



THE SAVING WORD

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

28 JUNE 2026

FIRST READING

2 Kings 4: 8-11, 14-16

A reading from the second book of the Kings.

That is the holy man of God, let him remain there.

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.'

One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 88: 2-3, 16-19. R. v. 2

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; / through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth. / Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, / that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **R.**

2. Happy the people who acclaim such a king, / who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face, / who find their joy every day in your name, / who make your justice the source of their bliss. **R.**

3. For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength; / it is by your favour that our might is exalted: / for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord; / our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 6: 3-4, 8-11

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

Having been buried with him through baptism, we shall walk in a new life.

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

■ The word of the Lord.



The Parish of St Joseph's, Elsternwick & Holy Cross, Caulfield South
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PARISH PRIEST: Rev Fr Leenus Neetany SAC

Assistant Priest: Rev Fr Eugene San SAC
Permanent Deacon: Rev John Lam
Parish Coordinator: Joanna Lam

ST JOSEPH'S, ELSTERNWICK

71 Orrong Road, Elsternwick 3185

Mass

Wednesday and Friday 10:00am
Saturday 6:30pm, Sun 10:30am

Reconciliation

After weekday Mass and Saturday 6:00pm

HOLY CROSS, CAULFIELD SOUTH

707 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield South 3162

Mass

Tuesday and Thursday 10:00am
Sunday 9:00am

Reconciliation

After weekday Mass

ST ANTHONY'S, GLEN HUNTLY

74, Grange Road, Glen Huntly 3163
In Residence: Fr Pat Jackson SAC, Br Lindsay Rust SAC

Mass

Monday - Saturday 9:15am
Saturday 6:00pm
Sunday 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm

Reconciliation

30-mins before all Masses and Saturday 9:45am - 10:10am

Thanksgiving & Special Collections

Church: \$TBA Presbytery: \$TBA
Special Collection: -

Next Week's Roster

Lectors:

Saturday 6:30pm S Bettoni
Sunday 9:00am D Sarah 10:30am E Zheng

Counters: B Leong & E Ambrose

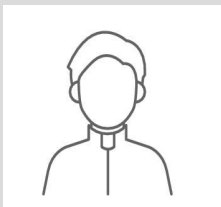
Upcoming Week's Liturgical Calendar

Mon 29 Jun: Sts Peter and Paul
Fri 3 Jul: St Thomas
Sun 5 Jul: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Thanksgiving



Parish Offertory: What Am I Giving To?



Presbytery Account

This collection covers the living expenses of the priests assigned to the parish, such as food, housekeeping and car allowance, as well as their stipends. Funds also go towards supporting the Archbishop and sick and retired clergy, and assisting the remote and financially burdened parishes.



Church Account

This collection supports church expenses and our parish's missionary work. It covers staff salaries, utility bills, liturgical needs, loan repayments, parish sacramental programs, formation initiatives, and pastoral and evangelisation efforts.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (Ps 46:2)

All peoples, clap your hands. Cry to God with shouts of joy!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (Jn 17:20-21)

O Father, I pray for them, that they may be one in us, that the world may believe that you have sent me, says the Lord.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill*: Lolita Maria Tomaselli

**Names are published for a month, unless further requested.*

Recently Deceased: -

Death Anniversary: -

Special Collection: Peter's Pence

This weekend, 27-28 June, we are taking up the Peter's Pence collection which supports the Pope's philanthropic activities and operations of the Holy See.

Funds are primarily distributed for emergency humanitarian aid, disaster relief, and maintenance of ecclesial communities in developing nations.

Youth & Young Adults' Hosting Mass

This Saturday, 27th June, the young people of our parish are hosts of the 6:30pm Vigil Mass. Keep up the good work!



1. **Adult Confirmation:** Congratulations to Ashlee on receiving her Sacrament of Confirmation this evening.
2. **Stoke the Fire Within:** A night of worship, real talk, and real stories - animated by the Missionaries of God's Love brothers.
3. **Thank You:** Bishop Leslie Tomlinson for celebrating Mass with us.

Pastoral & Finance Committee Meeting

Summary of our recent combined PPC and PFC Meeting held on 23rd June 2026:

1. Presbytery Renovations: Awaiting a few more quotations from contractors. Depending on total cost, we can project-manage the renovations or engage a builder.
2. Community Space and Surroundings: Initial Proposals from 2 CAM-recommended architects received and reviewed. Some queries to be sent out before committee can decide which firm to engage.
3. Small Group Discipleship: A minimum of 2 adult leaders to lead each group. Leaders will be the ones to invite the participants and Everett will continue to guide the them.
4. Pastoral Council (PPC) and Finance Committee (PFC) Members: Nominations are open to all. The Young Adults group to nominate a representative to the PPC. Applications will be vetted by the our ex-officio and current members.
5. Parish Offertory Program: 2 weeks of the Campaign completed. Rollout of new EFTPOS terminals to follow.
6. Parish Calendar: Our Parish Calendar will be compiled and made available both online and in print.
7. Revisiting the Pillars: The postponed sub-committee meeting will take place soon for both parishes to share ideas. Our parish's focus would be on Pillars needing extra help.

Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

The Combined Societies of Mary Welcomes You to a Special Celebration



**3 First Class
Relics of
Carmelite
Doctors for
Veneration**



St Theres
of Lisieux



St John of the Cross



St Theres
of Avila

Sunday 12th July, 2026

Holy Cross Church 707 Glenhuntly Rd Caulfield Sth

1:30 pm Adoration Prayers, Enlightening Talk,

Benediction Holy Mass Veneration of First Class Relics

Enrollment in the Scapular Free Scapulars

Inquiries: Joy Hunt, 95092207 www.combinedsocietiesofmary.com

RCIA

Sessions will start on Thursday 30th July 2026 at 6:30pm. Parishioners interested in being members of the team are invited to a meeting on Thursday, 2nd July at 6:30pm at St Joseph's Presbytery, Elsternwick.

Those seeking renewal of faith or desiring to become Catholics, please contact our parish office to register.

World Youth Day: 3-8 August 2027

The five saints named for World Youth Day:

- St John Paul II
- St Andrew Kim Taegon
- St Frances Xavier Cabrini
- St Josephine Bakhita
- St Carlo Acutis



Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Sunday: 5 July

On the first Sunday of July each year, the Catholic Church in Australia gather as one to honour and celebrate the rich cultural heritage, spirituality and contributions our First Nations Peoples make the life of the Church. The theme for this year's Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Sunday is 'Walking together in Christ: 40 years on!'



All welcome to a special Mass starting 11:00am at St Patrick's Cathedral.

Safeguarding Training: New Platform

Link to Tribal Habits platform can be found at:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-training-and-upcoming-events/safeguarding-training-modules/> Please email your certificate to the Parish Office so that we can document and keep our records up to date.

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear brothers and sisters

"Ministry that costs nothing, accomplishes nothing" said John Henry Jowett.



1. **Jesus** knew that many more people would join in if sweet incentives were offered. But, Jesus did not sugarcoat his words. He did not promise his disciples a bed of roses.
2. **Jesus** knew that the path of godliness is filled with hardships, criticisms, and persecutions. Jesus never asked any of His followers to do something that he himself would not do.
3. **Jesus** did not hesitate to declare the full meaning of 'carrying one's own daily cross' as a qualification to be his disciple.
4. **Jesus** understood the full implication of 'self-sacrifice'. He communicated it to his disciples that they had to fully identify themselves with a cause even to the point of giving up everything for the sake of their commitment.
5. **Jesus** wanted his followers to realize that the cross often would involve grief and pain in the same manner that he himself suffered.
6. **Jesus** wanted all of his disciples to be prepared to endure great trials, shame and disappointments for Jesus' name's sake, and be willing to be mistreated.
7. **Jesus** wanted his disciples to pray for those who persecute us rather than take revenge on them. He prayed, "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing."
8. **Jesus** wanted his disciples to know that they will probably lose many of their family and friends while standing for God. More people reject Christ's offer fearing loss of relations.
9. **Jesus** knew that taking up one's cross would also involve great discomfort while others enjoyed comfortable lifestyles. The Lord wanted his disciples to resist the temptation of comparing their hardships with the ease others may enjoy,
10. **Jesus** knew that taking up one's cross might involve public shame, humiliation and embarrassment. Those who want to be Christ's disciples have to develop thick skins.
11. **Jesus** knew that taking up one's cross is something we never graduate from. God knew that disciples are expected to continue to progress in their ability to withstand hardships in greater identification with Christ the Lord.
12. **Jesus** knew that learning to take up one's cross is best done in the context of seeking first God's kingdom and his righteousness.
13. **Jesus** says that one cannot effectively take up his cross without helping the church to grow in quantity and quality.

~ Excerpt from an Unknown Author ~

There are two kinds of people in the world: those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord," and others who wake up in the morning and say, "Good Lord, it's morning!"

'Missionaries of God's Love' at St Anthony's

The MGL brothers will be at the Glen (behind Parish House) to meet and talk with our young people on Saturday, 4th July. Please arrive by 10:15am for 10:30am start. All welcome!

The Gift: A Life in the Spirit Prayer Sessions

8pm Fridays at The Glen, rear of 74 Grange Rd, Glen Huntly. Organised by the Sacre Coeur Prayer Community. 3 more sessions on 3rd, 10th and 17th July. Contact: Sue or Ban via St Anthony's Parish Office.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Pet 2: 9

Alleluia, alleluia! / You are a chosen race,
a royal priesthood, a holy people. / Praise
God who called you out of darkness and into
his marvellous light. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 10: 37-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew.

*Anyone who does not accept his cross is not worthy
of me. Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me.*

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone
who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy
of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to
me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not
take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not
worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will
lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake
will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me;
and those who welcome me welcome the one
who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he
is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and
anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is
a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold
water to one of these little ones because he is a
disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most
certainly not lose his reward.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word

HOW SHOULD I LIVE AND ACT?

If Jesus were to meet you (and he does
constantly!) and you were to ask him, 'How
should I act and live my life?', the answer
would come into today's Gospel. It continues
Jesus' teaching concerned with disciples
(us!) on mission. As our church deepens its
practice of synodality, the instructions Jesus
offers are meant for all: our focus is to be on
Jesus. Our relationship with him guides every
other relationship and commitment. In the
Gospel, Jesus tells the Twelve, the symbolic
leadership group of disciples who spearhead
the Jesus missionary movement, 'Anyone
who prefers[fill in the blanks] ... is not
worthy of me.' His words are not a rejection
of one's relationships or family ties but the
preference in all relationships is to be guided
by our abiding commitment and friendship
with Jesus.

The second collection of sayings in today's
Gospel concerns hospitality. Those who
welcome others, members of the Jesus
household, and act in holiness or speak
prophetically are also welcoming the presence
of Jesus. This spirit of openness and receptivity
continues into the last part of today's Gospel.
Offering a welcoming drink to 'one of these
little ones'—those regarded as social nobodies
without prestige or status—and discerned,
surprisingly, as disciples, as members of Jesus'
community of believers, will be eternally
rewarded: '..they will most certainly not lose
their reward.'

Today's Gospel is not about earning rewards,
though. It is about how to live, with a firm
commitment to Jesus and welcoming all,
especially the 'little ones' and identifying as
disciples the most unlikely.

Fr Michael Trainor