



The Parish of St Matthew's North Fawkner
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XXIII Domenica del tempo Ordinario (ANNO A)

In questa pagina del Vangelo di Matteo vengono riferiti alcuni “loghia”, ossia alcune parole o sentenze, così come furono autenticamente pronunciate da Gesù. Esse sono poste all’interno del discorso elaborato da Matteo sul modo di comportarsi dei cristiani in seno alla comunità. Per comprenderlo, questo discorso deve essere collegato alla frase conclusiva della sezione precedente, in cui si afferma: “Dio non vuole che neppure uno di questi piccoli si perda”.
È un monito a chi dirige la comunità, di non escludere nessuno, senza prima aver tentato ogni mezzo per correggerlo dal suo errore o dal suo peccato. Niente, infatti, è più delicato della correzione fraterna. La regola data da Cristo per la vita e la conduzione della comunità è quella di tenere presente la gradualità del procedere. Ognuno deve lasciarsi guidare dalla preoccupazione di salvaguardare, con ogni cura, la dignità della persona del fratello.
Il primato è dato, perciò, alla comunione. Deve essere salvata ad ogni costo, perché la comunione è tale solo se mette in opera ogni tentativo atto a convertire il peccatore.
Se il fratello persiste nell’errore, non sarà il giudizio della comunità in quanto tale a condannarlo, bensì il fatto che lui stesso si autoesclude dall’assemblea dei credenti. Così avviene nella scomunica pronunciata dalla Chiesa; essa non fa altro che constatare una separazione già avvenuta nel cuore e nel comportamento di un cristiano.

(LaChiesa)

Matt 18:15-20, is a brief extract from the Fourth Discourse of Jesus in Matthew’s Gospel, the one regulating life within the community of the Church. In a way that is perhaps particularly comforting at the present time, the discourse recognises that the Church is not a community of the perfect. Allowance has to be made – and structures set in place – for dealing with moral lapses, dissensions and other failings that inevitably occur in a community still 'on the way' to the perfection of the Kingdom.

The community of Israel had structures in place for correcting and disciplining errant members. The procedure enjoined here reflects those structures (esp. Lev 19:17-18 ['you shall reprove your neighbour ... you shall love your neighbour as yourself']; Deut 19:15 [requirement of at least two witnesses]) but with the added sense of the Church as the family of God. The instruction to first try sorting a problem out in private, with a carefully staged progression of increasingly public procedures if that proves unsuccessful, is designed to preserve the dignity of the errant person. 'Going public', so to speak, is a last resort. The goal is not simply to win, but to 'win back your brother or sister', that is, to reach an outcome in a way that will enhance everyone’s sense of being a respected and valued member of the 'family'.

If, despite all, the process fails, then there is nothing to be done but 'to treat (the person) like a pagan or a tax collector', that is, to regard them as outside the community (like pagans) or as in the position of those who have set themselves outside the community (tax collectors). Here is a place where Matthew’s Gospel, for all its ultimate sense of a mission to the nations and stress upon Jesus’ celebration of God’s mercy in company with tax collectors and sinners, preserves the language of the Jewish scribal community.

(frtonyshomilies)

St. Matthew’s Parish Dinner and Parish Raffle

St. Matthew’s Parish will be holding a dinner to celebrate the feast of St. Matthew on Friday, 18th of September in the parish hall. Tickets are \$25.00 for adults / \$15.00 for children.
A raffle will also be held - tickets are \$2.00 each or \$20.00 per book. The raffle will be drawn at the dinner.
Entry tickets and raffle tickets are available for purchase before and after weekend masses., or, from the Parish Office.
The raffle prize list will be available on the noticeboard in the church foyer.

Air conditioners in the church

Work on the removal of the existing split systems and the installation of the new systems will commence in the near future. S&J Mechanical Electrical P/L have been assigned the responsibility of the project. The systems are expected to be installed and running by the end of September. There should be minimal disruption to weekday or weekend mass services. Voluntary donations are welcome.

The sick in our parish: Teresa Lamonaca, John Markis, Miriam Markis, Angela Barto, Sonia Taranto, Evelyn McDonough, Laurence, Monica Zahra, Cathy Taviane, Maria Mallozzi, Aiden Agius, Meldon Richardson, John Bussutil, Elda Taranto, Alfredo Pannunzio, Claudette McAllister, John Pannunzio, Maria Lester, Robert, Richard, Rosario Galati, Alice Abella, Estrelita Flores, Anna Boscaglia, Cleo Mallia, Theresa Beard, Remi Infanti, Christine, Vic Usher, Nidal, Peter, Sam Brady.

Recently deceased: Amelia Lazzaro, Juliana Varron Israel, Joseph Ranno, Giuseppe Tomeo, Nazarena Caruana, Jesus Ladera, Galdo, Felice Nania, Giovanna Failla, Mario Cutajar, Geoffrey Harris, Elvira Cutri

Anniversaries: Yousef Lebnan, Najibe Lebnan, Hanna Younan, Suleiman Younan, Louisa Younan, Salma Younan, Benedetto Pedi, Giuseppe Guglielmino, Sebastiano Guglielmino, Elizabeth Negline, Charles Debono

Mass times Weekday: Tuesday-Friday: 9.30 am. Wednesday: Novena mass 6.00 pm. Weekend Saturday Vigil mass 5.30 pm Sunday 9.00 am ; Sunday 10.30 (Italian mass) Reconciliation: Saturday: 5.00 pm. Bookings are essential. Contact the Parish Office	Rosters for weekend masses (September 12/13) Lectors: Saturday: 5.30 pm. J. Butera Sunday 9.00 am: L. Iaria 10.30 am: V. Burgio Bus driver: F. Inchincoli 
Melbourne Synod 2026 On the third Sunday of Lent, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli will formally convoke a Synod for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. The synod calls the Melbourne Church to journey together in communion, participation and mission, echoing Pope Francis’ vision of a ‘listening Church’ (<i>Evangelii Gaudium</i>, §31). Informed by Vatican II’s teaching, the Church is ‘a people made one with the unity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit’ (<i>Lumen Gentium</i>, §4). The synod assembly will be held across the weekend of 4–6 December 2026. Further information is available at : https://melbournecatholic.org/synod2026	
Jokes of the day Or would you be more like the woman who was bitten by a rabid dog, and it looked as if she was going to die from rabies. The doctor told her to put her final affairs in order. So the woman took pen and paper, and began writing furiously. In fact, she wrote and wrote and wrote. Finally, the doctor said, “<i>That sure is a long will you’re making.</i>” She snorted, “<i>Will, nothing! I’m making a list of all the people I’m going to bite!</i>” One New Year’s Eve at London’s Garrick Club, British dramatist Frederick Lonsdale was asked by Seymour Hicks to reconcile with a fellow member. The two had quarreled in the past and never restored their friendship. “<i>You must,</i>” Hicks said to Lonsdale. “<i>It is very unkind to be unfriendly at such a time. Go over now and wish him a happy New Year.</i>” So Lonsdale crossed the room and spoke to his enemy. “<i>I wish you a happy New Year,</i>” he said, “<i>but only one.</i>” <i>(frtonyshomilies)</i>	
Preghiera di San Matteo Dio nostro Padre, ti ringraziamo per tutti i doni che hai conferito sulla nostra famiglia parrocchiale. Concedici la Sapienza per cercare la tua volontà’ in ogni cosa. Circonda le nostre famiglie con la tua protezione amorosa. Dona salute e gioia ai nostri genitori, sapienza e coraggio ai nostri giovani e fede ed allegria ai nostri figli. Per intercessione di San Matteo, benedici perche’ diventiamo una famiglia piu’ fedele ed amorosa e di cuore e mente unici. Amen	St. Matthew’s Prayer God Our Father, we thank you for all the blessings you have bestowed upon our Parish Family. Give us the wisdom to seek Your Will in everything. Encircle our families with Your loving care. Give good health and happiness to our parents; wisdom and courage to our youth; faith and cheerfulness to our children. Bless us, through the intercession of St. Matthew, to grow stronger in faith and love, as a family of one heart and one mind. Amen
St. Matthew's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.	