

the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 10:27-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

I give my sheep eternal life.

Jesus said:

'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice;
I know them and they follow me.
I give them eternal life;
they will never be lost
and no one will ever steal them from me.
The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone,
and no one can steal from the Father.
The Father and I are one.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / C

11 MAY 2025

CLAIMED BY THE FATHER

On the Fourth Sunday of Easter, our Gospel attention turns traditionally to John's 'parable' of the Good Shepherd. Each of the lines in today's Gospel deserves special and lingering attention. 'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice': The sheep are the members of John's Gospel household. Listening to the voice of Jesus is what links to the next line: Jesus 'knows' those who listen to him. 'Know' refers not to information about, but an intimate link with. Jesus 'knows' with a depth of intimate love.

This intimacy flows over into the experience of 'eternal life' (the next line). It also brings about a communion that leads to identity and 'being found'. If you have ever felt lost, either personally or in life direction, Jesus offers a centre, an eternal promise of identity that will never be taken away. This is the sense behind Jesus' reassurance to John's audience of never 'being stolen'. Those who follow Jesus are claimed by the Father. They will always be found, and are one with Jesus' God because, as John asserts at the Gospel's conclusion, Jesus and the Father are 'one'.

Today's Gospel is rich and powerful. We celebrate Jesus' love of us, his desire that we 'know' our communion with him and his Father. Through Jesus we are one, eternally, with the Father. He continues to shepherd us.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Acts 13:14,43-52

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

We are now turning to the gentiles.

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats.

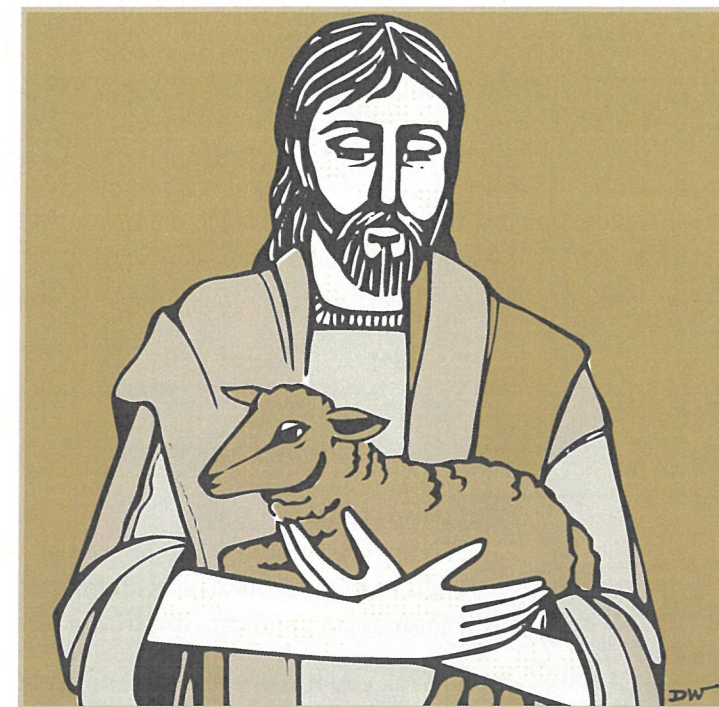
When the meeting broke up, many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them.

The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said:

I have made you a light for the nations, so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.' It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.

But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

■ The word of the Lord.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 99:1-3.5

R. We are his people, the sheep of his flock. *(or Alleluia!)*

1. Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness. / Come before him, singing for joy. **R.**

2. Know that he, the Lord, is God. / He made us, we belong to him, / we are his people, the sheep of his flock. **R.**

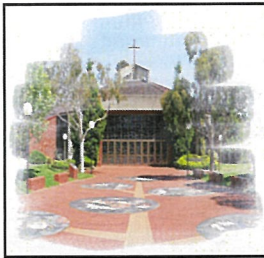
3. Indeed, how good is the Lord, / eternal his merciful love. / He is faithful from age to age. **R.**

SECOND READING

Apoc 7:9,14-17

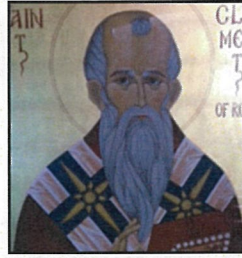
A reading from the book of the Apocalypse
The Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water.

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said to me, 'These are



St Clement of Rome Church

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Parish Priest : Very Rev Mark Reynolds EV (Episcopal Vicar for Catholic Schools)
 Mark.Reynolds@cam.org.au

Italian Chaplain: Fr Vito Pegolo (0419 736 890), **School Principal:** Mr Michael Watt (9850 1216)
Parish Secretary: Bernadine De Silva , **Parish/School Sacramental Coordinator:** Marilyn Robert
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.

JUBILEE 2025—PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Welcome to St Clement of Rome as we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Easter
 Today's theme is : I give my sheep eternal life
 We invite you to reflect on this theme throughout the Mass



Happy Mother's Day!

Today, we celebrate and honour all the wonderful mothers, grandmothers, and mother figures who fill our lives with love, wisdom, and unwavering strength. Your dedication, compassion, and care are truly a blessing.

Thank you for all you do—seen and unseen. May your day be filled with joy, peace, and the appreciation you so richly deserve.

Good Shepherd Sunday

Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pope Francis told us:
 There can be no greater joy than to risk one's life for the Lord! I would like to say this especially to you, the young. Do not be deaf to the Lord's call. If he calls you to follow this path, do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him.
 Let us pray for the young people in our community, and in our families and circle of friends. May our prayers help them to be open to the Lord's call to consecrated life or priesthood.

A Vocation View

On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, pray for yourself. Pray to know if God is calling YOU to be a Priest, Sister or Brother. Pray!

A prayer request

You might know of a young person in the parish, in your family or an acquaintance whom you think would make a good priest or religious. Why not pray for them by name on a regular basis? Carry them with you 'spiritually' to Mass on Sunday and place them on the altar at the offertory. Sometimes the Lord uses us as his instruments to encourage vocations.

Pledge to Pray

The Vocations Office in Melbourne has partnered with some others in a project, 'Pledge to Pray' - an on-line platform for individuals to pledge prayers for vocations. It is based upon the idea of the 'Invisible Monastery'. We invite you to 'pledge a prayer' for vocations at www.pledgetoprayer.com.au this is a site dedicated to encouraging prayer for vocations in Australia.

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS

Mass Times: Sat 5:30pm (*Vigil*), Sun - 9am & 11am (*Italian*)

Tues 9:15am (*Italian*), Wed-Sat 9:15am (unless informed)

Reconciliation: Sat 9.45am (and on request). **Marian Devotions & Eucharistic Adoration :** Sat 8.40am

Baptisms: 1st & 3rd weekend every month. **Weddings:** By Appointment

PARISH DIARY

Mon 12th May @ 9.15am—no Mass
 Tue 13th May @ 9.15am—Italian Mass
 Tue 13th May @ 6pm—Gr 4 Eucharist Faith Night
 Wed 14th May @ 9.15am—Mass
 Thurs 15th May @ 9.15am—Mass
 Fri 16th May @ 9.15am—Mass
 Sat 17th May @ 9.00am—ASRE 1st Com in the PO
 Sat 17th May @ 9.15am—No Mass/Reconciliation
 Sat 17th May @ 5.30pm—Sacrament of First Communion

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently, and for the repose of the souls of Ida Audino, Filomena Caldarelli, Michele Castriotta, Katerina & Gregorio Sverko 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.

ASRE—Sacrament of Eucharist 2025

Please see the dates below for the Sacrament of Eucharist classes.



DATE	TIME	EVENT
Saturday 17 th May	9.00 -10.15am	ASRE Eucharist 4
Saturday 24 th May	9.00 -10.15am	ASRE Eucharist 5 followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation.
	5.30pm	Sacrament of First Eucharist

Important notice for all Parish Ministry Volunteers

For Parishioners who wish to become volunteers or continue as volunteers, it is necessary that all Safeguarding Requirements are current. The necessary requirements include :

1. A valid Working with Children Check
2. A signed Code of Conduct
3. Completion of the safeguarding training module

Over the coming weeks, to help our volunteers, the Parish will be contacting people who currently do not meet all the requirements. We understand that meeting the requirements may seem daunting but we are keen to help, so that you are able to continue the very valuable work that you do for our Parish.

The Safeguarding Requirements for Parish volunteers have been determined by the Archdiocese of Melbourne in response to Victorian Government Legislation, Australian Government Legislation and critical incidents. To ensure that our Parishes continue to be safe spaces for children, young people and vulnerable adults, the Archdiocese of Melbourne and its Parishes will this year, be audited, by *Australian Catholic Safeguarding Limited*.

Thank you for your co-operation in ensuring the safety and well-being of all in our parish community.

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
10/11 May	Sacristan	Sue De Bortoli	Francis & Gloria Ng
	Commentator	Paul Sammut	Maria Papalia
	Reader	Jacinta Zieba	Yamna Taouk
	Special Ministers	Enza Wilcocks	Agnes Lu
		Warwick Wright	Gloria Ng
		Sue De Bortoli	Fulvia Gerasolimo
17/18 May	Sacristan	Sue De Bortoli	Francis & Gloria Ng
	Commentator	Jacinta Zieba	Yamna Taouk
	Reader	Rene Dela Cruz	Daniel Abdallah
	Special Ministers	Zina Scalzo	Shirley Pyndiah
		May Teh	Grace Cannatelli
		Martin Teh	Anne Fusca

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL' EUCHARISTIA
18/05	I ROMANIN A VALLESE	FAM G CASSINI	T RECINELLA J FAGGION

Thank you from CatholicCare Victoria

CatholicCare Victoria is deeply grateful for the support of our parish during last week's CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. The generosity of our parish community means that CatholicCare Victoria can continue the mission; to create transformational personal impact and empower every individual to reach their full potential and live life to the full. Thank you for helping those in need!
 For more information about CatholicCare Victoria, please visit: www.catholiccarevic.org.au

Mass Count 2025

The second Mass count will take place this weekend at all the Masses. Collectors at weekend Masses are kindly asked to compile the figures and complete the forms please. Thank you for your support in collecting these statistics.

**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.**