



SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER, 2026 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. YEAR A

Reflection on the Gospel (Matthew 20:1-16)

From 1973 to 1975, I was a student at the Ecole Biblique in East Jerusalem. Until women were admitted as resident students there in 1974, I lived at the Chaldean Patriarchate. Early each morning, I would cross the road from the Patriarchate and greet the Palestinian day labourers lined up beside their vehicles, waiting for employment in the vacant lot that divided Israel from occupied Palestinian territory. In the wake of the Yom Kippur War, these workers were living through hard times. In the morning, they were chatty and cheerful. Those who found work no doubt remained cheerful: they had the means to support their families and could find some meaning in their lives. Those still waiting for work at midday or later were dejected and shamed, not least by the prospect of returning home without the means to purchase their daily bread. Those who were hired found honour in the society and the means to sustain themselves and their families. Those who missed out on work suffered hunger, indignity and a sense of powerlessness. Confronted by this spectacle day after day, I began to understand the parable of the labourers in the vineyard.

In Matthew's parable, those who have worked all day grumble because the underemployed are made "equal" to them. Jesus makes it clear that people's worth is not to be measured in terms of their capacity for economic production.

Pope Leo XIII, writing in 1891 about the condition of the working class, echoes this aspect of the parable. Those who cannot find work and those who cannot work on account of disability or visa restrictions understand something of the experience of the Palestinian workers. Their needs are no less urgent than the needs of those who have productive and well-paid employment. Minimal social security benefits might address their basic material needs but are less than effective in addressing the underlying issues of human dignity.

Parables yield meaning differently in different contexts.

We may want to consider the corrosive effects of "envy". Faced with the dramatic disparity between rich and poor in our world, we may wish to raise questions about the concentration of wealth and power in the hands of the landowner. Those who are conscious of the plight of many of our First Nations People, of refugees or migrants, as well as those ineligible for benefits, may come with questions about "generosity" offered from a base of power over against equal access to Earth's resources.

In the face of climate crisis and the effects of war and pandemic, many of those who used to be safe in economic terms now find themselves with huge debts and diminishing security. Many in our world are every bit as desperate as the Palestinian day labourers, waiting in line as never before.

As we celebrate this third Sunday of the Season of Creation, we might accept the invitation of today's Gospel story to live in ways that promote quality of life for every one of Earth's inhabitants.

By Sr. Veronica Lawson, RSM

BAPTISMS

We welcome and pray for **Rima Khaldi** through the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

DEATHS & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for **Teresa Gornik** who died recently and for **Rocco Mafra and Rodney D'Souza** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

May they rest in peace.

The **Funeral for Teresa Gornik** will be at 11am at St. Augustine's next Thursday, 24 September.



SYNODALITY AND FAMILIES

Families are schools of synodality, where listening, patience, and forgiveness are lived daily. The Church learns synodality from family life.

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

The Word of the Lord.

(R.) Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18. R. v. 18

(R.) The Lord is near to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. **(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. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Philippians 1:20-24, 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake. Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

(R.) Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went

out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

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 118:4-5

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

POLISH MASS

Next Sunday 27th September the 11.30am Polish Mass has been cancelled due to celebrations at St. Bernadette's North Sunshine.

MASSES DURING SEPTEMBER

Fr Robin Lomangkok, CSsR will celebrate 5.00pm Mass on Saturday 19 September and on Sunday 20th September, Fr Trevor Tibbertsma will celebrate the 8.00am, 9.30am and 11.00am Masses. Please make them welcome.

There will be **no weekday Masses** during September.

Office Hours for September - Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays: 9.30am – 2.30pm

HOSPITALITY

All parishioners are invited to stay awhile after the **5pm and 9.30am Masses this weekend.**

Enjoy a Cuppa, catch up with friends, get to know and welcome more parishioners, offer to help serve tea/coffee, clear up.

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC DIGEST

Copies of the August/September 2026 magazine are free and available in the churches.

Take a copy home and read about news, stories and events from the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE ONLINE SERIES

Spirituality in a Secular Age:

Charles Taylor Meets Taylor Swift

Presented by Dr Amy Isham

Monday 12 October 2026, 7.00pm–8.30pm

Australia's 'spiritual but not religious' population is growing every year. In this first session of the Catholic Theological College's Engaging Your Faith series, we'll draw on Charles Taylor's *A Secular Age* to understand religious and secular faith in modern society and ask why a Taylor Swift concert might be someone's idea of 'church'.

Synodality in the Life of the Church:

History, Theology and Practice

Tuesday 13 October 2026, 7.00pm–8.30pm

Presented by Rev Dr Max Vodola

This session will explore the history of synodality in the Church beginning with early synods and ecumenical councils. Vatican II was the recovery of a "conciliar" ecclesiology, which, with Pope Francis and the Australian Plenary Council, developed into a new appreciation of synodality. Pope Leo XIV has insisted that synodality is now "normative" in the Church.

Registrations (essential) close at 5pm two business days before each session. Cost: \$25 per session.

SOCIAL SERVICES SUNDAY - 20 September

Social Services Sunday is observed in the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne on the third Sunday of September.

It is an opportunity to give thanks, pray for and stand with the thousands of dedicated staff and volunteers who serve those who are poor, disadvantaged and marginalised in our communities.

At a time when more and more people are relying on the support provided by community service organisations, we acknowledge with gratitude all of Catholic Social Services Victoria's 40 member organisations, their 7,000+ staff and 15,000+ volunteers who bring their talents and diversity into the service of the social mission of the Church. The work they do to serve more than 300,000 Victorians each year is so important – especially when there are so many more in need. Social Services Sunday is an opportunity to bring prayerful focus to their work of service and justice.

What can we do to observe

Social Services Sunday?

- **Act** by giving your time, sharing your skills, making a donation, or advocating for people experiencing disadvantage.
- **Pray** for those people experiencing hardship, and for the staff and volunteers who accompany and serve our communities.

ST THERESA'S PARISH ALBION

75TH ANNIVERSARY

Sunday 4 October 2026, 10.30am–12.30pm

Everyone is warmly invited to help celebrate a major milestone. It will be a wonderful opportunity for past parishioners, students, families, and friends to reconnect with their history and rekindle special memories of St Theresa's School and church.

NOVENA MASS TO ST JOHN PAUL 11

Monday 28 September 2026,

**5.00pm–8.00 pm at St Leo the Great Church,
389 Mason Street Altona North.**

A novena is held on the 28th day of every month to St John Paul II to commemorate his visit to the parish and school in 1986.

Each celebration includes Mass, the novena prayers and benediction, followed by a time of fellowship. Everyone is invited to participate and to bring their families and friends.

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



Click QR Code

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEWMAN COLLEGE CHOIR CONCERT:

'TANGERINE' Sunday 20 September 2026, 3.00pm–4.00pm at the College Chapel 887 Swanston St. Parkville.

PERMANENT DIACONATE

Online information session

**Tuesday, 22 September 2026
beginning 7:00pm – 8:00pm ZOOM**

MARCH FOR THE BABIES

Saturday, 10th October at 1pm -
Treasury Gardens, Cnr Spring St and
Wellington Pde, Melbourne.
Wear pink and blue for the Babies.
www.marchforthebabies.com

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

**Engaging your faith –
October 2026 online presentations.**

COMMUNITY FAIR

**Corpus Christi School 10am - 4pm
Saturday 14th November 2026**

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEK

19th & 20th September 2026

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

READERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm Nic Fusca

9.30am Phillip Marques
Sam Polzella

READERS: Corpus Christi

11am Joe Fusca

Mary Huynh

MINISTERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm.....Frank Galea

9.30am..... Gerald Bain-King

MINISTER: Corpus Christi

11.00am..... John Santos

COUNTING: Krys Biront

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK

26th & 27th September 2026

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

READERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm Rose Thomas

9.30am Agnes Hopmans
Sam Polzella

READERS: Corpus Christi

11am Cass Pelino

AJ Pelino

MINISTERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm.....Mary Vella

9.30am..... Phillip Marques

MINISTER: Corpus Christi

11.00am..... Khanh Nguyen

COUNTING: Phillip Marques

FEAST DAYS DURING THE WEEK

- **Monday 21 September -**
St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist
- **Wednesday 23 September –**
St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)
- **Saturday 26 September –**
Sts. Cosmas & Damian

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Thank you to parishioners at Annunciation, Corpus Christi and St. Augustine's for your regular donation of food items placed in the churches each week.

In addition to **non-perishable food**, (cereal, long life milk, tea, coffee, milo, soup, pasta, pasta sauce, baked beans, spaghetti, tins of tuna, tinned fruit, rice, jam, biscuits), items such as **shampoo, soap, deodorant, washing powder/liquid, toothpaste and brushes** are also needed.

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.

**THERE WILL BE
NO WEEKDAY MASSES**

(MON TO SAT)

DURING

SEPTEMBER

at

St. Augustine's,

Corpus Christi

or

Annunciation

WEEKEND MASSES

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