE DESERT: Lenten program

Group reflection

Thursday 10th April at 7pm

in the Presbytery at St. Augustine's.

Includes an excerpt from next Sunday's Gospel, a short reflection and questions to prompt deeper thought. The program is designed to bring people together in prayer and conversation.

Entrance Antiphon: Psalm 42:1-2

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord,
who made a way through the sea,
a path in the great waters;
who put chariots and horse in the field
and a powerful army,
which lay there never to rise again,
snuffed out, put out like a wick:
No need to recall the past,
no need to think about what was done before.
See, I am doing a new deed,
even now it comes to light; can you not see it?
Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness,
paths in the wilds.
The wild beasts will honour me,
jackals and ostriches,
because I am putting water in the wilderness
(rivers in the wild)
to give my chosen people drink.
The people I have formed for myself
will sing my praises.

The Word of the Lord. (R.) Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 125. R. v. 3

**(R.) The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.**

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. **(R.)**
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. **(R.)**
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
As streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
Will sing when they reap. **(R.)**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Philippians 3:8-14

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the
supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I
look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have
Christ and be given a place in him.

I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts,
the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only
the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is
from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ
and the power of his resurrection and to share his
sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That
is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection
of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have
not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the
prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure
you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have
already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I
strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the
finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to
receive in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

(R.) Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Joel 2:12-13

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
With all your heart turn to me,
for I am tender and compassionate.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel: John 8:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he
appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people
came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.
The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who
had been caught committing adultery; and making her
stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus,
'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of
committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the
Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning.
What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test,
looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent
down and started writing on the ground with his finger.
As they persisted with their question, he looked up and
said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him
be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down
and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this
they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest,
until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who
remained standing there. He looked up and said,
'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?'
'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,'
said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

(R.) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
He descended into hell;
on the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God
the Father Almighty;
from there He will come to judge the living
and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of Saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

Communion Antiphon: John 8:10-11

Has no one condemned you, woman? No one, Lord.
Neither shall I condemn you. From now on, sin no
more.

JOSEPH'S CORNER HIGH TEA

Celebrating 25 years of Joseph's Corner's vital work in the west on **Sunday 4 May 2025, from 2.00pm- 5.00pm** at Mt St. Joseph Girls' College Maidstone Street, Altona 3018. Tickets: \$40 per person. For table bookings or dietary requirements, contact Ann Hudson on 0409 901 899. There will be a selection of classic High Tea savouries and sweets; tea and coffee; silent auction and main room auction; raffle; guest speaker and insights into the impact of addiction on families.

SAVE WITH CDF COMMUNITY FUND

By opening a savings account or Term Investment, you receive a competitive financial return and your savings will also help build parishes, classrooms, hospital wings, aged care homes and social service facilities. Competitive interest rates across a range of savings accounts, include 5.10% p.a.* on a 6-month Term investment. For more information: ring 1800 134 135 or visit www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer

HELP NEEDED AT ST. AUGUSTINE'S.

We need some large palm branches for our churches for Palm Sunday!

Some **volunteers with secateurs**, on **Thursday 10th April** after Mass about **9.45am** to cut palm into small pieces for the baskets for the churches.

A working bee **from 9.30am on Saturday 19th April** to clean the church for Easter.

MASS FOR MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES

Sunday 1 June 2025 at 11am at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Couples and their families are invited to join us as we celebrate the gift of marriage and family, coinciding with the Jubilee of Families. Couple who register and are celebrating the following anniversaries – 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th or 40th and above – will receive a commemorative certificate. Registrations close Sunday 25th May.

HOLY WEEK 2025 TIMETABLE

Copies, outlining the times of the Ceremonies for **Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Easter Sunday and Reconciliation** at St. Augustine's, Corpus Christi and Annunciation Churches, are available this weekend. Please take one home.

STEWARDSHIP

Thank you for your support to the church and the clergy. In line with recommendations of the Priests Retirement Foundation and Guidelines of the Archdiocese of Melbourne, the Parish Finance Committee has decided to revert to 2 distinct collections during Sunday Masses starting on **5th May 2025**.

THE FIRST COLLECTION will be for the PRESBYTERY.

- goes to the support of the priest
- support for sick and retired priests
- support for priests on special duty
- support for the Archbishop

SECOND COLLECTION – ENVELOPES – for the CHURCH
Support of local Parish, Administration,
Daily running of the Parish and Pastoral outreach.

Our new envelopes will be single envelopes for the support of the Parish.

Now is an opportunity for people to register as parishioners and sign up to commit to regular giving.

With the cost of printing envelopes, we are encouraging people to set up a **Direct Debit** Payment to our bank accounts for the Presbytery and the Church, using the account details below.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S YARRAVILLE PARISH

St. Augustine's Yarraville Church Account:

BSB 083 347 Account No. 638052213

St. Augustine's Yarraville Presbytery Account:

BSB 083 347 Account No. 638051413

CORPUS CHRISTI KINGSVILLE & ANNUNCIATION PARISH

Corpus Christi Kingsville Church Account

BSB 083 347 Account No. 485182315

Presbytery Account: BSB 083 347 Account No. 638051413

We suggest **monthly** to be the most efficient way to contribute. This can be done separately for Church and Presbytery accounts. Thank you for your support to our Parish. It is appreciated. Fr. Werner.

PARISH PRIEST

Rev Fr Werner Utri

Mobile No. 0401 158 113

Parish Website:

www.melbcatholic.org/yarraville

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Pat Mc Laughlin

patmac766@gmail.com

PARISH CHURCHES

ST AUGUSTINE'S

71 Somerville Road Yarraville

(03) 9314 7710

yarraville@cam.org.au

CORPUS CHRISTI

376 Geelong Road, Kingsville

ANNUNCIATION

4 Nolan Avenue, Brooklyn

(03) 9314 5613

kingsville@cam.org.au

LITURGY TIMES

TUESDAY MASS

St Augustine's....6.00 pm

Exposition: 5.30 –6.00pm

WEDNESDAY MASS

Corpus Christi.....9.15 am

THURSDAY MASS

St Augustine's...9.15 am

FRIDAY MASS

Corpus Christi....9.15 am

SATURDAY MASS

Corpus Christi....9.30 am

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

St Augustine's...5.00 pm

SUNDAY MASS

Annunciation....8.00 am

St Augustine's...9.30 am

Corpus Christi..11.00 am

St Augustine's..11.30 am

(Polish)

RECONCILIATION:

SATURDAYS after 9.30am

Mass at Corpus Christi

St. Augustine's...4.15pm

NEXT ITALIAN MASS

Thursday April 3rd at

11am at St. Augustine's

PARISH NEWSLETTER

To receive an Email copy of our newsletter, scan the QR code below and fill in your details.



PROJECT COMPASSION

You can support Project Compassion through the **boxes or envelopes** or **by calling: 1800 024 413 or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion** or by scanning the QR code on the envelope.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL 30 Nov – 2 Dec. 2025

Who is ACYF for?

Young people from Year 9 in 2025 up to those 25 years of age are invited to come along. Those aged 18-25 years are welcome to register as part of a group (Uni, school, parish etc.) or as an individual. Those under 18 will need to register as part of a group (school or parish) and be supervised by an adult group leader.

JUBILEE OF YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

21 July 2025 – 5 August 2025, open to Catholics aged between 18 and 30. The journey will take in Italian towns and cities culminating in Rome, for the Jubilee celebrations. Registrations will close on Friday 11 April 2025.

SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL VULNERABLE PEOPLE

At Yarraville, Kingsville and Brooklyn, we hold the care, safety and well-being of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our communities. The Parish Statement of Commitment and Reporting Process are on display at the entrance of all the Churches and all Diocesan Policies are available on the website or at the parish office. www.cam.org.au/Professional-Standards/Statements

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY - We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

ROSTERS FOR THIS WEEK

(5th & 6th April)

5th Sunday of Lent C

READERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm Krystyna Biront

9.30am Gerald Bain-King

Anna Messina

Counting..... Krystyna Biront

READERS: Corpus Christi

11.00am Julianna Barr

Mandy Rodrigues

MINISTERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm..... Joseph De Bono

9.30am..... Agnes Hopmans

MINISTER: Corpus Christi

11.00am..... Imelda Gibson

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK

(12th & 13th April)

Palm Sunday C

READERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm Rose Thomas

9.30am Pina Guzzardi

Sam Polzella

Counting..... Phillip Marques

READERS: Corpus Christi

11.00am Val Taylor

Rachael Nguyen

MINISTERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm..... Greg Buhagiar

9.30am..... Gerald Bain-King

MINISTER: Corpus Christi

11.00am..... Joe Fusca

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Baskets are left in the churches for regular donations of non-perishable food for St. Vincent de Paul throughout the year.

Cereal, long life milk, tea, coffee, milo, soup, pasta sauce, washing powder/liquid, baked beans, spaghetti, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and tooth brushes are always needed. Many thanks for your generous support.