

GOSPEL

Mk 10:2-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

What God has joined together, no one must divide.

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Shorter form: 10:1-12

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

6 OCTOBER 2024

'LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME'

Today's Gospel has three scenes. The first brings a challenge to Jesus from the religious leaders who 'came to test him'. Their question is politically, socially and religiously loaded. We recognise this as like today's investigative journalism. We observe the skill of politicians, religious leaders and spokespeople taking the measure of the challenge and deciding how to deal with it. The question here is, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?' Jesus recognises the challenge that is one sided, complex and about the law. Jesus' reply is a question 'What did Moses command?' He has engaged the challenge but put the ball back in their court. The answer is given still from a single perspective of the male. Jesus then delivers his parting shot, implying that this commandment was given because of 'hardness of heart' and then quotes from scripture of God's intention in creating male and female. To this there is no further response from the religious leaders: they are silenced.

The scene moves into the house with the disciples where they pursue the question. Jesus answers deliberately for both men and women. The scene changes quickly to people bringing children to Jesus and the disciples turning them away. Jesus' words 'Let the children come to me' gives space for another 'Amen' or 'Truly' saying that is not just about this most recent challenge but connected to our two previous weeks: allowing those who are open and receptive to the message of Jesus to come to him. Where is our receptivity – in listening and openness or in challenge and rebuke?

Dr Rosemary Canavan

FIRST READING

Gen 2:18-24

A reading from the book of Genesis.

They were two in one flesh.

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:

'This at last is bone from my bones,
and flesh from my flesh!
This is to be called woman,
for this was taken from man.'

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

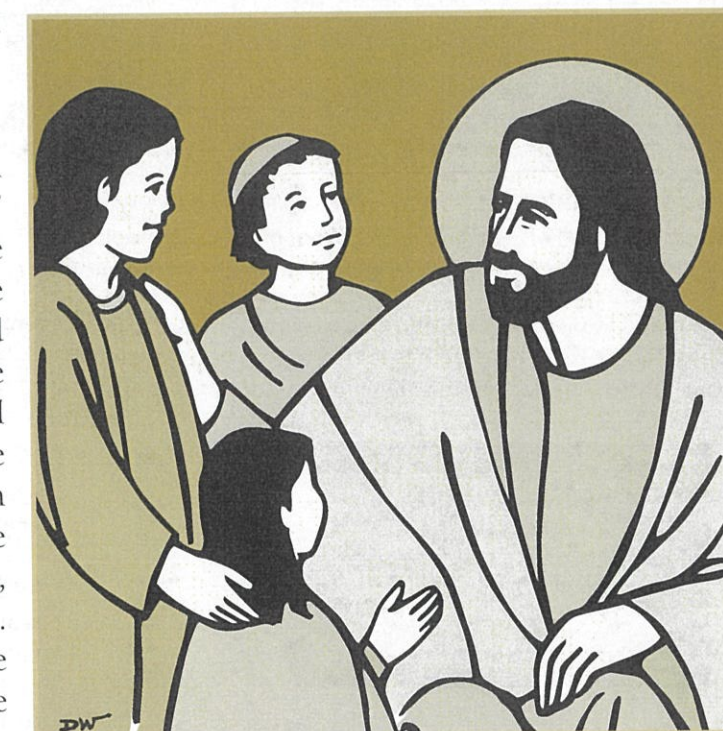
■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 127. R. v. 5

R. May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord / and walk in his ways! / By the labour of your hands you shall eat. / You will be happy and prosper. **R.**
2. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine / in the heart of your house; / your children like shoots of the olive, / around your table. **R.**
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed / the man who fears the Lord. / May the Lord bless you from Zion / in a happy Jerusalem / all the days of your life! / May you see your children's children. / On Israel, peace! **R.**



SECOND READING

Heb 2:9-11

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified have the same origin.

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

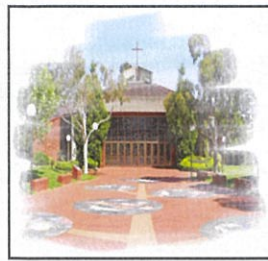
■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Jn 4:12

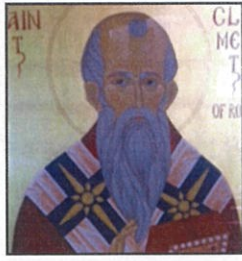
Alleluia, alleluia!

If we love one another,
God will live in us in perfect love.
Alleluia!



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: Mon (closed) Tue—Thurs 9.00am-5.00pm



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 (9850 3262) **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 Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time.**
Today's theme is : What God has joined together, no one must divide.
We invite you to reflect on this theme throughout the Mass.



Parish morning tea Sunday after 9am Mass
Please join us for a delightful morning tea after Mass in the Clifton Centre.



Columban Art Calendars are now available for sale in the Church foyer. Your donation of \$10 is greatly appreciated.

New to the Parish?

Please take a moment to introduce yourself to Fr Mark or our greeters at Mass. They can assist you in accessing our online welcome form, if you would like to get involved in parish life. We look forward to meeting you in the near future.

Healing Mass and Adoration, Saturday 12th Oct
At 6pm—St Gregory the Great Church, Doncaster.

Parish Mission 2024 :

Facilitated by Fr Richard Leonard SJ, at St John's Parish hall, 55 Cape Street, Heidelberg.
Friday, October 18th, 7pm—8.15pm and Saturday , October 19th beginning with retreat Mass at 9.15am and concluding at 3.30pm. For bookings please go to <https://www.trybooking.com/CUUVC> or scan barcode to get to the trybooking page. Or return the completed booking form from the Mission brochure available in the church foyer.

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

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.

How to be a Synodal Church in Mission Towards the Second Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, October 2024

The readings for the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time challenge us to recognise where our hearts have been hardened and how following the countercultural example of Jesus is what leads to real transformation. When positions are tightly held and entrenched, light cannot break through to illuminate a different path forward. A hardened heart and a closed mind are not open to listening, dialogue and gradual, healthy development in understandings. The Synod calls us all to be open to the dynamic movement of the Spirit, realised in daily, practical and life-giving ways.

Relationships of mutuality and dignity are foundational, not optional, in God's Kingdom. Each of us is invited to open our hearts to love and life that renews, often in and through unexpected insights and people. Being open and listening with the ear of our heart is central to this ongoing process of conversion to truth. In the biblical text, the heart is seen as the centre of understanding, determining behaviour. Both women and men are called to be part of this process of heart-centred discernment and to share in the rich blessings, as the psalmist sings, all the days of their lives.

As we continue our synodal journey, we pray for hearts open to the new life that the Spirit generously offers in every time and place to those who walk in God's ways.

Reflection written by Fiona Dyball

PARISH DIARY

Sun 6th Oct @ 9am—Mass & Baptism followed by morning tea in the Clifton Centre
Sun 6th Oct @ 12.15pm—Baptism

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently, Maddalena De Amicis and for the repose of the souls of 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—Confirmation

Enrolments closed, classes commence next Saturday 12th Oct at 9am in the Clifton Centre.



St Clement of Rome Parish—new website

Please check out our new website for all the latest news and updates <https://www.melbcatholic.org/bulleen>
To help us reduce printing costs and stay environmentally friendly, we encourage you to **subscribe** to our digital newsletter via the website. Thank you for your support and for helping us make a positive impact!

Spiritual Retreats at Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, East Melbourne

The Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre will begin a series of reflection nights and retreats commencing with a Reflection Day focussing on the central theme of the Year of Jubilee 2025 : **Hearing the Audacious Call to be Pilgrims of Hope** facilitated by Mark Walsh. The day will include times of contemplation using scripture and times of prayer. www.mmhc.org.au/spiritual-retreat/

Day : Monday, 28th October, 2024

Time: 9.30am to 3.15pm.

Venue : Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, 362 Albert street, East Melbourne

Price \$120 (Morning tea provided, BYO Lunch)

Enquiries : 9926 9300 admin.mmhc@sosjspirit.org.au

Walking the Land in Spring Saturday, 19 October 2024, 10 am – 3 pm (in person)

This day involves a walk along the Williamstown beach foreshore, inviting you to contemplate the deep wisdom and spirit of this natural bayside environment. Engage in the stories and the creative edge of two adjoining ecosystems. Journaling and art material. Cost \$60. BYO Lunch.
Register and pay at <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/walking-the-land-in-spring/?>

Covid 19 update : Following the latest Liturgical guidelines, Face coverings remain optional within Places of Worship. They are recommended in crowd settings. No vaccination requirements for attendees. Please check the government website for updated isolation rules.

LITURGY ROSTER		SAT 5.30PM	SUN 9.00AM
5/6 Oct	<i>Sacristan</i>	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	<i>Commentator</i>	John Bruce	Grace Cannatelli
	<i>Reader</i>	Paul Sammut	Rocco Gagliardi
	<i>Special Ministers</i>	Zina Scalzo	Rita Gagliardi
		May Teh	Fulvia Gerasolimo
		Martin The	Agnes Lu
12/13 Oct	<i>Sacristan</i>	Sue De Bortoli	Francis & Gloria Ng
	<i>Commentator</i>	Paul Sammut	Rocco Gagliardi
	<i>Reader</i>	May Teh	Mark Gregor
	<i>Special Ministers</i>	Enza Wilcocks	Gloria Ng
		Warwick Wright	Shirley Pyndiah
		John Bruce	Grace Cannatelli

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL' EUCHARISTIA
13/10	G BAGLIERI G VARASSO	FAM SOR RATTI	L VETTORETTO G VETTORETTO

2024 is bringing a new story to share.

Saturday 12 October 2024 1.30pm - 4.30pm
to be held at Manningham Uniting Church & Community Centre 109 Wood St, Templestowe

Working with Uniting and Carenet, this year's theme for Building Bridges through Story is **Homelessness**. This year's Building Bridges through Story will provide an opportunity for deep listening and engagement with people locally who have been impacted through homelessness. It will be an opportunity to hear from people with direct experience of homelessness and their perspective on the issues they faced.

Tickets: \$20 For more information and to register: <https://buildingbridges.events/>; 9846 2012

Manningham Uniting Church COMMUNITY GRANTS | MANNINGHAM NET Uniting

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