

The Living Word

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

26 July 2026

First Reading 1 Kgs 3:5.7-12

You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97

(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more
to me
than silver and gold. (R.)
2. Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. (R.)

3. That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your
precepts:
I hate false ways. (R.)
4. Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:28-30

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

Gospel Acclamation See 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!



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

A burning rubbish tip in Jerusalem (Gehenna) provided Jesus with one image of Hell. Here is St John Henry Newman's image of Hell.

Have you travelled to a foreign country and can't speak the language? There would be lots of weeping and gnashing of teeth.

What if you were born with a good ear for languages, but had deliberately never learnt the language of that other place? You would only have yourself to blame. It would be a living hell.

That is what happens at death. The soul is suddenly transported to a different dimension of existence, and it can be either heavenly or hellish depending on the choices and actions of a lifetime.

So, our lifetime project is to 'learn the language of heaven'. We can mainly do this by following the story of Jesus, the Word of God, the perfect conversation between humanity and God.

We could pause for a moment to move from incommunicado to communion by learning and practising the language of Heaven.

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Gospel Mt 13:44-52

(or shorter form Mt 13:44-46)

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.'

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

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ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PARISH, KILMORE

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Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

26th of July 2026

REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

Pope Leo reminds us that 'the Lord continues to go before us in history, and the Church is called first and foremost to recognise his presence.' If we truly believe this, then we have our treasure already! But with it comes responsibility.

As the Pope points out, we are called to work for unity. 'Communion is never a result that is achieved once and for all,' he points out. Rather, 'it remains a daily conversion, which takes shape in prayer, and through concrete actions, relationships of trust, and a willingness to listen to one another.'

Similarly, we are called to work for the common good. This 'does not arise spontaneously,' he says, 'but requires shared responsibility.' For we Christians, the Pope adds, 'this takes on a very specific form: a synodal style at the service of the mission of the Kingdom.'

Elaborating further, the Pope highlights how 'synodality is an attitude, an openness, a willingness to understand.' It is an approach to serving the Kingdom, he reminds Church leaders, that helps us 'to listen to what is emerging in the Churches, to recognise the signs of hope that often grow in silence.'

[Quotes from Opening Address for the extraordinary consistory, 26 June 2026:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/speeches/2026/giugno/documents/20260626-concistoro-straordinario.html>]

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TRAINING SESSIONS FOR EUCHARIST MINISTERS AND MASS READERS

- Training for Eucharist Ministers - 25th July at 12 noon, Our Lady of the Way Church, Wallan.
- Training for Mass Readers - 15th August at 12 noon, St Patrick's Church, Kilmore.

(Please note: Change of venue—for those who have already been notified.)

This invitation is extended to any Eucharist Ministers and Mass Readers, who want to do a refresher course, you are also welcome to come along.

Synod Corner: Synodality and the Eucharist

The Eucharist is the heart of synodality. Around one table, many are gathered as one Body. What we celebrate sacramentally must shape how we live communally.

Melbourne Synod 2026 – Theme Paper Release

The Synod theme papers are an important step in our journey of listening and discernment as we prepare for the Melbourne Synod. The papers aim to foster a spirit of hope and imagination—trusting that, as we walk together, God is calling us into a future marked by faithfulness, renewal, and deeper communion. The suggested reflection process is a 'Conversation in the Spirit' or a Spiritual Conversation. This method is based in prayer and allows people to come together to both speak and to listen. Different from a discussion, it is an attentive listening process that aims to discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us. At the conclusion of each theme paper, there are prompt questions for reflection. Responses to these prompt questions can be provided via the QR code which is at the end of each paper. **Copies of these theme papers are available in church or online at <https://melbournecatholic.org/synod2026>**



CHURCHES

St. Patrick's, Kilmore

Our Lady Help of Christians, Broadford

Our Lady of the Way, Wallan

St. Michael's, Wandong

SUNDAY MASSES

Sat (Vigil)	5 pm, Broadford 6.30 pm, Kilmore
Sun	8.45 am, Wallan 10.45 am, Kilmore

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tue, Thu-Sat	9 am, Kilmore
Wed	9 am, Wallan
(Please note: out of school terms, Wednesday Mass will be at Kilmore)	

CONFESSION

9.30 am, Thursday morning during Adoration

DEVOTIONS

Adoration & Benediction

Thu 9.30 am, Kilmore

Divine Mercy Chaplet

15 minutes prior to each weekday Mass, Kilmore

Rosary

after each weekday Mass, and Sunday 8.20 am (Wallan) & 10.20 am (Kilmore)

DONATE

To support our Parish and Priests, scan the QR code with your phone camera to donate.



First Collection (Presbytery Support)

Presbytery Account
BSB 083 347 | ACC 684 632 382

Second Collection (Church Support)

Church Account
BSB 083 347 | ACC 672 646 971

St. Patrick's Parish is committed to safeguarding the safety, wellbeing, and dignity of children, young people, and adults.

PARISH DIARY:

Sat, 25 Jul: ST. JAMES, APOSTLE

9 am Mass, St. Patrick's Church
11am Baptisms, Our Lady of the Way Church
12 noon Eucharist Ministers Training, Our Lady of the Way Church
5 pm Mass, Our Lady Help of Christians Church
6.30 pm Mass, St. Patrick's Church

Sun, 26 Jul: 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8.45 am Mass, Our Lady of the Way Church
10.45 am Mass, St. Patrick's Church

Mon, 27 Jul: WEEKDAY, 17TH WEEK ORDINARY TIME

No Mass
4 pm RCIC Classes Lesson #2, St Patrick's Presbytery
7 pm St Vincent de Paul Society (Kilmore Conference) meeting, in the Our Lady of the Way Parish Centre

Tue, 28 Jul: WEEKDAY, 17TH WEEK ORDINARY TIME

9 am Mass, St. Patrick's Church
11 am Funeral of Brenda Elizabeth Sorraghan, St. Patrick's Church

Wed, 29 Jul: STS. MARTHA, MARY & LAZARUS

9 am Mass, Our Lady of the Way Church

Thu, 30 Jul: WEEKDAY, 17TH WEEK ORDINARY TIME

9 am Mass, St. Patrick's Church

Fri, 31 Jul: ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

9 am Mass, St. Patrick's Church
4 pm Confirmation Classes Lesson #2, St Patrick's Presbytery

Sat, 1 Aug: ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

9 am Mass, St. Patrick's Church
11am Baptisms, St. Patrick's Church
5 pm Mass, Our Lady Help of Christians Church
6.30 pm Mass, St. Patrick's Church

Sun, 2 Aug: 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8.45 am Mass, Our Lady of the Way Church
10.45 am Mass, St. Patrick's Church

VOLUNTEER ROSTERS:

	<u>25/26 Jul</u>	<u>1/2 AUG</u>
<u>BROADFORD 5pm (Sat):</u>	25 Jul	1 Aug
Reader	A. Putker	A. Leahy
EMHC	J. Dixon	C. O'Dwyer
<u>KILMORE 6.30pm (Sat):</u>	25 Jul	1 Aug
Reader	M. Fleischmann	R. Emmanuel
EMHC	C. Clancy	M. Fleischmann
PowerPoint	P. Duff	TBA
<u>WALLAN 8.45am (Sun):</u>	26 Jul	2 Aug
Reader	N. Ryan	P. Hutchinson
EMHC	A. Moore	G. Pannuzzo
EMHC	C. Banon	M. Hoban
PowerPoint	F. Thompson	R. Quinn
<u>KILMORE 10.45am (Sun):</u>	26 Jul	2 Aug
Reader	C. Dodd	TBA
EMHC	C. Mathew	L. Dunlop
PowerPoint	K. Curry	W. Reece
<u>FLOWERS:</u>	P. Duff	C. Eid
<u>HOME EUCHARIST:</u>	H. Clancy	J. Dixon
	P. Duff	M. Dixon
<u>CLEANERS KILMORE:</u>	L. Beaumont	G. Kim
	& C. Eid	

LET US PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

Anniversaries

Bob Griffiths, Mary Dove, Maria Galea, Doreen May Cameron, Paolo Scollo, Ann Harrigan, Mary Margaret Ryan, Alma Rowe, Adrian Giuarnera, Br. Oliver Clarke, Janet Rae, Patricia Doolan, Vicki Maher, Doris Farrugia, Joe Breda & Rita Dempsey and all anniversaries which occur at this time.

The Sick

Fr Prakash Cutinha, Pina D'Agostino, Theo Aitchison, Julie Ahearn, Bernadette McWhinney, Pa'i Su'a, Liam Heffernan, Nancy Ryan, Joan O'Brien, Michelle Chatfield and all people who are in need of our prayers.

PLEASE NOTE: Names in the sick list will remain there for 4 weeks.

If you wish for that person to continue to be prayed for, please advise the parish office again. If you are submitting the name of someone other than yourself and family, please obtain their permission.

World day for Grandparents and the elderly - 2026 : TREASURES IN OUR MIDST

"The love and wisdom of older generations are gifts to be treasured."

Have you ever stopped to think about how much our grandparents and older people in general have to offer? They have lived through many highs and lows, and each experience has given them something valuable to share. Their stories can make us smile, teach us important lessons and help us see life from a different perspective.

Many of them have spent years caring for their families, working hard and putting others first. Now, something as simple as sitting down for a chat, sharing a cup of tea or making a quick phone call can mean the world to them.

Our grandparents especially help us stay connected to our family's history. They pass on traditions, values and memories that remind us where we come from. Every moment spent with them is an opportunity to learn something new and create memories that will stay with us for years to come.

So, if you have an older person in your life, take the time to be with them. Listen to their stories, enjoy their company and let them know they are loved. Your time and kindness may seem like a small gesture, but to them it can bring great joy and remind them that they are cherished and an important part of our lives.

Heavenly Father, bless our grandparents and all the elderly with health and happiness.

***May their wisdom guide us and their love surround us. Grant them peace and joy,
and may we honour and cherish them always. Amen."***

(Source: <https://majellan.media/cherishing-our-elderly/>)