

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Command me to come to you over the water.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a headwind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost,' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord', he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

TOWARDS UNKNOWN SHORES

There are times when we struggle, as though we are personally battling against a strong headwind and can't move out of our physical or spiritual slump. Today's Gospel reflects something of this experience. Jesus makes his disciples get into a boat (a symbol of Matthew's Gospel household) to sail to the 'other side'. This 'side' is unfamiliar and frightening. Jesus spends time on the land praying while the boat, in the meantime, is battling heavy seas and a strong headwind.

All this is a powerful image of the community of Jesus' disciples and, at times, like us or our experience of Church: battling, trying to move forward as we feel alone. At this point in the story, Matthew draws on imagery used of God from the First Testament to describe Jesus walking on the water, coming towards a boat filled with terrified disciples. When they see Jesus, their terror heightens thinking he is a ghost. Jesus reassures them.

Peter, the leader and spokesperson, then asks to come out to be with Jesus on the water. While Peter's focus is on Jesus all is safe as he steps from the boat on to the water. But when he becomes distracted by the wind and waves and takes his gaze off Jesus, he begins to sink. Jesus responds immediately to his plea for rescue and the scene concludes with the disciples worshipping Jesus as God's saving agent. This story speaks forcefully to our community of struggling believers. Jesus seeks to be with us in this 'boat' called 'Church' as we sail together, in that synodal spirit, towards unknown and frightening shores while subject to fearful and unsettling conditions.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

9 AUGUST 2026

FIRST READING

1 Kings 19:9, 11-13

A reading from the first book of the Kings

Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 84:9-14. R. v. 8

R. Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say, / a voice that speaks of peace. / His help is near for those who fear him / and his glory will dwell in our land. **R.**

2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; / justice and peace have embraced. / Faithfulness shall spring from the earth / and justice look down from heaven. **R.**

3. The Lord will make us prosper / and our earth shall yield its fruit. / Justice shall march before him / and peace shall follow his steps. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 9:1-5

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.

What I want to say is no pretence. I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ps 129:5

Alleluia, alleluia! / I hope in the Lord, / I trust in his word. / Alleluia!



ST PETER CHANEL CATHOLIC PARISH

Under the Pastoral Care of the Claretian Missionaries

848 Ballarat Road, Deer Park 3028

Parish Priest: Fr. Felimon Libot, CMF

Asst. Priests: Fr. John Pham, CMF; Fr. Luis F. Rey, CMF

Parish Secretary - Rosemarie Mendoza

Bookkeeper - Rosa Milan

Tel: 93633132 Email: deerpark@cam.org.au

Website: www.cam.org.au/deerpark

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:00am - 3:00pm



ADORATION CHAPEL

"The Master is here and wants to see you" John 11:28



Adorers are needed for these hours:

Sunday: 4am; 1pm; 2 pm; 11pm

Monday: 11am; 8pm

Tuesday: 8pm

Wednesday: 4am; 1pm

Saturday: 7am; 10am; 11am; 1pm

Contact: Lucy Sgro 0424056823

SOLEMNITY. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Saturday, 15 August (This is a Holy Day of Obligation)

Fr Joseph Hung, CMF. Let us all welcome Fr Joseph from Darwin. He will be covering while our Claretian Priests are attending the Clergy Conference.

Archbishop's Campaign. COURAGE!

DO NOT BE AFRAID (Matthew 14:27)

Let us support the Archbishop's campaign To help sustain ministries to those in need. Please check flyer and envelopes in the foyer of the church. God bless your generosity.

Parish Consultation. Sunday, 9 August, 3:00pm - 5:30pm in the church.

Next Week: 16 August 2026

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A

DEATH REMEMBRANCE: Joseph Grima, Olivia Coronado Ramos, Joseph Grech, Maria Abate, Brigitte Shirley, Tony Cordina, Rosimma Xavier, Richard Fernandes, Mateo Denubo, Nick Lowden, Joseph Cini, Dorica, Cirilo, Joselito, Ernesto, Leonila & Juanito Ocampo, Carmen Caruana, Lydia Arieta, Jonathan Becina, Jonathan Christopher Sasso, Martin Lobo, Joseph Barbara, Lina Castillo Sanchez, Joe Debrincat, Angelo Debrincat, Joao Bosco Lay, Filomena Rosa Lay Costa, Alda Casimiro De Araujo Lay, Alzira Goncalves De Rosa Lay, Joseph & Jane Pace, Andrew & Carmen Vella, Ronnie Zammit, Andrew Vella Jr, Michael Caruana, Alan Plate, Liedke Alexander Arthur, Myrtam, Saviour Borg, Saver Bugeja, Palmira Dos Santos, Leone Teng Lung, Pam yang Ling, Jacinta Valadares, All Souls in Purgatory

RECENT DEATH: William Taylor

SPECIAL INTENTION: Rosita, Valentina, Michael, Lydia, Ester, Jerry, Catrina, Siders family, Ray, Ishara, Maria Woods

HEALING: Pauline Gatt, Tony & Agatha Saliba, Charile & Helen Aquilina, Arlyn Lim, Lydie Etiennette, Koprivanac family, Gaud family, McKenzie family, Kizza Besigye, Elias Lukwago, Maria Jasmin Josef-Concel

THANKSGIVING: Chloe Amelita Tan, Shaun & Sharlene, Elmer De Ocampo, Ka Uluakiahoia, Charlie McGann, John & Maria Arambulo, Blanca Lezama, Paola & Christian Bozzacchi, Joseph Pablo

THIS WEEK: 9 August 2026 - Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time- A

	7:00pm	7:00am	8:30am	10:00am	12:00pm	6:00pm
Commentator 1st Reader 2nd Reader	Carina F Manoj L Jennifer S	James J Jeslie M Frances R	Dulce T Kathleen T A Huang	Roger S J Anna C Rency C	Nelissa D St Lawrence Primary	Annika D Zaylee D Sophia P
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Joan S Antonietta C Della J Ernesto Co	Stefan P Jeslie M	Wynna D Ronald D Ferdinand T Marcelline A	Cathryn D Don C Marilou S J Eva O	Jacqueline R Veronica A Kirk D G R Patrick B	Gloria T Ric M Diana T Marvin D
Altar Servers	George E Eucharistic Choir	Tony Cilia AHFI	Adrian D A Holy Redeemer	Henry Oliver Fawaz MWf with LHM Sisters	Raphael P Rey S Arielle Mary Ann Lea Lapid	Jericho Jude Jherzielle CFCA
Choirs						

NEXT WEEK: 16 August 2026 - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time- A

	7:00pm	7:00am	8:30am	10:00am	12:00pm	6:00pm
Commentator 1st Reader 2nd Reader	Grace S L Antonietta C Milo P	James J Frances R Richelle C	Perly C Rukmal M Kumudu M	Nelissa D Jennifer G Greza P	Vernon A Evelyn N Tami M	Celine T Cyril V Andrea C
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Nick S L Della J Paul M George E	Kurt C Stefan P	Teo C Ronald D Hilda D S Greg G	Julie Ann M Alvin G Nonie G Anna C	Candida D S Toniette S Maria Sulfaro Emman C	Roland D Ric M Joe C Michael D
Altar Servers	George E	Tony Cilia AHFI	Adrian D A MWf with LHM Sisters	Henry Oliver Fawaz Emmaus	Raphael P Rey S Arielle Mary Ann Lea Lapid	Jericho Jude Jherzielle Exxemoz
Choirs	Light of Jesus (LOJ)					

Feast of Santa Maria Assunta
Programme :

Friday, 14 August 2026

6:15 PM - Confession in Maltese and English

6:30 PM - Recitation - Holy Rosary and Flower offering by the faithful to Santa Maria

7:00 PM - Holy Mass

President: Fr Felimon Libot, CMF

Choir: MWF

Sunday, 16 August 2024

Holy Mass : 2pm

President: Bishop Rene Ramirez, RCJ, DD

Choir: Eucharistic Choir

Please check flyer in the foyer of the church for programme information.

Parish Renewal Program. Discover

The rich biblical foundations and deeper meaning of the Holy Mass.

Sunday, 23 August, 3pm-5:30pm in the church. All welcome.

Come and Join. SPC Bible Study

SPC Evangelisation Team would like to invite you to an online Bible study.

Every Wednesday, 7:30pm

Contact Hilda 0450 006 316.

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS

WEEK . Please pray for our priests today in thanksgiving for their ministry and presence in our community. Please pray for the religious who do so much in pastoral care, education, health care and many other ministries. Pray also that the saints may inspire many vocations to consecrated life and priesthood, especially from our community.

A VOCATION VIEW

Why is it that we lack real trust when the Lord calls us?

We think we may drown, or have to give up too much, or fear failure.

These attitudes can help to strengthen our faith in the Lord.