

go into my vineyard too.” In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, “Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first.” So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. “The men who came last” they said “have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day’s work in all the heat.” He answered one of them and said, “My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?” Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.’

The Gospel of the Lord.
R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES’ CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.
P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.
R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Receive with favour, O Lord, we pray, the offerings of your people, that what they profess with devotion and faith may be theirs through these heavenly mysteries. Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
P. Lift up your hearts.
R. We lift them up to the Lord.
P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.
All: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour’s command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:
All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...
P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray...
All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.
P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said...
R. Amen.
P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.
R. And with your spirit.
P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.
All exchange a sign of peace.

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.
R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Ps 118:4-5

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Graciously raise up, O Lord, those you renew with this Sacrament, that we may come to possess your redemption both in mystery and in the manner of our life. Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.
P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.
R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

BE GENEROUS

Greed often dominates our world, interactions between global leaders and, sometimes, our own relationships. Today’s Gospel offers a different value system. Generosity is the Gospel standard that should dominate relationships. This teaching comes in the form of another parable from Jesus. The context would be familiar to Matthew’s audience, in a society dominated by injustice, hierarchy and poverty. In this world, unemployment was rife, as it is today. Workers in Jesus’ day would go to the village or town square to seek employment. In this setting, the landowner comes to the square to hire labourers for his vineyard with a promised day’s wage. The owner repeats the hiring practice at different hours of the day, even into the late afternoon. When it comes time to pay the wages of the labourers, the landowner begins with the last hired and pays them the full day’s wage though they have worked less hours. Those hired first complain that they should have been paid more. The landowner’s response summarises the main teaching point of the parable: ‘Why be envious because I am generous?’ Generosity rather than greed characterises this landowner. It is also a mirror of Jesus’ essential teaching. God is generous, not restrictive or calculating. This challenges a world governed by exactness and tit-for-tat thinking. God and God’s kingdom are characterised by generosity. God is generous toward us – and invites us to be generous toward others.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

20 SEPTEMBER 2026

MY WAYS ARE ABOVE YOUR WAYS. Those who had laboured in the vineyard all day were angry when the owner paid the latecomers the same wage. Like the story of the prodigal son, this parable reminds us that the kingdom of heaven is not characterised by our limited concepts of justice but by a compassion that knows no limits. May we not be envious at the good fortune of others but rejoice that we too are loved deeply by God.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.
P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.
P. Lord Jesus, you have revealed yourself as the way to the Father: Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.
P. You have poured out on your people the Spirit of truth: Christ, have mercy.
R. Christ, have mercy.
P. You are the Good Shepherd, leading us to eternal life: Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.
P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.
R. Amen.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father, / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

COLLECT

P. O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.
R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isa 55:6-9
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
My thoughts are not your thoughts.
Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.
The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18. R. v. 18
R. The Lord is near to all who call him.
1. I will bless you day after day / and praise your name for ever. / The Lord is great, highly to be praised, / his greatness cannot be measured. 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. The Lord is just in all his ways / and loving in all his deeds. / He is close to all who call him, / who call on him from their hearts. R.

SECOND READING Phil 1:20-24, 27
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians
For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring



me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

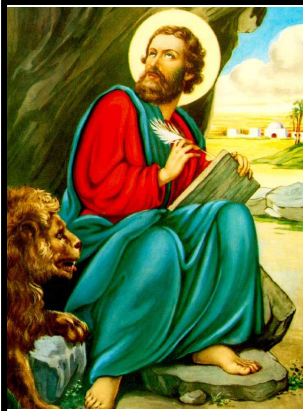
Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf. Acts 16:14
Alleluia, alleluia! / Open our hearts, O Lord, / to listen to the words of your Son. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 20:1-16
P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
R. Glory to you, O Lord.
Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, “You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage.” So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, “Why have you been standing here idle all day?” “Because no one has hired us” they answered. He said to them, “You



St. Mark's Parish, Fawkner

St. Mark's Parish is committed to the safety, well being and dignity of all children, people and vulnerable adults.

Parish Priest: Fr. Colin J. Xavier
Assistant Priest: Fr. Benneth Osuagwu
9 Lee Street, Fawkner, 3060
Phone: 9359 3111
Email: fawkner@cam.org.au
Website: <https://www.melbcatholic.org/fawkner>
Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 10:00am to 4:30pm

Principal: Peter Wilson
St. Mark's Parish School
118 Argyle St, Fawkner, 3060.
Phone: 8335 4100
Email: principal@smfawkner.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.smfawkner.catholic.edu.au

"I will not forget you... I have carved you on the palm of my Hand" (Is 49:15-16)

Weekday Mass Times:

Monday to Saturday: 9:00am.

Weekend Mass Times:

6:00pm: Saturday Vigil Mass.
10:00am: Sunday Morning Mass.
6:00pm: Sunday Evening Mass.

First Sunday of the Month:

Renewal of Marriage Vows.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 9:30am and 5:15pm.
Or feel free to phone Fr. Colin.

Every Thursday of the Month:

5:30 - 7:00pm: Hope Café (Free Dinner).

First Wednesday of the Month:

7:00pm: Baptism Preparation Meeting.

First Saturday of the Month:

10:00 - 11:30am: Working Bee.

Parish Advisory and Safeguarding

Committee: Fr. C. Xavier, Fr. B. Osuagwu, P. Wilson, A. George, L. Rahme, L. Grech, D. Abela, E. Bathan.

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH, MASS TIMES

Tuesday - Friday: 9:30am. Saturday: 5:30pm.
Sunday: 9:00am and 10:30am (Italian).



Are you planning a Marriage in the near future?

If so, in order to avoid disappointment, it is most important to first make an appointment with the Parish Priest prior to making any other bookings.



Do not leave your mobiles, purses, wallets, handbags unattended - others may think it is an answer to their prayers...

BEQUEATHING

Would you like to remember the Parish in your Will? Property, Money, Artwork, Plants...
There are many ways you can be remembered.

Do contact the Parish Office
(03) 9359 3111 for further information.
May God bless you!

ST. MARK'S CATHOLIC PARISH

A warm welcome to new parishioners.

Please let us know that you have joined our community and if there is anything we can do for you.



New to our Parish? ☐

Changing address? ☐

Need Thanksgiving Envelopes? ☐

Please Complete the details below and place in the collection plate at Mass or send to the Parish office.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

PARISH PRAYER

God our Father, bless this parish so that we may love you more.

Help parents to be good examples to their children and our youth to grow in strength as good Christians.

Encircle our families with your loving care.

To the sick and the weak grant health, to the aged bring serenity, and to those in sorrow, joy.

May we grow stronger in faith and may our love for one another become deeper in our daily living.

Amen.

QR CODE AND ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR THE THANKSGIVING PLEDGE



To make a thanksgiving payment, parishioners simply scan your MelbCatholic QR code with your mobile phone camera and follow a few easy steps. This QR code is unique to St. Mark's Church. Alternatively please make a direct transfer to our Parish Account.

Account Name: St. Mark's Church
BSB: 083-347
Account No: 825284554

Account Name: St. Mark's Presbytery
BSB: 083-347
Account No: 673272043

We thank you for your continuous support and help!



Next Weekends Rosters:

26th Sep (Sat):

6.00pm Reader: J. Degran.

Extraordinary Minister:

27th Sep (Sun):

10.00am: Reader: G. George & P. Betham.

Extraordinary Minister: M. O'Gorman & N. D'Souza.

6.00pm: Reader: B. Leeds.

Church Cleaning:

24th Sep (Thu) Team 1

A. Campana, S. Peiris & S. Watson.

Counters:

26th Sep: E. & A. Bathan, J. Degran.

29th Sep: L. Grech.

Thanksgiving: \$514(Env) \$715(Loose). Presbytery: \$216(Env) \$676(Loose).

Thank you for your generosity & support.



all that's missing is U!

Pilgrim Virgin: 8th September - Elizaga Family. 24th September - Garcia Family.

21st Sep (Mon): Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist.

23rd Sep (Wed): Memorial of St. Pius.

"NOT ALL OF US CAN DO GREAT THINGS. BUT WE CAN DO SMALL THINGS WITH GREAT LOVE."

HUMANITY'S FUTURE DEPENDS ON COLLABORATION IN BUILDING MORE HUMANE WORLD



Pope Leo highlights how recognizing the interconnectedness of people challenges us to "evaluate today's social and political projects based on the criteria of the dignity of the human person" with the goal of building a better world. He said everyone should be part of one family and treat each other as brothers and sisters. For this reason, 'love for God and neighbour is the first and greatest commandment' which found its full revelation and complete fulfilment in Christ.

The perfection of the human person and society's development must be held as "closely interdependent." The Pope warned that if they are set "against one another" or if they are separated, it "would be to render them meaningless." It highlights the diversity of people around the world as a resource for enrichment and growth rather than as a danger or a threat. Conflict, which can turn into violence, stems from the power of sin and the way it conditions mindsets and actions at every level, causing destruction and death.

The Pope encouraged everyone to be even more open to "the logic of reciprocity, sharing, and care." He concluded that this vision of humanity as a "community of people" is "a valuable legacy." For the future of humanity depends on each person's commitment to collaborate with God and with their brothers and sisters in building a more humane world."

CATHOLIC TECH LEADERS URGE ETHICAL BOUNDARIES FOR AI

Technology innovators said the faithful must harness AI for human dignity. Montse Alvarado, president and chief operating officer of EWTN News, spoke with industry professionals about the growing use of AI. Pope Leo framed the intensifying debate over AI with the May 25 launch of his first encyclical, Magnifica Humanitas. Tech leaders said AI is rapidly reshaping society and the Church, offering powerful tools for ministry while also requiring firm ethical boundaries, human-centered leadership, and faith-guided discernment to ensure the technology strengthens human dignity.

"There's a good side to that exponential innovation because it helps us get to the most vulnerable people faster," said Joel Chakra, president of Tim Tebow Foundation and venture capitalist in AI technology companies. It can really rob us of our true humanity, or it can enhance our lives. And the choice is ours, said Arthur C. Brooks, American author and academic who wrote the foreword to Magnifica Humanitas. Brooks said the technology can either diminish or deepen human dignity, depending on how it is used. He added that despite real concerns about job loss and disruption, he remains optimistic because humans are "unbelievably ingenious" and made to solve problems.

Vic Gundotra, former senior vice president at Google and a Catholic convert, said: "AI helped in my conversion to becoming Catholic. I was raised as a Jehovah's Witness and I had never read the early Church Fathers, but AI showed me what the Catholic Church taught was mirrored in the early Church Fathers." While AI shaped his own path to Catholicism, Gundotra also cautioned that the same technology can magnify human failings, and augment and worsen the worst human characteristics as well. He warned that AI carries real risks for young people and said parents still need to guide how it's used, noting that the technology is powerful but comes with clear downsides. "Boundaries are needed to help create the best use [of] technology. And the other way is through AI policies, ethics, and framework," Anderson said.

As we honour Saint Matthew, we also celebrate the Gospel itself. Matthew was but a human instrument; the content of his Gospel is the Living Word of God. Ponder the inestimable value of this Gospel that God has used to transform countless lives. By his simple obedience to the will of God, Saint Matthew's efforts have been exponentially fruitful and will continue to be so until the end of the age.

What's amazing is that Jesus approached Matthew, the sinner and tax collector, and confidently called him to be a follower. Most likely, Jesus could see into his heart. He knew Matthew was not happy with his life and was searching for more. Therefore, as soon as Jesus called him to follow Him, it is clear that something took place within Matthew's soul. The fact that he got up and followed our Lord shows that the spiritual draw to Jesus was far more powerful than his desire for earthly wealth. Look to the witness of Saint Matthew. He is a saint today because he responded to Jesus' invitation to abandon his life of sin and greed so as to follow Him in poverty. But in that worldly poverty and abandonment of earthly things, Saint Matthew became abundantly rich and will remain so forever in Heaven.

Next Weekend: We welcome a few couples from the Worldwide Marriage Encounter Group.

Vigil Mass: Mario & Nisha D'Souza.

Sunday morning: Richard & Pat Lim.

Sunday evening: John & Sheila Stafford

The Web address: WWME.ORG.AU

PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY ON SATURDAY 10th OCT 2026 PRAYING FOR OUR FAMILIES, STATE AND NATION.



Programme Starts With 9:00 am Holy Mass Followed by Eucharistic Procession and Praying the Rosary in the Garden. Everyone is invited to stay afterwards for light refreshments.



CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

76. What is original sin?

Original sin, in which all human beings are born, is the state of deprivation of original holiness and justice. It is a sin "contracted" by us not "committed"; it is a state of birth and not a personal act. Because of the original unity of all human beings it is transmitted to the descendants of Adam "not by imitation, but by propagation." This transmission remains a mystery which we cannot fully understand.

25. Synodality is demanding

Walking together takes patience, time, and effort. But the Gospel has never promised an easy path - only a fruitful one.



Applications are currently open for the following positions: **Pastoral worker:** St Joseph's Parish, South Yarra. **Pastoral Assistant:** Holy Trinity, Bentleigh East **IT support:** CDF - East Melb **Admin Assistant** - Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Thornbury. For details visit the Archdiocese website.

