

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mk 9:30-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according
to Mark.

*The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of
humanity . . . All who wish to be first must make
themselves the servants of all.*

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his
disciples made their way through Galilee; and
he did not want anyone to know, because he
was instructing his disciples; he was telling
them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into
the hands of men; they will put him to death;
and three days after he has been put to death
he will rise again.' But they did not understand
what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was
in the house he asked them, 'What were you
arguing about on the road?' They said nothing
because they had been arguing which of them
was the greatest. So he sat down, called the
Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to
be first, he must make himself last of all and
servant of all.' He then took a little child, set
him in front of them, put his arms round him,
and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one
of these little children in my name, welcomes
me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes
not me but the one who sent me.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

23 SEPTEMBER 2018

HUGGED BY GOD

Still cherishing hopes of sharing Jesus' messianic glory understood in purely conventional terms, the disciples are fixated on sorting out which of them will be "the greatest".

To counter this false ambition, Jesus takes a child from the house and sets it in front of them all. Then putting his arms around the child, he makes an extraordinary statement of self-identification: "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me".

To grasp the full force of this action, we have to put aside the idealisation of childhood that is actually rather recent in Western society. In the ancient world children were precious, no doubt, to their parents. But they had no social or civic status whatsoever; until adulthood children were nobodies.

Thus for someone outside the family to 'welcome' a child turns prevailing values upside down. It requires setting aside self-importance and adult status, and simply meeting the child as an equal. That, says Jesus, is what the disciples must "practice"—because in so doing they will be welcoming not only him but also the Father who stands behind his entire life and mission.

Here is a profound revelation of God's love. Jesus' gesture of hugging the child in front of all shows more powerfully than words could express the preciousness to God of each and every human life, no matter how small, how insignificant. We are all—in our 'littleness' rather than our achievement—in this moment hugged by God.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

FIRST READING

Wis 2:12, 17-20

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

Let us condemn him to a most shameful death.

The godless say to themselves,
'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since
he annoys us
and opposes our way of life,
reproaches us for our breaches of the law
and accuses us of playing false to our
upbringing.
Let us see if what he says is true,
let us observe what kind of end he himself will
have.

If the virtuous man is God's son, God will
take his part
and rescue him from the clutches of his
enemies.

Let us test him with cruelty and with torture,
and thus explore this gentleness of his
and put his endurance to the proof.
Let us condemn him to a shameful death
since he will be looked after – we have his
word for it.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 53:3-6, 8. R. v. 6

R. The Lord upholds my life.

1. O God, save me by your name; / by your
power, uphold my cause. / O God, hear my
prayer; / listen to the words of my mouth. **R.**

2. For proud men have risen against me, /
ruthless men seek my life. / They have no
regard for God. **R.**

3. But I have God for my help. / The Lord
upholds my life. / I will sacrifice to you with
willing heart / and praise your name for it is
good. **R.**

SECOND READING

James 3:16–4:3

A reading from the letter of St James.

*Justice is the harvest of peacemakers from seeds sown
in a spirit of peace.*

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you
find disharmony, and wicked things of every



kind being done; whereas the wisdom that
comes down from above is essentially something
pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and
considerate; it is full of compassion and shows
itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of
partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when
they work for peace, sow the seeds which will
bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between
yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the
desires fighting inside your own selves? You
want something and you haven't got it; so you
are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that
you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way
by force. Why you don't have what you want
is because you don't pray for it; when you do
pray and don't get it, it is because you have not
prayed properly, you have prayed for something
to indulge your own desires.

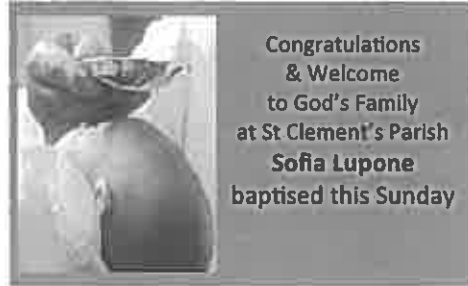
■ The word of the Lord.

St Clement of Rome Church

Address: Egan Drive, Bulleen 3105 - Phone: 9850 3262, Fax: 9850 2550
 Email: bulleen@cam.org.au, Web: www.stclementsparishbulleen.org.au
 Office Hours: Monday—Friday 9:00am-3:00pm



Parish Priest : Monsignor Franco Cavarra (Parish Office 9850 3262) or (Presbytery 9850 6073)
 Italian Chaplain: Fr Vito Pegolo (0419 736 890), School Principal: Mr Michael Heenan (9850 1216)
 Pastoral Associate: Cecilia Tan (9850 3262), Assistant Pastoral Associate : Franka Waters
 Parish Secretary: Bernadine De Silva (9850 3262)
 Clifton Centre: Mary Hansen (9850 1860) St Vincent de Paul Helpline (1800 305 330)



Congratulations & Welcome to God's Family at St Clement's Parish
Sofia Lupone baptised this Sunday

Plenary 2020

At St. Clement of Rome Parish, we have made a gentle but significant start to Plenary 2020 through:

- Open invitations to various workshops organized by the Archdiocese of Melbourne of which many have attended in order to be informed and prepared;
- Sending our Pastoral Associate, Cecilia to represent our Parish at the Proclaim 2018 Conference in Brisbane;
- Four repeated sessions each with specific emphasis to aid in our discussions and deliberations at the Parish;
- Disseminating the information electronically, via the Bulletin and Parish Website.

Please look at some of the responses we have had so far and add your thoughts in the book in the foyer. Also pick up an information sheet regarding Plenary 2020 from the Foyer.

Meditation & Prayer

Every first Saturday of the month. You are invited to come to pray and meditate to find some quiet rest in God especially when life gets too hectic at 10.30am in the Parish Office.

First Eucharist (ASRE)

Children from the ASRE program will be making their First Holy Communion this Saturday 22nd September at 5.30pm. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.

World Rosary day

Sunday 7 October 2018

Countries around the world are joining to hold Rosary Rallies across the world to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Together we are calling upon God, through the powerful intercession of Our Lady of the Rosary. Each nation has been asked to pray for its own intentions on the day. The Australian intentions for the world rosary will be family, rekindling of faith and continued Godly protection.

At St. Clement of Rome we will be doing the following:

- Pray the Rosary before Mass as usual.
- There will be a book for people to write down their specific intentions for their families located to the side of the sanctuary.

Sunday October 7 2018: The whole parish will come together to pray the Rosary at 10.15 am after the 9.00am Mass and before the 11.00am Mass. Refreshments will follow in the Clifton Centre on this special day.

You are further encouraged to pray the Rosary with your children and grandchildren. Leaflets on how to pray the rosary can be obtained from the foyer. Register your participation if you wish: <https://ozrosary.wixsite.com/ozrosary53/contact-us-and-participate>

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS

Mass Times: Sat 5:30pm (Vigil), Sun - 9am, 11am (Italian) & 6pm (Maronite Community Mass)

Tues 9:15am (Italian), Wed-Sat 9:15am. Eucharistic Adoration: Tues-Fri 8-9am (in the Chapel)

Reconciliation: Sat 10am (and on request). Marian Devotions: Sat 8.40am.

Baptisms: Welcoming (3rd weekend) & Baptism (4th weekend) every month. Weddings: By Appointment.

Death Anniversaries : Jozsef Aszthalos, Giustino Mariani, Anna & Bruno Sartor, Victorio Cavazza, Mary Zotti, Mario Colaluca, Michelle Maree Reardon, Rosario Marchese
 Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
 May they rest in peace. Amen

PARISH DIARY

Sun 23rd Sept @ 10am—Mario & Angela's Café
 Sun 23rd Sept @ 12.30pm—Baptisms
 Fri 28th Sept @ 10.30am—Craft & Prayer Group
 Thurs 4th Oct @ 7.30pm—RCIA Inquiry Night in the Parish Office
 Sat 6th Oct @ 10.30am—Meditation and Prayer in the Parish Office
 Sun 7th Oct @ 10.15am—World Rosary Day and refreshments afterwards

Collections Last Weekend
 1st Collection (Thanksgiving)
 Actual — 1,872
 2nd Collection (Presbytery)
 Actual — 921
 Many thanks & every Blessing!

RCIA

Have you ever wondered why we do what we do as Catholics? Or What it means to be Catholic? Have you questions about the sacraments, faith or prayer? Have you wondered about the place of suffering, conscience and the practice of faith? If you have these or other questions, then do come along to The Parish RCIA Evenings. These evenings are not confined only to those wishing to be received into the Catholic Church. If you know of any person(s) whom you can invite, why not invite and come with them to our next Inquiry evening on: **Thursday, 4 October 2018, from 7.30pm to 8.30pm in the Parish Office. All are welcome.**

Eat, Craft and Pray

The group meets once a month on the last Friday of each month to meditate, craft, eat and engage in friendly conversation in a supportive environment. It is open to ALL. Time: 10.30 am to 12.30pm in the Parish Office.

Mario & Angela's Cafe

This Sunday after the 9am Mass. All are welcome. If you attend the 11am Mass, please come early and join us for a cuppa.



Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver

Will hold their Annual Mission Fair on Sat 13 October 9.00am—3.00pm at 154 Cotham Road, Kew. This year the proceeds will go to help provide primary education and health services for 150 poor girls and 100 poor boys in the Catholic Sohag Diocese, Egypt. Enquiries : 9817 3715.

LEM PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DAY: 'BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO MOURN: RECOGNISING, EXPERIENCING AND ACCOMPANYING ON THE JOURNEY OF LOSS AND GRIEF'

Monday 8 October, 9am—3pm

St Joseph's Parish Centre, 274 Rouse Street, Port Melbourne
 This session aims to deepen our understanding of the range of losses people may experience; to gain a more informed awareness of the possible impacts of such losses; and to enhance and strengthen our manner in offering empathetic support to people in our ministry. The session will be facilitated by Nicole Rotaru rsm.

Cost: \$50 (includes morning tea and lunch)

Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/XLWK>

Details: Johanna Carroll at the Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation on 9926 5765 or ministry@cam.org.au

Liturgy Roster

	Sat 5.30pm	Sun 9am
22/23 September	Sacristan Rita Gagliardi	Francis & Gloria Ng
	COMMENTATOR Jacinta De La Cruz	David Mitchell
	Reader Rene De La Cruz	Rocco Gagliardi
	Special Ministers Linda Cultrera	Fulvia Gerasolimo
		Corinne Goh Gabiella Grande
		Jaqueline Kha Eleanora Masitti
		David Mitchell
		Pam Mitchell
		Gloria Ng
		Maria Papalia

29/30 September	Sacristan John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	COMMENTATOR Rene De La Cruz	Rocco Gagliardi
	Reader Paul Sammut	Mark Gregor
	Special Ministers Cecilia Lam	Elsa Waters
		Reg Lecordier Chris Zordan
		Maree Marsi Trish Atherton
		Grace Canatelli
		Anne Fusca
		Rita Gagliardi
		Gabiella Grande

DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL'EUCARISTA
30/09	N. BISOGNANO E. CASTRIOTTA	FAM. I. CICIRIELLO	G. BAGLIERI C. TRAVAGLINI G. FARFAGLIA

Sacramental Program 2018

All enrolments for the year are closed. Please register your interest for 2019 once the dates for 2019 have been organized.

The fee to cover all administrative and resource cost is \$200 per sacrament per child from 2019. Fees payable on enrolment through the Parish Office. Please see Bernadine who is in charge of accounts.

Enrolment forms can be downloaded from the website or collected from the Parish Office. All enrolment forms must be completed and submitted by the last date for enrolment.