

kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables
and expound things hidden since the
foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



Unauthorised reproduction of this bulletin prohibited. Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 02 9394 3400 Email: sales@stpauls.com.au Scripture readings taken from The Jerusalem Bible, © 1966 Hodder & Stoughton Ltd. All rights reserved. Psalm text from The Psalms, A New Translation, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2026. No 2152. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

19 JULY 2026

GOOD AND EVIL

Why do bad things happen to good people? It is a question often expressed in different ways. Bad people seem to get away easily with their bad deeds. Today's Gospel teaching speaks into this perspective. Jesus' parable teaching from last Sunday with his focus on seed continues today. Grain was an important agricultural commodity in the ancient world. It was the source of food and the means of addressing stressing taxation demands. Like last Sunday, the parable is about the Kin-dom of God. In the parable, the farmer sows good seed but, unbeknown, a nighttime enemy sows darnel in the same field. Both seeds sprout and produce. The workers query the farmer about the reason for the presence of the darnel. It is the classic query of life: why is there evil in a world that is essentially good? Why darnel among the wheat when only wheat was sown?

The solution offered by the farmer recognises the presence of 'an enemy' and the need to allow both seeds to grow until the harvest when the wheat could be gathered into the barn and darnel destroyed. Jesus' wisdom in this parable is salient. We live in a world and faith communities where good and bad co-exist. The coexistence of 'darnel' and 'wheat' should not surprise us—but it is not forever. There is the harvest time when justice will be meted out. This awareness of a definitive act of divine justice at time's end, one for which we pray in every celebration of the Eucharist for the coming of Jesus at the end of time, allows us to live in this in-between time as we seek to do good but, at times, experience the presence of evil and the agency of the 'enemy'. Nevertheless, God's kin-dom will be ultimately fruitful.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Wis 12:13, 16-19

A reading from the book of Wisdom

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, / to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. / Your justice has its source in strength, / your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. / You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned / and you expose the insolence of those who know it; / but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, / you govern us with great lenience, / for you have only to will, and your power is there. / By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people / how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, / and you have given your sons the good hope / that after sin you will grant repentance.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16. R. v. 5

R. Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, / full of love to all who call. / Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer / and attend to the sound of my voice. **R.**

2. All the nations shall come to adore you / and glorify your name, O Lord: / for you are great and do marvellous deeds, / you who alone are God. **R.**

3. But you, God of mercy and compassion, / slow to anger, O Lord, / abounding in love and truth, / turn and take pity on me. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 8:26-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our



hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

■ 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!

GOSPEL

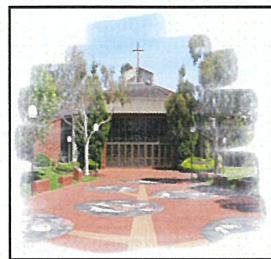
Mt 13:24-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Let them grow together until the harvest.

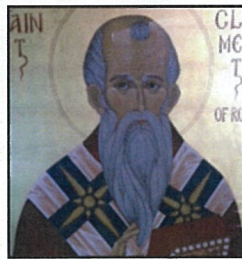
Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this," he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."'

He put another parable before them, 'The



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.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year (A) : 18/19 July 2026

Words from the desk of the PP:

Please Welcome New People: Say hello

See new people around? Say hello

Three weekends but only two weeks into our new Mass Schedule. Please look around – people from St Clement's / St Greg's? St Kevin's may be sitting next to you and settling in to new times and new locations: look around – see the new faces, welcome them into the community. OH! And thank you to those who continue to give their Thanksgiving envelopes in a new location: the money does get to its intended destination. It is a grace to me to see your continued support for our Jesus Christ and his mission.

If you are new to Bulleen, Doncaster, Templestowe or Templestowe Lower, or have just started coming to Mass in one of our communities: Please look for a sign up / census form and a register yourself and give us your details so we can include you in parish news and provide the bulletin and invite you to activities. And along the way please, take a risk, and say hello to the people around you in Mass.

Melbourne Archdiocesan Synod 2026

You will remember, I hope, that there is a Melbourne Archdiocese Synod underway with the main sessions to be held in November/ December.

The Synod theme papers have just been released (you can find them at [Melbourne Synod 2026 | Melbourne Catholic](#).) These papers are an important step in our journey of listening and discernment as we prepare for the Melbourne Synod. The papers aim to foster a spirit of hope and imagination—trusting that, as we walk together, God is calling us into a future marked by faithfulness, renewal, and deeper communion. The suggested reflection process is a 'Conversation in the Spirit' or a Spiritual Conversation. This method is based in prayer and allows people to come together to both speak and to listen. Different from a discussion, it is an attentive listening process that aims to discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us. At the conclusion of each theme paper, there are prompt questions for reflection. Responses to these prompt questions can be provided via the QR code which is at the end of each paper.

I am hopeful that we can arrange a gathering of our three partnered parishes during the first half of August but finding a date is a challenge: I am thinking a Saturday or Sunday afternoon might work. We will discuss timing etc in our joint Parish Pastoral Council meeting on 29th July.

So far I have only managed to make time to glance at the three theme papers that ask us to discern around Youth Discipleship, Formation and Participation, and Missionary Leadership.

Please follow the link above – start to have a think and a pray. Allow space for the Holy Spirit to enter your thoughts. Please provide feedback via the QR codes in the papers and then come along to the joint parishes gathering as well (when we have it arranged).

God bless, Fr Charles.

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention: We pray for the Melbourne Synod: That our preparations will be marked by wisdom in decision-making, courage in leadership, and humility in listening to one another. May the Spirit guide our every conversation and action. Amen.

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

PARISH DIARY

Sun 19th Jly @ 9am—Mass
 Sun 19th Jly @ 11am—Italian Mass
 Tue 21st Jly @ 9.15am—Italian Mass
 Wed 22nd Jly @ 9.15am—Mass
 Sat 25th Jly @ 9am—Confirmation classes in the parish office
 Sat 25th Jly @ 4.30pm—Reconciliation followed by Mass @ 5.00pm

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently, **Agostino Mattea, Antonietta Duviani** and for the repose of the souls of **Milena Fabris, So Kam Louey** 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.



PRAISE & WORSHIP Night
FRIDAY
24 07 26
7-9 PM

WITH EUCHARISTIC ADORATIONS TESTIMONIES GROUP DISCUSSIONS

ST GREGORY'S
 71 Williamsons Rd Doncaster

ALPHA

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT 6.30PM
 FROM 26TH AUGUST TO 4TH NOVEMBER
 AT ST KEVIN'S CHURCH, TEMPLESTOWE
 30 HERLIHYS ROAD LOWER TEMPLESTOWE

MEALS INCLUDED
 FREE - DONATION WELCOME

Register through: <https://www.trybooking.com/DNTUF> or
 templestowe@cam.org.au, doncaster@cam.org.au, bulleen@cam.org.au
 phone 03 9850 5983, 03 9412 8425, 03 9850 3262

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
18/19 July	<i>Sacristan</i>	Virginie Mindiel	Maria Papalia
	Commentator	Virginie Mindiel	Grace Cannatelli
	Reader	May Teh	Tig Chibo
	<i>Special Ministers</i>	Warwick Wright	Maria Papalia
		Enza Wilcocks	Angela Abdallah
		May Teh	Grace Cannatelli
25/26 July	<i>Sacristan</i>	Maria Papalia	Grace Cannatelli
	Commentator	May Teh	Tig Chibo
	Reader	Jacinta Zieba	Fulvia Gerasolimo
	Special Ministers	May Teh	Rita Gagliardi
		Virginie Mindiel	Carmen Gobbi
		Enza Wilcocks	Agnes Lu

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

Domenica	Lettori	Offertorio	Ministri dell'Eucaristia
26/07/2026	J. Faggion E. Castriotta	Famiglia G. Cassini	C. Travaglini T. Recinella

ST GREGORY'S & ST KEVIN'S

Multicultural DAY

SUNDAY, 9TH AUGUST 2026
 FOLLOWING THE 10.30AM MASS

ST GREGORY THE GREAT PARISH HALL
 71 WILLIAMSONS ROAD DONCASTER

Event Highlights

ENJOY MULTICULTURAL FOOD AND BEVERAGES
 BID ON EXCITING ITEMS IN OUR SILENT AUCTION
 PURCHASE RAFFLE TICKETS FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN

RSVP: USE SIGN UP SHEETS AT CHURCH, SCAN QR CODE OR GO TO [HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/DNFAI](https://www.trybooking.com/DNFAI)

Proceeds go towards funding social activities for our parish and community.
 Your generous support is greatly appreciated.
 Please be mindful of food intolerances and allergies.
 Parents and carers are reminded to please supervise their children at all times
 If you're experiencing any flu-like symptoms, we encourage you to rest up and join us in spirit. Your health and the safety of others is most important!

**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.**