

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 1: 14, 12

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us.

He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 1: 29-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.****A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

Unauthorised reproduction of this bulletin prohibited. Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 02 9394 3400 Email: sales@stpauls.com.au Scripture readings taken from The Jerusalem Bible, © 1966 Hodder & Stoughton Ltd. All rights reserved. Psalm text from The Psalms, A New Translation, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2026. No 2126. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

18 JANUARY 2026

THE LAMB OF GOD

The historical memory between John the Baptist and Jesus identified in last Sunday's Gospel from Matthew continues in today's Gospel from John. Themes from last week continue: John the Baptist declares Jesus' pre-existence (1:30), a central theological motif in the Gospel, as God's chosen one, and as the bearer of God's Spirit (1:33). The Baptist also publicly attests to Jesus' holiness using Jewish expressions drawn out of the Passover and Exodus story. Jesus is called 'the lamb of God' (1:29). This evokes the memory of the Passover lamb. This was the lamb sacrificed in the Exodus event (Exodus 12:1-13) whose blood daubed the lintels of the doors identifying its Jewish residents as God's protected ones as the Angel of Death passed over them.

In John's Gospel, Jesus' blood will also become the life-giving and liberating agent that creates the new community formed around the Mother of Jesus and the Beloved Disciple at Jesus' death (19:26-35). At the beginning of this Gospel and in today's reading, John the Baptist becomes the Gospel's witness to the holy and elevated status of Jesus as God's representative who can 'take away the sin of the world' (1:29). In other words and again drawing on a Jewish atonement ritual performed on one of the holiest days in the Jewish Calendar, *Yom Kippur* (literally, 'the Day of Atonement'), Jesus becomes the scapegoat for people's sins to release them from the burdens they carry and bring them to life and freedom—another theme of John's Gospel. All these insights associated with today's Gospel are key for us: we look to one who can represent us before God, release us of sins that weigh us down, and offer us life and spiritual agency.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Isa 49: 3, 5-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant,

Israel,
in whom I shall be glorified';
I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord,
my God was my strength.

And now the Lord has spoken,
he who formed me in the womb to be his
servant,

to bring Jacob back to him,
to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant,
to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back
the survivors of Israel;
I will make you the light of the nations
so that my salvation may reach to the ends
of the earth.'

■ **The word of the Lord.****RESP PSALM**

Ps 39: 2, 4, 7-10. R. vv. 8, 9

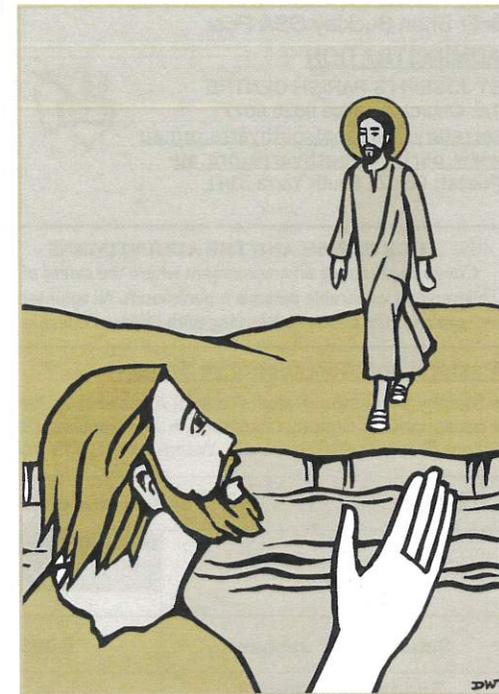
R. Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord / and he
stooped down to me; / he heard my cry. / He
put a new song into my mouth, / praise of our
God. **R.**

2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, /
but an open ear. / You do not ask for holocaust
and victim. / Instead, here am I. **R.**

3. In the scroll of the book it stands written /
that I should do your will. / My God, I delight
in your law / in the depth of my heart. **R.**

4. Your justice I have proclaimed / in the great
assembly. / My lips I have not sealed; / you
know it, O Lord. **R.**

**SECOND READING**

1 Cor 1: 1-3

A reading from the first letter of St Paul
to the Corinthians.

*The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ be with you.*

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle,
together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings
to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy
people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take
their place among all the saints everywhere who
pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their
Lord no less than ours. May God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and
peace.

■ **The word of the Lord.**



Est. 1887

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 18th January 2026
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 Francis Park OSA (Korean Chaplain)
- ▶ Fr Brian Buckley OSA Prior

ADMINISTRATION

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH CENTRE
 Tel: Church & Office 9826 9677
secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au
www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au
Postal: Box 21 South Yarra 3141



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

- ▶ Stephy Coosnapa (Parish Pastoral Assistant) ▶ Joel Sanchez (Business & Facilities Manager: Wed - Fri)
- ▶ Safeguarding: Stephy 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 18th January 2026

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Saturday 17th January	6.00pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 18th January 2 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.30am Mass	9.00am Mass
Monday 19th January 2 nd Week in Ordinary Time		
Tuesday 20th January 2 nd Week in Ordinary Time	10am Mass	No Mass
Wednesday 21st January 2 nd Week in Ordinary Time	10am Mass	No Mass
Thursday 22nd January 2 nd Week in Ordinary Time	10am Mass	No Mass
Friday 23rd January Bl Josephine Mary of Beniganim	10am Mass	No Mass
Saturday 24th January St Frances de Sales	9.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass	

ST THOMAS AQUINAS MASS TIMETABLE

Due to the availability of priests **there will be NO WEEKDAY Masses** at St Thomas Aquinas church from Tuesday 20^h January until Tuesday 3rd February. Weekday Masses continue at St. Joseph's 10am.
Sunday Mass as usual at St Thomas 9am.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

▶ **RCIA:** Resumes in February 2026

ST AUGUSTINE – THE LAMB OF GOD



"John said, 'Why do you give heed to me? I am not the lamb; behold the Lamb of God. And what benefit does the Lamb of God confer upon us? Behold, he says, who takes away the sin of the world. The two who were with John followed Him when they heard this. Let us see what follows: Behold the Lamb of God. Then Jesus turned and saw them following, and says unto them, What do you seek? And they said, Rabbi where do you live? And He called them and said, 'Come after me, and I will make you fishers of people.'"
 (Tractates on John's Gospel 7)



The parish office has re-opened Tuesday to Friday 9am-5pm.

BECOMING A CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN



If you know someone who would like to know more about the Catholic faith, or if you have questions about taking the next step, the Parish of South Yarra is here to accompany you. Please contact the Parish office for more details. 9826 9677

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

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

COFFEE AFTER ST THOMAS' MASS



Next Sunday 25th January, join us for coffee after mass at the Botanical Hotel, 169 Domain Rd.

THANKYOU FR TONY BANKS OSA



We sincerely thank Fr Tony for his time and ministry among us these past weeks. We wish him well as he returns to Sydney and look forward to his next visit.

THANK YOU TO OUR MUSICIANS



We are blessed to have live music in our churches. We thank all our musicians and singers for their time and talents they share with us.

IN LOVING MEMORY



Recently Deceased

✦ Sarah Halpeny

Anniversaries

- ✦ Virginia Monagle
- ✦ Joan Daly
- ✦ Michael White
- ✦ Pietro Taranto
- ✦ Judith McHugh
- ✦ Jozefa Szymczycha
- ✦ Ettore Giorgione
- ✦ Phoebe Mount
- ✦ Mary White
- ✦ Gregory Benoiton
- ✦ Jorge Vargas
- ✦ Colleen Phillips
- ✦ Rudolf Szymczycha
- ✦ Phillip Markovitch

MASS COLLECTIONS 11/01/2026

Clergy (Augustinian Community)
 1st Collection, CDF & bank deposits... \$ 677.05
Church (Parish Ministries)
 2nd Collection \$ 367.20
 Envelopes..... \$ 55.00
 Direct Debit/EFT/ CDF Pay/ Cr Cards...\$ 775.00
 Tap Point Terminals..... \$ 690.00
Thank you for your generosity