

## GOSPEL

Mt 11:25-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*I am gentle and humble of heart.*

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

5 JULY 2026

## COMFORT AND REST

At times life seems burdensome and overwhelming. Depending on where we live in the world or what's been happening to us, this burden can be almost impossible to carry. Today's Gospel offers us—and for those countless numbers in other parts of our world who are faced with suffering, starvation, even death—a consoling and necessary word. We are privileged listeners to Jesus' prayer to the Father. It is, characteristically, in the style of a Jewish blessing prayer, given Matthew's Jewish audience.

The prayer praises God for disrupting social favouritism in favour of children. These are the 'little ones' from last week's Gospel. For Matthew, the socially unaccepted and rejected ones are those whom God blesses with wisdom and insight. This is divine revelation that comes from Jesus through his communion with God.

The final part of today's Gospel is worthy of lingering contemplation. Jesus invites all who listen to the Gospel—and that includes us—to allow him to shoulder our burdens and concerns. He models for us how to be. He is 'gentle and humble of heart'. The evangelist draws Jesus' self-description from the wisdom writings of the First (Old) Testament. It is this wisdom in which souls find comfort and rest. It is a 'yoke' that is easy to bear. Into this welcoming and restful presence, we are invited in our Sunday celebrations of the Eucharist.

Fr Michael Trainor

## FIRST READING

Zech 9:9-10

A reading from the prophet Zechariah

*See how humbly your king comes to you!*

The Lord says this:

'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion! Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem! See now, your king comes to you; he is victorious, he is triumphant, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will banish chariots from Ephraim and horses from Jerusalem; the bow of war will be banished. He will proclaim peace for the nations. His empire shall stretch from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.'

### ■ The word of the Lord.

## RESP PSALM

Ps 144:1-2, 8-11, 13-14. R. v. 1

**R. I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God. (or Alleluia!)**

1. I will give you glory, O God my King, / I will bless your name for ever. / I will bless you day after day / and praise your name for ever. **R.**

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, / slow to anger, abounding in love. / How good is the Lord to all, / compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**

3. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, / and your friends shall repeat their blessing. / They shall speak of the glory of your reign / and declare your might, O God. **R.**

4. The Lord is faithful in all his words / and loving in all his deeds. / The Lord supports all who fall / and raises all who are bowed down. **R.**



## SECOND READING

Rom 8:9, 11-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body, you will live.*

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

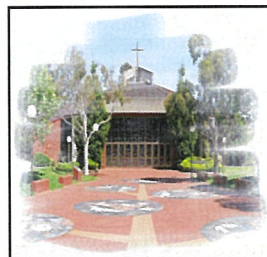
So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

### ■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

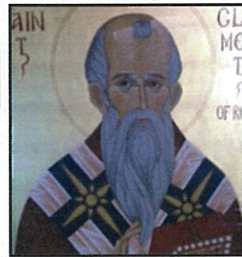
cf. Mt 11:25

**Alleluia, alleluia! / Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, / you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. / 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.

**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year (A) : 4/5 July 2026**

## Words from the desk of the PP:

### Please Welcome New People:

We begin our new weekend and weekday Mass schedules this weekend. If you need help organising to get to a different time or location for Mass let me or the office know.

Because of the changed Mass times, there will be new people at your Mass. Please be alert to new faces and welcome them, say hello, chat.

Recognising new people, or people we know from other places is important – our communities within the parish communities are changing and we need to welcome the change and the people that come with it.

### Aboriginal And Torres Strait Islander Sunday:

This weekend we celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday – a celebration that has been held since the late 1930's. We pay our respects to the elders of the first peoples of this wonderful nation which we all share. In the late 1830's, Archbishop Bede Polding issued a pastoral letter 1930's recognising how important our first peoples are: he found in them a perspective on God's love that can enhance the practice of our Catholic faith. And Pope Saint John Paul II in 1986 said "The Church in Australia will not be fully the church that Jesus wants her to be until you, the Aboriginal people, have made your contribution to her life and until that contribution has been joyfully received by others."

Each of our three parishes is graced with symbols gifted to us by our Aboriginal peoples: Aboriginal Message sticks adapted for use as we the Gospel; the three Australian flags (Union Jack with Southern Cross; Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islanders); memories of the 2006 Message Stick Relay; a plaque of commitment to support our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples; a wooden coolamon (used for carrying the bread or used as a manger for the Christ Child at Christmas). Not all these symbols in all parishes – but each has its symbols – our part of joyfully receiving the contribution of our First People's.

God bless, Fr Charles.

**Fr Charles' Prayer Intention:** In thanks for the generous Spirit of love with which you grace our parishes of St Clement's, St Gregory's and St Kevin's.

### MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS

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

St Gregory the Great : Sat 6:30pm (Vigil), Sun 10:30am & 5pm and St Kevin's : Sat 5.30pm (Vigil), Sun 9:15am

**Weekday Mass Times : Tue 9:15am (Italian) & Wed 9:15am**

St Gregory the Great : Wed 6:30pm & Fri 9am and St Kevin's : Tue 9:15am & Thur 9:15am

**Reconciliation:** Sat 4:30pm—4:50pm and St Gregory the Great Parish, Doncaster : Sat 9.30am—11am

**Baptisms:** 1st & 3rd 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.**

## PARISH DIARY

Sun 5th Jly @ 9am—Mass/C Liturgy and morning tea after Mass in the Clifton Centre  
 Sun 5th Jly @ 11am—Italian Mass  
 Tue 7th Jly @ 9.15am—Italian Mass  
 Tue 7th Jly @ 11am—Funeral Mass for Caterina Scaturchio  
 Wed 8th Jly @ 9.15am—Mass  
 Wed 8th Jly @ 11am—Funeral Mass for Alberto Giansante  
 Thurs 9th Jly @ 10.30am—Funeral Mass for Sabatino Fattore  
 Sat 11th Jly @ 4.30pm—Reconciliation followed by Mass @ 5.00pm

### Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

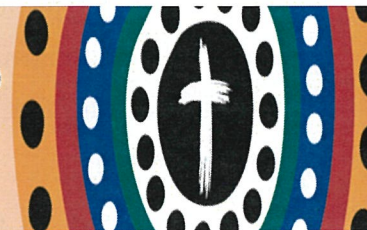
We pray for those who have died recently, **Alberto Giansante** and for the repose of the souls of **Clarita & Leonardo Mendoza, Marcia Standish, Ernest Balnaves, Charles Weiland, Florence Weiland, Reg White, Lorna Balnaves, Jean White, Rev Austin Cooper, Rev Bernie Maxwell** and all those, whose anniversaries 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

The classes have commenced. The sacrament of Confirmation will be held on Fri 7th Aug at 6pm.



**EMBRACING ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE IN THE LIFE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**



### Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday

On this day we gather as one to honour and celebrate the rich cultural heritage, spirituality and contributions our First Nations Peoples make the life of the Church.

The theme for this year's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday is 'Walking together in Christ'.

In addition, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria warmly invites you to two important celebrations that mark the start and end of NSIDOC week.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday Mass will be celebrated at St Patrick's Cathedral at 11am

NAIDOC Week Mass will be celebrated on Sun 12th July 11am at St Francis' Church, 326 Lonsdale St, Melbourne.

### Car Park Painting:

Due to rain effects, the painting of the carpark has been deferred till early August – a Sunday afternoon and Monday – we will let you know more details as the days draw nearer.



**Save for a Greater Reward**

Help fund projects across Catholic organisations, including parishes, hospital wings and classrooms, with a CDF Community Fund savings account.

With competitive interest rates, it's a greater reward than money alone.

Visit [www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund](http://www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund) or call our team on 1800 134 135 for more information



### 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 5.00PM       | SUN 9.00AM        |
|----------------|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 4/5 July       | <b>Sacristan</b>         | Elroy De Witt    | Rita Gagliardi    |
|                | <b>Commentator</b>       | Rene De La Cruz  | Yamna Taouk       |
|                | <b>Reader</b>            | Paul Sammut      | Daniel Abdallah   |
|                | <b>Special Ministers</b> | May Teh          | Maria Papalia     |
|                |                          | Enza Wilcocks    | Angela Abdallah   |
|                |                          | Warwick Wright   | Grace Cannatelli  |
| 11/12 July     | <b>Sacristan</b>         | Maria Papalia    | Carmen Gobbi      |
|                | <b>Commentator</b>       | Paul Sammut      | Daniel Abdallah   |
|                | <b>Reader</b>            | Virginie Mindiel | Grace Cannatelli  |
|                | <b>Special Ministers</b> | Warwick Wright   | Fulvia Gerasolimo |
|                |                          | May Teh          | Carmen Gobbi      |
|                |                          | Enza Wilcocks    | Agnes Lu          |

### ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

| Domenica   | Lettori                     | Offertorio             | Ministri dell'Eucaristia   |
|------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 12/07/2026 | N. Bisignano<br>P. Lombardo | Famiglia E. Castriotta | L. Recinella<br>J. Faggion |

**ST GREGORY DONCASTER**

# Social Night

**12TH JULY**  
AFTER OUR 5PM  
YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS MASS

**PIZZA.MUSIC.GAMES**

MEET NEW PEOPLE |  
ASK QUESTIONS | HAVE SOME FUN

Registration through trybooking.  
Parents/guardians of under 18 participants MUST 'sign in' & 'sign out' their children. Parents of primary school children must accompany their children at the event.  
Sign-in commences after Mass at the Parish Hall.