

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.
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. O God, who graciously accomplish the effects of your mysteries, grant, we pray, that the deeds by which we serve you may be worthy of these sacred gifts. 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: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

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 cf. Ps 102: 1
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all within me, his holy name.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. May this divine sacrifice we have offered and received fill us with life, O Lord, we pray, so that, bound to you in lasting charity, we may bear fruit that lasts for ever. 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

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

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAULS

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

28 JUNE 2026

HARD SAYINGS. Today’s Gospel includes a number of so-called ‘hard sayings’ of Jesus. They identify the basic paradox of our Christian faith: it is only by emptying ourselves in imitation of Jesus (Phil 2: 7) that we can receive the fullness of life which is his gift (Jn 10: 10). There can be no real growth in the Spirit if self-interest prevails.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Ps 46: 2
All peoples, clap your hands. Cry to God with shouts of joy!

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.
All: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, (striking the breast) through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.
V. Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.
V. Christ, have mercy.
R. Christ, have mercy.
V. Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.

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 through the grace of adoption chose us to be children of light, grant, we pray, that we may not be wrapped in the darkness of error but always be seen to stand in the bright light of truth. 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.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

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.
R. Thanks be to God.

RESP 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.

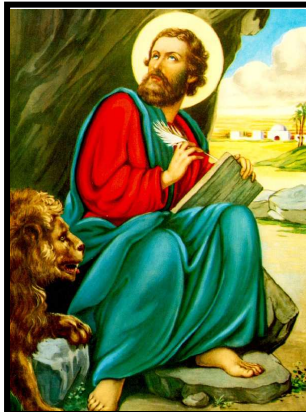
But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider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

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

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

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.
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



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

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

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. Colin Xavier, 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:

4th July (Sat):

6.00pm Reader: J. Degran.

Extraordinary Minister:

5th July (Sun):

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

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

6.00pm: Reader: B. Leeds.

Church Cleaning:

2nd July (Thu) Team 1
S. Peiris & N. Fernando.

Counters:

30th June: M. & N. D'Souza.
7th July: L. McGowan.

Thanksgiving: \$415(Env) \$962 (Loose). Presbytery: \$223 (Env) \$769 (Loose).

Thank you for your generosity & support.



all that's missing is U!



MONTH OF JUNE IS THE MONTH OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Pilgrim Virgin: 25th June - Cortara Family. 9th July - Morabito Family.

29th June (Mon): Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles.

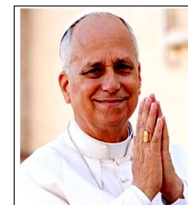
3rd July (Wed): Feast of St. Thomas, Apostle.

Next Weekend: Working Bee - Please come along and help around the Church.

Next Weekend: There will be a special collection towards Peter's Pence.

Those who are homebound and wish to receive communion please contact the parish office.

"LOVE BEGINS BY TAKING CARE OF THE CLOSEST ONESTHE ONES AT HOME."



POPE AT AUDIENCE: LET US BE TRANSFORMED BY THE EUCHARISTIC MYSTERY

The Holy Father reflected on the celebration of the Eucharist noting that this "sacred mystery" is described as "a sacrament of love, a sign of unity, a bond of charity, a paschal banquet in which Christ is received, the soul is filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory is given to us." He said when we participate in the Eucharist, we are invited to listen to the Word of God and to be nourished at the Lord's table, where He Himself offers Himself to the Father. In this perspective, he underscored, the Eucharist is the form of the spiritual sacrifice of Christians, it is the way of union with God and of mutual union.

During Mass, the Liturgy of the Word and the Eucharistic Liturgy "are so closely connected with each other that they form but one single act of worship." The Eucharist teaches us to adopt the very way of life of the Lord Jesus, marked by the free gift of self. "This gift," he said, "introduces us into the dynamic of unity, which offers a powerful antidote to the forces of division that undermine our world, our communities, our families, and our hearts."

"Whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me." Matthew 10:38. Pope Benedict XVI said "The world offers you comfort. But you were not made for comfort, you were made for greatness". "Comfort" puts me first. "Picking up your cross and following Jesus" puts God and others first. Why settle for comfort when you can achieve greatness! Pick up your cross, ask Jesus for guidance on using your gifts and live the life God intended for you!

*Sometimes we only say, "Thank You, Lord," when something big happens, when prayers are answered, or when life finally feels better. *

But God is also present in the small things we often overlook.

A simple meal.

A safe home.

A normal day.

Strength to work.

Waking up each morning.

They may feel ordinary, but they are still blessings from God's love and care.

When we start noticing these things, we learn to be thankful every day. We realize that God is always providing, even in the quiet and simple moments of life.

**"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." — 1 Thessalonians 5:18*

So let's normalize saying, "Thank You, Lord," even for the small things.

Because nothing is too small when it comes from Him.



Someone asked a Clown: Why do you wear a Mask?



The Clown replied: -
"Everyone Wears It.....
Mine Is Visible."

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

64. What kind of bond exists between created things?

There exist an interdependence and a hierarchy among creatures as willed by God. At the same time, there is also a unity and solidarity among creatures since all have the same Creator, are loved by him and are ordered to his glory. Respecting the laws inscribed in creation and the relations which derive from the nature of things is, therefore, a principle of wisdom and a foundation for morality.



CONGRATULATIONS Congratulations Jose and Aubrey on receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. May the Holy Spirit be with you to renew and strengthen you in your commitment to follow Christ.

SOLEMNITY OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL

Saints Peter and Paul are often referred to as two of the great "Pillars of the Church." They each played an incredibly essential role in the establishment of the early Church. Peter was a family man, a local fisherman, uneducated and quite ordinary. Jesus simply called him, and he responded. Jesus got into Peter's boat, ordered him to lower the nets, and produced a huge catch of fish. When Peter saw this miracle, he fell down at Jesus' feet and acknowledged that he was "a sinful man" who was unworthy of being in Jesus' presence. But Jesus informed Peter that he would from now on be catching men. Peter immediately left everything behind and followed Jesus.

Paul was not always Paul. He came out of Saul, the lamb out of the wolf. We recall the zealous Jew whose very life was consumed in tracking down Christians and having them persecuted. We remember the man whose understanding of religion was such that he considered Christianity to be abhorrent to God. Yet for some reason he was not to remain so blinkered. He saw the light. He was blinded by the reality of Christ's teachings and deep in his heart he was no longer Saul the persecutor, but Paul the fearless preacher and teacher of the faith. When he became Paul he could be used by God to the fullest.

STS. PETER AND PAUL



Peter's Pence is a gesture of communion and participation in the Pope's mission to proclaim the Gospel, promote peace, and spread Christian charity. This is a concrete way to support the Holy Father in his mission of service to the universal Church.



FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL 16th JULY, THURSDAY AT 9:00AM.

Novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel will begin 10 minutes before the Mass from Monday, 7th July to Tuesday 15th July. The Programme Flyers are placed in the Foyer.

15. A listening Church is a credible Church

In a world where many feel ignored or dismissed, a Church that listens becomes a sign of hope. Synodality teaches us that listening can heal wounds and rebuild trust.



Parents, you may not be serious about teaching your child about JESUS, But Satan is serious about destroying them.

THIS ISN'T A GAME...
THIS IS SPIRITUAL WAR.