



THE SAVING WORD

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

6 JULY 2025

FIRST READING

Isa 66:10-14

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will send toward Jerusalem peace like a river.

Rejoice, Jerusalem, be glad for her, all you who love her! Rejoice, rejoice for her, all you who mourned her! That you may be suckled, filled, from her consoling breast, that you may savour with delight her glorious breasts. For thus says the Lord: Now towards her I send flowing peace, like a river, and like a stream in spate the glory of the nations. At her breast will her nurslings be carried and fondled in her lap. Like a son comforted by his mother will I comfort you. And by Jerusalem you will be comforted. At the sight your heart will rejoice, and your bones flourish like the grass. To his servants the Lord will reveal his hand.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20. R. v. 1

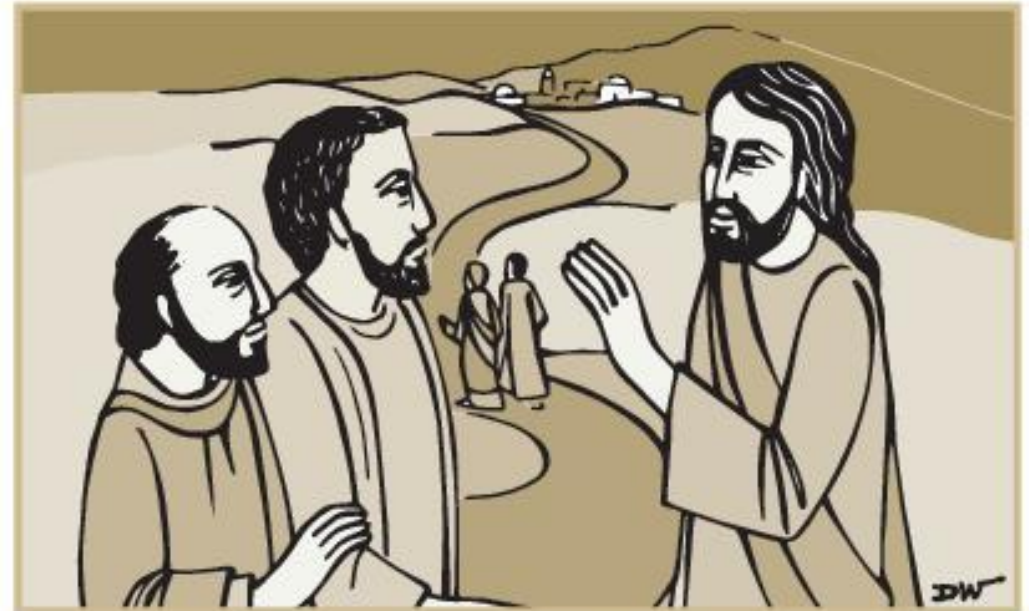
R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth, /
O sing to the glory of his name. / O render
him glorious praise. / Say to God: 'How
tremendous your deeds! **R.**

2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow; / shall
sing to you, sing to your name!' / Come and
see the works of God, / tremendous his deeds
among men. **R.**

3. He turned the sea into dry land, / they
passed through the river dry-shod. / Let our
joy then be in him; / he rules for ever by his
might. **R.**

4. Come and hear, all who fear God. / I will
tell what he did for my soul. / Blessed be God
who did not reject my prayer / nor withhold
his love from me. **R.**



SECOND READING

Gal 6:14-18

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians

The marks I carry on my body are those of Jesus Christ.

The only thing I can boast about is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the world is crucified to me, and I to the world. It does not matter if a person is circumcised or not; what matters is for him to become an altogether new creature. Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, who form the Israel of God.

I want no more trouble from anybody after this; the marks on my body are those of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, my brothers. Amen.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Col 3:15,16

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts,
and the fullness of his message live within
you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 10:1-12, 17-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Your peace will rest upon him.

The Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them out ahead of him, in pairs, to all the towns and places he himself was to visit.

THE PARISH OF ST JOSEPH'S, ELSTERNWICK & HOLY CROSS, CAULFIELD SOUTH

PARISH PRIEST: Rev Fr Leenus Neetany SAC

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ST JOSEPH'S, ELSTERNWICK

71 Orrong Road, Elsternwick 3185

Mass

Friday 10:00am, Saturday 6:30pm and Sunday 10:30am

Reconciliation

Friday after Mass, Saturday 6:00pm

Next Week's Roster

Lector - Saturday: S Bettoni

Lector - Sunday: La Bonne family

Counters: No Counting

HOLY CROSS, CAULFIELD SOUTH

707 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield South 3162

Mass

Thursday 10:00am and Sunday 9:00am

Reconciliation

Thursday after Mass

Next Week's Roster

Lector: S McMillan

Thanksgiving & Special Collections

Church: \$TBA Presbytery: \$TBA

Special Collection: -

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-minutes before all Masses & Saturday 9:45-10:10am

Upcoming Week's Liturgical Calendar

Fri 11 Jul: St Benedict

Sun 13 Jul: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time



News Bulletin
Subscription

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (cf. Ps 47:10-11)

Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (Mt 11:28)

Come to me, all who labour and are burdened, and I will refresh you, says the Lord.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill*: **Paulette Dobbin, Tony Messina, Carol Ann Burgess, Pauline Cresswell**

** Names will be published for a month, unless otherwise requested.*

Recently Deceased: -

Death Anniversary: -

Welcome to Bishop Emeritus Leslie Tomlinson!

The Parish of St Joseph's & Holy Cross and The Parishes of St Anthony's & St Aloysius are happy to welcome Bishop Emeritus Leslie Tomlinson who offered to celebrate weekend Masses at our 3 churches on a regular basis when possible. This arrangement has been in place since Sunday 15 June. Bishop resides in Nunawading.



We hope to start the RCIA Program in July 2025, so the Catechumens are prepared leading up to Easter 2026.

For all who would like to journey towards becoming a Catholic, please email to register interest a.s.a.p. We also welcome new Facilitators to assist us with the program.

Extraordinary Ministers for Holy Communion

FREE comprehensive day and a half face-to-face training program led by the ACU Centre for Liturgy and designed exclusively for parishes in Melbourne. Learn more about the Mass, and serving in this important ministry.

- Friday, 11 July 6-9pm and Saturday 12 July 9am - 4pm

- ACU's Mercy Lecture Theatre, Young Street, Fitzroy

Please register with the Parish Office by 5 July 2025.

Praise & Worship

All welcome to the Praise & Worship session on Friday, 18 July from 7-8pm at Holy Cross Parish Hall, followed by a cuppa. Please bring a plate to share.

Christmas-in-July Dance at St Anthony's



Saturday, 26 July 2025, 6pm. Fundraising for Church Maintenance. Food on sale and BYO drinks. Music by Floyd Solo Band. Dress code is semi-formal. Tickets are on sale. Adults \$30, 6-14-yrs \$15, below 6-yrs free (no seat)

Perpetual Adoration Chapel

The Perpetual Adoration Chapel was built in 2018 to commemorate the centenary celebration of St Joseph's Church.

The Chapel can be accessed 24/7 using a security tag. Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to apply for a tag.



A Message from Fr Leenus

Dear all,

Greetings! As you all may know, I have been away in India since 22nd June due to the death of my brother, Sebastian. I am combining my annual vacation in this trip and will be back on 5th August.

Thank you for your prayers and continued support. A special word of thanks to Fr Pat, Bishop Tomlinson, Deacon John, visiting priests, Brother Lindsay, office staff, volunteers and various Committee/Council members for your continued involvement in our Parish life!

United in prayer, Fr Leenus.

Summary of Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

The PPC monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, 24 June.

1. Election of new Chairperson:
 - We thank Paul White for his invaluable services and support as our Parish Council Chairperson since 2021.
 - Jeff Vlahovic and Paul Hicks have been elected as our new Co-Chairs. No Secretary was elected.
 - New members are welcome to our PPC.
2. Amalgamation Celebration: Sunday, 29 June. Mass at 10:30am followed by lunch at the School Atrium.
3. ACYF-2025:
 - Registration with the parish using EOI forms.
 - 7 youth from our parish expressed interest to attend.
 - Pilgrims seeking sponsorship to work together to propose future programs or initiatives for the Parish.
 - Jeff Vlahovic to present at Info Session on 28 June.
4. Prayer and Worship: Starts 18 July at Holy Cross Community Hall, hosted by Young Adults.
5. RCIA: Invitation open to candidates and facilitators to commence sessions by July.
6. Our Parish together with St Anthony's have been selected to receive coaching with Everett Fritz and his team at Andrews Ministries to establish Youth Small Group Discipleship. The 12-month formation program under their guidance is a collaboration with the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne.
7. Our new parish logo and prayer is being fine-tuned.
8. Legion of Mary: First meeting will be held at 7pm on 1 July at Holy Cross Hall.
9. Financial Statements to be presented for PPC to work on new strategies based on the Pillars of our Parish.

Amalgamation Celebration Lunch



St Joseph's, Holy Cross and St Anthony's parishioners came together to celebrate our successful amalgamation at the school atrium. We thank everyone who took time to come along to make the occasion more special, to Paul White for the welcome speech, to Fr Pat for the blessing and prayer and to the wonderful volunteers who helped with set-up and pack-up.

New Financial Year: Important Details

Please note the following changes that have come into effect from 1st July 2025 in relation to our recent Parish Amalgamation.

1. **Parish Name:** The Parish of St Joseph's, Elsternwick and Holy Cross, Caulfield South
2. **Website:** www.melbcatholic.org/stjosephholycross
3. **Email:** elsternwick@cam.org.au
4. **Bank Account:** BSB 083347 ACC 472726838
5. **Thanksgiving Envelopes:** New envelope numbers will be assigned to those who have requested to continue receiving thanksgiving envelopes. For the month of July, there are now temporary envelopes prepared for your collection at the church foyer.
6. **Direct Debit and Credit Card Pledges:** Please note that transactions in your bank statement may reflect the name 'St Joseph Holy Cross' or 'SJ HC Parish'.
7. **New Thanksgiving Pledge:** Scan QR Code on page 2.

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus,

The first reading reminds me of the time I was in New York, (July 3rd 1986) and by chance took part in the centennial celebration of Lady Liberty, a magnificent structure in New York Bay, standing like a mother welcoming her children home. France made the gift of the statue to America in 1886 to commemorate one hundred years from the 1776 American Declaration of Independence, although it was ten years late. Designed by Frederick Bartholdi, it expressed "Liberty Enlightening the World". The pedestal bore an inscription welcoming thousands of Jewish, Irish, Russian and European refugees seeing the statue as they entered New York Bay:

"Bring me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest tossed, to me. I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

The same feeling of joy we hear in the first reading as the exiles looked forward to a taste of freedom in the New Jerusalem, presented as a consoling mother. An idealistic picture of Lady Liberty and the New Jerusalem as a mother, but one that buoyed up their hopes. Psalm 87 puts it succinctly: "And Sion shall be called Mother, for all shall be her children ... and while they dance they will sing 'In you all find their home.'"

The same joy comes out in the Gospel as the disciples return, sensing that the Kingdom of God is coming, whether welcome or unwelcome, receiving hospitality or not. The kingdom of God is very near to you. This is the reality the other two images are pointing to.

Who brings about this reality? Not the Twelve, This is another wave, 72 disciples, me and you, not the Apostles, but all of us. We might protest over whose job it is, Someone else can do it!

It is the same in the church. We say, "It's the job of the professionals, the priests or the religious that the Kingdom is near," and argue that we are not trained for it. But by our Baptism and Confirmation each and every one of us, is called to discipleship, to witness, to spread the faith, not just keep it. The Vatican II Document on the Laity, par 6, forcefully reminds us: "There are innumerable opportunities open to the laity to exercise their apostolate of making the Gospel known and people holy. The witness of their life and good works ... have the power to draw people to belief and to God."

The 72, are sent out just as we are; no signs of status or wealth, no extra clothes, no purse to put money in. They feel vulnerable, like we do. They are given Christ's peace, Shalom; to speak that peace to every home, and to bring the powerful word of Jesus to heal human hearts and root out evil. When you go into any home eat what is set before you. Sitting down, listening to the other, and only then offering the word of Jesus and prayer in his name can be healing. As these disciples reached beyond self into the heart and needs of others, they became apostles.

Fr Pat Jackson SAC

When the little boy came home from Sunday School, he asked his father, "Why does the Bible talk so much about the Children of Israel? Didn't the grown ups ever do anything?"

He said to them, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest. Start off now, but remember, I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Carry no purse, no haversack, no sandals. Salute no one on the road. Whatever house you go into, let your first words be, "Peace to this house!" And if a man of peace lives there, your peace will go and rest on him; if not, it will come back to you. Stay in the same house, taking what food and drink they have to offer, for the labourer deserves his wages; do not move from house to house. Whenever you go into a town where they make you welcome, eat what is set before you. Cure those in it who are sick, and say, "The kingdom of God is very near to you." But whenever you enter a town and they do not make you welcome, go out into its streets and say, "We wipe off the very dust of your town that clings to our feet, and leave it with you. Yet be sure of this: the kingdom of God is very near." I tell you, that on that day it will not go as hard with Sodom as with that town.'

The seventy-two came back rejoicing. 'Lord,' they said, 'even the devils submit to us when we use your name.' He said to them, 'I watched Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Yes, I have given you power to tread underfoot serpents and scorpions and the whole strength of the enemy; nothing shall ever hurt you. Yet do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you; rejoice rather that your names are written in heaven.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word

MISSIONARIES OF CHRIST

If I ever travel overseas and don't know anyone at the place to which I am going, I search the internet for accommodation. There are many apps to assist. Experiencing a welcome and a sense of hospitality when I finally arrive is such a gift.

Luke's Gospel addressees are missionaries. They are moving around the Greco-Roman world, probably around Asia Minor (today's Turkey), committed to preaching about Jesus. They would be relying on local hospitality. Today's Gospel plugs right into this situation and Jesus offers Luke's missionaries wisdom: Go with a colleague, don't be alone, there will be times when they will experience hardship even rejection and feel like 'lambs among wolves', travel lightly as their mission for the Kingdom is urgent, offer peace to households that are hospitable, receive what is offered from them, and stay present to those who are open, don't become itinerant, moving 'from house to house' and offer God's gift of healing. While Jesus speaks this wisdom to Luke's missionary audience of the late first century CE, it applies equally to us in our faith communities and parishes today seeking to discern our futures with a synodal spirit. Today's Gospel invites us to be concerned about those around us. We, too, are called to announce: 'The kingdom of God is very near to you'!

Fr Michael Trainor