

Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

28 SEPTEMBER 2025

REVERSAL OF FORTUNE

We live in relative wealth and comfort, although we are aware of many who suffer from impoverishment and homelessness. We know that the wealthy get wealthier as the gap between the rich and poor grows. This is a global issue.

Today's Gospel reflects on this same issue characterised in a person of great wealth and another who is impoverished, hungry and sore-covered. He is called 'Lazarus'. The evangelist wants our sympathy to be with him. He is named and even attended to by God's creature, the dog, who seeks to heal Lazarus' sores. In contrast, Luke paints a picture of a nameless wealthy householder. He feasts daily, dressed in the garb of imperialism with a table overloaded with food, inaccessible to the famished Lazarus barred by a gate. Both die and the roles become reversed in the afterlife vividly portrayed. Lazarus is comforted by God; the other separated by a huge gulf in the flames of punishment. Even in this scene of the hereafter the man of wealth continues to look down on Lazarus and suggest he even be his servant, bringing water to quench his intolerable thirst.

The promise of comfort for those who suffer and the reversal of fortune for those of wealth echoes throughout the Gospel. This is the future that awaits everyone and is in God's hands. To those of high status and wealth in the Lukan household, the story would be heard as a sobering reminder of how to live generously, caring for those in need. Today's Gospel might also nudge us into action.

Fr Michael Trainor

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'There was a rich man who used to dress in purple and fine linen and feast magnificently every day. And at his gate there lay a poor man called Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to fill himself with the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even came and licked his sores. Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.'

'In his torment in Hades he looked up and saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus in his bosom. So he cried out, "Father Abraham, pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames." "My son," Abraham replied "remember that during your life good things came your way, just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted here while you are in agony. But that is not all: between us and you a great gulf has been fixed, to stop any crossing from your side to ours."

'The rich man replied, "Father, I beg you then to send Lazarus to my father's house, since I have five brothers, to give them warning so that they do not come to this place of torment too." "They have Moses and the prophets," said Abraham "let them listen to them." "Ah no, father Abraham," said the rich man "but if someone comes to them from the dead, they will repent." Then Abraham said to him, "If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead."

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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FIRST READING

Amos 6:1, 4-7

A reading from the prophet Amos

You who give yourself to licentiousness and revelry will be exiled.

The almighty Lord says this:

Woe to those ensconced so snugly in Zion and those who feel so safe on the mountain of Samaria.

Lying on ivory beds and sprawling on their divans, they dine on lambs from the flock, and stall-fattened veal; they bawl to the sound of the harp, they invent new instruments of music like David, they drink wine by the bowlful, and use the finest oil for anointing themselves, but about the ruin of Joseph they do not care at all.

That is why they will be the first to be exiled; the sprawlers' revelry is over.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 145:6-10. R. v. 2

R. Praise the Lord, my soul! (or Alleluia!)

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, / who is just to those who are oppressed. / It is he who gives bread to the hungry, / the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, / who raises up those who are bowed down. / It is the Lord who loves the just, / the Lord, who protects the stranger. **R.**
3. He upholds the widow and orphan / but thwarts the path of the wicked. / The Lord will reign for ever, / Zion's God, from age to age. **R.**

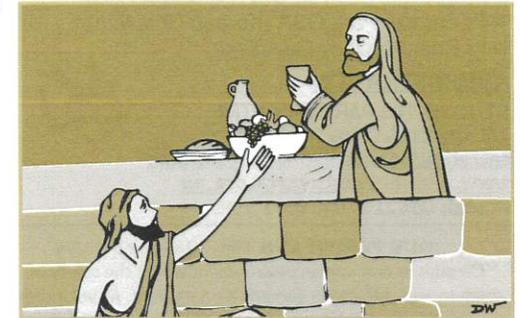
SECOND READING

1 Tim 6:11-16

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy

Obey the commandments until the coming of the Lord.

As a man dedicated to God, you must aim to be saintly and religious, filled with faith and



love, patient and gentle. Fight the good fight of the faith and win for yourself the eternal life to which you were called when you made your profession and spoke up for the truth in front of many witnesses. Now, before God the source of all life and before Jesus Christ, who spoke up as a witness for the truth in front of Pontius Pilate, I put to you the duty of doing all that you have been told, with no faults or failures, until the Appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,

who at the due time will be revealed by God, the blessed and only Ruler of all, the King of kings and the Lord of lords, who alone is immortal, whose home is in inaccessible light, whom no man has seen and no man is able to see: to him be honour and everlasting power. Amen.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Cor 8:9

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 16:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

During your life good things came your way just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted while you are in agony.



Est. 1887 **26th Sunday in Ordinary Time 28 September 2025**
St Joseph's Catholic Church, 30 Fitzgerald Street
St Thomas Aquinas' Church, 43 Bromby Street

In the Pastoral Care of the AUGUSTINIANS

- ▶ Fr Luca Park OSA Parish Priest
- ▶ Fr Michael Sullivan OSA Assistant Priest
- ▶ Fr Francis Park OSA (Korean Chaplain)
- ▶ Fr Brian Buckley OSA Prior

ADMINISTRATION

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OUR PARISH AND THE AUGUSTINIANS

Commit to creating an environment where the safety of children and vulnerable persons is paramount. All volunteers are required to have a Working With Children Check.

Pastoral and Administrative Support

- ▶ Stefphy Coosnapa (Parish Pastoral Assistant) ▶ Joel Sanchez (Business & Facilities Manager: Wed - Fri)
- ▶ Safeguarding: Stefphy Coosnapa ▶ Joel Sanchez (St Joseph's Outreach Services: Mon, Tues, Sat)
- ▶ Toni Stuart (Parish Secretary, Weddings & SJOS Volunteer Co-ordinator: Tues/Thurs/Fri)

Liturgical Calendar for the week commencing 28th September 2025

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Saturday 27th September	6.00pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 28th September 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.30am Mass	9.00am Mass
Monday 29th September St Michael, Gabriel, Raphael		
Tuesday 30th September St Jerome	10am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Wednesday 1st October St Therese of the Child of Jesus	10am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Thursday 2nd October The Holy Guardian Angels	10am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Friday 3rd October 26 th Week in Ordinary Time	10am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Saturday 4th October St Francis of Assisi	9.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass	



111th World Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees

We anticipate the World Day of Migrants and Refugees due to our celebration of the Season of Creation next weekend. The theme for 2025 "Migrants, Missionaries of Hope" is particularly apt at a time when the movement of people is so divisive and polarizing.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

St. Joseph's • 10.30am Mass
 Fourth Sunday of the month.
 (except school holidays and long weekends)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Joseph's • Sat: 5.10pm – 5.40pm, or by appointment.

ANOINTING / HEALING MASS

(Sacrament of the Sick) First Tuesday of the month 10am at St Joseph's Church

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME

Anyone ill or housebound may contact us to request a visit for communion at home.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- ▶ **First Communion Classes:** Saturday 10am
- ▶ **Coffee St Thomas' Sun 28th** after 9am Mass
- ▶ **RCIA Meeting:** Thursday Oct 2nd 7pm

POPE LEO XIV 'MISSIONARIES OF HOPE'



"In a world darkened by war and injustice, even when all seems lost, migrants and refugees stand as messengers of hope. Their courage and tenacity bear heroic testimony to a faith that sees beyond what our eyes can see and gives them the strength to defy death on the various contemporary migration routes. Migrants and refugees remind the Church of her pilgrim dimension, perpetually journeying towards her final homeland, sustained by a hope. If the Church gives in to the temptation of becoming 'stationary', and ceases to be a pilgrim people, God's people journeying towards the heavenly homeland, she ceases to be "in the world" and becomes "of the world". (Message for Migrant Sunday 2025)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Ellen Allery, Gaston Gori, Margaret Wallin, June Cochrane, Anne Rigg, Mitos Gloudemans, Ced John Netto, Julie Mahony, Paul Chong, Isabella Chong, Thomas Bedier, Luke Dennis, Sonia Guzman, Damien Ryan, Cecil D'Cruz, Joanna Howe, Janine Forster, Christie De Silva, Anita Zai, Maurice & Pauline Sheehan, Rosie Gucciardo, Michael, & Nichole Garnaut, Enid Netto, David Mills.

RCIA MEETING THURS 2nd Oct



For those interested in learning about the Catholic faith – 7pm parish centre.

COFFEE ST THOMAS' AFTER 9.00AM MASS

After mass at St Thomas Aquinas this Sunday 28th September join us for coffee at Botanical hotel, 169 Domain Rd.



COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS 2026

Are available for purchase from the parish office. \$10 each. Be sure to receive your copy by contacting us.

PARISH BAPTISMS

We welcome the family and friends of Nina Healy & Enzo Ravi who are to be baptised in our parish this weekend.



REMINDER

Daylight Saving starts next weekend. Move your clock forward one hour at 2am Sunday morning 5th October.



MASS OF CARE FOR CREATION 2025



We mark the 10th anniversary of the promulgation of "Laudato Si'" with a newly prepared Mass of Care for Creation next weekend Oct 4-5th.

MASS COLLECTIONS 21/09/2025

Clergy (Augustinian Community)	
1 st Collection, CDF & bank deposits...	\$ 837.10
Church (Parish Ministries)	
2 nd Collection	\$ 575.20
Envelopes	\$1720.00
Direct Debit/EFT/ CDF Pay/ Cr Cards...	\$ 900.60.
Tap Point Terminals.....	\$ 335.00
<i>Thank you for your generosity</i>	



IN LOVING MEMORY

Anniversaries



- ✦ Evelyn Pereira
- ✦ Fr Gabriele Muratore
- ✦ Kathleen Dennis
- ✦ Chaiel Balcombe & Callum Jackson
- ✦ Sheila Brody
- ✦ Michelle Benson
- ✦ Julie Primrose