

You will listen and listen again, but not understand,
see and see again, but not perceive.
For the heart of this nation has grown coarse,
their ears are dull of hearing,
and they have shut their eyes,
for fear they should see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their heart,
and be converted
and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see,
your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly,
many prophets and holy men longed to see
what you see, and never saw it; to hear what
you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of
the sower. When anyone hears the word of the
kingdom without understanding, the evil one
comes and carries off what was sown in his
heart: this is the man who received the seed
on the edge of the path. The one who received
it on patches of rock is the man who hears the
word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he
has no root in him, he does not last; let some
trial come, or some persecution on account of
the word, and he falls away at once. The one
who received the seed in thorns is the man who
hears the word, but the worries of this world
and the lure of riches choke the word and so he
produces nothing. And the one who received the
seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word
and understands it; he is the one who yields a
harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now
sixty, now thirty.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

ABUNDANT BLESSINGS

For the next several Sundays we will be in the
very heart, the centre, of Matthew's Jewish-
oriented Gospel. Jesus absorbed Jewish wisdom
and sayings and taught them to his followers
He wanted to teach them about God's 'kind-
dom'. Today's Gospel has Jesus surrounded
by a large crowd. He gets into a boat, sits
down in the posture of a rabbinic teacher and
instructs the crowd on the lakeside.

The parable that he offers is the most
important in the whole Gospel. The principal
agent is a sower scattering seed in typical
fashion of the time. The farmer is oblivious to
where the seed falls but intent that a harvest
comes. The seed falls in places characteristic
of the Galilean countryside: on the edge of
paths and eaten by birds, on rocks, amongst
thorns and in places with little depth of soil.
But the seed also falls in rich soil and produces
an extraordinarily abundant harvest. To a
Galilean farmer, a twelve-fold harvest would
be a wonderful gift. It would offer food for the
coming year and pay off the taxes imposed by
Rome and the Jewish religious authorities for
the support of the Temple. The production
is not twelve-fold, but a *hundred-fold, sixty or
thirty!* This would be like a farmer winning the
mega-lottery!

And this, says Jesus, is what the Kin-
dom is about. Despite apparent signs of
frustration and even death, God's reign will
be spectacularly rich and abundant. Jesus'
parable teaching is an invitation to the
Gospel audience and to us to believe in the
ongoing abundant blessings of God's
presence despite
what appears to the
contrary.



Fr Michael Trainor



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

12 JULY 2026

FIRST READING

Isa 55:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The rain makes the earth give growth.

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow
come down from the heavens and do not return
without watering the earth, making it yield and
giving growth to provide seed for the sower
and bread for the eating, so the word that goes
from my mouth does not return to me empty,
without carrying out my will and succeeding in
what it was sent to do.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 64:10-14. R. Lk. 8:8

R. The seed that falls on good ground
will yield a fruitful harvest.

1. You care for the earth, give it water, / you
fill it with riches. / Your river in heaven brims
over / to provide its grain. **R.**
2. And thus you provide for the earth; / you
drench its furrows, / you level it, soften it with
showers, / you bless its growth. **R.**
3. You crown the year with your goodness. /
Abundance flows in your steps, / in the
pastures of the wilderness it flows. **R.**
4. The hills are girded with joy, / the meadows
covered with flocks, / the valleys are decked with
wheat. / They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 8:18-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Romans

*All creation is waiting for the revelation of the
children of God.*

I think that what we suffer in this life can never
be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed,
which is waiting for us. The whole creation is
eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was
not for any fault on the part of creation that it
was made unable to attain its purpose, it was
made so by God; but creation still retains the
hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to
decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory
as the children of God. From the beginning till

now the entire creation, as we know, has been
groaning in one great act of giving birth; and
not only creation, but all of us who possess the
first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly
as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia! / The seed is the word of
God, Christ is the sower; / all who come to
him will live for ever. / Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Mt 13:1-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew.

A sower went out to sow.

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but
such crowds gathered round him that he got
into a boat and sat there. The people all stood
on the beach, and he told them many things in
parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow.
As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of
the path, and the birds came and ate them
up. Others fell on patches of rock where they
found little soil and sprang up straight away,
because there was no depth of earth; but as
soon as the sun came up they were scorched
and, not having any roots, they withered away.
Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew
up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil
and produced their crop, some a hundredfold,
some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who
has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked,
'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because'
he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of
heaven are revealed to you, but they are not
revealed to them. For anyone who has will be
given more, and he will have more than enough;
but for anyone who has not, even what he has
will be taken away. The reason I talk to them
in parables is that they look without seeing and
listen without hearing or understanding. So
in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being
fulfilled:



15th Sunday of the Year 12th July 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 the vulnerable 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 ► Aryana Vega (St Joseph's Outreach Services: Mon, Tues, Thurs)
- Toni Stuart (Parish Secretary, Weddings & SJOS Volunteer Co-ordinator: Tues/Thurs/Fri)

Liturgical Calendar for the week commencing 12th July 2026

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Saturday 11th July	6.00pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 12th July 15th Sunday of the Year	10.30am Mass	9.00am Mass
Monday 13th July 15 th Week of Ordinary Time		
Tuesday 14th July 15 th Week of Ordinary Time	10am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Wednesday 15th July ST Bonaventure	10am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Thursday 16th July 15 th Week of Ordinary Time	10am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Friday 17th July BI Magdalene Albrici	10am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Saturday 18th July 15 th Week of Ordinary Time	9am Mass 6.00pm Vigil Mass	

AUGUSTINIAN YOUTH ENCOUNTER 2027

The next AYE is in South Korea August 8-13, 2027 (The week following World Youth Day August 3-8, Seoul, South Korea 2027)
 Themed on Mark 6:50 - "Take Heart, It Is I. Have No Fear", AYE27 unites young people across the Augustinian Family in one heart, one faith. www.ayeosa.com

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- **Christian Meditation:** 10.45am 17th July
- **Finance Committee:** Tues 14th July 6pm
- **Liturgy Committee:** Thurs 16 July 6pm
- **Parish Social:** Sat 15 August

Pope Leo – On Artificial Intelligence



We cannot consider AI to be morally neutral. Every technical tool embodies choices and priorities through what it measures, ignores and optimizes, and how it classifies

people and situations. For AI to respect human dignity and truly serve the common good, responsibility must be clearly defined at every stage: from those who design and develop these systems to those who use them and rely on them for concrete decisions. In many cases, however, the internal processes leading to a result remain opaque, making it harder to assign responsibility and correct errors. (Magnifica Humanitas #104-105)

PARISH COUNCIL JULY MEETING REPORT



During the Parish Council meeting last Wednesday evening, there was discussion about the Augustinian Chapter in Sydney, Pope Leo's new Encyclical, the

parish social gathering in August, and Friends of St Augustine Laity Congress in October. Reports were received on the Sacramental program, the redesign of the parish website, proposed new sound system in St Joseph's church and continued training for Readers and Commentators.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK Margaret Wallin, Anne Rigg, Mitos Gloudemans, Ced John Netto, Julie Mahony, Paul Chong, Isabella Chong, Luke Dennis, Sonia Guzman, Damien Ryan, Cecil D'Cruz, Joanna Howe, Janine Forster, Christie De Silva, Anita Zaio, Maurice & Pauline Sheehan, Rosie Gucciardo, Nichole Garnaut, Enid Netto, David Mills, Andrea Dreher, Charles, Tom Greene, Anna Slawek.



IN LOVING MEMORY

Recently Deceased



Anniversaries

- * Domenico Tesoriero
- * Patricia Hunt
- * Marie Louise Simpson
- * Daniel Leow Chin Meng
- * Gordon Dennis
- * Renato Dixon
- * Tom O'Neill

VOLUNTEER AT ST JOSEPH'S

If you would like to be involved in the music ministry at St Joseph's on Saturdays at 6pm mass, please contact the parish office.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Every Friday 10:45 to 11:30 am St Joseph's Church

All Ages Welcome. Come as you are — no experience needed.

Led by: Priscilla Murphy Ph: 0476 391 702
 Email: prmurphy0550@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE!

PARISH SOCIAL AND GAMES NIGHT

Saturday 15th August

FRIENDS OF ST AUGUSTINE NATIONAL LAY CONGRESS

9-11 October

Booking Inquiries: Judith Duncan 0417 309 747 / Mary McCormick 0419 134 075

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

We wish Di Brebner many happy returns as she celebrates her 80th birthday on Tuesday.

MASS COLLECTION 5/07/2026

Clergy (Augustinian Community)
 1st Collection, CDF & bank deposits... \$ 951.45
Church (Parish Ministries)
 2nd Collection \$ 442.55
 Envelopes..... \$ 110.00
 Direct Debit/EFT/ CDF Pay/ Cr Cards...\$1210.00
 Tap Point Terminals..... \$ 435.00
Thank you for your generosity