

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead? Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of Hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/: The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 4:6-9

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise.

Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 21:33-43

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son" he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'have you never read in the scriptures: It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see? 'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'



Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Cheltenham

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Pastoral Associates: Frances North, Christine Dunne

Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

3rd / 4th October, 2020



A form of the parable of the wicked tenants is found in each of the synoptic gospels. It may be that the original story has been lost because by the time it found its way in to the gospel tradition it had been "allegorised". Simply put, an allegory is a story in which different elements are identified as having a specific meaning. This contrasts with the most authentic parables where it is an unexpected ending that discloses meaning and generates insight. In today's version of the parable it is clear that we are intended to see the landowner as God, the vineyard as Israel, the servants as prophets, the tenants as the Jewish authorities, and the son as Jesus. It is crucial to remember where in the gospel narrative this story appears. Jesus has already entered Jerusalem for the last time, and the conflict between him and the religious leaders has become intense and irreversible. We must also be mindful of the role this story plays in later years as the Christian and Jewish communities begin to part company and see themselves as rivals.

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PARISH OFFICE: 9583 6161
Monday to Friday 9 am – 3.30 pm
Secretary: Lisa Harris
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PARISH SCHOOL:
Our Lady of the Assumption 9584 9488
Principal: Mr Richard Jacques
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MASS TIMES:
SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

MASS TIMES:
Saturday 6:30 pm
Sunday 9:00 am, 11:00 am
Tuesday 6.00 pm
Wednesday 9.15am
Thursday, Friday 9.15 am
Saturday 9.00 am

COMMUNION SERVICE:
Monday 9.15 am

SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

RECONCILIATION:
Saturdays: 9.30am & 6pm

BAPTISMS: SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
Either during a weekend Mass or at 12.30pm on the 2nd Sunday of the month. 6 weeks' notice required. Please refer to our Guidelines for Infant Baptism and Application Form available on our parish website.

WEDDINGS: CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR MORE INFO
By appointment, 6 months' notice required. Saturdays or weekdays (not Sundays).
Contact the Parish Office: 9583 6161

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
3rd / 4th October, 2020

PRAYING FOR:

Monsignor Anthony Toms
...and all who died recently.

We also remember:

Brian Hodgson, Fred Hodgson,
Eileen Hodgson, Fr Peter James,
Fr Brian James, Philomena Alderton
...and all whose anniversaries occur about this time.

COVID RESTRICTIONS: Stage Four restrictions now apply. General Guidelines from the Archdiocese of Melbourne, (Update #17 : 28th September, 2020):
https://cam.org.au/wp-content/uploads/17-28Sept20-UPDATE-COVID_19-GENERAL-GUIDELINES.pdf

Broadcast & Online Masses:
11am Sunday Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral continues to be **televised live (free to air) on Channel 31** (Ch. 44 on Digital TV).
This Mass is also live-streamed on the Melbourne Catholic website: melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass
Pre-recorded Masses available online: cam1.org.au/Greensborough/Spirituality/Mass-Online or stsimonsparish.com.au/mass-videos or holyfamilydoveton.org.au/
Mass can also be heard on **Light FM (89.9 FM) every Sunday at 7am.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS for Daily Mass (Australian Liturgical Calendar) online: www.universalis.com/Australia/1000/mass
Navigate the daily Scripture readings for the week ahead using the right-hand column

CONGRATULATIONS: This time last we welcomed Fr Alan Fox as our new Parish Priest of OLA. During these unprecedented times he has prayed with us and for us. He additionally has taken on the responsibility of Parish Priest at St Agnes, and we pray that in the not too distant future he can celebrate Mass for both communities.

THE CHILD SAFEGUARDING

COMMITTEE: Fr Alan Fox, Caitlan Taig Lisa Harris, Tony French, Bernard De Robillard and Frances North, continue to work to ensure all volunteers have current Working With Children Checks. The safety of children and vulnerable adults is everyone's responsibility. Our Parish Policy is available to view on our Parish website.



THE SISTERS OF SAINT JOSEPH: are celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the canonisation of Saint Mary MacKillop by creating a commemorative prayer booklet to inspire us all to "**take fresh courage...**" as Mary did so often. These prayers share details of her personal journey, highlighting Mary's values and spirit, and offering prayers and blessings for our modern world. To order your free copy of '**Encountering St Mary MacKillop in Prayer**', please call 02 8912 2777 or visit: marymackilloptoday.org.au/prayer-book

VCE STUDENTS. We hold all VCE students in our hearts and prayers as they prepare for exams after a year which has seen the loss of many important steps in their rite of passage. We are producing a "roll" of students known to our community for whom we particularly pray. Please let us know if you would like a student's name included. If you would like a letter of support and prayer sent from the Parish, please include address in your email.

INVITATION TO ALL PEOPLE WHO PRACTICE MEDITATION: On the 4th October each year, we celebrate the feast of St Francis of Assisi (1181-1226). St Francis was a man of great love, especially for the poor, and for the Earth and its creatures. He was also an ambassador of peace. May his prayer become your prayer and a guide for the way you live. We invite you to inundate the world with the Energies of Love. People throughout the world, from different spiritual traditions and cultures, meditate as part of their spiritual practice. If all meditators, each in his/her own place and tradition, could do their meditation with one intention on one day, 4th October, we would generate a tidal wave of spiritual energy for the healing of the world.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

- St Francis of Assisi

