

Gospel Matthew 14:22-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Command me to come to you over the water.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Although divine power is manifested in dramatic ways, it is also present in what is unassuming. Traces of God can be seen in the delicacy of a violet, in a cool summer breeze, in the blush of innocence, in the fiery eyes of justice. Every one of us lives in the midst of God, breathes the breath of God's life, and is constantly touched by the exquisite artistry of God's creativity. Life itself is a mountain experience of God.

As wonderful as life may be, it can also be very frightening at times. There are misunderstandings and rancour, jealousy and vindictiveness, greed and a hunger for power. Our personal lives can come unravelling and we can feel that we are genuinely 'at sea'. Every human being is tossed about by the exigencies of life. It is at times like these that we need faith in Jesus. Even though we do not recognise him, he is there in the midst of our chaos. Having the power of God, he is the definitive champion of all chaos, and so he is able to allay our fears and calm the sea.

A true experience of God, whether it be within the ordinariness of life or one of life's tribulations, is both transformative and effusive. It is a reality that cannot be contained; it must be proclaimed. Disciples must be ready to do what they can in order that the good news of God's revelation be made known to others.



ST MARTIN DE PORRES

Catholic Parish

Avondale Heights

Today's Celebration is on pages:

Old Missal: 318 New Missal: 436



19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

9 August 2026

First Reading 1 Kings 19:9.11-13

A reading from the first book of Kings

Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

**(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.**

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. (R.)

3. The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

Second Reading Romans 9:1-5

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 19:38

**Alleluia, alleluia!
I hope in the Lord,
I trust in his word.
Alleluia!**

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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:

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The Augustinian Sisters

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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; Jan, Miecia, Zygyuch; Mellisa; Janice Murray; Rossini Burns; Nancy Green; Mark; Franca; Nazzi & Teresa Demaio; Monica Marland; Zac; Emily & Grace; Anna; Susie; Kay.

Recently Deceased:

Peter Falzon; Lolita Couacaud; Giuse (Joseph); Vincenza La Spina; Giovanna Borg; Joseph Borg; Robert Barnes; Anna Grimaldi; Sandra Sammut; Vincenzo Vigliante; Lynette Cassar; Caterina Riotto; Giuseppa Morda; Angela Sammut; Giovanni Di Grande; Gabriele Di Filippo; Helen Grabner; Cameron Reyntjes; Mirjana Ritosa; Tecla Alessi.

Anniversaries & Remembrances:

Giuseppe Arbace; Maria Nguyen Thi Hanh; Fantino; Dominic Cumbo; Bernarda & Francis Grima; Teresa, Emmanuel, Tonina, Phillip Sammut; Emmanuel & Nazarena Farrugia; Adam Hood; Rita & Carmelo De Bono; Joseph Consiglia.

Parish Support Programme:

Pledge: \$2,588 Received: \$2,083

Loose: \$1,025

Presbytery: \$1,614

7PM VIGIL MASS FRIDAY 14TH AUGUST

Feast - Assumption of BV Mary

Holy Day of Obligation



CELEBRATIONS THIS MONTH

First Eucharist Children

Our parish prays for the children of St Martin's school preparing to receive the sacrament this month as well as RE class students Derrick, Allegra & Aston.

National Vocations Awareness Week

Please pray for our priests today in thanksgiving for their ministry and presence in our community. Please pray for the religious who do so much in pastoral care, education, health care and many other ministries. Pray also that the saints may inspire many vocations to consecrated life & priesthood, especially from our community.



The 2026 Archbishop's Campaign is now underway, and we ask everyone to consider a one time or monthly pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese.

Brochures with more information can be found around the church. You can donate via the envelopes on the seats or directly into the collection plate during the campaign weekends. Online (direct debit or credit card) donations are the most secure and preferred method of donating and can be made via the QR code.



You're invited to SeoulFest!

One year from now, the young Church in Melbourne will gather with a million young people from around the world for an unforgettable encounter with Christ at World Youth Day Seoul 2027.

You are invited to join Archbishop Peter A Comensoli and young people from across the Archdioceses at **SeoulFest, Thursday 20 August 6.30pm - 9pm St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne** as we celebrate one year to go until WYD Seoul 2027.

SeoulFest begins with Six30 Holy Hour which is a time of prayer, worship and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Afterwards, the Cathedral grounds will light up with Korean food trucks, music and celebrations as we officially launch our pilgrimage to WYD Seoul 2027. You may even learn a few Korean words!

Be there for your chance to kick-start your pilgrimage journey by **winning one of four \$500 discounts** towards the cost of your World Youth Day pilgrimage.

Bring your youth group, friends, schoolmates, family and anyone you would love to share this pilgrimage journey with. World Youth Day is an adventure and a journey to share with others.

To help you spread the word, we've prepared some resources:



St Mary MacKillop

Feast 8th August

God of all Goodness

You called St Mary MacKillop
To relieve suffering and bring hope
to the most neglected parts of your
vineyard

May her life be a source of inspiration
to all peoples.

May we be filled with your
compassionate love
grow to trust in your provident care,
learn to respect the dignity of all
and so witness to your justice
in our lives.

We ask this in Jesus' name

Amen

St Joseph pray for us

St Mary MacKillop pray for us.



Shape the Future: Be Counted as Catholic this Census

Australia's national Census will be held on 11 August 2026. Catholics are encouraged to mark "Catholic" in the question on religion. In a time when some would seek to diminish the importance of faith, it is vital that the Catholic community be represented in our national statistics. Census data supports Church pastoral planning and contributes to government decision-making on health, education, infrastructure, and social services – guiding resource and funding allocations across Australia. By identifying as Catholic, you can help ensure that the contribution and needs of faith communities are properly recognised and considered in future planning and policy decisions.



Christian Meditation 2026

Maranatha ... Come Lord Jesus

All welcome: Monday 10 - 11am

Parent's Room in the Church

Term 3: Aug 10 & 24; Sep 7.