



Jesus said to his disciples:

‘As the Father has loved me,
so have I loved you.

Remain in my love.

If you keep my commandments

you will remain in my love,

just as I have kept my Father’s commandments
and remain in his love.

I have told you this

so that my own joy may be in you

and your joy be complete.

This is my commandment:

love one another,

as I have loved you.

A man can have no greater love

than to lay down his life for his friends.

You are my friends,

if you do what I command you.

I shall not call you servants any more,

because a servant does not know

his master’s business;

I call you friends,

because I have made known to you

everything I have learnt from my Father.

You did not choose me,

no, I chose you;

and I commissioned you

to go out and to bear fruit,

fruit that will last;

and then the Father will give you

anything you ask him in my name.

What I command you

is to love one another.’

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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THE INCLUSIVENESS OF GOD

Our first reading from Acts today is an edited story of the encounter of Peter and Cornelius. It is worth reading the full episode of Chapter 10. What we have is enough to relate the momentous occasion when Peter, a Jew, enters the house of Cornelius, a Gentile. This is significant of itself, laying aside any impropriety. More than this, Peter declares that God shows no partiality. It doesn’t matter whether Jew or Gentile, anyone who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to God. Simultaneously with Peter speaking, the Holy Spirit came upon all the audience, Jews and Gentiles alike.

In John’s Gospel, Jesus begins: ‘As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you, remain in my love.’ This invitation to abide or remain in God’s love opens the command to love one another which is ever more poignant in light of the inclusivity of God. In this passage Jesus calls his disciples ‘friends’ and no longer servants, indicating the closeness of their relationship, their walking together and their collaboration in the work of Jesus. Yet we know even today there are barriers or hurdles that Pope Francis also acknowledges but urges us to find a way forward as a Church. ‘Abide in my love’ could be our mantra so the love of God is enacted to everyone we meet. How can we seek to be inclusive of all who seek God? How do we develop our ecumenical relationships and outreach to all those whom God desires to be welcomed?

Dr Rosemary Canavan

FIRST READING Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the gentiles also.

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. ‘Stand up,’ he said ‘I am only a man after all!’

Then Peter addressed them: ‘The truth I have now come to realise’ he said ‘is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.’

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, ‘Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?’ He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.’

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 97: 1-4. R. cf. v. 2

R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power. (or Alleluia!)

1. Sing a new song to the Lord / for he has worked wonders. / His right hand and his holy arm / have brought salvation. **R.**

2. The Lord has made known his salvation; / has shown his justice to the nations. / He has remembered his truth and love / for the house of Israel. **R.**

3. All the ends of the earth have seen / the salvation of our God. / Shout to the Lord all the earth, / ring out your joy. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Jn 4: 7-10

A reading from the first letter of St John

God is love.

My dear people,

let us love one another

since love comes from God

and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.

Anyone who fails to love can never have known God,

because God is love.

God’s love for us was revealed

when God sent into the world his only Son

so that we could have life through him;

this is the love I mean:

not our love for God,

but God’s love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14: 23

Alleluia, alleluia! / All who love me will keep my words, / and my Father will love them and we will come to them. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 15: 9-17

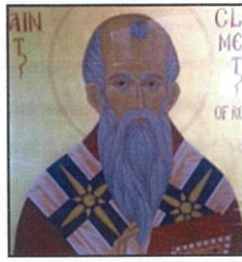
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.



St Clement of Rome Church

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<https://www.facebook.com/stclementsparishbulleen>
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Parish Priest : Very Rev Mark Reynolds EV (Episcopal Vicar for Catholic Schools)
 Mark.Reynolds@cam.org.au

Italian Chaplain: Fr Vito Pegolo (0419 736 890), **School Principal:** Mr Michael Watt (9850 1216)
Parish Secretary: Bernadine De Silva (9850 3262) **St Vincent de Paul Helpline** (1800 305 330)

Parish Vision Statement : Guided and inspired by the Holy Spirit, the Parish of St Clement of Rome seeks to be a community of authentic disciples of Jesus, living the Word of God. As a welcoming community, through humble service, we acknowledge our stewardship of God's creation and strive to promote the dignity of all God's people.

Welcome to St Clement of Rome as we celebrate the Sixth Sunday of Easter
 Today's theme is : No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends
 We invite you to reflect on this theme throughout the Mass.

Safeguarding Policy update

We are pleased to announce the release of the updated Safeguarding Policy Version 2. This revised document replaces all previous versions, including the Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and May Our Children Flourish Child Safety Code of Conduct. The updated policy is now available on our website. We encourage everyone to familiarise themselves with the changes to continue promoting a safe and nurturing environment for all members of our community. Thank you for your continued commitment to safeguarding.



Congratulations & Welcome to God's Family at St Clement's Parish
 Chiara Greco baptised this Sunday at 9am Mass



Safeguarding Training Session at St Clement's

Attention Parish volunteers (and potential volunteers)
 On Sat 18th May at 10.30am, the Archdiocese Eastern Region Safeguarding Officer, Brech Burgess will be conducting a safeguarding training session for our Parish. This session will run approximately 75 minutes and will cover safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults including the elderly. With this training, volunteers will be able to update their working with children check, complete code of conduct 2024 and the online training module. Please notify the parish office of your intention to attend by Tue 7th May.

Healing Service—Sun 19th May 5.45PM—7PM at St Gregory the Great Parish, Doncaster

With Fr Brendan Maria and Sisters of Daughters of Carmel. Eucharistic Adoration with intention of healing . Details on the notice board.

Parish Morning Tea this Sunday after 9am Mass

Please join us for morning tea this Sunday, immediately following Mass in the hall. Please note that going forward, morning tea will be held once a month on the first Sunday only. We encourage everyone to come along and enjoy a warm cuppa.

Annual Mass Count

The first Mass count will take place this weekend at all the Masses. Collectors at weekend Masses are kindly asked to compile the figures and complete the forms please. Thank You for all your support in collecting these statistics.

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS
 Mass Times: Sat 5:30pm (Vigil), Sun - 9am & 11am (Italian)
 Tues 9:15am (Italian), Wed-Sat 9:15am (unless informed)

Reconciliation: Sat 9.45am (and on request). Marian Devotions & Eucharistic Adoration : Sat 8.40am
 Baptisms: Welcoming (3rd weekend) & Baptism (4th weekend) every month. Weddings: By Appointment

PARISH DIARY

Thurs 9th May @ 9.15am—No Mass
 Fri 10th May @ 9.15am—Mother's day School Mass
 Sat 11th May @ 9am—ASRE Eucharist classes
 Sat 18th May @ 9am—ASRE Eucharist classes
 Sat 18th May 10.30am—Safeguarding meeting with Brech Burgess
 Sun 19th May at 9am—Baptisms
 Wed 22nd May @ 7pm—PPC meeting -parish office

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently, and for the repose of the souls of **Ken Cotterill, Franco Paolucci** and all those, whose anniversaries occur at about this time. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

After School Sacramental Program

The preparation classes for the Sacrament of Eucharist commenced last Saturday. Please visit our website to see the information about our program. Thank you



CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal

This weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal (previously held during the month of August). CatholicCare Victoria works with individuals, families and communities to build strength, resilience, and empowerment to reach their full potential. Your generous donation will help the most vulnerable members of our community – those facing unemployment and homelessness, those experiencing mental health challenges, families struggling with relationship problems, people in hospitals and prisons, newly arrived refugees, and those experiencing grief and trauma. **Please donate to CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal.** Your compassion and generosity will help the most vulnerable and marginalised in our community. You can donate using the appeal envelope available, donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9287 5513. All gifts of \$2 and above are tax deductible.

About Laudato Si' Week

Laudato Si' Week is a celebration held annually in **May** to mark the anniversary of Pope Francis' landmark encyclical on caring for creation. Sponsored by the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, this global celebration unites Catholics to listen and respond together to the cry of creation, rejoice in the progress we have made in bringing Laudato Si' to life, and intensify our efforts through the Laudato Si' Action Platform as well as other opportunities for education and action.

In Laudato Si' Week 2024, let us gather in community to contemplate the wonder of creation and nurture seeds of hope for our 'suffering planet' (LD 2).

Laudate Deum is a reminder about the urgency of the Laudato Si' message and the need for both personal and cultural transformation amidst our ecological and climate crises.

This year's Laudato Si' Week theme is inspired by the symbol for Season of Creation 2024, 'firstfruits'.

Let us be seeds of hope in our lives and our world, rooted in faith and love.

Covid 19 update : Following the latest Liturgical guidelines, Face coverings remain optional within Places of Worship. They are recommended in crowd settings. No vaccination requirements for attendees. Please check the government website for updated isolation rules.

LITURGY ROSTER		SAT 5.30PM	SUN 9.00AM
4 /5 May	Sacristan	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	Commentator	Jacinta De La Cruz	Rocco Gagliardi
	Reader	Rene De La Cruz	Mark Gregor
	Special Ministers	John Bruce	Shirley Pyndiah
		Martin Teh	Grace Cannatelli
		May Teh	Anne Fusca
11/12 May	Sacristan	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	Commentator	Rene De La Cruz	Mark Gregor
	Reader	Paul Sammut	Christine Landsberg
	Special Ministers	Martin Teh	Rita Gagliardi
		Enza Wilcocks	Fulvia Gerasolimo
		Warwick Wright	Gloria Ng

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL' EUCARISTIA
12/05	N BISOGNANO N DI MARZIO	FAM. B ROMANIN	L VETTORETTO G VETTORETTO

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently on this land.