

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

*I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth

whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans;

I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer see me;

but you will see me,

because I live and you will live.

On that day

you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them

will be one who loves me

and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,

and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

#### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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# Reflections on the Gospel



# THE SAVING WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

21 MAY 2017

## LOVE RECEIVED, LOVE SHARED

Pope Benedict XVI's first encyclical *Deus caritas est* ('God is love') points to the heart and reason for every reality – LOVE. Love is the primal image of God and the resulting image of humankind and its dignity.

The heart of divine revelation and of the Christian message is one and the same: LOVE – the love of God gratuitously given to us, and the love directed to human beings in response to that love. This is emphasised in Jesus' discourse at the Last Supper, of which today's Gospel reading is part. In this very intimate moment, Jesus gives his commandment: 'As I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples' (Jn 13:34-35). Love is the mark of Jesus' discipleship, and ours.

Pope Benedict explains the truth about God's love: 'God has loved us first and he continues to do so; we, too, then, can respond with love. God does not demand of us a feeling which we ourselves are incapable of producing. He loves us, he makes us see and experience his love, and since he has loved us first, love can also blossom as a response within us.'

In giving his commandment of love, Jesus promises a gift which will make this loving possible, namely the Holy Spirit who will act as comforter, guide, teacher, and defender. Love, ultimately, is the work of the Trinity: the Father shows his love by sending his Son, Jesus. The Spirit will teach the disciples of the sacrificing love of Christ, and empower them to respond to that gratuitous love by loving one another as Christ has loved them.

## FIRST READING

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.*

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESP PSALM

Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20. R. cf. v. 2

**R.** Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. (or Alleluia.)

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth, / O sing to the glory of his name. / O render him glorious praise. / Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! **R.**

2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow; / shall sing to you, sing to your name!' / Come and see the works of God, / tremendous his deeds among men. **R.**

3. He turned the sea into dry land, / they passed through the river dry-shod. / Let our joy then be in him; / he rules for ever by his might. **R.**



4. Come and hear, all who fear God. / I will tell what he did for my soul: / Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer / nor withhold his love for me. **R.**

## SECOND READING

1 Pet 3:15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

*In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.*

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

■ 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), **Pastoral Associate:** Mariangela Prib (9850 3262)  
**Parish Secretary:** Bernadine De Silva (9850 3262) **Communion to the Sick:** Trish Atherton (9850 2746)  
**Clifton Centre:** Mary Hansen (9850 1860) **St Vincent de Paul Helpline (1800 305 330)**

## Baptism Welcoming

This weekend, we welcome :  
**Joshua Gilligan**  
**Lachlan Gilligan**  
**Charlotte Langley**  
**Olivia Langley**

Please pray for these children and their families.

**PRIVACY:** As a Parish we are obliged to follow a Privacy Policy. We always have to be respectful of one another's privacy and need from time to time to remind ourselves about good practice. Many groups in the Parish are given phone numbers so that they can carry out the ministry in which they are involved. The practice is that those numbers should **only** be used for that one purpose. The phone numbers should not be passed on without the permission of the person concerned or used for promotions.

## 'Thank You' from Doncare

The St Clement of Rome, Bulleen, *St Vincent de Paul Conference* recently asked Parishioners to donate foods to help DONCARE replenish its depleted food pantry. The donations that you left on the Church altar over the weekends at the beginning of May resulted in several station wagons of foods being delivered to DONCARE.

The CEO of DONCARE has written thanking you for your donations. A copy of Doreen Stoves' letter is displayed on the Church notice board.

As the President of the SVDP Conference, I would also like to thank you for your generosity. Without your continued support the Conference would not be able to help the people we do.

John Bruce  
 President, SVDP Conference Bulleen

**Project Compassion Receipts :** are available from the table in the Narthex. Thank You.

## 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.

## Recently Deceased : Patricia Stroud

**Death Anniversaries :** Concettina Di Giovine, Antonio Mazzoca, Luisa Mazzoca, Gino Musumeci, John Brown, Giuseppina Matticoli, Ann Connell, Chiarina Marinelli, Bruno Scarmozzino, Elisa Rapone, Lisa & Karim Kahwagi, Carmelo Baglieri, Bernardo Pucci, Antonio Rigani, Albina Brufatto, Michele Castriotta, Soccio & Castriotta Family, Michele Soccio & Family, Fernando Saviane

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

*May they rest in peace. Amen*

## PARISH DIARY

Tue 23rd May @ 4.30pm—Confirmation Classes in the Parish Office  
 Wed 24th May @ 9.15am—Our Lady Help of Christians Grade 1 School Mass  
 Sat 27th May @ 10am—Hope Ministry in the Parish Office  
 Sat 27th May @ 5.30pm—Mass/Baptism  
 Sun 28th May @ 10am—Mario & Angela's Café  
 Sun 28th May @ 12.30pm—Baptism

**Collections Last Weekend**  
 1st Collection (*Thanksgiving*)  
 Actual — 2,414  
 2nd Collection (*Presbytery*)  
 Actual — 1,293  
*Many thanks & every Blessing!*

## Sacramental Program 2017

Enrolment for Confirmation 2017 for children attending state schools, is now closed. We cannot accept any enrolment for candidates until 2018.

Enrolment for first communion 2017 for children attending state schools : Last date for enrolment is 31 May 2017. We cannot accept any enrolment after this date, until 2018. Enrolment forms can be downloaded from the parish website.

## CONFIRMATION :

Parents' Information Session: Thursday 20th July 2017 @ 7.30pm

Commissioning Mass: Saturday 22 July 2017

Confirmation: 6 August, 2017 @ 2.30pm at St. Patrick's Cathedral

## FIRST EUCHARIST: TERM 3

Classes commence: Tuesday, 18 July 2017 @ 4.30pm-5.30pm in the Clifton Centre

Reconciliation before First Communion: Saturday 23 September 2017 @ 10.00am

First Communion for After School RE children: Saturday 23 September 2017 @ 5.30pm

The fee to cover all administrative and resource cost is \$150 per sacrament per child. 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

## Mario & Angela's Café

Next Café will be held on Sunday 28th May at 10am. All welcome.

## Visit from Little Sisters of the Poor on 27th/28th May weekend

**Masses 5.30pm & 9am :** Sister Josephine and Sister Veronika from Little Sisters of the Poor will be visiting our Parish and would like to speak about their mission and how we can assist them.

## We are in URGENT need of the following volunteers :

- 1) Projectionist—anyone wishing to operate the PowerPoint & Music for the weekend Masses Sat 5.30pm & Sun 9am.
- 2) PowerPoint presentation writers. Typing up the Mass on to the slides for weekend Masses.

Training will be provided to anyone interested. Please contact Mariangela at the Parish Office or leave your details on the clipboard provided in the Foyer. Thank You.

| Liturgy Roster | Sat 5.30pm                              | Sun 9am                        |
|----------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 20/21 May      | <i>Sacristan</i><br>John Bruce          | <i>Francis &amp; Gloria Ng</i> |
|                | <i>COMMENTATOR</i><br>May Teh           | Rocco Gagliardi                |
|                | <i>Reader</i><br>John Bruce             | Sylvie Duff                    |
|                | <i>Special Ministers</i><br>Cecilia Lam | Gloria Ng                      |
|                | Reg Lecordier                           | Maria Papalia                  |
|                | Maree Marsi                             | Elsa Waters                    |
|                |   | Chris Zordan                   |
|                |   | Trish Atherton                 |
|                |   | Grace Canatelli                |
|                |   | Anne Fusca                     |
| 27/28 May      | <i>Sacristan</i><br>Elroy De Witt       | <i>Francis &amp; Gloria Ng</i> |
|                | <i>COMMENTATOR</i><br>John Bruce        | David Mitchell                 |
|                | <i>Reader</i><br>Linda Cultrera         | Mark Gregor                    |
|                | <i>Special Ministers</i><br>Enza Wilcox | Rita Gagliardi                 |
|                | May Teh                                 | Fulvia Gerasolimo              |
|                | Martin Teh                              | Gabriella Grande               |
|                |   | Eleanora Mascitti              |
|                |   | Sylvia Mascitti                |
|                |   | Pam Mitchell                   |
|                |   | Maria Papalia                  |

## Thanksgiving Envelopes

Please note, your next set of envelopes for the period 4/06/2017—26/11/2017 will be available in the Foyer **next weekend**. Please let the Parish Office know if your circumstances have changed.

**Readers & Special Ministers,** please collect your new Rosters available in the Foyer. Thank You.

## Annual Anniversary Mass

Are you celebrating your 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, or 60<sup>th</sup>-70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this year? The Life, Marriage & Family Office invite you and your families to join us at the Annual Anniversary Mass. The Mass will be celebrated at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 30 July at 11am by Archbishop Denis Hart. Couples who register will receive commemorative certificates and packs. To register visit: [www.cam.org.au/lifemarriagefamily](http://www.cam.org.au/lifemarriagefamily) or contact the Life, Marriage & Family Office on: 9287 5587/ [lmf@cam.org.au](mailto:lmf@cam.org.au). Registrations close Friday 14 July.

## Liturgical Formation Workshop

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion during Mass**  
 This workshop offers biblical, spiritual and liturgical guidance for extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion during Mass. Thursday 15th June 2017, 7pm—9pm (light supper from 6.30pm) Cathedral Room, Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne. More Info : Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation—9926 5761 [evangelisation@cam.org.au](mailto:evangelisation@cam.org.au)