

GOSPEL

Lk 13:22-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

From east and west they will come to take their place in the kingdom of God.

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.'

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets," but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

AT THE FEAST IN THE KINGDOM

In this Sunday's Gospel we are still in that section of Luke that concerns the journey of Jesus and his disciples on their way to Jerusalem. This section of the Gospel, Luke 9-19, is long. It is also important as the evangelist seeks to contemporise the teaching of Jesus, for a later time and culture. The evangelist also provides us in this 'journey narrative' with a window into what some of the issues were with which Jesus' followers were dealing.

One of them here concerned salvation and ultimate communion with God. Someone enquires about the number of those 'saved'? Will it be a few? The question allows Jesus in Luke's Gospel to address a key presumption circulating within the Gospel audience. There were some who presumed that simply being a member of the Gospel household, participating in a meal (the Eucharist?) or listening to the teaching of the Master guaranteed admittance into the Kingdom.

Jesus reminds Luke's audience to be careful about such presumptive and elitist behaviour. This attitude, of being better than others because of one's spiritual heritage or conduct, does not guarantee automatic admission into the Kingdom. It needs to be checked. Rather than a restrictive or exclusive view of Kingdom admission – only those with the right 'credentials' will be admitted – ultimate communion with God is open ended and available to all, as people 'from east and west, from north and south will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. A spirit of openness, hospitality and inclusivity must characterise Jesus' disciples.

Fr Michael Trainor



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

24 AUGUST 2025

FIRST READING

Isa 66:18-21

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

They will gather all of your people from all nations.

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 116. R. Mk 16:15

R. Go out to all the world; and tell the Good News (*or Alleluia!*)

1. O praise the Lord, all you nations, / acclaim him all you peoples! **R.**

2. Strong is his love for us; / he is faithful for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

Heb 12:5-7, 11-13

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

The Lord disciplines those he loves.

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did



not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

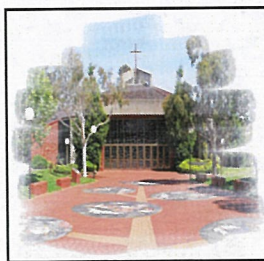
■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:6

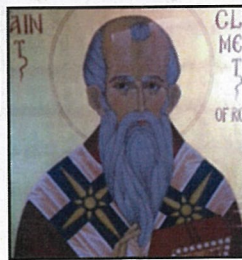
Alleluia, alleluia!

**I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.
Alleluia!**



St Clement of Rome Church

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<https://www.facebook.com/stclementsparishbulleen>
Office Hours: Mon (closed) Tue—Thur 9am-5pm Fri 9am—4.30pm



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 Administration & Finance : Bernadine De Silva, **Pastoral Worker:** 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 Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's theme is : From east and west they will come to take their place in the kingdom of God

We invite you to reflect on this theme throughout the Mass



The 2025 Archbishop's Campaign

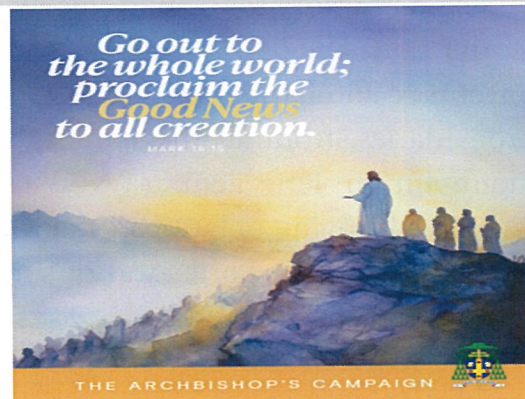
Go out and proclaim the Good News

In this Jubilee year, we are invited to live that call more deeply.

Through this unified campaign, we share in that mission—

supporting ministries that serve those in need and bring God's love into our communities. Your generous gift helps proclaim the Good News, not only in word, but in action.

Donations can be made via the QR code, via the supplied campaign envelopes or anonymously via cash directly into the collection plate.



Sunday Reflection..

One of the most important and deep-seated questions humans ask is, 'will I be saved?' This is expressed in other ways, like 'Is heaven real? How will I enter it?' In fact, almost all religions speak of offering salvation.

Who will be saved? Through a parabolic teaching, Jesus, in today's Gospel, warns those who think that entry in to kingdom is through 'ascription', that is, the assignment of status through kinship ties. The Jews may be the chosen people, children of Abraham, but their salvation is far from assured. Jesus' parable of the Narrow Door emphasises that entry into the kingdom is based not on ascription but on performance. The authentic response to Jesus' teaching entails both hearing and doing. The true disciple is one who hears the word of God and puts it into practice, bearing the fruit of repentance and good deeds.

To the question of whether only a few will be saved, Jesus pictures a multitude 'from east and west, from the north and the south' reclining at the banquet in God's kingdom. Luke refers to the ingathering of the Jews from the diaspora in the eschatological times and adds the ingathering of the Gentiles to stress the theme of universalism. The coming of the Gentiles is not a rejection of the Jews. But Jesus disabuses the Jews, especially their religious leaders, of the idea that they can rely on their status as children of the kingdom. Salvation is God's gift freely given to the Israelites, and now to the Gentiles. The Jews should welcome the kingdom with gratitude and humility, and not as something due them because of their ties with Abraham.

God's Word—Daily Reflections

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS

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

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

Reconciliation: Sat 5:00pm (and on request)

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 Aug @ 9am—Mass
 Sun 24th Aug @ 11am—Italian Mass
 Tue 26th Aug @ 9.15am—Italian Mass
 Wed 27th Aug @ 9.15am—Mass
 Wed 27th Aug @ 6pm—Baptism preparation
 Thurs 28th Aug @ 9.15am—Mass
 Fri 29th Aug @ 9.15am—Mass
 Sat 30th Aug @ 9am—Confirmation classes
 Sat 30th Aug @ 5pm —Reconciliation followed by Mass @ 5.30pm

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently, Maria Morlin, Anna Accetta, Maria Ollier and for the repose of the souls of Guido & Emma Colella 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 Confirmation 2025

The classes for the Sacrament of Confirmation have commenced. The class dates are listed below.

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Saturday 30 th August	9.00-10.00am	ASRE Confirmation 5
Saturday 6 th September	9.00-10.00am	ASRE Confirmation 6 including Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) 10am
Friday 10 th October	6.00pm	Sacrament of Confirmation

Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd

Safeguarding Audit

We have been informed of an upcoming safeguarding audit of the Archdiocese. This audit will involve a comprehensive review of our safeguarding practices, policies, culture and documentation across all parish ministries.

It is essential that all volunteers involved in parish ministries are fully compliant with current safeguarding requirements in order to continue in their roles.

The safeguarding requirements include :

1. A valid working with children check
2. A signed code of conduct
3. Completion of the Safeguarding Training Module

If you are unsure about your current status or need assistance completing any part of the process, please contact the parish office as soon as possible. We are here to help guide you through each step.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to keep our parish a safe and welcoming place for all.

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 August	<i>Sacristan</i>	Sue De Bortoli	Livia Tunggal
	<i>Commentator</i>	Rene De La Cruz	Christine Landsberg
	<i>Reader</i>	Paul Sammut	Tim Landsberg
	<i>Special Ministers</i>	May Teh	Maria Papalia
		Martin Teh	Shirley Pyndiah
		Enza Wilcocks	Grace Cannatelli

30/31 August	<i>Sacristan</i>	Sue De Bortoli	Livia Tunggal
	<i>Commentator</i>	Paul Sammut	Tim Landsberg
	<i>Reader</i>	May Teh	Jan McQueen
	<i>Special Ministers</i>	Warwick Wright	Anne Fusca
		Virginie Mindiel	Rita Gagliardi
		Martin Teh	Maria Papalia

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL' EUCARISTIA
31/08	I ROMANIN A VALLESE	FAM G CASSINI	T RECINELLA J FAGGION

100 YEARS OF YCW WOMEN IN ACTION LUNCHEON



YCW (Holdings) Melbourne invites you to join us to celebrate the contributions women have made to Australian YCW as we celebrate the centenary of YCW. Hear stories from different generations of women who live out the YCW method in their everyday lives. Share your own memories and experiences of YCW with others during a delicious light lunch. Open to women AND men of YCW, their friends and interested networks.

Bookings essential: <https://events.humanitix.com/100-years-of-ycw-women-in-action>



Sunday 31st August
Registrations at 10:30 for a 11am start
 Catholic Theological College, Knox Room
 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne
 All tickets: \$25 + \$2.17 Humanitix booking fee includes light lunch