

GOSPEL

Mt 9:36—10:8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

He summoned his twelve disciples, and sent them out.

When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows:

'Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

14 JUNE 2026

WRENCHED BY PITY

After the celebration of Easter and the Feasts that immediately follow, we now return to the Gospel of Matthew. We come to a scene set after Jesus' great teaching in the 'Sermon on the Mount'. In the Sermon he taught the essential qualities of discipleship ('the Beatitudes') and how to live these out daily. Now we come to Jesus' teaching in action. He sees the crowd surrounding him and Matthew says 'he felt sorry for them'. The Greek for 'felt sorry' (*splagnizomai*) means something more powerful. 'Pity' doesn't quite capture the meaning of Matthew's intent. The Greek root is linked to one's innards or 'guts'. Jesus' response to this group of harassed and dejected individuals is visceral. His innards are twisted because of what they are experiencing.

For this reason, the rest of the Gospel passage has Jesus sending his disciples on mission to respond to the tragic and forlorn experience of those who need to encounter the message of the 'kin-dom'. Twelve are especially selected. We are given their names and they enact Jesus' desire to renew the twelve tribes of Israel. Given the Jewish audience addressed by Matthew, they ratify this renewal through their proclamation of the 'kin-dom' and deeds of healing. Their focus is specifically to the 'lost' sheep of Israel. They are to care about those who are lost in spirit, need healing and are looking to be included in Jesus' household of disciples.

Today's Gospel lays the foundation for what will become the 'synodal' approach of our Church today. We are to walk with and identify the 'lost' in our communities and parishes. This is our missionary focus. This is the primary mission of the synodal Church.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Ex 19: 2-6

A reading from the book of Exodus.

You will be a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation.

From Rephidim the Israelites set out again; and when they reached the wilderness of Sinai, there in the wilderness they pitched their camp; there facing the mountain Israel pitched camp.

Moses then went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel, "You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation."'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 99: 2-3, 5. R. v. 3

R. We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

1. Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth. / Serve the Lord with gladness. / Come before him, singing for joy. **R.**

2. Know that he, the Lord, is God. / He made us, we belong to him, / we are his people, the sheep of his flock. **R.**

3. Indeed, how good is the Lord, / eternal his merciful love. / He is faithful from age to age. **R.**

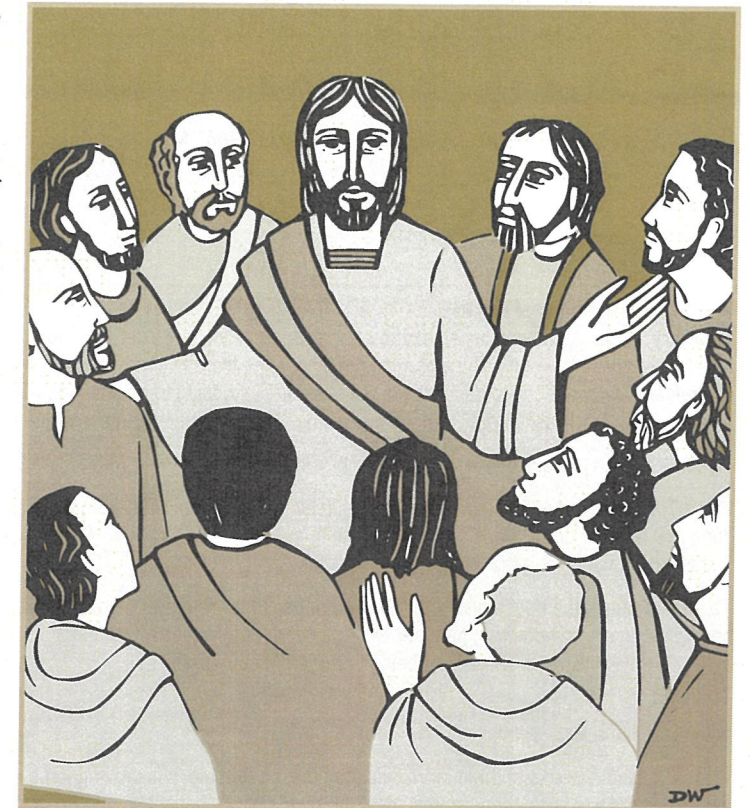
SECOND READING

Rom 5: 6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

We have been reconciled to God through the death of his Son; we are saved by his life.

We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of



course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

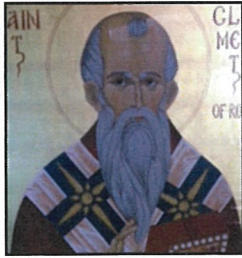
Mk 1: 15

Alleluia, alleluia! / The kingdom of God is near; / repent and believe the Good News! / 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: Tue—Thurs 9am-5pm



Parish Priest : Fr Charles Balnaves

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.

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year (A) : 13/14 June 2026

Words from the desk of the PP:

Ordinary Time: We have finished all the special celebrations of Easter and Trinity and Body and Blood of Christ and Sacred Heart. We are back in 'ordinary time.' Not ordinary = boring. But Ordinary in the sense of the day to day living of our lives as we head towards eternal life, the second coming of Jesus Christ. It is in Ordinary Time, the day to day living of our lives, that choosing to be intentional disciples of Jesus Christ translates into how we act as Christ in the world, worship with enthusiasm, help the poor and needy, and invite people to come and know Jesus.

I look forward to living this journey of faith with you.

Mass Times : Nearly 300 responses to the survey – thank you – that is amazing. The results form part of the discussions at the three-parishes forum on 11th June and in other discussions after that. I plan to make a decision about Mass times by next week so that we can plan to have our new Mass schedule from the first Sunday in July for a trial period of 6 months.

To ensure I have the best advice possible I have had discussions with groups across our three parishes and also with our regional bishop and with others who have experience in partnering parishes and the need for adjusting Mass times. I know the Holy Spirit is guiding us in this. Once this is in place we will be able to focus on the longer-term realities of being partnered parishes.

There will be change in Masses. I know it will be difficult to accept – but it is essential so that we can act effectively for the greater glory of God and the change is being led by the Holy Spirit.

Also: after some weeks of the current weekday Mass schedule, it is proving to be unsustainable. I am currently considering what might constitute a sustainable set of Masses which can consistently meet the needs of our parishes and our schools. I plan to implement changes at the same time as the changes to Weekend Masses.

Safeguarding our Children and others : A Reminder: Safeguarding our children and other vulnerable people is MANDATORY!

- Christ says it (love one another).
- Archbishop Peter says it (again and again).
- Pope Leo says it (and Pope Francis and Pope Benedict too).
- The criminal law of Victoria says it.

If you volunteer in any way in the church: you MUST have a Working with Children Check. You must sign the code of conduct. You must sign your position description. You must do the Safeguarding Essentials training. These are not onerous (though getting the WWCC can be a bit tedious).

Thank you to the hundreds of you across our three parishes who are compliant.

For those who are NOT compliant: please – act now – make the effort. I shall soon be going through our lists of volunteers and will remove those who are consistently non-compliant.

We are doing well with a Safeguarding culture. We need to continue to improve. We need to be 100% compliant and even more important we need to be 100% willing to be people who consciously do what is required to keep our children and vulnerable people safe.

The MASS / Fr Frank : We had a marvellous session with Fr Frank O'Loughlin last Saturday. His spoke about the source of the Mass and how it has come about and why it is the way it is – and the fifty people listening we held enraptured. It was truly worthwhile and he answered all the questions that people had.

A second session will be held on the 18th of June 7-9 pm – taking our understanding of the Mass more deeply.

You can still sign up for that session – the first session is not a pre-requisite.

Please sign up – and come along. Understanding the Mass more deeply will help all of you to pray the Mass more fully, consciously and actively.

God bless, Fr Charles.

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention: In thanks for the blessings the Holy Spirit has poured upon our partnering parishes through the people he has called to follow him.

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS

Mass Times: Sat 5:30pm (*Vigil*), Sun - 9am & 11am (*Italian*)

Tues 9:15am (*Italian*), Wed and Fri 9:15am (unless informed)

Reconciliation: Sat 5:00pm (and on request), & St Gregory the Great Parish, Doncaster : Sat 9.30am—11am

Baptisms: 1st & 3rd weekend every month **Weddings:** By Appointment

PARISH DIARY

Sun 14th Jun @ 9am—Mass/First Communion Group 4

Sun 14th Jun@ 11am—Italian Mass

Tue 16th Jun @ 9.15am—Italian Mass

Wed 17th Jun @ 9.15am—Mass

Fri 19th Jun @ 9.15am—School Mass (Prep)

Fri 19th Jun @ 11am—Funeral Mass for Francesco Galati

Sat 20th Jun @ 9am — Confirmation classes in the parish office

Sat 20th Jun @ 5pm—Reconciliation followed by Mass/First Communion Group 5 and ASRE kids @ 5.30pm

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently, **Francesco Galati** and for the repose of the souls of **Eliana Carmona** 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

Sacrament of Confirmation—enrolments closed. Classes commenced last Saturday. The schedule of the class dates is on the website.



First Reception of Holy Communion

More of our children receive Holy Communion for the first time at our Masses this weekend – please keep them in your prayers.

Happy Birthday Fr Charles

The PPC and Parish would like to wish Fr Charles, a very happy birthday on the 26th of June. We will be celebrating this joyous occasion after the 9am Mass on the Sunday 21st June, in the Clifton Centre. Please bring a plate to share as we come together in celebration.



Come Away Day

The **Come Away Day program** is a long - time retreat and reflection ministry at Holy Cross. The next **Come Away Day** for 2026 will be held at Holy Cross on **WEDNESDAY JUNE 24th**. The theme of the day is '**Called to embrace the Mystery of the Heart**'.

As we celebrate the winter month of June, the traditional month of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we reflect on how we may deepen our understanding and experience of the Mystery of Divine Love today. We have an opportunity to rest, reflect and focus on the deeper meaning and call of our heart felt yearnings in our own life journey and how we respond.

The day's program provides opportunities for prayer, silent reflection and group interaction in the beautiful grounds and facilities of Holy Cross. All are welcome. Just come as you are. **BYO lunch. Registration is from 9.30am.** The program concludes with a celebration of the Eucharist with a departure time of around **3pm**. The suggested cost is \$30.00 or a donation according to your means. Registration is helpful for planning purposes. For any further details contact Sr Brigid cp on bridget.m64@gmail.com. Please put this Date in your Diary and consider inviting a friend along to share the Come Away Day experience this year. Everyone is welcome.

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
13/14 June	<i>Sacristan</i>	Maria Papalia	Carmen Gobbi
	<i>Commentator</i>	May Teh	Tim Landsberg
	<i>Reader</i>	Virginie Mindiel	Jan McQueen
	<i>Special Ministers</i>	Warwick Wright	Carmen Gobbi
		May Teh	Grace Cannatelli
		Enza Wilcocks	Rita Gagliardi
20/21 June	<i>Sacristan</i>	Virginie Mindiel	Maria Papalia
	<i>Commentator</i>	Virginie Mindiel	Jan McQueen
	<i>Reader</i>	Jacinta Zieba	Maria Papalia
	<i>Special Ministers</i>	Warwick Wright	Agnes Lu
		May Teh	Grace Cannatelli
		Enza Wilcocks	Rita Gagliardi

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

Domenica	Lettori	Offertorio	Ministri dell'Eucaristia
21/06/2026	J. Faggion E. Castriotta	Famiglia E. Castriotta	L. Recinella J. Faggion

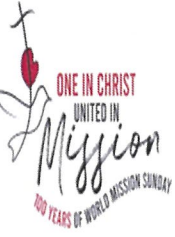
Come and delve into "The Mass" with Fr Frank O'Loughlin :

Theme : Gaining a richer understanding of the Mass.

Thursday June 18, 7.00pm to 9.00pm at St Gregory the Great Church gathering space. Father Frank will provide a rich encounter with the Mass and put into context your important role within it.

Please RSVP to Mary Tonti-Filippini mary.tontif@gmail.com or Carmel Purdey carmelpurdey@gmail.com

Sign-up sheets available in the Church foyer.



Free call: 1800 257 298
catholicmission.org.au/united

Thank you for your generous support of the Church in Malawi and the communities it serves.

Because of your kindness, children like Yamikani* will have greater access to education, nourishment, and the opportunity to build a hopeful future.

And if you chose to become a Mission Partner with a monthly gift - thank you so much for your ongoing commitment.

To learn more about the work of Catholic Mission in Malawi and around the world, please visit catholicmission.org.au/our-work

Thank you again for your compassion, and please keep this impactful work in your prayers.

*Name changed for privacy

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.