



Isaiah 5:1-7
Readings for this week: Philippians 4:6-9
Matthew 21:33-43



Isaiah 25:6-10
Readings for next Sunday: Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20
Matthew 22:1-14



Liturgical Jottings

Liturgical Catechesis Vb

The Council Fathers considered “the foundation and kernel of the whole liturgical year” to be the Sunday, “the original feast day” (cf Constitution on the Liturgy 106). In various modern languages, its name indicates that it is the “*dies Domini*”, “the Lord’s day”. In some languages the “day of the sun” *Sunday*, *Sonntag* has prevailed, the link with Christ can be discerned: Christ is the true “sun of righteousness” who enlightens every person!

Sunday is the day of the Lord, the day of the Church, the day of humanity and, finally, the “day of days”. “Since Sunday is the weekly Easter, recalling and making present the day upon which Christ rose from the dead, it is also the day which reveals the meaning of time. ... I urge everyone to seek the best possible conditions so that even those who are unable to take time off work on Sundays may take part in Holy Mass. Pope Leo XIV, *St Peter's Basilica Wednesday, 12 August 2026*

Looking at the Readings

There are many images, metaphors and parables about vineyards, vines and grapes in the scriptures: Hosea 10, Isaiah 3 & 27, Jeremiah 2,5,6 & 12; Ezekiel 15, 17 & 19; Psalm 80, Canticles 1 and John 15. Vineyards and grapevines and particularly good grape-vines just don’t happen. The grower must select the right location, the right soil and climate. The root stock must be right, the right branches to be grafted and then properly pruned, fed and watered: in summary a lot of care and attention before harvest and after the harvest to produce good wine. In the Old Testament the vineyard became a metaphor and parable of the People of God. The Prophet in today’s reading stresses that the Lord had done all the right things for the vineyard and his best towards the people. He concludes that the vineyard is the House of Israel and it had turned out wicked.

This scenario is repeated in the parable that Jesus addresses to the chief priests and the elders of the people. This time the vintage was good but tenants were greedy and would not yield the produce but became murderers and wastrels. Remember that the parable, almost an allegory, was not addressed to the landowners or the workers or the general populace but to the appointed and anointed leaders. Thus, it serves as a parable concerning right stewardship of God’s gifts of creation: the earth, its people, their faith and our church.

Quotes of the Week

Virtue is its own reward, and brings with it the truest and highest pleasure; but if we cultivate it only for pleasure's sake, we are selfish, not religious, and will never gain the pleasure, because we can never have the virtue. *St John Henry Newman (feast 9 October)*

If God can work through me, he can work through anyone. *St Francis of Assisi (feast normally 4 October, impeded by the Sunday this year)*

Prayer for the Week

Yours, O God, is the vineyard and its harvest,
yours the kingdom of justice and peace.

You call your people to tend its growth.

Bless the work entrusted to our hands, that we may offer you
an abundance of just works and a rich harvest of peace.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

On the Lighter Side

“I feel like I'm walking into the illustrated pages of a fairy tale when I go to the vineyard. It draws you to nature and cleanses your soul, and you just don't want to leave.” Zhao Wei

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 Please email or contact the office to add names to the prayer list	For those who have died and those who are grieving	
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Charlie Gow, Santo Calleri, Rosemarie Curtis
	Our sick and their carers	Nathan Dodd, Catherine O'Toole, Dean White, Kim Mann, Sue McDonald, Mary Vraca, Harney McKinnon, Antoinette Mancini, Russell Parsons,

ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

Sunday 11th 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

Sunday 18th October 10:30am

Commentator: Theresa Cooke
 Reader: Elisabeth Edwards
 Gospel Procession: Connie Serra
 Gifts: L Mercuri & A Lombardozzi
 Eucharistic Minister: Anna Ciavarella
 Screen Operator: Debbie Worm
 Music Operator: Trish Warnett

Saturday Mass times for 1st & 3rd Sunday of the Month

6:00pm (Oct – Mar) 5:00pm (Apr-Sep)
 Please note there will be no Saturday Masses during October while Fr Uday is away.

We thank all of our volunteers for their assistance during Mass



Two Week Mass Timetable Week Commencing 7th October

Weekday Liturgies

Wednesday 7th October 9:15am
 Friday 9th October 9:15am

Weekend Mass

Sunday 11th October 10:30am (Fr Michael Grace)

Weekday Liturgies

Wednesday 14th October 9:15am
 Friday 16th October 9:15am

Weekend Mass

Sunday 17th October 10:30am (Fr Michael Grace)

Monthly events

Anointing Mass every 1st Wednesday Mass at 9:15am

Italian Rosary every 2nd Friday at 2pm in the Church

Reconciliation every 1st Saturday of the month (30 minutes before Mass)

Shared lunch: 4th Sunday of the month in St Mary's Hall

Eucharistic Adoration every 1st Friday of month at 5:30pm in the Church

Ladies Cuppa & Chat

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



The next one will be on **Wednesday 7th October**

PARISH NOTICES

Meeting in the Spirit Group: all welcome on the 4th Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 28th October at 6:00pm in St Mary's Hall.

Wills & Bequeaths: There is an information sheet on the table in the Narthex regarding Wills and Bequeaths. Please consider your Parish when you are considering your Will.

Names on Prayer List: Please email or contact the office to add names on the prayer list.

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

20 October - Goulburn Valley Deanery - MOVE (Museum of Vehicle Evolution), Kialla.

Register at Trybooking via the following Link or QR Code: <https://www.trybooking.com/DPJNH>



Plate Collection and Envelopes

The collection for last week was \$1582.70



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 Friday 6th November.



Hear another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey.

Matthew 21:33

Fr Uday away: Please note that Father Uday will away from 5th October until 28th October.

Weekday Masses will be replaced by Liturgies. Fr Michael Grace will be in the parish on Sunday 11th and 18th and Fr Michael Markov will be in the parish on 25th September.

Prayer for Peace by St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen.



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>

PRIESTS RETIREMENT FOUNDATION APPEAL will be taken up next weekend, 10th /11th of October, for the Retired Priests of the Sandhurst Diocese. The Diocese has 15 retired priests who depend on the support from the diocese, which means the support of the people of the diocese. All donations are tax-deductible. Those requiring receipts for donations, please use the envelopes provided. Thank you.

Pray with Pope Leo XIV: One Million Children Praying the Rosary

From 1-7 October, *Aid to the Church in Need* invites you to join with Pope Leo XIV and Catholics worldwide for the *One Million Children Praying the Rosary* prayer campaign, for peace and unity in the world.

Families, parishioners, prayer groups, and schools are all encouraged to register to take part! For free Rosary resources and to register, please scan the QR code or visit:

www.acninternational.org/millionchildrenpraying



"When one million children pray the Rosary, the world will change." - Saint Padre Pio

Baptism Congratulations

Congratulations to Charlie & Daisy Flynn, children of Daniel and Jessica Flynn who were Baptised at the Mass on Sunday morning.



**We welcome them into our parish and faith community.
May God bless you and keep you safe always Charlie and Daisy.**

The Vineyard of the Lord

The 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time reminds us that God trusts us to care for what He has given. Like a vineyard, our world is meant to bear good fruit. God gives everything we need to grow in love, faith, and kindness. Yet, sometimes we forget our role as caretakers and live for ourselves instead.

Isaiah and the psalm tell the story of a vineyard that has gone wild. God planted it with care, but it produced only bitter fruit. These words remind us that blessings are not enough if they do not lead to justice and mercy. God wants actions that show love and respect for others.

In the Gospel, Jesus tells a parable about tenants who refuse to honour the landowner. They reject his servants and even his son. It is a warning for anyone who ignores God's message. On the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, we are called to look at our lives and ask if we are producing good fruit for God's kingdom.

Lord, You care for us and provide all that we need. Help us to trust You, follow Your ways, and bear good fruit in our lives. Give us wisdom to care for the gifts You have given us. Lead us in truth and guide our hearts toward what is right.

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

Visit 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

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/>



Catholic Theological College

aims to support your parish by providing formation for staff and volunteers with introductory and further studies in theology, ministry and spirituality.

We invite interested members of your parish to our **online information session** on Monday 26 October at 7pm (AEDT).

In this session, participants meet our course advisors and learn about study options at CTC, including the wide range of courses and units that can be undertaken **online** and/or **face-to-face**.

Interested participants may register via [Google Forms](#). **Registration is essential.**

March for the Babies 2026

RALLY DETAILS

WHEN: Saturday 10 October 2026

TIME: 1 pm

PLACE: Treasury Gardens – corner of Spring Street and Wellington Parade, East Melbourne Vic 3002

HOW TO GET THERE: Walk from Flinders Street Station or catch a 48 or 75 tram east along Flinders Street.

See [PTV journey planner](#) for more public transport information.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Jn 15:15

Alleluia, alleluia! / I call you friends, says the Lord, / because I have made known to you / everything I have learnt from my Father. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 21:33-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

He leased his vineyard to other farmers.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son" he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone.

This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word

A RICH ALLEGORY

Jesus continues from last Sunday to question the attitudes of religious leaders of his day and, by inference, those who assume religious leadership and authority in Matthew's day.

Jesus' teaching looks like a parable, but it is an allegory, where each element of the story represents historical events or figures. Its focus is another landowner (God) who plants a vineyard (the image of Israel), cares for it and leases it to tenants. At vintage time his servants (the prophets) go to collect the produce. But the tenants maltreat all those sent to collect the produce, even to the point of finally killing the son of the viculturalist (Jesus), the last emissary sent.

The parable is an allegory of salvation history, the story of Israel, the action of God to cultivate Israel's goodness with the eventual rejection of God's final emissary, Jesus. The allegory is not anti-Jewish. Matthew writes for a Jewish audience. The evangelist reflects on the mystery of Israel's history and the failure of the Jewish leaders' intent to do away with God's final prophet and emissary, Jesus.

To repeat, Jesus' death was the action of the religious leaders of his day and not the deed of the Jewish people. What happened to Jesus finds its parallel in the way the prophets of the Old Testament were treated. The key point of the story comes at the end: the Kingdom of God will be 'given to a people who will produce its fruits.' That people is us.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

4 OCTOBER 2026

FIRST READING

Isa 5:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.

Let me sing to my friend
the song of his love for his vineyard.
My friend had a vineyard
on a fertile hillside.

He dug the soil, cleared it of stones,
and planted choice vines in it.

In the middle he built a tower,
he dug a press there too.

He expected it to yield grapes,
but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and men of Judah,

I ask you to judge
between my vineyard and me.

What could I have done for my vineyard
that I have not done?

I expected it to yield grapes.

Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you

what I am going to do to my vineyard:

I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on,
and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.

I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug;
overgrown by the briar and the thorn.

I will command the clouds
to rain no rain on it.

Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the House of Israel,

and the men of Judah
that chosen plant.

He expected justice, but found bloodshed,
integrity, but only a cry of distress.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 79:9, 12-16, 19-20. R. Isa 5:7

R. The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt; / to plant it you drove out the nations. / It stretched out its branches to the sea, / to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **R.**



2. Then why have you broken down its walls? / It is plucked by all who pass by. / It is ravaged by the boar of the forest, / devoured by the beasts of the field. **R.**

3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, / look down from heaven and see. / Visit this vine and protect it, / the vine your right hand has planted. **R.**

4. And we shall never forsake you again: / give us life that we may call upon your name. / God of hosts, bring us back; / let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 4:6-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

■ The word of the Lord.