



Readings for  
this week:

Ezekiel 18:25-28  
Philippians 2:1-11  
Matthew 21:28-32



Readings for  
next Sunday:

Isaiah 5:1-7  
Philippians 4:6-9  
Matthew 21:33-43



## Liturgical Jottings

### Liturgical Catechesis Va

Chapter five of the Constitution on the Liturgy (SC) is dedicated to the liturgical year. It should thus be understood as a constant renewal of the work of salvation which Christ accomplishes in history. As the Church journeys through this temporal cycle, it remains in contact with the Lord's redemptive action, so that all the faithful may be filled with His grace (SC 102c).

The encounter with Jesus, who died and rose again for us, is the purpose that the Church always pursues, placing the celebration of the Paschal event at the centre of every moment. The liturgical year thus repeats, in sacramental form, the teaching of the history of salvation, guiding the faithful from the expectation of the Messiah to the fullness of the Paschal Mystery and to the anticipation of future glory. In it, we celebrate the salvific relevance of the mystery of Christ, enabling us to participate in it ever more deeply. For this reason, the liturgical year constitutes the guiding principle and the essential framework for all pastoral action. *Pope Leo 12/8/2026*

## Looking at the Readings

In the parable of the two sons, Jesus touches on a very human dynamic in our society. There are dissensions, rivalries – siblings or otherwise – slacking of values – charity, respect – and petty arguments. The parable shows one son who says no, but then does the right thing and the son who says yes and fails to do what he said he would. Perhaps a petty incident but could escalate into a bigger confrontation or become a habitual failing.

Jesus addresses the parable to the chief priests and the elders of the people knowing that they are guilty of the same faults of saying one thing and doing the opposite and appearing holier than thou but lacking integrity. An occupational hazard? Christians today could be blamed for preaching one thing but failing in action. But the evidence of Christians contributing positively is overwhelming. Yet this parable serves as a timely reminder.

Jesus follows up the parable rather unexpectedly noting that the public sinners are listening, accepting the message of John the Baptist and coming to conversion better than they. While the chief priests and the elders are mulling over all this, Jesus addresses to them a stronger parable we will hear next week.

## Prayer for the Week

Creative and nurturing God, Jesus made a family gathered around a festive table as the final sign of unity with his followers. May we be united and transformed like the saints in every age. As we remember Saint Francis of Assisi, give us his vision and strength to dedicate ourselves to rebuilding your house suitable to our times and a foretaste of the eternal Jerusalem. Through Christ our Lord.

## Pope Leo XIV Message on Season of Creation

If we take up this task of the care of creation with humility and faith, we will become collaborators in God's work of renewal. We will move, slowly but surely, from desert to garden, from division to communion, and from violence to peace.

May the Lord grant us the courage to walk along this path, so that in our time, swords may indeed be beaten into ploughshares, and the promise of the Gospel may take deeper root in our world, and the peace of Christ may reign over all of creation.

## On the Lighter Side

We take for granted the slow miracle whereby water in the irrigation of a vineyard becomes wine. It is only when Christ turns water into wine, in a quick motion, as it were, that we stand amazed. Saint Augustine.



|                                                                                                                                                            |                                                    |                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <p>Please email or contact the office to add names to the prayer list</p> | For those who have died and those who are grieving | Darren Grossmann                                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                            | For those whose anniversary occurs at this time    | Antonio Nigro                                                                                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                            | Our sick and their carers                          | Dean White, Sue McDonald, Mary Vraca, Kim Mann, Harney McKinnon, Antoinette Mancini, Russell Parsons, Nathan Dodd |

## ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

### Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 6:00pm (note: time change)

Commentator: Carol Coulston  
 Reader: Denice Bourke  
 Gospel Procession: Deb Turvey  
 Gifts: J Caiafa & D Hamilton  
 Screen Operator: Ged Pollard  
 Music Operator: Trish Warnett

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October 10:30am

Commentator: Gem Reyes  
 Reader: Debbie Worm  
 Gospel Procession: Dolly Thompson  
 Gifts: L Mercuri & C Bannan  
 Eucharistic Minister: Danny Reyes  
 Screen Operator: Lou Worm  
 Music Operator: Trish Warnett

### Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 10:30am

Commentator: Mary Gale  
 Reader: John Keane  
 Gospel Procession: Anna Ciavarella  
 Gifts: S Gregg & D Phelan  
 Eucharistic Minister: Elisabeth Edwards  
 Screen Operator: Debbie Worm  
 Music Operator: Trish Warnett

### Saturday Mass times for 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month

6:00pm (Oct – Mar)      5:00pm (Apr-Sep)

We thank all of our volunteers for their assistance during Mass



**Shared lunch:** today following Mass

### REPEAT NOTICES

**Meeting in the Spirit Group:** all welcome on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October at 6:00pm in the Presbytery.

**Baptism Preparation Meeting:** The final meeting for the year will be on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 7:00pm. Please contact the parish Office if you would like to attend.

**Book Orders:** Please add your name to the list in the Narthex if you would like to order a Daily Mass Book, Columban Calendar and God's Word books for 2027 by 4<sup>th</sup> October.

## Two Week Mass Timetable Week Commencing 23rd September

### Weekday Masses

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 9:15am  
 Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 9:15am

### Weekend Mass

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 6:00pm (note time change)  
 Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October 10:30am

### Weekday Liturgies

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 9:15am  
 Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 9:15am

### Weekend Mass

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 10:30am (Fr Michael Grace)

### Monthly events

*Anointing Mass every 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Mass at 9:15am*

*Italian Rosary every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday at 2pm in the Church*

*Reconciliation every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month (30 minutes before Mass)*

*Shared lunch: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month in St Mary's Hall*

*Eucharistic Adoration every 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of month at 5:30pm in the Church*

## Ladies Cuppa & Chat

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 2pm in St Mary's Hall. All welcome.

*The next one will be on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October*



Donation QR Code



## Plate Collection and Envelopes

The collection for last week was \$958.30



Thank you so much for your generosity and support of the parish.

*May God bless you always.*

## Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration on the first Friday of the month at 5:30pm in the Sacred Heart Church. All welcome. The next Eucharistic Adoration will be this coming Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.



*Which of the two did his father's will?" They answered, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you.*

**Matthew 21:31**

- **Fr Uday away:** Please note that Father Uday will away from 5<sup>th</sup> October until 28<sup>th</sup> October. There will be no Saturday evening Masses during this time. Sunday Masses will be held at the same time. Weekday Masses will be replaced by Liturgies. Fr Michael Grace will be in the parish on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> and Fr Michael Morley will be in the parish on 25<sup>th</sup> September. There will be a bucket collection to help support Fr Uday's trip on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> & Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October.

#### DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME



Daylight Saving Time starts on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October. Remember to turn your clocks forward an hour.

#### APPOINTMENT OF VICAR GENERAL

Very Rev. Dr Brian Boyle has been appointed Vicar General of the Diocese of Sandhurst, effective 14 September 2026, for a term of two years. The Vicar General assists the Diocesan Bishop in the governance of the Diocese and, in accordance with canon law, exercises the executive authority entrusted to that office (cf. canons 475–481).

René Ramirez RCJ Bishop of Sandhurst

#### DEANERY FORUM - Round 3

Northeastern – Tuesday 13 October, 10am – 3pm. Join Bishop René, priests and parishioners for Deanery Forum Round 3. More details, including Trybooking registration will come next week.

#### PRIESTS RETIREMENT FOUNDATION APPEAL for retired Priests of Sandhurst.

We have 15 retired Priests. Fundraising assists the provision of housing, annual recurrent and everyday expenses. The Foundation relies on the generosity of the priests and people of the Diocese. A special collection will be taken on Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> of October and is the major fundraiser of the year. Your Donations (tax-deductible) are essential. This day is an opportunity to thank God for their ministry and dedication, and to pray for our priests, active and retired. All donations are tax-deductible. Those requiring receipts for donations, please use the envelopes provided. Thank you.

#### True Obedience and Change

The 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time reminds us that actions speak louder than words. Jesus tells a story about two sons. One says no to his father but later changes his mind and does what he was asked. The other says yes but never follows through. This story teaches that obedience means doing, not just saying.

The readings all point to the same truth. God looks at our hearts and our choices. It is not enough to say we believe. We must live what we believe. Turning away from sin and choosing what is right brings life and hope. These readings also show that God is fair and merciful. He wants us to turn back when we make mistakes. When we admit we are wrong and try again, He welcomes us with love. Repentance opens the way to peace and joy in His presence.

The readings focus on choice and follow through. They remind people that God pays attention to what we do, not just what we say. Ezekiel shows that people can change direction at any time. When someone turns away from wrong and chooses good, God welcomes that change. The psalm asks God for guidance and mercy along the way.

Jesus tells a story where one son changes his mind and does the work. The other agrees but never acts. This shows that real faith is shown by action. Paul points to Jesus as the model of humility and service. This Sunday calls people to live their faith with honesty, effort, and care for others.

Lord, help me to follow You with true obedience. Let my actions reflect my faith, not just my words. When I fail, give me the courage to repent and change. Teach me to be humble, like Jesus, and to put others before myself. Guide me to walk in Your ways each day.

Amen.

#### CHILD SAFE PARISH

We are a Child Safe Parish, we have a zero tolerance for child abuse and aim to provide a safe, supportive and welcoming environment to all visiting children, young persons and vulnerable adults. If you are concerned for any form of abuse that is immediate you should call 000; a significant risk or harm, whether or not you have formed this belief on reasonable grounds, you should immediately raise your concerns with our Parish Child safety officer Debbie Turvey on 0407 804 317.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of years. We pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside First Nation Australians in truth, justice and reconciliation.

Sacred Heart Parish, Tatura

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Facebook: Sacred Heart Catholic Parish Tatura

## DIOCESE NEWS – 27/9/2026

**SANDPIPER e-News**



Official news from the Diocese of Sandhurst straight to your inbox.



[www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au/news-a-events3/sandpiper-e-news](http://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au/news-a-events3/sandpiper-e-news)

Discover Catholic Podcasts and events happening across Australia – retreats, pilgrimages, workshops and more.

Visit [www.CathEvents.org.au](http://www.CathEvents.org.au) to find opportunities to grow in faith and community. Event organisers can also list their events for free, helping more people connect and participate.

The latest Along the Track can be found on our website under the heading of **Sharings / Along the Track**

**Diocese Website:** <https://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au>

**Diocese Facebook Page:** Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst



Donation QR Code



### INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS 2028

“We are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song!” — Pope John Paul II More than a one-time event, Eucharist 28 is a national journey of renewal, beginning in our own hearts and parishes. This Easter, we saw our churches filled with new life as many were welcomed into the faith. The invitation now is to keep that flame alive: to encounter Christ in the Eucharist every week as we prepare for a global celebration of the Eucharist and a Papal Mass celebrated in Sydney by Pope Leo XIV. Find out more and register at [eucharist28.org](http://eucharist28.org)

### Caritas Australia Nepal Flood Appeal

Caritas Australia have opened an appeal to support their on ground network in Nepal to deliver humanitarian aid. If you would like to donate to this appeal, please follow the following link: <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/nepal-floods/>

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE

LAUNCH OF A

**MEMORIAL IRISH HARP**

COMMEMORATING THE IRISH CONTRIBUTION TO AUSTRALIA

Honouring the courage, perseverance and enduring legacy of the Irish people who helped shape Australia.

A SYMBOL OF HERITAGE  
A LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

DATE: Sunday 18 October, 2026  
TIME: 2:00pm  
VENUE: The Sacred Heart Cathedral, 80 Wattle Street, Bendigo  
RSVP: By 5 October, 2026  
Afternoon tea provided.

TOGETHER IN HERITAGE  
UNITED IN FUTURE

CENTRAL VICTORIAN IRISH ASSOCIATION INC. EST 2012

Join us in celebrating the wonderful history of

**ST MARY'S SCHOOL INGLEWOOD**

*Save the date*

Sunday 22 November 2026

Mass 10.30am - 11.30am  
School tours and lunch - 11.30am - 2.00pm  
(Lunch, coffee, tea and soft drink provided)

For catering purposes please RSVP via QR code



### Survey of Catholic Couples over September

The Australian Catholic Bishops are funding a survey over the month of September into the experience of Catholics in their first 10 years of marriage. The information gathered will inform the development of pastoral responses and resources for this vital stage of married life.

Any couple married in the last 10 years, where at least one spouse is Catholic, can contribute their valuable insights via this link <https://thepmrc.org/survey> All answers are anonymous and confidential, and participants can contact the researchers directly with any questions via the survey link.

### St Francis of Assisi Reflection and Prayer Resource

It has been 800 years since the death of St Francis of Assisi, yet he remains deeply relevant today. His life speaks to some of the most pressing concerns of our time: care for creation, peace, poverty, fraternity and a simple, Gospel-centred life. St Francis' vision was not about admiring creation from a distance, but recognising our relationship with God, one another and the whole of creation.

Pope Leo XIV declared 2026 a special Jubilee 'Year of St Francis'. To mark this important anniversary, the Diocese of Sandhurst has published a resource for reflection and prayer, developed by the Office of Mission and Pastoral Life at the Chancery with the Sandhurst Care for Creation Team.

The Diocese invites people to rediscover the witness of St Francis and to draw his spirit of simplicity, peace, compassion and care for creation into their own lives and prayer.

This A5 booklet can be downloaded from the Diocesan website, here:

<https://sandhurst.catholic.org.au/item/3145-st-francis-of-assisi-jubilee-prayer-book>

Alleluia, alleluia! / My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; / I know them, and they follow me. / Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Mt 21:28-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

## ■ The Gospel of the Lord.



## A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# Breaking Open the Word

## CHANGE OF ATTITUDE

Remaining in the agricultural world from last Sunday and the hiring practice of a landowner, we are now inside the landowner's family and its two sons. The landowner requests both sons to go to work in the vineyard. Such a request would have been unnecessary, given that there would have been hired labourers in the vineyard – information learnt from last Sunday's Gospel.

A deeper intent lies behind the owner's request: Are the sons' committed to the family's enterprise? Perhaps, too, this reflects what is occurring with the Gospel household, the inner relationship and ethical practice of its members. The main issue concerns integrity of word and openness of heart. The first son is asked to work in the vineyard but refuses the request. Later, he thinks about it, changes his mind and goes. The second promises to go the vineyard but doesn't. There is no further comment about the request or change of heart. Jesus asks the religious leaders, 'Which of the two did the father's will?' They respond, 'The first.' This son, at first resistant, changes his mind and responds to the father's request.

The parable is obviously directed to Jesus' audience and religious leaders, to recognise their need to change attitudes that exclude certain types of people. Surprisingly, those judged as social reprobates, the 'tax collectors and prostitutes', are given preferential acceptance into God's Kingdom. The parable overturns conventional expectations in Matthew's day and in ours!

Fr Michael Trainor

# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

27 SEPTEMBER 2026

## FIRST READING

Ezek 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

*The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.*

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

## ■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 24:4-9. R. v. 6

**R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. **R.**
2. Remember your mercy, Lord, / and the love you have shown from of old. / Do not remember the sins of my youth. / In your love remember me, / because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**
3. The Lord is good and upright / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path / he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Phil 2:1-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

*In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.*

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one



thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,  
yet he did not cling  
to his equality with God  
but emptied himself  
to assume the condition of a slave,  
and became as men are;  
and being as all men are,  
he was humbler yet,  
even to accepting death,  
death on a cross.  
But God raised him high  
and gave him the name  
which is above all other names  
so that all beings  
in the heavens, on earth and in the  
underworld,  
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus  
and that every tongue should acclaim  
Jesus Christ as Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

## ■ The word of the Lord.