

GOSPEL
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.

He leased his vineyard to other farmers.
Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, ‘Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. “They will respect my son” he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, “This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance.” So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’ They answered, ‘He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone.
This was the Lord’s doing and it is wonderful to see?

‘I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.’

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. Accept, O Lord, we pray, the sacrifices instituted by your commands and, through the sacred mysteries, which we celebrate with dutiful service, graciously complete the sanctifying work by which you are pleased to redeem us. 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: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection 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 Lam 3:25
The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
P. Grant us, almighty God, that we may be refreshed and nourished

by the Sacrament which we have received, so as to be transformed into what we consume. 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 in peace.
R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

A RICH ALLEGORY
Jesus continues from last Sunday to question the attitudes of religious leaders of his day and, by inference, those who assume religious leadership and authority in Matthew’s day.
Jesus’ teaching looks like a parable, but it is an allegory, where each element of the story represents historical events or figures. Its focus is another landowner (God) who plants a vineyard (the image of Israel), cares for it and leases it to tenants. At vintage time his servants (the prophets) go to collect the produce. But the tenants maltreat all those sent to collect the produce, even to the point of finally killing the son of the viculturalist (Jesus), the last emissary sent.
The parable is an allegory of salvation history, the story of Israel, the action of God to cultivate Israel’s goodness with the eventual rejection of God’s final emissary, Jesus. The allegory is not anti-Jewish. Matthew writes for a Jewish audience. The evangelist reflects on the mystery of Israel’s history and the failure of the Jewish leaders’ intent to do away with God’s final prophet and emissary, Jesus.
To repeat, Jesus’ death was the action of the religious leaders of his day and not the deed of the Jewish people. What happened to Jesus finds its parallel in the way the prophets of the Old Testament were treated. The key point of the story comes at the end: the Kin-dom of God will be ‘given to a people who will produce its fruits.’ That people is us.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR
A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAULS
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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A 4 OCTOBER 2026

THE FRUITS OF THE KINGDOM. The tenants in today’s Gospel had received much from the landowner who had established the vineyard. It was only fair that he should receive a share of the fruits of the crop. Likewise, we have received much from Christ whose grace produces in us the fruits of truth, goodness, purity, love, honour and virtue. We pay our dues to Christ when we share these fruits with others.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Esth 4:17
Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

GREETING
P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.
P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
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. You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.
P. You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy.
R. Christ, have mercy.
P. You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: 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. Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. 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 5:1-7
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.
Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave.

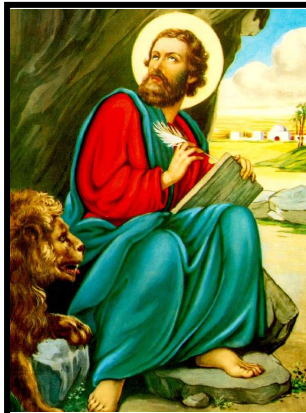
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead? Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.
The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.



RESP PSALM Ps 79:9, 12-16, 19-20. R. Isa 5:7
R. The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.
1. You brought a vine out of Egypt; / to plant it you drove out the nations. / It stretched out its branches to the sea, / to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **R.**
2. Then why have you broken down its walls? / It is plucked by all who pass by. / It is ravaged by the boar of the forest, / devoured by the beasts of the field. **R.**
3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, / look down from heaven and see. / Visit this vine and protect it, / the vine your right hand has planted. **R.**
4. And we shall never forsake you again: / give us life that we may call upon your name. / God of hosts, bring us back; / let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **R.**

SECOND READING Phil 4:6-9
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians
Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.
There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf. Jn 15:15
Alleluia, alleluia! / I call you friends, says the Lord, / because I have made known to you / everything I have learnt from my Father. / Alleluia!



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>

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

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 10:00am to 4:30pm

"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. Bathen.

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:

10th Oct (Sat):

6.00pm Reader: L. Peters.

Extraordinary Minister:

11th Oct (Sun):

10.00am: Reader: A. George & R. George.

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

6.00pm: Reader:

Church Cleaning:

8th Oct (Thu) Team 3
R. Caruana & V. Mandundu.

Counters:

6th Oct: L. McGowan.
13th Oct: M. & N. D'Souza.

Thanksgiving: \$412(Env) \$616(Loose). Presbytery: \$197(Env) \$524(Loose).

Thank you for your generosity & support.

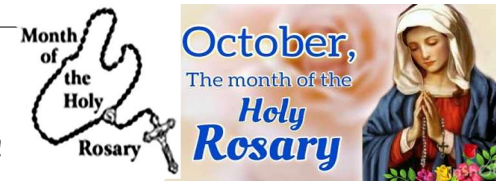
VOLUNTEER

all that's missing is U!

Pilgrim Virgin: 24th September - Garcia Family. 8th October - Stephan Family.

7th Oct (Wed): Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary.

This weekend there will be a Special Collection towards the Altar Society. Thank you!



"THE ONLY WISDOM WE CAN HOPE TO ACQUIRE IS THE WISDOM OF HUMILITY."



POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER: FOR MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

Let us pray that mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

Pope Leo in Lourdes: Pray Rosary in October for peace: As he prays the Angelus in Lourdes, France, Pope Leo urges Christians to pray the Holy Rosary for the intention of peace in the world and an end to conflict. He said he hopes all Christians will pray the Rosary especially during the month of October. Let us accompany this prayer with concrete acts of penance and mercy, committing ourselves always to fostering dialogue and reconciliation.



Lovely Lady Dressed in Blue

Lovely Lady dressed in blue

Teach me how to pray!

God was just your little boy,
Tell me what to say!

Did you lift Him up, sometimes,
Gently on your knee?

Did you sing to Him the way, Mother does to me?

Did you hold His hand at night?

Did you ever try, Telling stories of the world?

O! And did He cry?

Do you really think He cares

If I tell Him things, Little things that happen?

And Do the Angels' wings

Make a noise? And can He hear

Me if I speak low?

Does He understand me now?

Tell me for you know.

Lovely Lady dressed in blue

Teach me how to pray!

God was just your little boy,

And you know the way.

(Mary Dixon Thayer).

27. Synodality and Scripture

From Abraham's journey to the disciples on the road to Emmaus, Scripture is full of stories of God walking with His people. Synodality places us within that biblical story.



St Carlo Acutis relic visit to Melbourne's Maronite community



5th to 8th Oct 2026 in Thornbury, Dandenong and Greenvale. There will be Mass, Adoration, Talks, Veneration and Confession. For event details please visit: stcarloaustralia.com



Applications are currently open for the following positions:

Pastoral worker, St Joseph's Paish, South Yarra
Pastoral assistant, Holy Trinity, Bently East
Pastoral co-ordinator, St Paul's Pastoral Centre, Bently
Parish office administrator, Christ Our Light Parish, Cheltenham.

For further details please visit the Archdiocese website if you are interested in the above positions.

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

78. After the first sin, what did God do?

After the first sin the world was inundated with sin but God did not abandon man to the power of death. Rather he foretold in a mysterious way in the "Protoevangelium" (Genesis 3:15) that evil would be conquered and that man would be lifted up from his fall. This was the first proclamation of the Messiah and Redeemer. Therefore, the fall would be called in the future a "happy fault" because it "gained for us so great a Redeemer" (Liturgy of the Easter Vigil).

Those who are celebrating their Birthday and Wedding Anniversary this month - We wish you the most beautiful time with family and friends.



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.

PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY

The best way to reflect upon the power of the Rosary is to turn to the saints. Below you will find a number of sayings from the saints of God regarding the Rosary. Reflect upon them and let them speak to your heart:

- "Of all prayers the Rosary is the most beautiful and the richest in graces...love the Rosary and recite it every day with devotion." – **Saint Pius X.**
- "The Rosary is my favorite prayer. A marvelous prayer! Marvelous in its simplicity and its depth." – **Saint Pope John Paul II.**
- "Our Lady has never refused me a grace through the recitation of the rosary." – **Saint Padre Pio.**
- "The greatest method of praying is to pray the Rosary." – **Saint Francis de Sales.**
- "There is no surer means of calling down God's blessings upon the family... than the daily recitation of the Rosary." – **Pope Pius XII.**

"Lord, may I understand the power of this precious gift, the Holy Rosary. Give me the grace of making this part of my daily prayer."

GRATITUDE LEADS TO HUMILITY.....

For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted. Pride and ego are the root causes of most of our sins. Thinking your time is so valuable or your talent is better than anyone else or your money gives you status is another way of making those things "gods" before God. Pride is the opposite of humility. Remember, all that we have and all that we are is a gift from God. We should be humbled by God's incredible generosity and be grateful for all we have been given. Ultimately, gratitude leads to humility. Entitlement and pride make people believe they do not need God or others. Gratitude breaks this illusion by shifting the focus back to God as the ultimate provider.

