

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 15: 26-27

Alleluia, alleluia! / The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, / and you also will be my witnesses. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 10: 26-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Do not fear those who can kill the body.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

21 JUNE 2026

DIVINE PRESENCE

The instruction to the Twelve that concluded last Sunday's Gospel continues today. Again, the Gospel offers us a missionary mandate and insight. The mission is essentially optimistic because 'everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear.' No way of life for the disciples, of their missionary commitment and engagement will be lost. It may appear to be covered and hidden but, ultimately and eventually, God's goodness and the work of the 'kin-dom' will be revealed. No longer will the message of the Gospel be spoken in the dark or whispered. It will be proclaimed from the housetops!

The affirmation of the fruitfulness of the missionary task spills over into the way God will care for those on mission—and this is what is addressed also to us: We are looked after by God, in every detail of our lives. As Matthew puts it in the final verses of today's Gospel, Jesus will affirm us before God.

There is one translation point worth noting in today's Gospel. What is translated about God's care of even the sparrows, which is translated as 'yet not one falls to the ground without your Father *knowing*', is better and more accurately translated, 'and not one of them falls to the earth *without your Father*'. It is not about God's knowledge of the falling sparrow, it is the very *presence* of God accompanying the falling or dying sparrow that is affirmed. That same God accompanies us. There is nothing in our life that happens without God's presence intimately caring for us. God is joined to us in intimate care and accompaniment. This God we celebrate today in our liturgy!

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Jer 20: 10-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of those who are evil.

Jeremiah said:

I hear so many disparaging me,
' "Terror from every side!"

Denounce him! Let us denounce him!

All those who used to be my friends
watched for my downfall,

'Perhaps he will be seduced into error.
Then we will master him

and take our revenge!'

But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;
my opponents will stumble, mastered,
confounded by their failure;
everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be
theirs.

But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with
justice,

who scrutinise the loins and heart,
let me see the vengeance you will take on
them,

for I have committed my cause to you.

Sing to the Lord,

praise the Lord,

for he has delivered the soul of the needy
from the hands of evil men.

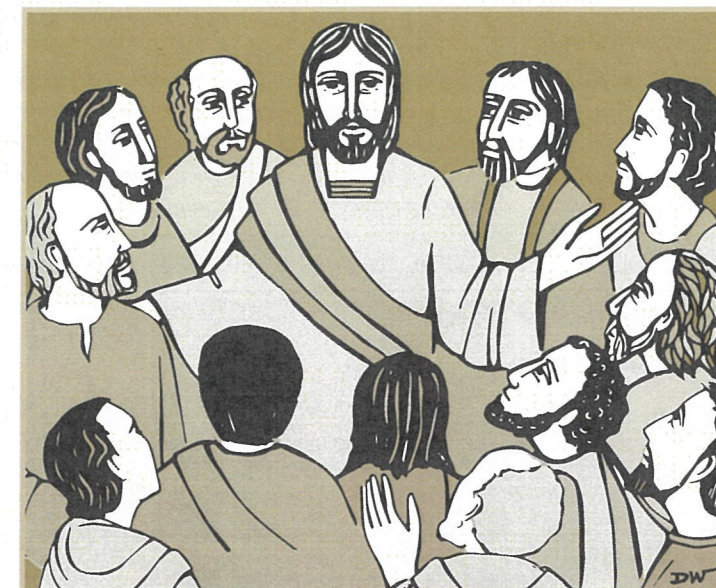
■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PSALM Ps 68: 8-10, 14, 17, 33-35. R. v. 14

R. Lord, in your great love, answer me.

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts, / that
shame covers my face, / that I have become
a stranger to my brothers, / an alien to my
own mother's sons. / I burn with zeal for your
house / and taunts against you fall on me. **R.**

2. This is my prayer to you, / my prayer for
your favour. / In your great love, answer me,
O God, / with your help that never fails: /
Lord, answer, for your love is kind; / in your
compassion, turn towards me. **R.**



3. The poor when they see it will be glad / and
God-seeking hearts will revive; / for the Lord
listens to the needy; / and does not spurn his
servants in their chains. / Let the heavens and
the earth give him praise, / the sea and all its
living creatures. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 5: 12-15

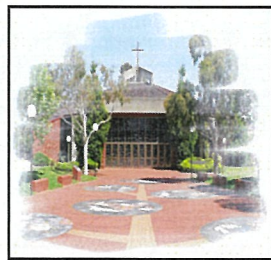
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

God's gift to us is nothing like our sin against him.

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

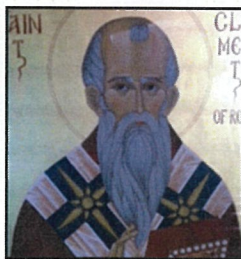
Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

■ **The word of the Lord.**



St Clement of Rome Church

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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.

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year (A) : 20/21 June 2026

Words from the desk of the PP:

Revised Mass Times

I have written a letter to accompany our New Mass times: please take a copy. For ease of access here are the new Mass times for Weekends and for Weekdays. Please come and see me or members of your Parish Council if you need help adjusting to the new Mass time on Saturday.

Weekend Masses: Starting 4th/5th July

St Gregory the Great: - Saturday evening 6:30 pm - Sunday morning 10:30 am - Sunday evening 5:00 pm	St Clement of Rome - Saturday evening 5:00 pm - Sunday morning 9:00 am (with the Italian Mass at 11 am)
St Kevin Saturday evening 5:30 pm Sunday morning 9:15 am	

Saturday evening Masses remain but times change at St Clement's / St Gregory's. 9:00 am Mass at St Gregory's ceases.

Weekday Masses: Starting 7th of July

The Weekday Mass schedule has proven unsustainable. The new schedule will be as follows.

Monday Tuesday Wednesday	No Masses 9:15 am St Clement of Rome (Italian) 9:15 am St Kevin 9:15 am St Clement of Rome Includes School Class Masses 6:30 pm St Gregory the Great (for those who work)	Thursday Friday Saturday	9:15 am St Kevin 9:00 am St Gregory the Great Includes Mass for G 3-6 No morning Mass Solemnities and other special feasts during the week will be scheduled as needed.
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God bless, Fr Charles.

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention: Holy Spirit, guide us as we change some Mass times, help us to settle into new times for gathering to worship and pray and be nourished by Jesus Christ.

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 21st Jun @ 9am—Mass/First Com Group 6 , followed by morning tea in the Clifton Centre to celebrate Fr Charles' birthday
Sun 21st Jun@ 11am—Italian Mass
Tue 23rd Jun @ 9.15am—Italian Mass
Tue 23rd Jun @ 6pm –Confirmation family faith night in the Clifton Centre
Wed 24th Jun @ 9.15am—Mass
Thurs 25th Jun @ 12.45pm—Whole school Eucharist end of term
Fri 26th Jun @ 9.15am—Mass
Sat 27th Jun @ 9am — Confirmation classes in the parish office
Sat 27th Jun @ 5pm—Reconciliation followed by Mass @ 5.30pm

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently, and for the repose of the souls of **Biagio Failla, Mario & Alda Giarrusso** 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 schedule of the class dates is on the website.



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
20/21 June	<i>Sacristan</i>	Virginie Mindiel	Maria Papalia
	Commentator	Virginie Mindiel	Jan McQueen
	Reader	Jacinta Zieba	Maria Papalia
	Special Ministers	Warwick Wright	Agnes Lu
		May Teh	Grace Cannatelli
		Enza Wilcocks	Rita Gagliardi
27/28 June	<i>Sacristan</i>	Maria Papalia/ Virginie Mindiel	Carmen Gobbi
	Commentator	Jacinta Zieba	Maria Papalia
	Reader	Rene Dela Cruz	Yamna Taouk
	Special Ministers	Enza Wilcocks	Fulvia Gerasolimo
		May Teh	Carmen Gobbi
		Virginie Mindiel	Agnes Lu

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

Domenica	Lettori	Offertorio	Ministri dell'Eucaristia
28/06/2026	A Vallese T Caraffa	Famiglia G Cassini	L Ciampa G Baglieri

Change of Mass time: 5:30 pm to 5:00 pm

I am hopeful that the half hour shift will be a simple change of Mass time and that you will adjust reasonably smoothly. If there are challenges for you, please contact me or your Parish Pastoral Council members (Maria, Michael, Martin, Milia, Carmen, Adele) or the Parish Office.

First Reception of Holy Communion

The last two groups of young people for 2026 will be receiving Holy Communion for the first time this weekend. It will be my honour to preside for this marvellous start to a life of receiving the wholeness of Jesus the Christ, Son of God. Congratulations to these children.

Peter's Pence Collection

Will be taken up next weekend. Thank you for your support.



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