

GOSPEL Mt 11:25-30
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.
I am gentle and humble of heart.

Jesus exclaimed, ‘I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

‘Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.’

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. May this oblation dedicated to your name purify us, O Lord, and day by day bring our conduct closer to the life of heaven. 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 33:9
Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
P. Grant, we pray, O Lord, that, having been replenished by such great gifts, we may gain the prize of salvation and never cease to praise you. 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

COMFORT AND REST

At times life seems burdensome and overwhelming. Depending on where we live in the world or what’s been happening to us, this burden can be almost impossible to carry. Today’s Gospel offers us—and for those countless numbers in other parts of our world who are faced with suffering, starvation, even death—a consoling and necessary word. We are privileged listeners to Jesus’ prayer to the Father. It is, characteristically, in the style of a Jewish blessing prayer, given Matthew’s Jewish audience.

The prayer praises God for disrupting social favouritism in favour of children. These are the ‘little ones’ from last week’s Gospel. For Matthew, the socially unaccepted and rejected ones are those whom God blesses with wisdom and insight. This is divine revelation that comes from Jesus through his communion with God.

The final part of today’s Gospel is worthy of lingering contemplation. Jesus invites all who listen to the Gospel—and that includes us—to allow him to shoulder our burdens and concerns. He models for us how to be. He is ‘gentle and humble of heart’. The evangelist draws Jesus’ self-description from the wisdom writings of the First (Old) Testament. It is this wisdom in which souls find comfort and rest. It is a ‘yoke’ that is easy to bear. Into this welcoming and restful presence, we are invited in our Sunday celebrations of the Eucharist.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAULS
Unauthorised reproduction of this bulletin prohibited. Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 02 9394 3400 Email: sales@stpauls.com.au Scripture readings taken from The Jerusalem Bible, © 1966 Hodder & Stoughton Ltd. All rights reserved. Psalm text from The Psalms, A New Translation, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2026. No 775. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A 5 JULY 2026

MY YOKE IS EASY. During the Vietnam war a soldier once saw a boy carrying a child on his back. ‘He must be heavy,’ the soldier remarked. ‘He’s not heavy,’ the boy replied, ‘he’s my brother.’ Hopefully, we experience the yoke of Jesus as light and easy. Serving others and living the Gospel can be burdensome at times but it also brings freedom and joy to our hearts and rest for our souls.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 47:10-11
Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

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 in the abasement of your Son have raised up a fallen world, fill your faithful with holy joy, for on those you have rescued from slavery to sin you bestow eternal gladness. 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 Zech 9:9-10
A reading from the prophet Zechariah
See how humbly your king comes to you!

The Lord says this:
‘Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion! Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem! See now, your king comes to you; he is victorious, he is triumphant, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will banish chariots from Ephraim and horses from Jerusalem; the bow of war will be banished. He will proclaim peace for the nations. His empire shall stretch from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.’
The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 144:1-2, 8-11, 13-14. R. v. 1
R. I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God. (or Alleluia!)
1. I will give you glory, O God my King, / I will bless your name for ever. / I will bless you day after day / and praise your name for ever. **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. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, / and your friends shall repeat their blessing. / They shall speak of the glory of your reign / and declare your might, O God. **R.**



4. The Lord is faithful in all his words / and loving in all his deeds. / The Lord supports all who fall / and raises all who are bowed down. **R.**

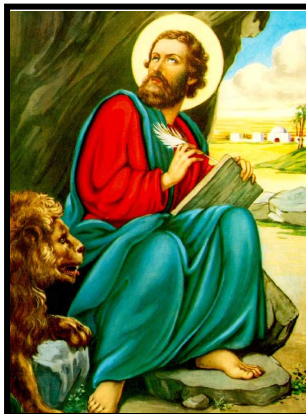
SECOND READING Rom 8:9, 11-13
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf. Mt 11:25
Alleluia, alleluia! / Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, / you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. / 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

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:

11th July (Sat):

6.00pm Reader: L. Peters.

Extraordinary Minister:

12th July (Sun):

10.00am: Reader: M. Raymond & T. Betham.

Extraordinary Minister: R. Mirabile, F. Cortara & G. Canfailla.

6.00pm: Reader: M. Pegorin.

Church Cleaning:

9th July (Thu) Team 2

A. Campana & S. Markus.

Counters:

7th July: L. McGowan.

18th July: J. Degran, E. & A. Bathan.

Thanksgiving: \$524(Env) \$788 (Loose). Presbytery: \$243 (Env) \$688 (Loose).

Thank you for your generosity & support.



all that's missing is U!

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

11th July (Sat): Memorial of St. Benedict.

This 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.

"TEARS ARE PRAYERS TOO. THEY TRAVEL TO GOD, WHEN WE CAN'T SPEAK."

POPE'S JULY PRAYER INTENTION: 'FOR RESPECT FOR HUMAN LIFE'



Pope Leo releases his prayer intention for the month of July, and invites Catholics to pray 'for respect for human life,' so all may 'recognize and protect the unique and unrepeatable value of every human being.'

The Pope said the Lord has created each of us in love and called us to live in fullness. He added: "Each person is a sacred gift that reflects your face from the first instant of existence to the final breath of their journey on earth." We ask for the grace to recognize and protect the unique and unrepeatable value of every human being. He expressed his wish that we learn to "welcome life unconditionally," to "tenderly care for fragility," to "accompany each stage with respect," and "to bravely defend those who have no voice."

Our Holy Father asked the Lord to forgive us when we fall into indifference or the culture of discard, and when we fail to see in others a being worthy of love. "Give us a new heart, always ready to choose life," he said, "and generous hands that protect it through concrete actions." The Pope prayed that the Lord help His Church become a living witness of the Gospel of life, "an open home where every life is celebrated, where no one feels unwanted, and where dignity is always honored and protected."

"The purpose of life is to contribute in some way to making things better."- Robert F. Kennedy.

A young man dedicated his entire life to getting to know the Deity whom he served. Year after year, he intensified his prayer and fasting and engaged in all kinds of ascetic practices with the sole aim of inducing God to reveal Himself to him. But to no avail. In his desperation, he asked a pious monk what he should do. The monk told him that there was a shrine somewhere in the mountains dedicated to the Deity. If he would make a pilgrimage to the shrine, the Deity would reveal Himself to anyone who asked. The young man set off and found the sanctuary. He prayed harder than ever before, but nothing happened. When he finally decided to give up, the Deity spoke to him without revealing Himself: "Return to where you came from. There is no answer to your request here, because I have hidden my name in the very hearts of your brothers and sisters! If you love and serve them, you will find me" (Martin Buber).

People today are stressed because of emotional, relational, and economic constraints, and they are searching for inner peace. They are desperate to breathe the air of freedom in their personal and family lives. We ourselves are wounded, and yet we are challenged to make a difference in the lives of others. **Whenever we come to Jesus with heavy hearts and burdens weighed down by worries and problems, He reaches out to us and heals us with His untiring love and forgiveness. That experience can lead us to bring healing to others. In that way, we become wounded healers.**

At my age, I'm good at multitasking. I can listen, ignore, and forget all at once.



CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

65. What is the relationship between the work of creation and the work of redemption?

The work of creation culminates in the still greater work of redemption, which in fact gives rise to a new creation in which everything will recover its true meaning and fulfillment.

16. Synodality and the margins

A synodal Church pays attention to voices often overlooked: the poor, the wounded, the disaffected, and those who feel distant from the Church. Their experiences matter, and their stories can teach us where renewal is most needed.



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



PETER'S PENCE

Peter's Pence Collection is a concrete way we as members of the Catholic Church, unite ourselves to the concerns of the Holy Father. Donations to this collection support the charitable works of Pope Leo for the relief of those most in need. It expresses the sense of belonging to the Church and love and trust for the Holy Father.

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 Tuesday, 7th July to Wednesday 15th July. The Flyers are placed in the Foyer.



The presence of Christ in our world and our lives is a friendship, companionship and love that gives peace to the restless hearts and hope and meaning in times of stress and trouble.

Childlike Faith "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones." Matthew 11:25. What a profound truth to understand! For many, if given the choice to be either a "little one" or "wise and learned" it can appear that being wise and learned is more attractive. The problem is that, according to Jesus, those who are little children are in fact far wiser and more learned than those who simply act this way.

Those who are childlike are the ones who have the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven revealed to them. They are given a special grace to penetrate the truths of God's inner life. This reveals, in part, the simplicity of God's inner life. God and His will are never confusing and complex. We may make Him seem confusing and, as a result, experience God's wisdom as overly complex. But in reality, the truth and beauty of God is only discernible by the simple mind who lives in a humble way.

One tendency we can all have is to spend excessive time and energy trying to "figure out God's will." We can think, and think and think, talk and talk and talk, and in the end remain in confusion about this or that. If you find yourself in this situation, of thinking too much and ending in confusion, then this is a sign that you may not be properly discerning the will of God and may not be allowing yourself to properly hear Him speak. **God speaks to us simply, clearly and only what we need to know, when we need to know. Therefore, it's important to always approach our Lord in a humble and simple way, waiting for Him to speak the simple and profound truth we need to hear in His time.**