

it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful

and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 20:19-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you'.

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,

they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,

they are retained.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word

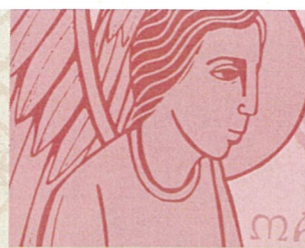
PEACE BE WITH YOU

In today's story from John, set on Easter day, Jesus' disciples are frightened. The doors of the room where they gather are locked. They are frightened of the religious authorities. Perhaps they think that what happened to their hero, Jesus, might also happen to them. Into the midst of their fear and locked room, the Risen Jesus comes. His first words are of peace, 'Peace be with you'. This is more than a statement to be calm and not frightened. It is Jesus' gift of wholeness, of *shalom* (Hebrew). It is his prayerful gift for them to come to a deep spirit of internal communion and calmness trusting in his presence.

It is this fearful group of disciples that Jesus commissions to be on mission—a theme familiar from Matthew's Gospel last week: The future of the Jesus movement is not entrusted to a comfortable, secure and fully integrated group of leaders. It is to a group of ordinary, struggling people that the mission is given. But they are not alone in this. Jesus' breath is the externalisation of his presence and being. This is given to the disciples who imbue his spirit, calming them, and giving them the confidence to reveal God's communion with all, despite their foibles or spiritual struggles.

This is the spirit that forgives 'sin'—that experience or marker of disruption, dis-ease and fear. Jesus' breath, received by the Eleven is about to permeate the cosmos through the commissioned ministry and reaffirmed in John's Pentecost story.

Fr Michael Trainor



THE SAVING WORD

PENTECOST SUNDAY / A

24 MAY 2026

FIRST READING

Acts 2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

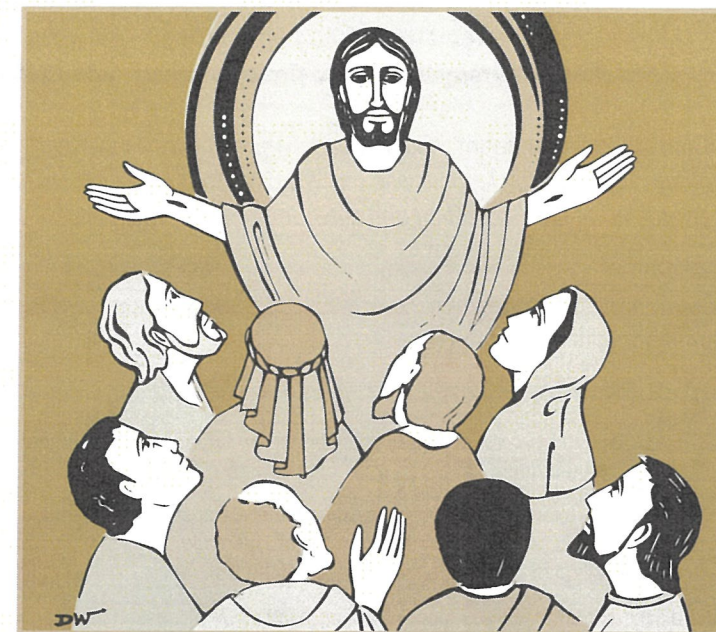
■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34. R. v. 30

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. (or Alleluia!)

1. Bless the Lord, my soul! / Lord God, how great you are! / How many are your works,
O Lord! / The earth is full of your riches. **R.**



2. You take back your spirit, they die, /
returning to the dust from which they came. /
You send forth your spirit, they are created; /
and you renew the face of the earth. **R.**

3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever! /
May the Lord rejoice in his works! / May my
thoughts be pleasing to him. / I find my joy in
the Lord. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13

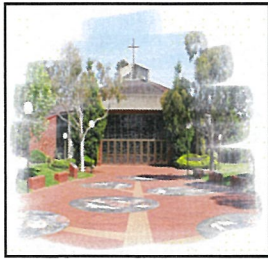
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

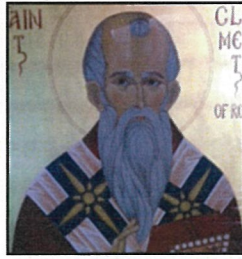
There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so



St Clement of Rome Church

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<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.

Feast of the Pentecost (A) : 23/24 May 2026

Words from the desk of the PP:

Future Planning – Three Parishes Partnering

I have promised to keep you aware of planning for our future as partnered parishes. Discussions are happening – no decisions have been made. We are seeking to consult broadly.

On last Tuesday evening twenty-three members of the Parish Pastoral Councils and Finance Groups of our three parishes gathered to discuss what it means to be 'partnered parishes.' Seating was left open and to my great joy people from each parish mixed with the other parishes – getting to know each other – willing to be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

After a light dinner (thank you Maria, Carmen, Martin) we discussed three topics: Foundational Principles; What is partnering and what opportunities and fears does partnering raise? What about Mass times in the future?

The most important Foundational Principles were: Being Intentional Disciples of Christ who are open to and led by the Holy Spirit; Recognising that Fr Charles as our shepherd/pastor/parish priest must be able to be present to each community: often (and Fr Anton too); Care for each parish community; Care for our priests (Fr Anton and I); Care for each other. These are at the core of how we seek to move forwards: respectful of what we have and who we are but recognising the need for change.

About the fact of us being partnering parishes the most important things raised were: realising it is our choice how we respond to and approach change; fear of losing "parish identity" but having the will and capacity to enable growth together that retains the identity of each parish; being intentional in moving ahead together; sharing leadership; collaborating in ministries. There were more things raised but these capture the scope with the focus being that partnering has the capacity to result in mission renewal, growth in efforts, and renewal of our faith.

Mass times for the future. An emotional subject. Mass times and have been in place for decades (mostly). But we have three Masses at 5:30/6 pm and three Masses at 9:00/9:15 am. Three Masses / two priests: impossible!

The ongoing regular use of supply priests is not possible for two reasons. Most importantly: it would negate a foundational principle: Fr Anton and I would not be present regularly/reliably. And practically, supply priests are not easily available now and doubly not on an ongoing basis.

What to do? We canvassed adjusting Mass times to provide a gap of at least 40 minutes from the end of one Mass to the start of the next. We also canvassed the possibility of cancelling one or two Masses. Fr Anton and I would prefer not to cancel Masses but it needs proper consideration. There is more work and discussion needed! I would hope that we can reach a decision, with your input, and implement changes starting in July. It is not far away but we cannot shy away from the reality of who we are: St Gregory's, St Kevin's, St Clement's! Partners! One Parish Priest.

I am open to your comments – in person; via email to the parish offices; via your Parish Pastoral Council members. Finally, you will find that in the period May/June I may not be at your Mass very often – that is the result of the commitments there are across the parishes and our reliance on supply at present with the current Mass schedule. Please know that you are not forgotten, you are in my prayers.

God bless, Fr Charles.

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention: That each of us will remain open to the movement of the Holy Spirit and willing to act on the surprises it leads us to.

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

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 24th May @ 9am—Mass, followed by Pentecost morning tea in the Clifton Centre
Sun 24th May @ 11am—Italian Mass
Tue 26th May @ 9.15am—Italian Mass
Tue 26th May @ 12.45pm—Pentecost School Mass
Tue 26th May @ 12 noon—Three parishes group meeting in the Clifton Centre
Wed 27th May @ 9.15am—Mass
Wed 27th May @ 5pm—Baptism Preparation in the parish office
Fri 29th May @ 9.15am—School Mass Grade 2
Sat 30th May @ 9am — First Eucharist classes in the parish office
Sat 30th May @ 5pm—Reconciliation followed by Mass @ 5.30pm and First Communion—Group 1

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently, and for the repose of the souls of **Norm Mort, John Balnaves** 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

Please note that the class dates for the Sacrament of Confirmation have now been scheduled. The dates are available on the website. Please complete the registration process at your earliest convenience.



Mass Count 2026

The Fourth Mass Count will take place this weekend at all the Masses. The information regarding the age group of the attendees will be gathered this weekend. Collectors at weekend Masses are kindly asked to read through the instructions provided for obtaining this information. Thank you all for your support in helping collect these statistics.

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
23/24 May	Sacristan	Virginie Mindiel	Rita Gagliardi
Pentecost	Commentator	Jacinta Zieba	Grace Cannatelli
	Reader	Rene De La Cruz	Tig Chibo
	Special Ministers	Virginie Mindiel	Agnes Lu
		Zina Scalzo	Maria Papalia
		May Teh	Rita Gagliardi
30/31 May	Sacristan	Maria Papalia	Carmen Gobbi
Holy Trinity	Commentator	Rene De La Cruz	Tig Chibo
	Reader	Paul Sammut	Christine Landsberg
	Special Ministers	Enza Wilcocks	Grace Cannatelli
		Warwick Wright	Rita Gagliardi
		Elroy De Witt	Fulvia Gerasolimo

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

Domenica	Lettori	Offertorio	Ministri dell'Eucaristia
31/05/2026	G. Baglieri N. D Marzio	Famiglia A. Vallese	L. Ciampa G. Baglieri

THE MASS

Celebration of the Mass is our central act of worship, bringing us closer to God and our community.

Session 1
Exploring the fundamental shape of the Mass.
Saturday, 6th June
10.00am to 1.00pm

Session 2
Gaining a richer understanding of the Mass.
Thursday, 18th June
7.00pm to 9.00pm

Presented by:
FR FRANK O'LOUGHLIN

RETIRED PRIEST, AUTHOR AND THEOLOGIAN, FR FRANK WILL LEAD US IN BETTER UNDERSTANDING THE STRUCTURE AND PURPOSE OF THE MASS AS THE CENTRAL ACT OF FAITH IN OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION.

THE EUCHARIST THE PRIEST THE PEOPLE THE SCRIPTURES

St Gregory the Great Catholic Church,
71 Williamsons Rd, Doncaster.
RSVP via Sign Up Sheets in the Church Foyer
More Info: doncaster@cam.org.au or 03 9412 8425

Sign up sheets are available in the Church Foyer. Thank you

Melbourne Corpus Christi Procession

Jesus himself came near and was walking with them.
LUKE 24:15

SUNDAY 7 JUNE, 2PM
STARTS AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL
CONCLUDES AT FED SQUARE

Together with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli, let us bring Christ in the Eucharist—our light—into the heart of the city of Melbourne.
Communities are invited to bring their banners!