

GOSPEL

Jn 10: 11-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.

Jesus said:

‘I am the good shepherd:

the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.

The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd;

I know my own

and my own know me,

just as the Father knows me

and I know the Father;

and I lay down my life for my sheep.

And there are other sheep I have

that are not of this fold,

and these I have to lead as well.

They too will listen to my voice,

and there will be only one flock

and one shepherd.

The Father loves me,

because I lay down my life

in order to take it up again.

No one takes it from me;

I lay it down of my own free will,

and as it is in my power to lay it down,

so it is in my power to take it up again;

and this is the command I have been given by my Father.’

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / B

21 APRIL 2024

FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

One of the recurring themes in Acts is that of the apostles and disciples being ‘filled with the Holy Spirit’ which, in turn, finds expression in the boldness of their speech. As Peter addresses the rulers and elders, we observe his boldness in answering their query concerning the healing of a disabled person. Peter qualifies that he does this ‘in the name of Jesus Christ the crucified one whom God raised.’ He acknowledges that his power and authority come from God through Jesus Christ. He acts in the name of Jesus Christ; he heals as he did. His actions, and not just his words, are testament and witness to the one whom God raised.

The Gospel of John speaks of Jesus as the good shepherd, ‘the one who lays his life down for his sheep.’ This image of Jesus contrasts with that of the shepherds mentioned in the Old Testament who were bad leaders who led the people of Israel astray. It also interacts with New Testament writings that warn of false shepherds. Jesus, the good shepherd, can be trusted. He is the Son of God and not a hired hand. The focus of the passage is on Jesus as the one who laid down his life freely. In John’s account, we hear that Jesus has the power to take up his life again. This is possible, Jesus says, as it is ‘the command I have been given by my Father’ and it offers strong assurance of God’s power in Jesus, of his complete trust in the love of God and his own love for his sheep.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

FIRST READING

Acts 4: 8-12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

This is the only name by which we can be saved.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: ‘Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.’

■ **The word of the Lord.**

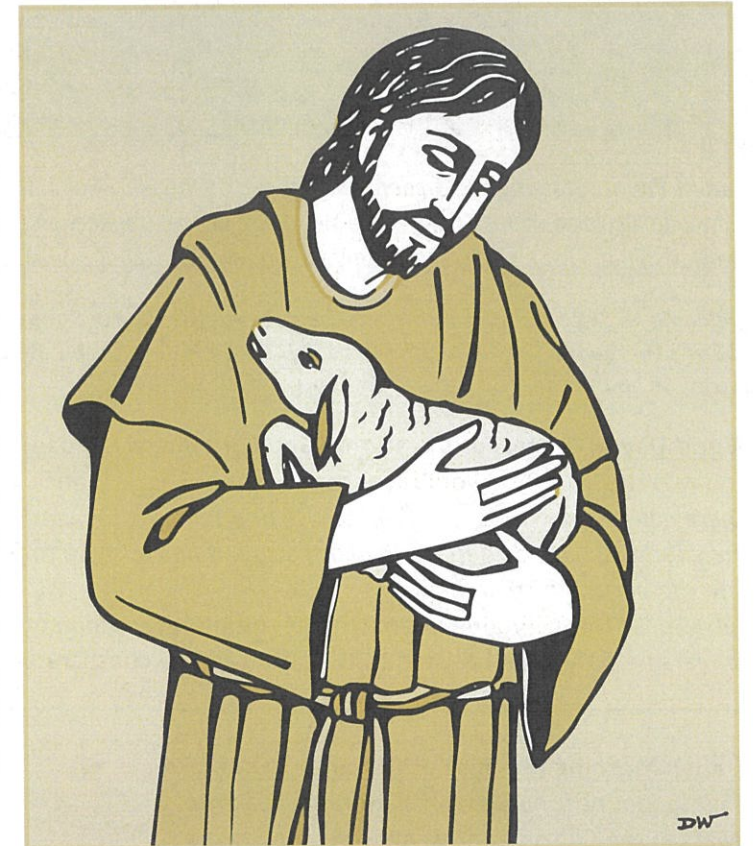
RESP PS Ps 117: 1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28-29. R. v. 22

R. The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone. (or Alleluia!)

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, / for his love has no end. / It is better to take refuge in the Lord / than to trust in men: / it is better to take refuge in the Lord / than to trust in princes. **R.**

2. I will thank you for you have given answer / and you are my saviour. / The stone which the builders rejected / has become the cornerstone. / This is the work of the Lord, / a marvel in our eyes. **R.**

3. Blessed in the name of the Lord / is he who comes. / We bless you from the house of the Lord; / I will thank you for you have given answer / and you are my saviour. / Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; / for his love has no end. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Jn 3: 1-2

A reading from the first letter of St John.

We shall see God as he is.

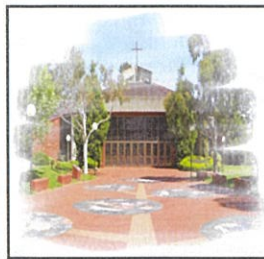
Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God’s children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 10: 14

Alleluia, alleluia! / I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; / I know my sheep, and mine know me. / Alleluia!



St Clement of Rome Church

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Email: bulleen@cam.org.au, Web: www.stclementsparishbulleen.org.au
<https://www.facebook.com/stclementsparishbulleen>
Office Hours: Mon (closed) Tue—Fri 9.00am-4.30pm



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 Fourth Sunday of Easter
Today's theme is : The Good Shepherd lays down his life for his sheep
We invite you to reflect on this theme throughout the Mass.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations (Good Shepherd Sunday)

Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pope Francis tells us:
There can be no greater joy than to risk one's life for the Lord! I would like to say this especially to you, the young. Do not be deaf to the Lord's call. If he calls you to follow this path, do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him.

Let us pray for the young people in our community, and in our families and circle of friends. May our prayers help them to be open to the Lord's call to consecrated life or priesthood.



Parish Morning tea this Sunday after 9am Mass

Please join us for a delightful morning tea after Mass in the Clifton Centre. All welcome.

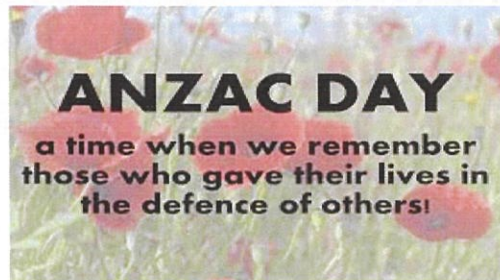


A prayer request

You might know of a young person in the parish, in your family or an acquaintance whom you think would make a good priest or religious. Why not pray for them by name on a regular basis? Carry them with you 'spiritually' to Mass on Sunday and place them on the altar at the offertory. Sometimes the Lord uses us as his instruments to encourage vocations.

Pledge to Pray

The Vocations Office in Melbourne has partnered with some others in a project, 'Pledge to Pray' - an on-line platform for individuals to pledge prayers for vocations. It is based upon the idea of the 'Invisible Monastery'. I invite you to 'pledge a prayer' for vocations at www.pledgetoprayer.com.au this is a site dedicated to encouraging prayer for vocations in Australia.



Anzac Day Mass will be celebrated at 9.15am

Information session for the Permanent Diaconate

Will be held on Sat 4 May 2024, 10—11.45 am at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), 278 Victorian Parade, East Melbourne.

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

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.

PARISH DIARY

Sun 21st Apr @ 9am—Baptism & morning tea in the Clifton Centre
Tue 23rd Apr @ 7.30pm—Finance Committee Meeting in the parish office
Wed 24th Apr @ 6pm—Baptism preparation in the parish office
Thurs 25th Apr @ 9.15am—Anzac Day Mass
Fri 26th Apr @ 9.15am—School Mass (Gr 6 & Prep) & Reconciliation for Gr 6 .

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently, **Orlando Di Battista** and for the repose of the souls of **Salvatore Proietto, Susan Foley** 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 will begin on the Sat 27th April. Please visit our website to check out the full list of class dates and other information.



Catholic Theological College
Sign up for one of 9 short, online sessions.
Engaging Your Faith: May 2024
Theology, Scripture, Meditation, Spirituality, Science & Faith.
Choose what interests you from \$25 per session.
For more information and to register:
ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/

URGENT: VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

CO.AS.IT is an organisation which is funded by the Department of Human Services & the Commonwealth Government. The organisation is currently looking for Italian speaking individuals who are willing to volunteer one hour per week to visit an elderly person who is lonely, socially isolated and in need of some companionship. By assisting an elderly person on a social level, you have the chance to make a difference to someone's life. If you are interested or require further information, please contact Tania Barbaro on 0481603702. Please note that we require Volunteers who are fully vaccinated against Covid19. Continuing support is provided.

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
20/21 April	Sacristan	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	Commentator	May Teh	Yamna Taouk
	Reader	John Bruce	Grace Cannatelli
	Special Ministers	Elroy De Witt	Anne Fusca
		May Teh	Rita Gagliardi
		Martin Teh	Fulvia Gerasolimo
27/28 April	Sacristan	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	Commentator	John Bruce	Grace Cannatelli
	Reader	Jacinta De La Cruz	Rocco Gagliardi
	Special Ministers	Martin Teh	Maria Papalia
		Enza Wilcocks	Gloria Ng
		Warwick Wright	Maria Papalia

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL' EUCHARISTIA
28/04	I ROMANIN E CASTRIOTTA	FAM. G CASSINI	T RECINELLA J FAGGION

Join Catholic Mission online to honour Mother Mary during the month of May through praying the Rosary.

THE WORLD MISSION ROSARY
Come together in Faith: One Family in Mission

World Mission
May Rosary Prayers

Mon - Fri
Time: 2pm Brisbane / Melbourne time
12pm Perth time
Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://tinyurl.com/cmprayer>
Meeting ID:
893 8798 2280
Password:
876574

GO AND INVITE EVERYONE to the banquet