



THE SAVING WORD

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

5 JULY 2026

FIRST READING

Zech 9:9-10

A reading from the prophet Zechariah

See how humbly your king comes to you!

The Lord says this:

‘Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!
 Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!
 See now, your king comes to you;
 he is victorious, he is triumphant,
 humble and riding on a donkey,
 on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
 He will banish chariots from Ephraim
 and horses from Jerusalem;
 the bow of war will be banished.
 He will proclaim peace for the nations.
 His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,
 from the River to the ends of the earth.’

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 144:1-2, 8-11, 13-14. R. v. 1

R. I will praise your name for ever,
my king and my God. (*or* Alleluia!)

1. I will give you glory, O God my King, /
I will bless your name for ever. / I will bless
you day after day / and praise your name for
ever. **R.**

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, /
slow to anger, abounding in love. / How good
is the Lord to all, / compassionate to all his
creatures. **R.**

3. All your creatures shall thank you,
O Lord, / and your friends shall repeat their
blessing. / They shall speak of the glory
of your reign / and declare your might,
O God. **R.**

4. The Lord is faithful in all his words / and
loving in all his deeds. / The Lord supports
all who fall / and raises all who are bowed
down. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 8:9, 11-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Romans

*If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of
the body, you will live.*

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in
the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made
his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed
the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to
him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus
from the dead is living in you, then he who
raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your
own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in
you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity
for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live
unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you
are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put
an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia! / Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth, / you have
revealed to little ones the mysteries of the
kingdom. / Alleluia!



The Parish of St Joseph's, Elsternwick & Holy Cross, Caulfield South
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📮 P.O.Box 664, Elsternwick 3185 🌐 www.melbcatholic.org/stjosephholycross

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: \$1206.65 Presbytery: \$1251.65
Special Collection: \$630.70 (Catholic Mission)

Next Week's Roster

Lectors:

Saturday 6:30pm R Rodrigues
Sunday 9:00am S McMillan 10:30am La Bonne family

Counters: No Counting

Upcoming Week's Liturgical Calendar

Sat 11 Jul: St Benedict
Sun 12 Jul: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Thanksgiving



Offertory Program: 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 (cf. Ps 47:10-11)

Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (Mt 11:28)

Come to me, all who labour and are burdened, and I will refresh you, 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: -



Those seeking renewal of faith or desiring to become Catholics, please contact our parish office to learn more about the RCIA sessions which start on 30th July at 6:30pm at St Joseph's Presbytery, Elsternwick. If you would like to be a member of the team, please also contact the parish office.

RCIA stands for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (now often referred to as OCIA, Order of Christian Initiation of Adults). It is the step-by-step process used by the Catholic Church to welcome and prepare adults who wish to enter the Catholic faith.

Trivia Lunch - 8th July 2026

Join us at the Holy Cross Parish Hall every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 12-noon. Bring your own lunch and enjoy the Trivia session and a catchup. All are welcome.

Winter Appeal 12th & 13th July



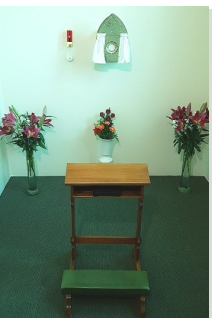
St Vincent de Paul Society
CAULFIELD SOUTH & ELSTERNWICK *good works*

For many people, homelessness is just one sudden crisis away. And this winter, more people than ever before are facing homelessness and poverty in Australia.

Next weekend, a special collection will be taken up for Vinnies Winter Appeal. Your generous gift can help people at risk of, or experiencing homelessness get the support they need to find and keep a safe place to stay.

Perpetual Adoration Chapel

Our Chapel offers a quiet, sacred space to pray and to spend time with Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. The Chapel can be accessed 24/7 with a security tag. To apply, contact the Parish Office. A refundable deposit will be required. Concessions available.



Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition



St Carlo Acutis inspired millions around the world through his deep love for Jesus in the Eucharist and his creative use of technology to share the faith; helping countless people discover and deepen their faith in the Real Presence of Christ.

Visit the exhibition at Magnificat House (456 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne) from Thursday 16th July until Tuesday 28th July, from 10am to 3pm. A First Class Relic of St Carlo Acutis will be available for veneration daily.

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 Therese
of Lisieux**



St John of the Cross



**St Therese
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

Pope Leo appoints Archbishop Comensoli to Dicastery for Evangelisation



Pope Leo XIV appointed Archbishop Peter A Comensoli to the Dicastery for Evangelisation, Section for Fundamental Questions regarding Evangelisation in the World. The appointment was announced on Saturday 27 June.

‘I thank the Holy Father for the trust he has placed in me with this appointment, and I commit to working diligently for the evangelising mission of the Church,’ said Archbishop Comensoli.

Archbishop Comensoli was appointed a member of the dicastery together with Archbishop Filippo Iannone O Carm (Prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops) and Archbishop Èric de Moulins-Beaufort of Reims, France.

The appointment is in addition to his responsibilities as Archbishop of Melbourne.

It comes just a day after the Archbishop addressed a group of more than 200 parish and lay ecclesial leaders at the Proclaim26 conference held in Melbourne.

The gift of discipleship begins by ‘being open and allowing Jesus to enter into our lives for him to give us the water we need and then, even in our own difficulties and inadequacies ... being a disciple to others.’

In accepting his new appointment, Archbishop Comensoli asked the community to keep him in their prayers. ‘I humbly ask for your prayers for this appointment. And may each of us renew our commitment to share the hope of the Gospel with all we meet.’

- Excerpt from article written by Melbourne Catholic -

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 & contributions our First Nations Peoples make the life of the Church.

The theme for this year’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday is **‘Walking together in Christ: 40 years on!’**

“The time for Rebirth is Now!” created by Youth Delegates at the 2003 NATSICC Assembly – Adelaide. Drawn from St Pope John Paul II’s address to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in Alice Springs(1986)



There are over 130,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholics in Australia and it is the youngest and fastest growing demographic.

As Pope John Paul II so eloquently expressed in his 1986 visit to Australia, the Church in Australia will not be fully the Church that Jesus wants her to be, until Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have made their contribution to the life of the Church and until that contribution is joyfully received by others.

The Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria warmly invites us to two important celebrations:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday Mass

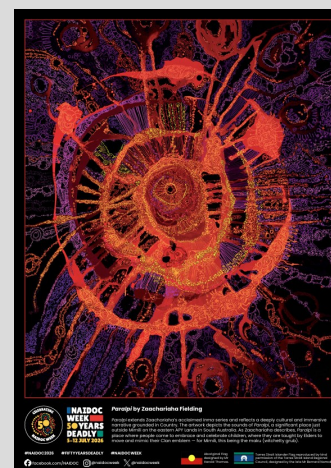
**Sunday 5 July 2026, 11:00am at St Patrick’s Cathedral,
1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne**

and

NAIDOC Week Mass

**Sunday 12 July 2026, 11:00am at St Francis’ Church,
326 Lonsdale St, Melbourne**

This year’s NAIDOC Week theme is **“50 Years Deadly”**. For fifty years, NAIDOC themes have spoken to survival, resistance, culture and pride. They have honoured Elders and leaders, celebrated creativity, and challenged the nation to listen, reckon and act. Each theme has marked a moment in time, capturing where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples were, and where the country needs to pay attention.



50 Years of Deadly is both a reflection and a declaration.

It acknowledges the strength it has taken to reach this milestone, not by chance, but because generations of people refused to be silenced. It recognises the organisers, artists, activists and communities who carried NAIDOC forward year after year, ensuring it remained grounded in culture and community. Further information on NAIDOC Week can be found at: <https://www.naidoc.org.au>

Safeguarding

All volunteers are reminded to ensure they have a current Working With Children Check (WWCC) card.

When completing or updating your details online, please register only ONE organization for our amalgamated Parish, using the following details:

Organisation: St Joseph’s & Holy Cross Parish

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 664, Elsternwick 3185

Complete the Safeguarding Essentials training and sign the Code of Conduct here: <https://cam-parish.tribalhabits.com/accounts/register> Please email your certificate to the Parish Office so that we can maintain updated records. Thank you.

A little boy was kneeling and saying his night prayers. “Dear God, please bless my family.” Then he shouted, “And don’t forget to give me a bicycle for my birthday!!” “There is no need to shout like that,” said his mother. “God isn’t deaf.” “No,” said the little boy, “but Grandma is.”

GOSPEL

Mt 11:25-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

I am gentle and humble of heart.

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Breaking Open the Word

COMFORT AND REST

At times life seems burdensome and overwhelming. Depending on where we live in the world or what's been happening to us, this burden can be almost impossible to carry. Today's Gospel offers us—and for those countless numbers in other parts of our world who are faced with suffering, starvation, even death—a consoling and necessary word. We are privileged listeners to Jesus' prayer to the Father. It is, characteristically, in the style of a Jewish blessing prayer, given Matthew's Jewish audience.

The prayer praises God for disrupting social favouritism in favour of children. These are the 'little ones' from last week's Gospel. For Matthew, the socially unaccepted and rejected ones are those whom God blesses with wisdom and insight. This is divine revelation that comes from Jesus through his communion with God.

The final part of today's Gospel is worthy of lingering contemplation. Jesus invites all who listen to the Gospel—and that includes us—to allow him to shoulder our burdens and concerns. He models for us how to be. He is 'gentle and humble of heart'. The evangelist draws Jesus' self-description from the wisdom writings of the First (Old) Testament. It is this wisdom in which souls find comfort and rest. It is a 'yoke' that is easy to bear. Into this welcoming and restful presence, we are invited in our Sunday celebrations of the Eucharist.

Fr Michael Trainor