

GOSPEL

Mt 18:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.'

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.'

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

SEEK RECONCILIATION

Last Sunday reminded us that following Jesus is not free from struggle. Challenges, even misunderstandings, will be part of the disciple's vocation. This Sunday, the evangelist moves deeper to highlight further concerns that beset the community of disciples—internal struggles, tensions, even rejection.

The evangelist draws on the wisdom of Jesus to address these realities and suggests a three-step process towards reconciliation. It begins with personal dialogue. The one wronged seeks to invite the wrongdoer to reconciliation. If this fails, witnesses to what has happened verify the authenticity of the issues and encourage resolution. If this fails then the whole faith community, the *ekklesia*, witness to the wrong that has created the division, inviting the wrong doer to a change of heart and reconciliation.

Even if this third step fails then Matthew advises to treat the wrong doer 'like a pagan or tax collector.' In other words, as Jesus welcomed strangers and invited a tax collector to become one of his disciples, the door must always be left open. The final words of the Gospel contain Jesus' assurance that he is always present to even a small discipleship gathering, of even two or three, no matter what they are dealing with.

Today's Gospel is as relevant for our day as it was in the time of Matthew. No faith community is tension free. Disagreements arise and, sometimes, are not easily resolved by faith leaders. Rather than gossiping or character assassination, personal approaches that invite conflict resolution and community building are essential. In everything, Jesus is present.

Fr Michael Trainor



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

6 SEPTEMBER 2026

FIRST READING

Ezek 33:7-9

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his death.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 94:1-2, 6-9. R. v. 8

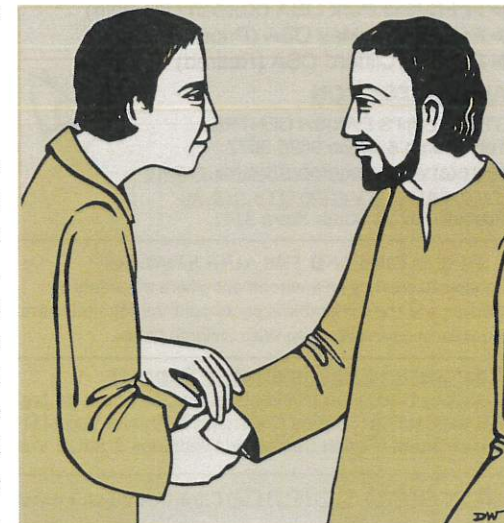
R. O that today you would listen to his voice!

Harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; / hail the rock who saves us. / Let us come before him, giving thanks, / with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; / let us kneel before the God who made us / for he is our God and we / the people who belong to his pasture, / the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

3. O that today you would listen to his voice! / 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, / as on that day at Massah in the desert / when your fathers put me to the test; / when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 13:8-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Love is the fulfilment of the Law.

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia! / God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; / and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. / Alleluia!

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
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 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 ► Aryana Vega (St Joseph's Outreach Services: Mon, Tues, Thurs)
- Toni Stuart (Parish Secretary, Weddings & SJOS Volunteer Co-ordinator: Tues/Thurs/Fri)

MORNING TEA & CHILDREN'S LITURGY

St. Joseph's • 10.30am Mass
 Fourth Sunday of the month.
 (except school holidays and long weekends)
 St Thomas Aquinas – Morning Tea - last
 Sunday of the month following 9am Mass

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.

Liturgical Calendar for the week commencing 6th September 2026

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Saturday 5th September	6.00pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 6th September 23 rd Sunday of the Year	10.30am Mass	9.00am Mass
Monday 7th September 23 rd Week in Ordinary Time		
Tuesday 8th September Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary	10am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Wednesday 9th September 23 rd Week in Ordinary Time	10am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Thursday 10th September St Nicholas of Tolentine	10am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Friday 11th September 23 rd Week in Ordinary Time	10am Mass Christian Meditation	12.45pm Mass
Saturday 12th September 23 rd Week in Ordinary Time	9am Mass 6.00pm Vigil Mass	



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

A Father's Day Prayer

God our Father, Bless all the fathers of the world. Guide them to be good role models and loving to all their children. Help them to be a father like you are. Give them grace and patience to handle situations in a loving way. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- **Christian Meditation:** 10.45am Fridays
- **SJOS Garden Club Workshops:** 13 Sept
- **Children's Confirmation** classes begin Sept.

Pope Leo – On Artificial Intelligence



"The use of digital platforms and AI systems is driving profound changes in public and political communication. Tools that could foster dialogue and participation are often used to construct distorted narratives

and blur the boundaries between truth and falsehood, mixing facts with opinions. Disinformation did not begin with AI, yet today it finds a powerful amplifier in AI."
 (Magnifica Humanitas. #132)

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 2026

It's National Child Protection Week. This year's theme, Every Conversation Matters: Shifting Conversation to Action, reminds us that keeping children and young people safe is everyone's responsibility. Join the conversation this week and think about what action you can take, big or small, to help children thrive.

NEPAL FLOODS APPEAL

Caritas Australia is working with Caritas Nepal and local partners to provide lifesaving assistance, including emergency shelter, food, safe drinking water, healthcare and protection support for affected families.



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

- * Sally Cross

Anniversaries

- * John Monaghan
- * Sio van der Haring
- * Fr. Felice Muratore
- * Margaret & Bill Hoare
- * Margaret Harrington
- * Martin Kelly
- * Gwen Meagher
- * Maryann Gibson
- * J B Daniels
- * Olive & Joe Currin
- * Marcos Villegas
- * Paul Yap Chok Fah

SJOS GARDEN CLUB

The Garden Club are holding two workshops next Sunday 13th September. **10am-**

12pm: Beginners Guide To Growing Your Own Vegetables In Small Spaces. Learn how to set up, prepare soil, plant placement, watering etc.

1-3pm: Composting In Small Spaces. Explores how turn everyday organic waste into valuable compost



POSITION VACANT

Parish Pastoral Worker

(Permanent Part Time - 24 hours per week)

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

Work on updating the sound system in St Joseph's church is scheduled for 14th - 17th September.

MASS COLLECTION 30/08/2026

Clergy (Augustinian Community)
 1st Collection, CDF & bank deposits... \$ 842.95
Church (Parish Ministries)
 2nd Collection \$ 392.10
 Envelopes..... \$ 280.00
 Direct Debit/EFT/ CDF Pay/ Cr Cards...\$ 393.00
 Tap Point Terminals..... \$ 640.00
Thank you for your generosity