

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Apoc 1:8

Alleluia, alleluia! / Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: / to God who is, who was, and who is to come. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 3:16-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

God sent his Son to save the world through him.

Jesus said to Nicodemus,

‘God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned;

but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,

because he has refused to believe in the name of God’s only Son.’

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.****A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY / A

31 MAY 2026

WE ARE GOD’S BELOVED

In a world of unrest and at a time when many of us could be struggling with uncertainty and loneliness, the readings for this Feast offer us a soulful soothing balm. Each of the readings celebrate God (first reading), the Holy Spirit (second reading) and Jesus (our Gospel); our focus is on the Gospel. The passage’s context is about Nicodemus, a Jewish leader, coming to Jesus ‘by night’, seeking to understand Jesus’ relationship with God. Jesus speaks of the importance of being born ‘from above’.

In typical Johannine misunderstanding—Nicodemus doesn’t understand how we can be born ‘again’ (a confusion with Jesus’ word ‘above’ and a play on the Greek)—John invites the audience (and us) to come to the heart of God’s agenda: God is in absolute love with the world; his Son, Jesus, becomes the fruit of that love through whom believers, even the searching Nicodemus, will be found and have life eternal. This is a powerful witness and clear statement of God’s intention for our world. We, too, need to hear this when there seem to be many contrary and conflicting voices.

John’s Gospel is important for us to know that no matter what, we are God’s beloved; God does not judge or condemn us. This flies in the face of those who think, wrongly, that God is ‘out to get us’ and awaits to chalk up our misdeeds. This is so contradictory to the God revealed to us in Jesus. We, like Nicodemus, find ourselves at times stumbling around ‘by night’ as we seek to come into the light. This is God’s gift to us on this feast as we celebrate God’s beloved intent for us and our world.

Fr Michael Trainor**FIRST READING**

Ex 34:4-6, 8-9

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Lord God, ruler of all, merciful and loving.

With the two tablets of stone in his hands, Moses went up the mountain of Sinai in the early morning as the Lord had commanded him. And the Lord descended in the form of a cloud, and Moses stood with him there.

He called on the name of the Lord. The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, ‘Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness and faithfulness.’ And Moses bowed down to the ground at once and worshipped. ‘If I have indeed won your favour, Lord,’ he said ‘let my Lord come with us, I beg. True, they are a headstrong people, but forgive us our faults and our sins, and adopt us as your heritage.’

■ **The word of the Lord.****RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Dan 3:52-56. R. v. 52

1. You are blest, Lord God of our fathers.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

Blest your glorious holy name.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

2. You are blest in the temple of your glory.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

You are blest on the throne of your kingdom.

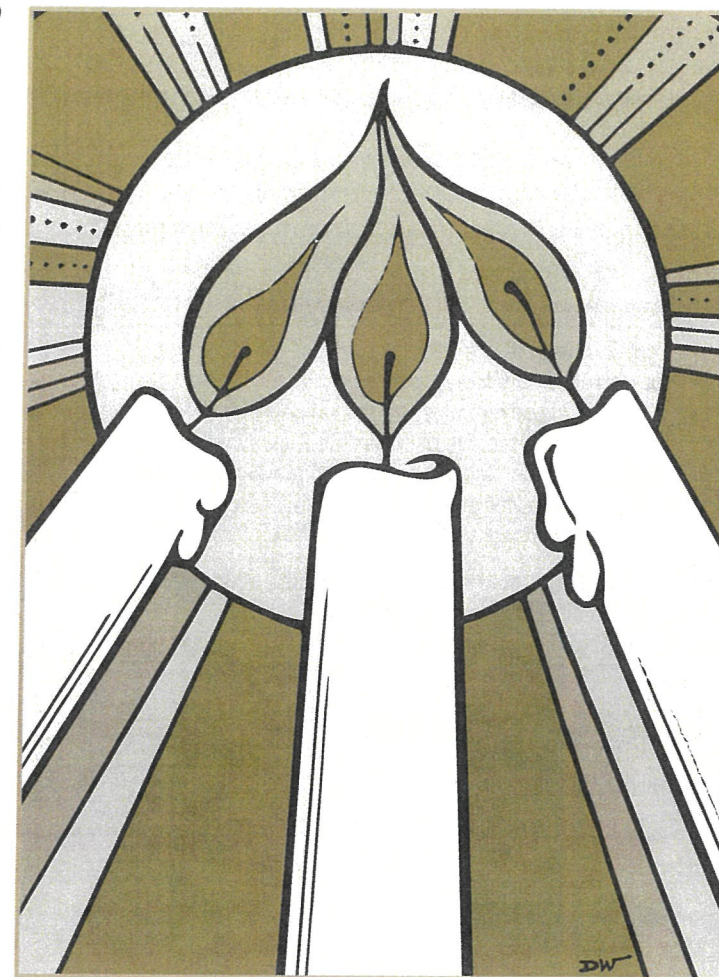
R. Glory and praise for ever!

3. You are blest who gaze into the depths.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

You are blest in the firmament of heaven.

R. Glory and praise for ever!

**SECOND READING**

2 Cor 13:11-13

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

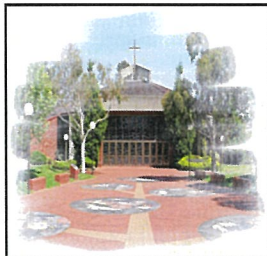
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Brothers, we wish you happiness; try to grow perfect; help one another. Be united; live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Greet one another with the holy kiss. All the saints send you greetings.

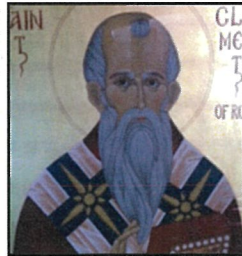
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

■ **The word of the Lord.**



St Clement of Rome Church

Address: 9 –21 Egan Drive, Bulleen 3105 - **Phone:** 9850 3262
Email: bulleen@cam.org.au, **Web:** <https://www.melbatholic.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.

Feast of The Most Holy Trinity (A) : 30/31 May 2026

Words from the desk of the PP: Pentecost Retreat in the Holy Spirit:

About 130 people (mostly from St Greg's and only some from St Kevin's and St Clements due to poor advertising and late advice there) plus 15 organisers gathered on the eve of Pentecost Sunday, to spend a day with the Holy Spirit. Numbers alone tell us the Spirit was moving. People were enthralled: Deacon Malcolm and Adi Hendarto and the other 13 musicians and organisers were not wasting their time. I spent the morning in the retreat which was for me a period of quiet and contemplation. I spent the afternoon tied up seeking ways to get a magpie out of St Greg's church – parish life is never dull.

Future Planning – Three Parishes Partnering – Mass Times

The small group of people (equal representation across the three parishes) advising me on our ways forwards in partnering of our parishes met this past Tuesday. We reflected on the outcomes of the gathering of leadership groups across the three parishes and considered next steps in the journey. A first and essential step is to look at Mass times in each of the parishes. Two options are being considered: (a) Adjust evening Mass times at St Clements and St Greg's and remove the 9:00 am Mass at St Greg's; (b) remove the 5:30 pm Mass at St Clements and the 9:00 am Mass at St Greg's. (St Kevin's only recently merged two masses on Sunday morning.)

We agreed on a plan for the next two weeks:

- There is a survey available asking you to choose between the two options for future Masses and provide your thoughts. Please
 - locate the link in the bulletin / QR the code / or a paper copy in the church entrance / or go to your parish website for a link / email your parish office / and
 - choose and comment in the survey and return it as soon as possible during the coming ten days.
 - Pray for the needs of the parish – imagining how to partner and addressing how to participate in Mass vibrantly when we have only two priests.
- Meet as three parishes. Put aside 6 – 7:30 pm on June 11th at the Clifton Centre at St Clements 9-21 Egan Drive Bulleen. That evening, we will hold a gathering of as many of you from St Greg's, St Kevin's and St Clement's who wish to come. An opportunity for you all to come and share your thoughts on what partnering of our parishes means to you; what fruits you would like to see arise from our partnering; and share thoughts about the options for Mass times.
- The small support group helping me guide this process will meet on Friday 12th June and finalise the Mass schedule with the aim of implementing it from the weekend of 4th / 5th July. This Mass schedule will be reviewed after three months to see if it is working well in providing for your spiritual needs and allowing myself and Fr Anton to remain capable and to be properly present for you. After this, further changes may need to be made if this schedule proves impractical.

God bless, Fr Charles.

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention: The world is in turmoil and hard-heartedness seems rife: we pray that we are graced to be open to the green shoots of life that surround us every day in our own lives and communities.

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 31st May @ 9am—Mass/First Communion 2
 Sun 31st May @ 11am—Italian Mass
 Tue 2nd Jun @ 9.15am—Italian Mass
 Wed 3rd Jun @ 9.15am—Mass
 Fri 5th Jun @ 9.15am—Mass
 Sat 6th Jun @ 9am — First Eucharist classes in the parish office
 Sat 6th Jun @ 5pm—Reconciliation followed by Mass/Baptism @ 5.30pm

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently, and for the repose of the souls of **Domenic De Stefanis, Giovanni Tieri, Ginetta & Michele Tieri, Giuseppe & Anna Marinelli** 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.



Gates along the back fence:

After a serious incident where a neighbour entered the school property and threatened students (it was reported to the police) I have agreed with Michael Watt that we will close off all gates. Currently we are making no exceptions due to the seriousness of having people able to enter a ChildSafe space without supervision. If you have a property with a gate: I am very sorry that you will lose the easy access you have enjoyed but the incident last week has highlighted a hole in our safety management.

Chapel Use:

You will see new instructions on the use of the chapel: for occupational health and safety reasons and for ChildSafe reasons I am restricting the use of the chapel for prayer. It grieves me to limit this access but we cannot allow unsafe situations to persist.

THE MASS

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.

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

THE EUCHARIST
 THE PRIEST
 THE PEOPLE
 THE SCRIPTURE

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

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
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
6/7 June	Sacristan	Maria Papalia/ Virginie Mindiel	Maria Papalia
Corpus Christi	Commentator	Paul Sammut	Christine Landsberg
	Reader	May Teh	Tim Landsberg
	Special Ministers	Warwick Wright	Carmen Gobbi
		May Teh	Agnes Lu
		Enza Wilcocks	Maria Papalia

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

Domenica	Lettori	Offertorio	Ministri dell'Eucaristia
07/06/2026	N. Bisignano P. Lombardo	Famiglia G. Cassini	C. Travaglini T. Recinella

First Reception of Holy Communion:

This weekend, we begin our series of six Masses in which our Grade 4 children will participate fully in the Eucharist for the first time. We keep these wonderful young people in our prayers for this day and for the lifetime they begin sharing Jesus' very self: the bread and wine which become the body and soul; humanity and divinity of Jesus the Christ. Please! Pray for them. Rejoice with them; Re-enliven your own joy in receiving Communion.

Melbourne Corpus Christi Procession 2026

Sunday 7 June 2026, 2pm
 begins at St Patrick's Cathedral
 concludes at Federation Square
 Communities are invited to bring their banners.

Catholic Mission Appeal will be taking place next weekend

ONE IN CHRIST
UNITED IN
Mission
100 YEARS OF WORLD MISSION COUNCIL

Excess call: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/unity

For Yamikani*, getting to school means walking long distances in pain, often without enough food or strength to make the journey. For many families in vulnerable and remote areas like rural Malawi, education has become an impossible choice.

But there is hope. Led by Fr Matthew Semba, a new primary school is being built, offering children a safe place to learn, grow, and look ahead with renewed possibility.

This World Mission Month, you are invited to share in this mission, standing with families as they rebuild their lives and create a brighter future for their children.

*Name changed for privacy