



SUNDAY 5TH JULY, 2026 14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. YEAR A Reflection on the Gospel (Matthew 11:25-30)

Today's Gospel begins with Jesus' prayer of thanksgiving to God. The verb "to thank" in this instance has connotations of blessing. In his prayer, Jesus contrasts those who consider themselves wise and intelligent with the truly wise ones, the "little ones" who know the daily struggle to survive, those to whom the secrets of God's empire have been revealed. The prosperity Gospel that affirms the acquisition of wealth is far removed from the words proclaimed by the Matthean Jesus. God's ways turn human expectations upside down.

The final verses of today's Gospel are among the best known and best loved in all of the Gospel tradition. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are heavy burdened and I will give you rest" is a lovely invitation. It is issued to those who are weary and burdened and that includes most of us at some time or another. We might hear it as addressed to the First Peoples of Australia, to African Americans, to Gazans, Afghanis, Sudanese, Ukrainians and so many others who are weary and burdened by waiting for justice.

The "rest" that Jesus offers is God's rest. It is not just relief from drudgery and hard work. In the biblical tradition, rest is *shabbat*. It is freedom from any sort of enslavement. It is freedom to remember God's goodness in creation. Rest time or *shabbat* is about making a space to contemplate the wonder of the galaxies, the wonder of life in all its forms and all its potentialities. God's rest restores life to our wearied spirits. It frees us to open ourselves to ever new possibilities and to be there for others. Spending a little time each day with a poem or a beautiful painting can be an experience of entering into God's rest.

"Take my yoke upon you..." is Jesus' further invitation. The same notion will be used when Jesus tells his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them...take up their cross and follow me." The "yoke" of Jesus, the cross that he will take up and the cross that his disciples are invited to bear are all of a piece. A yoke is a cross-beam or cross-bar. Jesus will carry his cross-beam to execution.

Disciples, in their turn, will carry their cross-beams, figuratively if not literally. They will not be weighed down or burdened by this prospect of the "yoke" which Jesus speaks is "easy". How can this be? The answer lies in the final invitation: "Learn of me, for I am gentle and humble of heart."

In Matthew's beatitudes, the gentle are said to be blessed. There is nothing weak about the gentle ("meek" is not a helpful translation). The non-violent methods of the gentle are infinitely more effective in restoring creation than the violence of so many who present themselves as "wise and intelligent". God's "rest" is the source of their power as well as the source of our power.

By Sr. Veronica Lawson, RSM

DEATHS & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for **Mary Patterson**
who died recently
and for **Rosita Sanchez-Kelly**
whose anniversary
occurs at this time.



SYNODALITY REQUIRES HUMILITY

Walking together means recognising that no one has all the answers. Synodality invites humility—from leaders and from communities—so that the Spirit can guide us beyond our limitations.

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-10

A reading from the prophet Zechariah

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.

Responsorial 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.

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: Romans 8:9, 11-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

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: Matthew 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!**

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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. Should 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

NICENE CREED

**I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
He came down from heaven, *(All bow)*
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right
hand of the Father. He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Communion Antiphon: Ps 33:9

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

What's in a Name?

A name is much more than a label—it expresses who we are and what we stand for. Just as parents carefully choose a name for their child, we too have the important task of choosing a name for our new parish.

While our churches and school will continue to be known as St Augustine's, Corpus Christi, and Annunciation, our newly amalgamated parish will need a new name and identity. That name should honour our history while expressing the mission and future we are building together.

Some of the newly formed parishes have chosen names such as Holy Family, Trinity, Christ the Light, Our Lady of Pentecost, and Our Lady of All Nations.

As we continue our journey of prayer and discernment, we invite everyone to reflect on what God is calling us to be. During our first round of consultation, one message came through clearly: people value the strong sense of welcome and belonging in our parish communities. Now we ask: Who do we want to be in the future?

Over the weekends of 4–5 July and 11–12 July, we invite parishioners to suggest possible names. When considering a name, please keep these principles in mind:

It should have a biblical or scriptural foundation.
It should reflect who we are and who we hope to become.
It should be simple, memorable, and easy to use.
It should be distinctive and not duplicate the names of recently established parishes.

Following our consultation, up to three proposed names will be submitted to the Archbishop by the Transition Team, who will make the final decision. We hope to present the full amalgamation proposal, including the results of our consultation, for his consideration in mid-August.

Please keep this process in your prayers as together we shape the future of our new parish community.

Fr Werner Utri

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL

Thank you to everyone who donated food and for your generous response to the collections taken up at all the Masses last weekend. \$2,429 was raised to support the work of St. Vincent de Paul.

Growing a Vibrant, Vital and Viable Parish

Over the next two weekends, parishioners are warmly invited to gather with Fr Werner and members of the Transition Team for our second round of conversations. As we gather, our focus will be on **Who we can become** as our parishes join together as one. Using a five-year timeframe, we will reflect on what we would like to do to support and strengthen our communities into the future. Together, we will consider the five characteristics of vibrant and vital parishes:

WORSHIP – liturgy

FELLOWSHIP – community and hospitality

SERVICE – outreach

FORMATION – proclamation and learning

EVANGELISATION – inviting new members

Following these conversations about **Who we can become**, we will also take some time to reflect on and discuss appropriate names for our new parish. Our churches will retain their current names.

You are welcome to attend whichever session best suits you. Each session will be held after Mass and will run for approximately **1 hour**.

Session dates and times:

- **Sunday 5 July – Annunciation Church, 8:45–9:45 am (following the 8:00 am Mass)**
- **Sunday 5 July – Corpus Christi Church, 11:45 am–12:45 pm (following the 11:00 am Mass)**
- **Saturday 11 July – St Augustine's Church, 5:45–6:45 pm (following the 5:00 pm Mass)**
- **Sunday 12 July – St Augustine's Church, 10:15–11:15 am (following the 9:30 am Mass)**

Please visit the parish website for further information. Feedback boxes are available at each church for your questions or contributions. Alternatively, you can email the parish directly at yarraville@cam.org.au.

CONFIRMATION INFORMATION NIGHT

**For Parents and Children
St. Augustine's Church Yarraville
Wednesday 15 July at 6pm.**

The Confirmation Program is about to begin and families need to register ASAP. Application forms can be found on the Parish website - www.melbcatholic.org/yarraville and returned to the Parish Office prior to the Information evening.

PARISH PRIEST:

Rev. Fr. Werner Utri

PARISH SECRETARY: Emilia Balkan

PHONE: 0401 158 113;

(03) 9314 7710

EMAIL: yarraville@cam.org.au

ST. AUGUSTINE'S OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays

9.30am till 2.30pm

PARISH WEBSITE:

www.melbocatholic.org/yarraville

SAFEGUARDING: Pat Mc Laughlin

patmac766@gmail.com

PARISH CHURCHES

ST AUGUSTINE'S

71 Somerville Road Yarraville

CORPUS CHRISTI

376 Geelong Road, Kingsville

ANNUNCIATION

4 Nolan Avenue, Brooklyn

For email copy of Bulletin



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LITURGY TIMES

TUESDAY MASS

St Augustine's....6.00 pm

Exposition: 5.30 –6.00pm

WEDNESDAY MASS

Corpus Christi.....9.15 am

THURSDAY MASS

St Augustine's...9.15 am

FRIDAY MASS

Corpus Christi....9.15 am

SATURDAY MASS

Corpus Christi....9.30 am

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

St Augustine's...5.00 pm

SUNDAY MASS

Annunciation.....8.00 am

St Augustine's....9.30 am

Corpus Christi...11.00 am

St Augustine's...11.30 am

(Polish)

RECONCILIATION:

SATURDAYS after 9.30am

Mass at Corpus Christi

St. Augustine's...4.15pm

NEXT ITALIAN MASS

On hold until further notice

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

The annual Peter's Pence collection supports the Holy Father in his mission of service to the universal church. A collection will be taken up on the weekend of **18/19 July** at each of the Masses.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION SERIES

Wed 08 Jul—

Can a Scientist Believe in God?

7pm-9pm at St James Church,

336 Derrimut Rd, Hoppers Crossing

This session will explore the so-called "conflict myth" between science and Christianity and examine how many scientists throughout history—and today—have understood scientific discovery and religious faith as complementary rather than contradictory.

Wed 15 Jul—Artificial Intelligence & Transhumanism:

A Christian Response

7pm-9pm at St James Church, 336

Derrimut Rd, Hoppers Crossing

Artificial Intelligence is rapidly changing our world. At the same time, movements such as Transhumanism envision a future where technology enhances, modifies, and perhaps even surpasses human capabilities. What do these developments mean for Christians? To help us prepare for these sessions, kindly register your attendance.

Email: hopperscrossingnorth@cam.org.au

**ABORIGINAL AND
TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER MASS**

Sunday 5 July 2026,

11am at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

2026 NAIDOC MASS

Sunday 12 July 2026

**11.00am at St. Francis' Church,
326 Lonsdale Street Melbourne,
marking the end of NAIDOC Week.**

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEK

4th & 5th July 2026

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

READERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm Greg Buhagiar

9.30am Andrea Wilberger

Sam/Anna

READERS: **Corpus Christi**

11am Val Taylor

Rachael Nguyen

MINISTERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm.....Kath Baker

9.30am..... Mary Joseph

MINISTER: **Corpus Christi**

11.00am..... Mary Huynh

COUNTING: Val Taylor

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK

11th & 12th July 2026

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

READERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm Kath Baker

9.30am Pina Guzzardi

Sam/Anna

READERS: **Corpus Christi**

11am Julianna Barr

Edith Fletcher

MINISTERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm.....Greg Buhagiar

9.30am..... Agnes Hopmans

MINISTER: **Corpus Christi**

11.00am..... Joe Fusca

COUNTING: Krystyna Biront

**SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL
VULNERABLE PEOPLE**

At Yarraville, Kingsville and Brooklyn, we hold the care, safety and well-being of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our communities. The Parish Statement of Commitment and Reporting Process are on display at the entrance of all the Churches and all Diocesan Policies are available on the website or at the parish office.
www.cam.org.au/Professional-Standards/Statements

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY - We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.