

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father,

**Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the
mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!**

Gospel Matthew 13:44-52

**A reading from the holy Gospel according
to Matthew**

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



Reflection by Greg Sunter

The twin parables of today's gospel – the treasure in the field and the pearl of great value – reveal a paradoxical truth about the kingdom of Heaven. Throughout the gospels, Jesus presents the kingdom as 'now but not yet'; as 'present but future.' This paradox is captured in these twin parables. In both cases, the kingdom is likened to something of great value that is discovered but cannot be immediately grasped. In both parables, the finder must go away and sell everything so that they can eventually come to possess the treasure they have discovered.

By comparing this experience with the kingdom of Heaven, Jesus suggests that most of us can only ever catch glimpses of what it means to live in the kingdom. For most of us, only in the future reality of heaven will we ever fully come to understand the kingdom. However, those glimpses that we catch – those moments of inspiration and connection with God and with one another – are like the treasures of the parables. They are enough to inspire us to do what it takes to make sure that we will one day enter into that kingdom reality.

The third parable of this gospel passage reveals yet another truth about the kingdom. The dragnet thrown into the sea is like the message of Jesus – it is flung far and wide and does not discriminate about where it falls or on whom it falls. This parable rounds out the chapter that began with the parable of the sower and the image of casting the net is a neat parallel to the indiscriminate casting of seed. It is not up to the one who casts the net, the seed or the Word. Rather it is up to each individual to determine how they will respond to receiving the Word.

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ST MARTIN DE PORRES

Catholic Parish

Avondale Heights

Today's Celebration is on pages:

Old Missal: 311 New Missal: 428



17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

26 July 2026

First Reading 1 Kings 3:5-12

A reading from the first book of the Kings

You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97

(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. (R.)
2. Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. (R.)
3. That is why I love your commands more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. (R.)
4. Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. (R.)

Second Reading Romans 8:28-30

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

St Martin de Porres Parish

158 Military Rd, Avondale Heights Vic 3034

www.melbocatholic.org/avondaleheights

Parish Priest: Fr. Paul Tru

Secretaries: Lee Tran: Wednesday - Friday

Charles Meneze: Tuesday

Office Hours: Closed Monday

10am - 3pm Tuesday - Friday

Pastoral Assoc: Sr. Cres Villas, asjm

Sr. Connie Mamo, asjm (Vol)

Phone: 9337 6016

E-mail: avondaleheights@cam.org.au

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am

Vietnamese 11:00am

Weekday Masses

Monday to Friday 9:15am

Benediction Wednesday after Mass

Reconciliation Wednesday 10.00am

Saturday 5:30pm

St Martin de Porres School

Principal: Stefanie Harvey

Secretaries: Mary Carmuciano

Maria Aloe

Phone: 9331 9000

E-mail:

principal@smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

www.smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

The Augustinian Sisters

Convent: 2 Venice Court,

Avondale Heights

Phone: 9337 4595

E-mail: sisaugustinian@gmail.com

Website: www.asjmoz.org

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility.

The Parish of St Martin de Porres and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. Child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of everyone.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick:

Vlad; George Pinpin; Kimberly Damanik; Kay; Peter Falzon; Jan, Miecica, Zyguich; Mellisa; Janice Murray; Rossini Burns; Nancy Green; Mark; Nazzi & Teresa Demaio; Emily & Grace; Monica Marland; Susie; Anna; Franca; Zac;

Recently Deceased:

Vincenzo Vigilante; Lynette Cassar; Sandra Sammut; Caterina Riotto; Giuseppa Morda; Giovanni Di Grande; Angela Sammut; Gabriele Di Filippo; Helen Grabner; Cameron Reyntjes; Tecla Alessi; Mirjana Ritosa; Alfred Spiteri; Teresa Dinh Thi Phuong; Nazareth Sranze; Carmela Gurrissi.

Anniversaries & Remembrances:

Peter Nind (1st); Vincenza Arico (1st); Aurelio Cardillo; Thomas Nguyen Duc Trang; Anna Vu Thi Can; Eric & Josephine Carmuciano; Dominic Cumbo; Bernarda & Francis Grima; Teresa, Emmanuel, Tonina, Phillip Sammut; Emmanuel & Nazarena Farrugia; Adam Hood; Rita & Carmelo De Bono; Joseph Consiglia.

Pioneer Parishioner Funeral Mass

Sandra Sammut

11am Wednesday 29th July

St Martin de Porres Church

Followed by wake in the Parish Hall

Parish Support Programme:

Pays Wages, Electricity, Cleaning, Insurance,

Pledge: \$2,588

Received: \$1,869

Loose: \$945

Presbytery: Supports Parish Priest, Retired Priests & Cathedral. \$1,598

The Kids Bulletin

A fun way for children to learn about our Catholic faith. Weekly updates, please visit thekidsbulletin.com/



BAPTISM THIS WEEKEND

We congratulate and pray for Emily Cerutti

Melbourne Archdiocese Vacancies

Applications are invited for various positions in the Archdiocese. Details can be found at: <https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

Vocations Expo with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli

Date: Saturday 1 August 9am - 1pm

Venue: Greg Craven Centre

Level 7, St Teresa of Kolkata Building

Australian Catholic University

115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy

The Melbourne Vocations Office and ACU Campus Ministry are hosting a Vocations Expo on Saturday 1 August 2026. We are honoured to welcome Archbishop Peter Comensoli as our keynote speaker, alongside speakers representing Catholic Religious Orders, the Diocesan Priesthood, and married life.

The event is open to all ages; however, attendees under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

The event is free to attend, but registrations are required.

Book via QR code or

trybooking.com/DNKHK



Save the Date: SeoulFest

One Year to Go until World Youth Day Seoul 2027

Thursday 20 August 6.30pm - 9pm

St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne

The young Church of Melbourne is going to World Youth Day Seoul 2027!

Join Archbishop Peter A Comensoli and young people from across the Archdiocese as we launch the Archdiocese of Melbourne's pilgrimage to WYD Seoul 2027.

The night begins with Six30 Holy Hour of Adoration and Benediction in St Patrick's Cathedral and continues with food trucks, music and celebrations in the Cathedral grounds.

Gather your family, friends, youth group and community members as we begin our journey to South Korea. Your invitation could be the first step in someone's encounter with Christ.

See you there!

For enquires, contact wyd@cam.org.au.

Ss Martha, Mary & Lazarus

Memorial 29 July

Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, you befriended Jesus as your Lord and God, and as the Son of Man, to Whom you opened your home and lives. Please pray for me, that I will also open the home of my soul so as to befriend Him Who is my God and is the Resurrection and the Life. Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, pray for me.

Jesus, I trust in You.

Amen

Source: My Catholic Life



Devotion to Divine Mercy

Mondays: 2.30pm Rosary

3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

followed by Stations of the Cross, 4pm finish.



Christian Meditation 2026

Maranatha ... Come Lord Jesus

All welcome: Monday 10 - 11am

Parent's Room in the Church

Term 3: July 27; Aug 10 & 24; Sep 7.

Deacon Matthew Pinson SJ

We welcome Deacon Matthew who will serve the 9:30am Sunday masses for pastoral experience until his priestly ordination on the 8th of August 2026 in Sydney. Please make Deacon Matthew welcome and pray for him as he prepares to be ordained a Priest.



MacKillop Family Services

Foster Carers Wanted

Call 8398 6800 or go to

www.mackillop.org.au

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you and ask that you make yourself known to us by completing the New Parishioners Form in Documents and Forms under Recommended Links on our website and return it to the Parish Office. Thank you.