



St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

One Family

5 William Hovell Drv, Endeavour Hills 3802

T. 9700 3781 / F. 9700 6228

didi.karkas@cam.org.au

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/endeavourhills>



Twenty fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, 19-20 September, 2026

God wants to help people discover their worth, dignity, Pope Leo says

(from The Catholic Register Magazine)

Pope Leo continued a series of talks focusing on Gospel parables that give hope, focusing on "The Workers in the Vineyard" in the Gospel of St. Matthew (20:1-16), which reveals the equality of all the disciples in inheriting eternal life.

Pope Leo said it is "a story that fosters our hope," because "at times we have the impression that we cannot find meaning for our lives: we feel useless, inadequate, just like the laborers who wait in the marketplace, waiting for someone to hire them to work."

"The metaphor of the marketplace is very appropriate for our times, too, because the market is the place of business, where unfortunately even affection and dignity are bought and sold, in the attempt to earn something," he said. "And when we do not feel appreciated, acknowledged, we risk selling ourselves to the first bidder."

"Instead, the Lord reminds us that our life is worthy, and his wish is to help us discover this," he said.

The Lord, represented by the owner of the vineyard in the parable, wants to establish a personal relationship with everyone he meets, and he repeatedly goes out looking for "those who are waiting to give meaning to their lives," Pope Leo said.

"This tireless master, who wants at all costs to give value to the life of every one of us," even goes out toward the end of the workday to take on those who are still waiting, he said. This shows that "even when it seems we are able to do little in life, it is always worthwhile. There is always the possibility to find meaning because God loves our life."

The landowner pays each worker the same, even those who arrived late in the day and worked fewer hours in the field, because God believes "it is just that each person has what he needs to live" because he knows their dignity, the pope said.

"The story says that the laborers from the first hour are disappointed," Pope Leo said. "They cannot see the beauty of the gesture of the landowner, who was not unjust, but simply generous, who looked not only at merit but also at need."

The "payment" God wants to give is his kingdom, and he offers the same reward of a full, eternal and happy life to everyone without "rankings," he said. The Lord gives everything to everyone who opens their hearts to him.

But, he said, "in the light of this parable, today's Christian might be tempted to think, 'Why start work immediately? If the pay is the same, why work more?'"

Pope Leo said St. Augustine responded to that question in a sermon asking why would someone delay when God is calling with a promise that they know is a sure thing. The saint warned that people do not know when their time will come, and they should be careful because a delay might mean they miss out on what God wants to give.

"I would like to say, especially to the young, do not wait, but respond enthusiastically to the Lord who calls us to work in his vineyard," the pope said. "Do not delay, roll up your sleeves, because the Lord is generous and you will not be disappointed!"

It is by "working in his vineyard" that people find the meaning of their life, he said.

Do not be discouraged "even in the dark moments of life" when answers seem to be lacking, the pope told his listeners. "The Lord is generous, and he will come soon!"

Before the general audience, Pope Leo met with members of the board of directors of the National Italian American Foundation, which educates young people about Italian culture and history, as well as provides scholarships and other charitable assistance in both countries.

"A hallmark of many who immigrated to the United States from Italy was their Catholic faith, with its rich traditions of popular piety and devotions that they continued to practice in their new nation," he said. "This faith sustained them in difficult moments, even as they arrived with a sense of hope for a prosperous future in their new country."

"In an age beset by many challenges," Pope Leo prayed that their visit to Rome would "renew your sense of hope and trust in the future."

Masses

Monday
9am

Tuesday
9am Mass

Wednesday
7pm Mass

Thursday
9am Mass

Friday
9am Mass

Saturday
6pm Mass

Sunday
9am, 11am, 6pm

Reconciliation
Saturdays
10am—10.30am



ENDEAVOUR HILLS PARISH
Parish Support - Endeavour Hills

Parish Priest:
Fr Brendan Connell CP

Assistant Parish Priest
Fr. Tuan Paul Anh-Do CP
Fr. Cao Van Tri CP

Parish Staff:
Gillian Velupillay (Bursar)
Didi Karkas (Secretary)
Valerie Ferreira
(Safeguarding Officer)

St Paul Apostle North
Primary School
Ph. 9700 6068
Principal
Cathy Mason

St Paul Apostle South
Primary School
Ph. 9700 3663
Principal
Mr Paul Gleeson

St John's
Regional College
Ph. 9791 3366
Principal
Mr Tim Hogan

Readings for **NEXT WEEK**
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, 2026

First reading

Ezekiel 18:25-28

A reading from the book of Ezekiel

Thus says the Lord: "You object, O House of Israel! You say, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous person turns away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked person turns away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because that person considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die..

The Word of the Lord

be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths,
Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are in the God of my salvation

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old
According to your steadfast love remember me
for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!

Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way,
He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia alleluia
My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia

Gospel

Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I am going, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him

The Good News of the Lord

Second reading

Philippians 2:1-11

Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters:
If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete:

Reflection

"In what specific area of my life am I saying 'yes' to God with my words,
but leaving the field empty with my actions?"

We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.
St Paul Apostle safeguarding policies can be found on our website at
<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/endeavourhills> or in hardcopy in the Sacristy



PLAYGROUP is calling for help

Many of us may not be aware that we have a small play-group which runs on Thursdays between 10am to 11.30am in the Annexe for children aged between 0 to 5 yrs old. The group is run by mothers & grandmothers who generally also bring their child/grandchild with them. The children who attend this group will be accompanied by a parent/ guardian. We are looking for volunteers to assist co-ordinate and run the sessions on a roster. You will not be required to run the session every week. However, you will be required to comply to the Archdiocese's safeguarding policy, we will help you to obtain all the necessary documents.

If you think this is something that you are interested in taking part, please contact the parish office on 9700 3781 (Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm) and we will provide you with more information regarding this group.

SAFEGUARDING CORNER

How connection and belonging shapes children and young people's vulnerability online

eSafety presentations highlight online safety trends and issues for children and young people. This eSafety session aims to empower you with strategies to respond to emerging online risks and harms and support children and young people and their families to stay safer online.

Connection, identity, and belonging are powerful drivers for young people online, but they can also increase vulnerability. This webinar explores:

- the role of offline experiences in shaping vulnerability online
- why some young people are more at risk online
- strategies to support safer online engagement

about the presenter—eSafety Commissioner Team

Presented by a team member of the esafety Commissioner, Australia's independent regulator for online safety. They educate Australians about online safety risks and help to remove harmful content such as cyberbullying of children, adult cyber abuse and intimate images or videos shared without consent.

Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd respectfully acknowl-

edges all Traditional Custodians of the land and waters of Australia. We pay respect to their Elders, past and present, and young leaders of today and the future. ACSL commits itself to the ongoing work of reconciliation with our Aboriginal families and communities.

ACSL acknowledges the lifelong trauma of abuse victims and survivors and their families; the failure of the Catholic Church to protect, believe and respond justly to children and adults at risk; and the consequent breaches of community trust

The Catholic Community of St Paul Apostle Parish is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of young people, children and the vulnerable. We value the dignity of each individual and take responsibility for our role in keeping them safe. May our message be that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult.

TRIVIA NIGHT

Men's group is one of our long standing parish group. They meet once a month in the annexe. This year, they will be running a TRIVIA NIGHT on FRIDAY, 16 OCTOBER, 2026 at 7pm for 7.30pm start. This event will be at the South School Hall. There will be Raffles and Silent Auctions.

Tickets are \$20per-person (BYO nibbles and drinks).

You can come on your own or organise a table with your family/friends. It is a fun night while you can also test your knowledge.

For any inquiries and bookings, please contact Peter on 0418 345 576 or Rob on 0411 237 790



COMMUNITY AROUND US

Those with early Dementia and their carers are invited to come along to this FREE fun singing group which is led by professional singing teacher. The aim is encouraging social interaction with activities to aid memory retention. This activity runs every SECOND THURSDAY between 1pm-2pm at ANDREW CENTRE (2-6 Hanna Drv, Endeavour Hills) Ph. 03 9700 4944. Afternoon Tea provided

Readings:

25 Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A

Isaiah 55:6-9

Philippians 1:20-24, 27

Matthew 20:1-16

www.universalis.com

26 Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A

Ezekiel 18:25-28

Philippians 2: 1-11

Matthew 21:28-32

www.universalis.com

This weekend we pray for:

Those who are sick

Marie-Louise Harris, Christopher De Zilva, Ranjane Jeganathan, Cecil Harper, Peter Shaw-Dennis, Pendry Jackson, Irma Dias, Fr Chris Mithen CP, Mary Antoun, Anne McCallister, Neville Akom, Terry Gough, Cecile Potier, Mavis David, James Mendis, Oliver Mendis, Hector de Santos, Teariki Sword, Rui Manuel Campos, Ruby Reid, Dorothy Locke, Piper Anne Spriggs, Grace Sprigg, Ronella Tyrell **and All those in aged care or homebound with chronic health issues**

Those who have died

Geraldine Bernadette Meade, Edgar Tellis, Tonia Messina, Rekha (Rose) Arora, Danny Sugunasekera, Kerryne Carney, Denis Carlow, Stephen Chapman, Brett Daly, Marilyn Hedrich, deceased member of Do & Pham Families, for the intention of the giver **and all who are named in our church memorial book**

May they rest in peace



STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE CARD Present Envelope number (if known)

RETURN TO
St Paul Apostle Parish Office
5 William Howell Drive
ENDEAVOUR HILLS
VIC 3802

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Postcode: _____

Phone: _____ Mobile _____ My age group is: ☐ under 30 ☐ 30-39 ☐ 40-49 ☐ 50-59 ☐ 60-69 ☐ 70+

Envelopes

My Stewardship Pledge will be: \$ _____

every: ☐ week ☐ month ☐ quarter ☐ half year ☐ year

Or... Direct Debit from a nominated bank account

(Forms available from the Parish Office)

My Stewardship Pledge will be: \$ _____

every: ☐ fortnight ☐ month ☐ quarter ☐ half year ☐ year

Or...Credit Card

Please debit my Credit Card with the sum of: \$ _____

Every: ☐ month ☐ quarter ☐ half-year ☐ year

Name on Card: _____

Please
only
tick one



Expiry Date: ____ / ____

I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS AUTHORITY MAY BE CANCELLED IN WRITING AT MY OPTION

Signature: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

St Paul Apostle Parish Endeavour Hills MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST 2026

	Saturday—6pm	Sunday 9am	Sunday 11am	Sunday 6pm
1st Sunday	Riona Alveyn Lionel Alveyn Lien Phan	Mary Moore Nila Fernando Glenys Tran Rohan Wickramasinghe Jennifer Cunningham	Vianney Clark Antionette Gargano Stephen Herbert Binitha Mathews Patricia D'Souza	Anne Kankanige Peng Chee Vonny Lai
2nd Sunday	Gertrude Akom Mima Arena Carmeline Don Paul	Sig Romano Anabela Costa Aloma Pereira Folole Faleafa Rinku Arora	Dominque Maclou Sai Dilinger Naomi Falo Stephen Nasalio Santhanamary	Jenny Catania Brendan Keating Lakni Weerasekera
3rd Sunday	Celine Quinless Riona Alveyn Lionel Alveyn	Mary Moore Nila Fernando Dalreen Fernandes Jennifer Cunningham Sig Romano	Vianney Clark Antionette Gargano Binitha Mathews Patricia D'Souza Marie Claire Maillard	Vonny Lai Charlene Nheu Marg Keating
4th Sunday	Bernie Henstridge Lien Phan Celine Quinless	Aloma Pereira Michelle Boissezon Rohan Wickramasinghe Kyle Hoad Emma Hoad	Naomi Falo Dominque Maclou Lauren Rafferty Stephen Herbert Santhanamary	Mignonne Meerwald Swineetha Disanayake Jenny Catania
5th Sunday	Bernie Henstridge Carmeline Don Paul Mima Arena	Sig Romano Anabela Costa Nila Fernando Rinku Arora Kyle or Emma Hoad	Binitha Mathews Stephen Herbert Vianney Clark Patricia D'Souza Marie Claire Maillard	Marg Keating Peng Chee Jenny Catania

Please note that the above rosters are subject to the completion
of the required SAFEGUARDING documents and training

