



SUNDAY 1ST MARCH, 2026.

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

Reflection on the Gospel - Matthew 17:1-9

Last week's Gospel invited us into a confronting habitat, namely the wilderness. This week, we follow Jesus and three of his companions to a high mountain, eventually a cloud-covered mountain. Both wilderness and mountain link Matthew's story of Jesus with the story of the Israelites of old and, in particular, of Moses' and Elijah's encounters with God.

Wilderness and mountain also remind us that God's creation is the locus of wonder and mystery. The world we inhabit has an integrity of its own. It is, in a very real sense, God's dwelling place. It is, in addition, the place of human-divine encounter and the place of human encounter with the other-than-human material world.

Attention to habitat can lead us to a clearer understanding of our own place in the scheme of things. It can lead us to ever deeper understandings of our relationship with God and of our responsibility to care for God's creation.

The "transfiguration" seems to point to a time in Jesus' ministry when he comes to terms with the fate he is likely to meet: if he confronts the forces of oppression and injustice, he is certain to encounter opposition, even death. Jesus has struggled with that realisation in the wilderness.

On the mountain top, his face shines with the power that emanates from his acceptance of what the path ahead might entail. The disciples witness the transfigured Jesus, God's new and definitive prophet, speaking with Moses and Elijah, the key prophetic figures of Israel.

Peter wants to hold on to the experience of glory: he wants to "make tents" for Jesus, for Moses and for Elijah. He prefers not to face the difficulties involved in fidelity to a mission that elicits hostility. That is not, however, the way of discipleship.

Rather, Peter and his companions are to heed God's words calling them to "listen" to Jesus, the beloved

of God. Listening to the words of Jesus of Nazareth and mutual listening are indispensable features of the journey in faith.

Matthew's account of the "transfiguration" is followed by a reminder that Jesus is soon to meet a violent death (17:23). Jesus' companions get a glimpse of God's glory shining on his face and penetrating even his clothing, a hint that God's grace is more life-giving than the forces of violence that oppose God's reign.

Like Jesus and his companions, we too need the occasional glimpse of final victory. We need the wisdom to listen and to follow through on the path that leads to life, despite the pain. We can feel overwhelmed by the enormity of the challenges facing us and by the opposition we experience from the most unexpected quarters.

If we are to sustain the struggle for a healthy, safe, and peace-filled world, we have to resist the temptation to hold on to the moments of glory and come to terms with the personal cost of being faithful to the Gospel mission of justice and compassion with all its painful demands.

By Sr. Veronica Lawson, RSM

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We pray for and welcome **Adrian George** through the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend. May he, his parents and Godparents be filled with the Holy Spirit.

DEATHS & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for those who have died recently and for **Marie Nguyen The Sa, Eliza Franze and Lyn Azzopardi** whose anniversaries occur at this time.
May they rest in peace.

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4

A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing. 'I will bless those who bless you: I will curse those who slight you. All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.' So Abram went as the Lord told him.

The Word of the Lord. (R.) Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 32:4-5, 18-20, 22. R. v. 22

**(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

1. The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. **(R.)**
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. **(R.)**

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8-10

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

The Word of the Lord. (R.) Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. **Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke

to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

(R.) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
He descended into hell;
on the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God
the Father Almighty;
from there He will come to judge the living
and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of Saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.**

Communion Antiphon: Matthew 17:5

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

REFLECTION EVENINGS: Thursdays in Lent

You are invited to be part of a weekly Lenten reflection on **Thursday evenings at the Presbytery at St. Augustine's - 7pm start for about an hour.** Includes an excerpt from the next Sunday's Gospel, a short reflection and questions to prompt deeper thought. The program is designed to bring people together in prayer and conversation.

TIMETABLE FOR HOLY WEEK

Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th March

PALM SUNDAY.....Blessing of Palms at all Masses

Wednesday 1st April.....Wednesday of Holy Week

LENTEN RECONCILIATION....7.30pm..St. Augustine's

Thursday 2nd April...HOLY THURSDAY

Mass of the Lord's Supper....7.30pm..St. Augustine's

Friday 3rd April.....GOOD FRIDAY

9.00am.....Stations of the Cross.....Corpus Christi

11.00am.....Ecumenical Way of the Cross

(Uniting/ St. Augustine's/Baptist Churches)

3.00pm.....Passion of the Lord.....St. Augustine's

Saturday 4th April...HOLY SATURDAY

1.00pm.....Polish Blessing of Food... St Augustine's

7.30pm.....Vigil.....St. Augustine's

Sunday 5th April.....EASTER SUNDAY

MASS: 8.00am Annunciation Church

9.30am St. Augustine's Church

11.00am Corpus Christi Church

11.30am St. Augustine's Church (Polish)

TAIZE PRAYER

Where: St. Augustine's Church Yarraville

When: Wednesday 18th March 2026 at 7.30pm

An initiative of the Association of Pastoral Ministry Leaders Melbourne in supporting ministry in parishes, prisons, aged-care facilities, emergency ministry and hospitals.

Prayer will begin at **7.30pm** and last 45 minutes to an hour. Supper will be provided afterwards. We are invited to pray through silence, scripture readings, quiet music and chants composed by the brothers of Taize.

Taize prayer comes from the monastic community formed by Brother Roger in the French village of Taize in 1940. We are invited to pray through silence, scripture readings, quiet music and chants composed by the brothers of Taize.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

5.30pm Tuesdays St. Augustine's, prior to 6pm Mass

6.00pm Fridays Corpus Christi, in Vietnamese

Take the Way of the Gospel:

a framework and process for renewal.

This week we look at the dimension from the Renewal Framework of being a **Vital Parish.**

Vibrant, Vital, Viable

Vital parishes read the signs of the times with faith, hope, and a missionary vision. They know their neighbourhoods, cherish their history and culture, and honour the journey that has shaped them. At the same time, they trust that God continues to lead them forward. With openness and courage, they recognise that some past approaches may no longer serve the needs of today, and they remain attentive to where the Spirit is calling them now.

Parish vitality is about a community discerning together how God is inviting them to grow. It is about asking, "What is the Lord asking of us at this time?" and responding with generosity and trust.

Vital parishes nurture three deeply connected areas of life:

- **A shared missionary vision** that inspires and unites the community in purpose.
- **A collaborative spirit of leadership**, where clergy and lay faithful recognise one another's gifts and work together in service of the Gospel, with creativity and courage.
- **An outward-looking heart**, attentive to those beyond parish boundaries and willing to walk alongside other parishes and ministries within the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

This journey is not always easy. It calls for humility, listening, learning, and prayerful discernment. Yet it is also a journey filled with hope, because the same God who has guided the parish in the past continues to lead it into the future.

PROJECT COMPASSION

This week, **Project Compassion** shares with us the story of young Sisilia who lives in a remote part of northern Tanzania. Her father died when she was young, and her family has faced enormous difficulty. 'Life is hard,' she says as an understatement.

Your help has enabled her village to gain access to a reliable supply of safe water. The time that Sisilia used to spend walking three times a day for water was having a major impact on her schooling. She now has a vision for life, one she shares with her community.

During Lent, we are also called to make a difference by uniting against poverty and donating to Project Compassion. Boxes and envelopes are available in each of the churches during Lent.

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.melbcatholic.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

PARISH NEWSLETTER:



To receive an Email copy of our newsletter, scan the 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

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 & ANNUNCIATION BROOKLYN

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

Presbytery Account:

BSB 083347 Account No. 638051413

QR Codes for one off donations.



This QR code is unique to the Parish of St. Augustine's and gives you access to giving a donation via Credit card.



This QR code is unique to the Parish of Corpus Christi Kingsville

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 at Mass or contact the Parish office for a set of envelopes.

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

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

(28th Feb & 1st March 2026)

2nd Sunday of Lent A

READERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm Kath Baker

9.30am Phillip Marques

Sam Polzella

COUNTING:...Les Vella

READERS: Corpus Christi

11.00am Julianna Barr

Edith Fletcher

MINISTERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm.....Frank Galea

9.30am.....Agnes Hopmans

MINISTER: Corpus Christi

11.00am.....Imelda Gibson

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK

(7th & 8th March 2026)

3rd Sunday of Lent A

READERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm Greg Buhagiar

9.30am Pat McLaughlin

Sam Polzella

COUNTING:...John Ryan

READERS: Corpus Christi

11.00am Natasha Fernandes

Imelda Gibson

MINISTERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm.....Maree Ryan

9.30am.....Gerald Bain-King

MINISTER: Corpus Christi

11.00am.....Khanh Nguyen

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Many thanks for your donations of non-perishable food. Cereal, long life milk, tea, coffee, milo, soup, pasta, pasta sauce, baked beans, spaghetti, tins of tuna, tinned fruit, rice, jam, biscuits; washing powder/liquid, shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste and brushes are always needed.

Mary Mackillop Spirituality Centre

St. Joseph's by the Sea Williamstown
16 Esplanade Williamstown. 3016
(03) 9397 6012. mmsm.org.au