

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 8:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
the man who follows me
will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 5:13-16

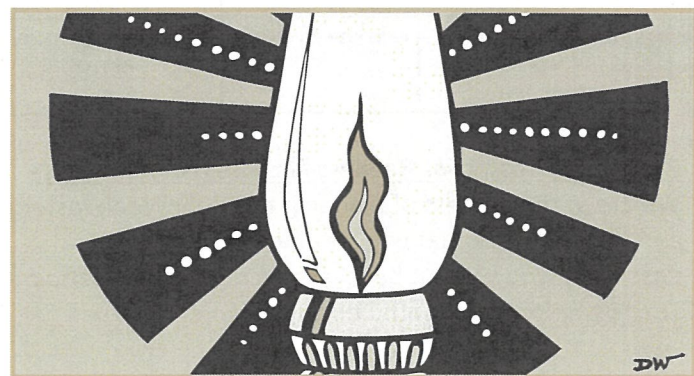
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

You are the light of the world.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

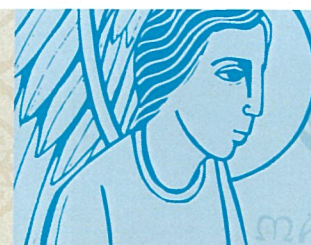
■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

8 FEBRUARY 2026

SALT AND LIGHT

Today's Gospel continues with Matthew's teaching in the 'Sermon on the Mount'. After identifying the disciples' blessedness in all kinds of situations with which the Gospel audience would be familiar, Matthew now highlights two images with which they can identify: salt and light. 'You are the salt of the earth' (5:13) and 'You are the light of the world' (5:14).

In Matthew's world salt was an important commodity and valuable trading product. It was used in cooking and for preserving foods (meat and fish) before refrigeration. Salt was shipped across the Mediterranean Sea and then carted into all of Rome's provinces along specially built salt roads. Salt's need was universal and, in times of scarcity, so precious that it became a means of bartering and currency substitute, hence the modern term 'salary'. But there is one quality of salt scarcely known. In a world of outdoor ovens with little or no wood to fire them, salt was mixed with dung to produce the chemical reaction that created the necessary heat required for baking bread.

In Jesus' reminder to the disciples that they are the 'salt of the earth', he is speaking more than about them being agents of preservation. Their presence in the Greco-Roman world meant at times that they will find themselves in disagreeable situations. These times requires fidelity or 'saltiness'. Their capacity to engage their world will also make them the 'light of the world'. The richness of these two metaphors, salt and light, finds their realisation with us, Jesus' contemporary disciples.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Isa 58:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Your light will shine like the dawn.

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor;
clothe the man you see to be naked
and turn not from your own kin.
Then your light will shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.

Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'

If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

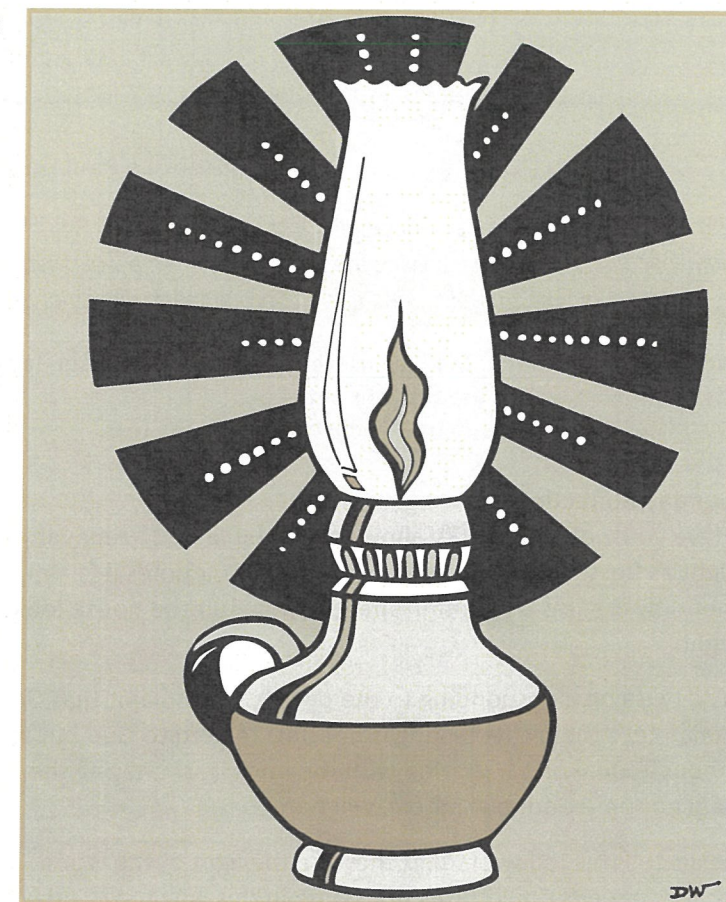
Ps 111:4-9. R. v. 4

R. A light rises in the darkness for the upright. (or **Alleluia!**)

1. He is light in the darkness for the upright: / he is generous, merciful and just. / The good man takes pity and lends, / he conducts his affairs with honour. **R.**

2. The just man will never waver: / he will be remembered for ever. / He has no fear of evil news; / with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. **R.**

3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear; / open-handed, he gives to the poor; / his justice stands firm for ever. / His head will be raised in glory. **R.**



SECOND READING

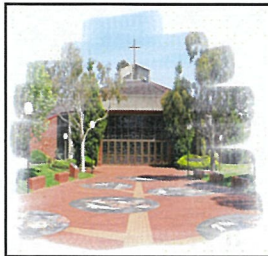
1 Cor 2:1-5

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

I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.

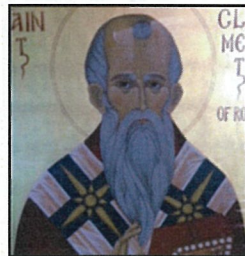
When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

■ The word of the Lord.



St Clement of Rome Church

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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
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.

Welcome to St Clement of Rome as we celebrate The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's theme is : You are the light of the world

We invite you to reflect on this theme throughout the Mass

Sunday Reflection....

Have you watched the TV shows about building or renovating houses? Often priority is given to letting in as much light as possible illuminate dark spaces. Sometimes it is almost as if the beauty of the outside comes inside. The result not only creates a beautiful space within, but the house looks appealing to the passerby too. It's all about sharing the light.

Today Isaiah is responding to the people's complaint that God did not seem to be noticing their fasting and penance. Isaiah tells them that fasting is not only related to God but to their neighbour. The fasting that God wants to see is about good works—sharing with the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the poor. Then their light will shine and not only God, but others, will notice.

Jesus tells his followers that they are the light of the world. They have something worth showing and sharing. High praise indeed! Could Jesus praise me in this way too? Today I will reflect on how I allow God's light into the spaces of my life and how I show that light to others so they may see the face of God in our world today.

God's Word—Daily Reflections



Lent 2026

Please note the following Mass Times for Ash Wednesday 18th February :

Whole School Mass at 9.15am

Parish Mass at 7.00pm

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence from meat.

Stations of the Cross : will commence from Fri 20th Feb before Mass at 8.40am in the Church.

Project Compassion : You can donate through donation boxes and envelopes available in the Foyer in a couple of weeks.

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 8th Feb @ 9am—Mass
Sun 8th Feb @ 11am—Italian Mass
Tue 10th Feb @ 9.15am—Italian Mass
Wed 11th Feb @ 9.15am—no Mass
Thurs 12th Feb @ 9.15am—no Mass
Fri 13th Feb @ 9.15am—Mass
Sat 14th Feb @ 5pm—Reconciliation followed by Mass @ 5.30pm

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently,
Orlando De Melis and for the repose of the souls of
Filomena Santuccion 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.

After School Sacramental Program 2026

Please see below, the class dates for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please register your interest by completing the registration form available on the website.

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sat 14 th February	9.00 – 10.10am	ASRE Reconciliation 1
Sat 21 st February	9.00 – 10.10am	ASRE Reconciliation 2
Sat 28 th February	9.00 – 10.10am	ASRE Reconciliation 3
Sat 7 th March	9.00 – 10.10am	ASRE Reconciliation 4
Sat 14 th March	9.00 – 10.10am	ASRE Reconciliation 5
Wed 18 th March	6.00pm	Family Faith Night
Wed 18 th March	6.30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation

Schedule for the weekday Masses in February 2026

Please be advised that, due to health reasons, Fr Mark is unavailable during the month of February. Therefore, there will be a change to our weekday Mass schedule. Weekday Masses will be celebrated on Fridays only, commencing Friday 13th February at 9.15am. However, the Italian Mass on Tuesdays and all weekend Masses will continue as normal. We thank you for your understanding and continued prayers.

Lost item

One of our parishioners seems to have misplaced her reading glasses after attending 9am Mass last Sunday. They are a Burberry brand—black colour. If you happened to come across them, we would be grateful if you could drop them off at the parish office. Thank you for your kindness and help.

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
7/8 February	<i>Sacristan</i>	Maria Papalia/ Virginie Mindiel	Carmen Gobbi
	Commentator	Paul Sammut	Tig Chibo
	Reader	May Teh	Mark Gregor
		Enza Wilcocks	Carmen Gobbi
	Special Ministers	Warwick Wright	Agnes Lu
		Virginie Mindiel	Maria Papalia

14/15 February	Sacristan	Maria Papalia/ Virginie Mindiel	Shirley Pyndiah
	Commentator	May Teh	Mark Gregor
	Reader	Jacinta Zieba	Christine Landsberg
	Special Ministers	Zina Scalzo	Shirley Pyndiah
		May Teh	Grace Cannatelli
		Warwick Wright	Anne Fusca

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL' EUCARISTIA
15/02	G BAGLIERI N DI MARZIO	FAM SOR RATTI	L VETTORETTO G VETTORETTO

Holy Week Roster for Readers & Eucharistic Ministers

We are in the process of planning the Holy Week roster and we kindly ask that you let us know as soon as possible, if you will not be available during that period. Thank you for your continued support.

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.