



SUNDAY 21ST JUNE, 2026 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. YEAR A Reflection on the Gospel (Matthew 10:26-33)

Many of those who once looked through the barbed-wire fences of Australia's detention centres carry personal stories of fear of persecution. One such story, the story of Najaf Mazari, is beautifully narrated by Najaf and Robert Hillman in their joint work, *The Rugmaker of Mazar-e-Sharif*. Najaf is an Afghani Hazara who suffered persecution and torture at the hands of the Taliban. He escaped to Australia via Indonesia in 2002. After some time in detention, he established a rug making business in suburban Melbourne. He was reunited with his wife Hakeema and daughter Maria in 2008 and became an Australian citizen in June 2014.

Some first century Christian groups, including Matthew's community, were a bit like the Afghani Hazaras in that they are persecuted simply on account of who they are vis-à-vis those who seek exclusive political and cultural power, although persecution by the Taliban is no longer restricted to the Hazara community. The suffering people of Afghanistan have every reason to fear bodily harm and even death, as suffered by Jesus and his followers. Jesus himself experienced fear in the face of his impending suffering and political execution. Yet Jesus tells his disciples, not once but three times, not to fear those who kill the body.

How are these words to be understood? To return to the story of Najif: the Taliban had power to destroy his body, but no power over his spirit. A man of deep faith, supported by a family who sacrificed their own comfort and placed their trust in God (Allah), he survived against the most incredible odds. Even if he had died in the effort to find freedom, his faith in the fullness of life with God would remain, in contrast with the bullying power of the Taliban who could kill the body but not an indomitable spirit.

Trust in God is at the heart of Jesus' response to suffering. The disciples are sent to proclaim, in the marketplace or from the "housetops", the Gospel they have received in the security of the household.

If they acknowledge Jesus, he will in turn "acknowledge" them before God. They can expect rejection and humiliation. This is not to deter them from their mission. They are not to give up the struggle or capitulate in the face of persecution. Like all of God's creatures, including the sparrows, they are precious in God's eyes and will not be abandoned. On the contrary, even the hairs on their heads are numbered by God.

Trust in God is the appropriate response to suffering endured for the sake of God's empire as opposed to the empire of Rome. Trust in God does not take away the pain. We join with asylum seekers, refugees, unwanted migrants, the hungry and the homeless for the justice that is their right. They are precious in God's eyes. They are precious in our eyes and must not be abandoned.

By Sr. Veronica Lawson, RSM

DEATHS & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for **Monica Carlton** and **Annette Flockhart** who died recently; and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.



SYNODALITY IS ABOUT MISSION

The purpose of synodality is not internal reform for its own sake. Its goal is evangelisation—helping the Church become more faithful, more welcoming, and more effective in proclaiming the Gospel to today's world.

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:10-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

Jeremiah said:

‘I hear so many disparaging me,

“Terror from every side!

Denounce him! Let us denounce him!”

All those who used to be my friends

watched for my downfall,

“Perhaps he will be seduced into error.

Then we will master him

and take our revenge!”

But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;

my opponents will stumble, mastered,

confounded by their failure;

everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.

But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice,

who scrutinise the loins and heart,

let me see the vengeance you will take on them,

for I have committed my cause to you.

Sing to the Lord,

praise the Lord,

for he has delivered the soul of the needy

from the hands of evil men.’

The Word of the Lord.

(R.) Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 68:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35. R. v. 14

(R.) Lord, in your great love, answer me.

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts,
that shame covers my face,
that I have become a stranger to my brothers,
an alien to my own mother's sons.
I burn with zeal for your house
and taunts against you fall on me. **(R.)**
2. This is my prayer to you,
my prayer for your favour.
In your great love, answer me, O God,
with your help that never fails:
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;
in your compassion, turn towards me. **(R.)**
3. The poor when they see it will be glad
and God-seeking hearts will revive;
for the Lord listens to the needy
and does not spurn his servants in their chains.
Let the heavens and the earth give him praise,
the sea and all its living creatures. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-15

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of ‘law-breaking’, yet death

reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man’s fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

The Word of the Lord.

(R.) Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: John 15:26-27

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 10:26-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: ‘Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

‘Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

‘So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

(R.) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

NICENE CREED

**I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.**

**God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us men and for our salvation

**He came down from heaven, (All bow)
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary, and became man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day**

in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Communion Antiphon: Ps 144:15

The eyes of all look to you, Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

QUIET DAY AT ST. JOSEPH'S BY THE SEA

Saturday 27 June, 10am – 2pm; a free event at 16 Esplanade Williamstown. Free parking in Cole St. BYO lunch, pens and paper. Tea & Coffee provided.
RSVP by 20 June – Ros: harrisroslyn61@gmail.com
Clara: clarariz@bigpond.com
Donation to cover costs appreciated.

CONFIRMATION INFORMATION NIGHT

**For Parents and Children
St. Augustine's Church Yarraville
Wednesday 15 July at 6pm.**

The Confirmation Program is about to begin and families need to register ASAP. Application forms can be found on the Parish website - www.melbcatholic.org/yarraville and returned to the Parish Office prior to the Information evening.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL YARRAVILLE

Winter Appeal on 27 and 28 June

Next weekend a collection will be taken up at all the Masses to support the work of St. Vincent De Paul's Yarraville Conference.

Food items such as Long-Life Full Cream Milk, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Tins of Baked Beans, Spaghetti, Tuna, Fruit, Soup, Tomatoes, Small Boxes of Cereal, 2-minute Noodles, Small packets of Rice; Biscuits, Coffee, Tea Bags are appreciated.

HOSPITALITY

All parishioners are invited to stay awhile after the **5pm and 9.30am Masses this weekend.**

Enjoy a Cuppa, whilst catching up with friends and getting to know more parishioners.

TAKE THE WAY OF THE GOSPEL

SAVE THE DATE

All Parishioners are invited to join us for the second round of consultations for the *Take the Way of the Gospel* Renewal Process.

Our focus will be on **Who we can become** as our Parishes join together as one. The sessions will be held after Mass and will be 45mins – 1 hour.

You are most welcome to join any one that suits you.

Session dates and times:

**Sunday 5th July – Annunciation Church,
8:45 – 9:45am (following 8:00am Mass)**

**Sunday 5th July – Corpus Christi Church,
11:45 – 12:45pm (following 11:00am Mass)**

**Saturday 11th July – St Augustine's Church,
5:45- 6:45pm (following 5:00pm Mass)**

**Sunday 12th July – St Augustine's Church,
10:15 – 11:15am (following 9:30am Mass)**

Please visit the Parish website for further information.

There are feedback boxes at each Church for your questions or contributions at this stage or you can email the Parish directly at: yarraville@cam.org.au

FINANCE UPDATE

Members of the Finance Committee will be presenting a finance update for the parishes of Kingsville and Yarraville at each Mass this weekend.

CATHOLIC MISSION

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH APPEAL

The Appeal held last weekend at Annunciation, Corpus Christi and St. Augustine's Churches raised a total of \$2,233.65. Thank you for your generous support to the Appeal.

MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY MASS

Sunday 12 July 2026, 11am, St. Patrick's Cathedral
Couples who are celebrating the following anniversaries, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 years and above will receive a commemorative certificate.

ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER MASS

Sunday 5 July 2026, 11am at St. Patrick's Cathedral.
On the first Sunday of July, the Catholic Church in Australia, celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday to gather as one to honour and celebrate the rich cultural heritage, spirituality and contributions our First Nations Peoples make to the life of the Church.

2026 NAIDOC MASS AT ST. FRANCIS' CHURCH

Sunday 12 July, 11.00am

Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria invites you to Mass at **St. Francis' Church**, 326 Lonsdale Street Melbourne, marking the end of NAIDOC Week.

PARISH PRIEST:

Rev. Fr. Werner Utri

PARISH SECRETARY: Emilia Balkan

PHONE: 0401 158 113;

(03) 9314 7710

EMAIL: yarraville@cam.org.au

ST. AUGUSTINE'S OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays
9.30am till 2.30pm

PARISH WEBSITE:

www.melbatholic.org/yarraville

SAFEGUARDING: Pat Mc Laughlin

patmac766@gmail.com

PARISH CHURCHES

ST AUGUSTINE'S

71 Somerville Road Yarraville

CORPUS CHRISTI

376 Geelong Road, Kingsville

ANNUNCIATION

4 Nolan Avenue, Brooklyn

For email copy of **Bulletin**



Click QR Code

LITURGY TIMES

TUESDAY MASS

St Augustine's....6.00 pm
Exposition: 5.30 –6.00pm

WEDNESDAY MASS

Corpus Christi.....9.15 am

THURSDAY MASS

St Augustine's...9.15 am

FRIDAY MASS

Corpus Christi....9.15 am

SATURDAY MASS

Corpus Christi....9.30 am

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

St Augustine's...5.00 pm

SUNDAY MASS

Annunciation.....8.00 am
St Augustine's.....9.30 am
Corpus Christi..11.00 am
St Augustine's..11.30 am
(Polish)

RECONCILIATION:

SATURDAYS after 9.30am
Mass at Corpus Christi
St. Augustine's...4.15pm

NEXT ITALIAN MASS

On hold until further notice

COLLECTIONS

THE FIRST COLLECTION supports the Priests of our Parish, the Archbishop, Priests on special duties and retired priests.

THE SECOND COLLECTON (includes envelopes), supports the running costs of the Church and pastoral initiatives.

To set up a **Direct Debit** Payment to our bank accounts for the Presbytery and the Church, use these account details.

St. Augustine's Yarraville Church Account:
BSB 083347 Account No. 638052213.

St. Augustine's Yarraville Presbytery A/C:
BSB 083347 Account No. 638051413

Corpus Christi Kingsville Church Account:
BSB 083347 Account No. 485182315

Presbytery Account:

BSB 083347 Account No. 638051413

There are TAP AND GO CONTACTLESS DONATION TERMINALS in the foyers of the churches. Follow the prompts and choose your nominated amount to donate.

Codes for one off donations via credit card



Unique to the Parish of St. Augustine's



Unique to the Parish of Corpus Christi

There are census cards at the back of the church for new subscribers wishing to use weekly envelopes. Record details and put the card on the collection plate or contact the Parish office for a set of envelopes.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Thank you to parishioners for the regular donation of food items placed in the churches each week.
Some other items also needed include Toothpaste/ Toothbrushes, Shampoo, Body Wash/ Soap, Deodorant, Toilet Paper, Washing powder /liquid.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY - We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEK

20th & 21st June 2026

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

READERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm Rose Thomas

9.30am Agnes Hopmans
Sam/Anna

READERS: **Corpus Christi**

11am Cass Pelino

AJ Pelino

MINISTERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm.....Greg Buhagiar

9.30am..... Phillip Marques

MINISTER: **Corpus Christi**

11.00am..... Nathan Lane

COUNTING: John Ryan

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK

27th & 28th June 2026

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

READERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm Peter Matheson

9.30am Phillip Marques
Sam/Anna

READERS: **Corpus Christi**

11am Natasha Fernandes

Imelda Gibson

MINISTERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm.....Nic Fusca

9.30am..... Gerald Bain-King

MINISTER: **Corpus Christi**

11.00am..... Hong Nguyen

COUNTING: Phillip Marques

SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL VULNERABLE PEOPLE

At Yarraville, Kingsville and Brooklyn, we hold the care, safety and well-being of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our communities. The Parish Statement of Commitment and Reporting Process are on display at the entrance of all the Churches and all Diocesan Policies are available on the website or at the parish office.

www.cam.org.au/Professional-Standards/Statements