

and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

■ 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 2161. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

20 SEPTEMBER 2026

BE GENEROUS

Greed often dominates our world, interactions between global leaders and, sometimes, our own relationships. Today's Gospel offers a different value system. Generosity is the Gospel standard that should dominate relationships.

This teaching comes in the form of another parable from Jesus. The context would be familiar to Matthew's audience, in a society dominated by injustice, hierarchy and poverty. In this world, unemployment was rife, as it is today. Workers in Jesus' day would go to the village or town square to seek employment. In this setting, the landowner comes to the square to hire labourers for his vineyard with a promised day's wage. The owner repeats the hiring practice at different hours of the day, even into the late afternoon. When it comes time to pay the wages of the labourers, the landowner begins with the last hired and pays them the full day's wage though they have worked less hours. Those hired first complain that they should have been paid more. The landowner's response summarises the main teaching point of the parable: 'Why be envious because I am generous?'

Generosity rather than greed characterises this landowner. It is also a mirror of Jesus' essential teaching. God is generous, not restrictive or calculating. This challenges a world governed by exactness and tit-for-tat thinking. God and God's kingdom are characterised by generosity. God is generous toward us – and invites us to be generous toward others.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Isa 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take
pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who
speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18. R. v. 18

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day / and praise
your name for ever. / The Lord is great,
highly to be praised, / his greatness cannot be
measured. **R.**
2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, /
slow to anger, abounding in love. / How good
is the Lord to all, / compassionate to all his
creatures. **R.**
3. The Lord is just in all his ways / and loving
in all his deeds. / He is close to all who call
him, / who call on him from their hearts. **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 1:20-24, 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians

For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by
my life or by my death. Life to me, of course,
is Christ, but then death would bring me
something more; but then again, if living in this
body means doing work which is having good
results – I do not know what I should choose.



I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone
and be with Christ, which would be very much
the better, but for me to stay alive in this body
is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that
would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia! / Open our hearts,
O Lord, / to listen to the words of your
Son. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew.

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of
heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak
to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an
agreement with the workers for one denarius a
day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out
at about the third hour he saw others standing
idle in the market place and said to them, "You
go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair
wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour
and again at about the ninth hour, he went out



25th Sunday of the Year 20th September 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)
- Fr Barry Clifford OSA (Retired)

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

- Stephy Coosnapa (Parish Pastoral Assistant) ► Joel Sanchez (Business & Facilities Manager: Wed - Fri)
- Safeguarding: Stephy Coosnapa ► Sarah Thyssen (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 20th September 2026

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Saturday 19th September	6.00pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 20th September 25th Sunday of the Year	10.30am Mass	9.00am Mass
Monday 21st September St Matthew		
Tuesday 22nd September Bl Josephine of the Purification	10am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Wednesday 23rd September St Pius of Pietrelcina	10am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Thursday 24th September 25 th Week in Ordinary Time	10am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Friday 25th September 25 th Week in Ordinary Time	10am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Saturday 26th September 25 th Week in Ordinary Time	9am Mass 6.00pm Vigil Mass	



SOCIAL SERVICES SUNDAY

This Sunday marks Social Services Sunday within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. The day is an opportunity to keep in our thoughts and prayers the dedicated staff and volunteers working to stand with and serve the poor, disadvantaged and marginalised.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- No Christian Meditation this week
- Children's Confirmation classes Thursdays
- Save the Date: Parish BBQ Sun 22 Nov

Pope Leo – On Artificial Intelligence



"The convergence of automation, robotics and AI is rapidly transforming the very structure of work. It is said that this will bring great improvements for everyone. In reality, however, the "new ways" of working are not necessarily better, for "while AI promises to boost productivity by taking over mundane tasks, it frequently forces workers to adapt to the speed and demands of machines, rather than machines being designed to support those who work. As a result, contrary to the advertised benefits of AI, current approaches to technology can paradoxically de-skill workers, subject them to automated surveillance and relegate them to rigid and repetitive tasks. The need to keep up with the pace of technology can erode workers' sense of agency." (*Magnifica Humanitas*. #150)

POSITION VACANT

Parish Pastoral Worker (Permanent Part Time – 40 hours per fortnight)

The Parish of South Yarra is seeking a Pastoral Worker to support the pastoral, liturgical, sacramental and community life of the Parish. For further details and qualifications, and job description please see our website or contact the parish office. 9826 9677

www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au
business@parishofsouthyarra.org.au

ST JOSEPH'S SOUND SYSTEM

The sound system update in St Joseph's has been completed this week.

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, Charles, Tom Greene, Anna Slawek, Maurice White

IN LOVING MEMORY



Recently Deceased Anniversaries

- * Zilla Fay
- * Eileen Ingham
- * Elfrida Kiss
- * Anthony Alfred
- * Lawrence Atley
- * Cristina Cameron

COFFEE AFTER ST THOMAS' 9.00AM MASS 27th SEPT

After mass at St Thomas Aquinas next Sunday 27th September join us for coffee at Velvet Bean 35 Albert Road



WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027

Australian Augustinian parishioners aged 18–35 can express interest in attending World Youth Day 2027 and the Augustinian Youth Encounter 2027, both in South Korea. Details are on poster in church foyer.

FRIENDS OF ST AUGUSTINE 2026 NATIONAL LAITY CONGRESS 9-11 Oct.

All interested in knowing about the spirituality of St Augustine are invited to attend. Keynote speakers: Stan Grant & Tony Banks OSA. Booking Inquiries: Mary McCormick 0419 134 075/ Judith Duncan 0417 309 747

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Friends of St Augustine need volunteers to help with logistics during the National Laity Congress 9-11 October. If you can help, please contact Mary McCormick 0419 134 075/ Judith Duncan 0417 309 747

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED FRIDAY 25th Sept

Friday September 25th is a public holiday - the parish office will be closed.

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC DIGEST

News, stories and events from the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Please take a copy.

MASS COLLECTION 13/09/2026

Clergy (Augustinian Community)
1st Collection, CDF & bank deposits... \$ 857.75
Church (Parish Ministries)
2nd Collection \$ 350.75
Envelopes..... \$ 250.00
Direct Debit/EFT/ CDF Pay/ Cr Cards... \$ 558.00
Tap Point Terminals..... \$ 681.00
Thank you for your generosity