



SUNDAY 19TH OCTOBER, 2025. 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. YEAR C Reflection on the Gospel - (Luke 18:1-8)

Today's Gospel begins with a reference to prayer, a favourite theme in Luke, and ends with a question about faith. If the parable were also about prayer, as the narrator suggests, then the unjust judge would image a God who has no respect for anyone and is slow to hear the cry of the poor! There are clearly problems with this, and scholars are divided on how to explain it.

The most likely explanation is that, in the editorial process, the Gospel writer has made three key additions to the story: the introductory statement that Jesus told them a parable "about the need to pray always"; the final instruction to pay attention to the judge's words; and the three questions at the end. The original parable was almost certainly told in another context and probably ended with the words of the judge. What difference might this make for us as 21st century readers? The parable has acquired different meanings as it shifted from an oral to a written context. The Lukan author fits the parable rather awkwardly to the issues he wants to address with his communities.

The scene for the verses representing the original parable is "a certain city", possibly suggesting that it is a story for any and every city. There are two main human characters, the judge and the widow. There is another non-speaking character in the wings, namely the widow's opponent.

The hearer or reader is invited to fill the gaps. Who is this opponent? What sort of injustice is the widow experiencing? Since the judge clearly recognises the validity of the widow's claim, why does he refuse to hear her plea? Is it because he is accepting bribes from the woman's adversary? What sort of judge would admit to having no respect for anyone, even to himself?

A vital clue to understanding the parable lies in the translation of the final words of the judge. It literally reads: "so that she won't finish up giving me a black eye".

Translators have consistently softened the impact of this with a metaphorical reading. Is Jesus drawing attention to the plight of widows in that society who can only get justice from a corrupt judiciary if they resort to violence? The widow in this story is one feisty woman: without the support of a husband or the benefit of social security payments, she has only her own personal resources to rely upon. The judge operates from the assumption that she is prepared to use her fists. A system that provides no other recourse for the vulnerable of the human community and for those endeavouring to save our endangered planet simply has to change.

Jesus tells his hearers to pay attention to what the "unjust judge" has to say. It is not at all clear what the reader is meant to take from this story. One possibility is that those who seem to have little power can win out in the end if they have the courage to persist in their struggles for justice.

By Sr. Veronica Lawson, RSM

DEATHS & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for those who have died recently.
We also pray for **Anton Doblanovic, Krystyna Jaroszek** and all whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

Entrance Antiphon: Psalm 16:6, 8

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

First Reading: Exodus 17:8-13

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile, will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand.' Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it and Aaron and Hur held up his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm till sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

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

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 120. R. v. 2

(R.) Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

1. I lift up my eyes to the mountains:
from where shall come my help?
My help shall come from the Lord
who made heaven and earth. **(R.)**
2. May the Lord never allow you to stumble!
Let him sleep not, your guard.
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,
Israel's guard. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is your guard and your shade;
at your right side he stands.
By day the sun shall not smite you
nor the moon in the night. **(R.)**
4. The Lord will guard you from evil,
he will guard your soul.
The Lord will guard your going and coming
both now and for ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2

A reading from the second letter of St. Paul to Timothy

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures – from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the

name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

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

Gospel Acclamation: Hebrews 4:12

Alleluia, alleluia! The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. 'There was a judge in a certain town' he said 'who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, "I want justice from you against my enemy!" For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, "Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death."'

And the Lord said, 'You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?'

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: Psalm 32:18-19

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

MARY GLOWREY MUSEUM OPEN DAY

Wednesday 29 October from 10am – 3pm

Level 2 Cathedral Hall, 20 Brunswick Street Fitzroy.
Visit the museum to learn more about the life and legacy of Australian-born medical missionary in India and Servant of God, Dr Sr Mary Glowrey JMJ

PRISON VOLUNTEERS – HOSPITALITY AND WORSHIP

A number of prisons in the Archdiocese have regular Masses and other services. At these Masses and services, there's an opportunity for volunteers to assist with setting up the worship space, assisting the prison residents who attend, to follow the service, and then sharing a social 'cuppa' with them afterwards. The expectation is that volunteers will be rostered on once every four weeks. If you're interested in assisting in this ministry, please contact the senior Catholic Prison Chaplain, Deacon Jim Curtain by email: Jim.Curtain@catholiccarevic.org.au and please include your phone number so that Deacon Jim can discuss the ministry with you.

TAIZE PRAYER

Where: St. Augustine's Church Yarraville

When: Wednesday 22nd October 2025.

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 approximately 45 minutes to an hour. Supper will be provided afterwards. 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.

NEW SETS OF ENVELOPES

The sets of Stewardship Envelopes due to commence the beginning of November, are available at St. Augustine's and Corpus Christi for parishioners to collect.

Stewardship or planned giving is about sharing our resources with the parish community to enable prudent planning for the maintenance and improvement of our buildings and the ongoing pastoral care of our faith communities as well as outreach to the wider community.

If you are not currently contributing to our stewardship program we encourage you to join by setting up a direct debit or filling in a parish census card available at the back of the churches. You can place the form on the collection plate or contact the Parish Office for a set of envelopes. Many thanks for your ongoing and generous support. Fr. Werner.

JOSEPH'S CORNER

Thank you to the volunteers who manned the stall last weekend after the Masses at St. Augustine's. Thank you to everyone who supported Joseph's Corner by purchasing plants and/or craft items.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Online Information Session Monday 27 October at 7pm. Learn more about study options at Catholic Theological College (CTC). Meet our Course Advisors and learn about our wide range of courses and units. Contact the Registrar for more information and enrolment appointments. registrar@ctc.edu.au 9412 3309; 278 Victoria Parade East Melbourne. Register via our website: ctc.edu.au/information-session. Registration is essential.

HOSPITALITY SUNDAY

This weekend, after the 5pm and 9.30am Masses at St. Augustine's, all welcome to stop for a cuppa and chat after Mass.

PASTORAL LETTER TO THE CATHOLICS OF VICTORIA

The State Government is seeking to amend Victoria's euthanasia and assisted suicide laws. If passed, the new laws would further weaken protections for vulnerable patients and reduce protections for nurses, doctors and other medical practitioners who conscientiously object. In response, the Bishops of Victoria have written a pastoral letter asking that we contact our local Members of Parliament and urge them to vote against these laws. Copies of the letter are available in the church. You can also read the letter online at www.bit.ly/EuthanasiaBill or at the top of our website, www.melbournecatholic.org/yarraville

PARISH PRIEST

Rev Fr Werner Utri

Mobile No. 0401 158 113

PARISH SECRETARY

Emilia Balkan

Parish Website:

www.melbatholic.org/yarraville

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Pat Mc Laughlin

patmac766@gmail.com

PARISH CHURCHES

ST AUGUSTINE'S

71 Somerville Road Yarraville

(03) 9314 7710

yarraville@cam.org.au

CORPUS CHRISTI

376 Geelong Road, Kingsville

ANNUNCIATION

4 Nolan Avenue, Brooklyn

kingsville@cam.org.au

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

Thursday 6th November at

11am at St. Augustine's

COLLECTIONS

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

THE SECOND COLLECTON which includes the envelopes, is for the support of the running costs of the Church and pastoral initiatives.

We encourage people to set up a **Direct Debit** Payment to our bank accounts for the Presbytery and the Church, using 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.

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

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEK

(18th & 19th October)

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

READERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm John Ryan

9.30am Phillip Marques

Sam Polzella

COUNTING.....Les Vella

READERS: **Corpus Christi**

11.00am Julianna Barr

Edith Fletcher

MINISTERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm.....Greg Buhagiar

9.30am.....Pina Guzzardi

MINISTER: **Corpus Christi**

11.00am.....Joe Fusca

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK

(25th & 26th October)

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

READERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm Rose Thomas

9.30am George Puckering

Anna Messina

COUNTING.....John Ryan

READERS: **Corpus Christi**

11.00am Val Taylor

Rachael Nguyen

MINISTERS: **St. Augustine's**

5.00pm.....Nic Fusca

9.30am.....Phillip Marques

MINISTER: **Corpus Christi**

11.00am.....Imelda Gibson

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

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.