



SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER, 2026 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. YEAR A Reflection on the Gospel (Matthew 21:28-32) World Day of Migrants and Refugees

As we celebrate the fourth and final week in the Season of Creation, we might ponder again the ways in which Earth cares for us and for all of creation. Vineyards have provided nourishment for countless families in the ancient Mediterranean world since about 10,000 BCE. It is not surprising then that the biblical record frequently references vines and vineyards and that the vineyard becomes a metaphor for God's "workplace".

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells the story of a father who sends his sons to work in the vineyard. One refuses and then reconsiders: this son has the courage to change his mind and engage in life. The second son agrees and then fails to do as his father requests: he is not prepared to make his contribution to family life and wellbeing.

These siblings find their counterparts in every age. There are those who make an art form of saying yes and failing to follow through with action: such people can seriously undermine the best of projects or plans. And then there are the slow starters, those who take time but eventually come on board.

Jesus' parable is a response to the Temple authorities who are angered by the "amazing things" he does and by the public recognition he receives from the children in the temple. Like the second son, the chief priests and elders profess to do the will of God, but their actions belie their words.

Jesus spells out the meaning of the parable in so far as it relates to the disjunction between what they say and what they do. They have rejected the prophet John who came to them "in the way of righteousness".

The tax collectors and prostitutes, "sinners" from the perspective of the authorities, accepted John's message, albeit belatedly like the first son, and are making their way into God's empire ahead of the guardians of the religious institutions.

Changing one's mind is often seen as a sign of weakness. For evidence of this, one has only to listen to the taunts in parliament when a political leader changes course in the light of new information.

Changing one's mind or one's course of action can be an act of great courage and humility, even heroism. This is particularly so if it involves abandoning a self-serving direction for the sake of justice or compassion or the "common good".

We have the example of those who refused to politicize the pandemic and chose rather to work for the common good across political affiliations: some paid a heavy price. Voluntary changes in behaviour come from a change of heart, from what the Gospel calls "*metanoia*", reconsidering.

There is always a cost in the pursuit of justice. Today's parable invites us to bring our actions into line with what we profess, no matter the cost. That is what it means to take up the challenge of working in the vineyard, in God's workplace.

By Sr. Veronica Lawson, RSM

DEATHS & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for those who died recently and for **Grgo Doblanovic, Peter Mai and Emma Magallanes** whose anniversaries occur at this time.



SYNODALITY IS NOT UNIFORMITY

Different cultures, communities, and parishes will live synodality in different ways. Unity does not require sameness.

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

The Word of the Lord.

(R.) Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm Ps 24:4-9. R. v. 6

(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus: His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are,

he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.

But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord. (R.) Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God. Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

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 118:49-50

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by
which you have given me hope. This is my comfort
when I am brought low.

MASSES DURING SEPTEMBER

Fr Robin Lomangkok, CSsR will celebrate all the
Masses this weekend. Please make him welcome.
We thank Fr Trevor and Fr Robin for celebrating the
Masses during September.

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

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

FAITH IN ACTION WITH MARTHA HENNESSY

Thursday 8 October, 5.30 – 8pm

An evening of conversation on faith, conscience
and non-violent action.

Location: ACU Mercy Lecture Theatre,
Building 404, Ground Floor, Room 9
115 Victoria Pde Fitzroy

Free event but Registration is essential.

ORDINATIONS AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

On Saturday 14 November, Deacons Dominic
Lawes and Rhys Lowther will be ordained to the
Priesthood at St. Patrick's Cathedral at 10am.

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC DIGEST

Copies of the free August/September 2026
magazine are available in the churches. Take a
copy and read about news, stories and events
from the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS & REFUGEES

Sunday 27 September

The theme for this year's
World Day of Migrants and Refugees is,
"Even Just One of These Children."

Its focus is on minors and young people affected by
migration and forced displacement, highlighting
children as the most vulnerable group in global
migration movements.

The World Day of Migrants and Refugees takes place
annually on the last Sunday of September and is an
occasion to express concern for different vulnerable
people on the move; to pray for them as they face
many challenges and to increase awareness about
the opportunities that migration offers.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE ONLINE SERIES

Engaging Your Faith is a series of short, online
presentations that invite participants to reflect on
what it means to be people of faith in the
contemporary world. Experienced academics from
Catholic Theological College present on a variety of
topics.

Session 3: Can a scientist believe in God?

Presented by Dr Christopher Mulherin

Wednesday 14 October 2026, 7.00pm–8.30pm

Many people say (or fear?) that God and science
don't mix. In faith-based schools, 60% of secondary
students say Christianity and science conflict. This
session is an introduction to the "conflict myth"
and will offer some clues about how to understand
the science–faith relationship as a harmonious
one.

Note: this is a repeat of a session offered
previously.

Session 4: Who Answers to Whom?

Canonical Accountability in the Life of the Church

Thursday 15 October 2026, 7.00pm–8.30pm

Presented by Rev Adi Indra

Accountability is fast becoming a defining question
for the Catholic Church today. This presentation
explores what accountability means in Church
governance: who exercises it, who is subject to it,
and how canon law gives it shape. The session will
draw on the Australian experience since the sexual
abuse crisis and the vision of the Synod for a
Synodal Church.

**Registrations (essential) close at 5pm
two business days before each session.**

Cost: \$25 per session.

PARISH PRIEST:

Rev. Fr. Werner Utri

PARISH SECRETARY: Emilia Balkan

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ST. AUGUSTINE'S OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays

9.30am till 2.30pm

PARISH WEBSITE:

www.melbrcatholic.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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**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

UPCOMING EVENTS

28 Sept: Novena St. Leo's North Altona

5pm – 8pm

4 October: St. Theresa's Albion

75th Anniversary, 10.30am – 12.30pm

Saturday, 10th October: 1pm

March for the Babies

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Engaging your faith (Online)–

1. 12 October: 7pm -8.30pm

Spirituality in a Secular Age.

2. 13 October 2026, 7.00pm–8.30pm

Synodality in the Life of the Church

COMMUNITY FAIR

Corpus Christi School 10am to 4pm

Saturday 14th November 2026

FEAST DAYS DURING THE WEEK

- **Monday 28 September** -
St. Lawrence Ruiz & Companions
St. Wenceslaus
- **Tuesday 29 September**
Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael,
Archangels
- **Wednesday 30 September** –
St Jerome
- **Thursday 1 October**
St. Therese of the Child Jesus
- **Friday 2 October**
The Holy Guardian Angels

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.

ROSTER FOR THIS 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

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK

3rd & 4th October 2026

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

READERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm Peter Matheson

9.30am Andrea Wilberger

Pina Guzzardi

READERS: Corpus Christi

11am Julianna Barr

Edith Fletcher

MINISTERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm.....Paloma Kelly

9.30am..... Agnes Hopmans

MINISTER: Corpus Christi

11.00am..... Nathan Lane

COUNTING: Les Vella

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.