



Year C

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 27th July 2025

First Reading **Genesis 18:20-32**

A reading from the book of Genesis

Lord, do not be angry if I speak.

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.'

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' The Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.'

Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No', he replied 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'

Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 137:1-3. 6-8. R. v.3

(R.) Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. **(R.)**
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Though I walk in the midst of affliction
you give me life and frustrate my foes. **(R.)**
4. You stretch out your hand and save me,
your hand will do all things for me.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. **(R.)**

Second Reading **Colossians 2:12-14**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

He has made you alive with Christ for he has forgiven all our sins.

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins.

He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation **Romans 8:15**

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father.
Alleluia!

Gospel **Luke 11:1-13**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Ask, and it will be given to you.

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy,
your kingdom come;
give us each day our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us.
And do not put us to the test."

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

Gospel of the Lord

St. Mary's Parish Cowes Three Churches—One Parish

St Mary's—Cowes

Our Lady Star of the Sea—San Remo

St. Joseph's—Bass

Parish Priest: Father Manny Lomagno

Parish Secretary: Kerry Laughton-McConnon

6 Cowes Rhyll Road Cowes 3922 PO Box 878 Cowes 3922 Telephone 59 525 418 Email cows@cdsale.org.au

Office Hours: Wednesday 9.30am – 2.30pm Parish Safeguard Officer: Brendan Marrinon.

Mass/Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion Times

Star of the Sea—San Remo

Tuesday 9.15am Mercy Prayer followed by the Rosary & Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion at 10am.

Mass Saturday 6pm

St Joseph's—Bass

Mass Sunday 11 am

Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion—Wed 9am

Adoration & Prayer Wed 9.30am-10am & 7-8pm

St Mary's—Cowes Wednesday, Thursday, Friday Mass 9am.

Mass Sunday 9am.

Memorial: Sts. Martha, Mary and Lazarus, Tuesday 29th July.

St. Ignatius of Loyola, Thursday 31st July, St. Alphonsus Liguori,

Friday 1st August.

Holy Hour: At St. Mary's Cowes on Saturday 2nd August at 10am and concluding with Benediction.



REFLECTION

by Fr Michael Tate

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

Heaven and Earth can coincide

People often imagine huge distance between Earth and a Heaven beyond the horizon of the universe. But Jesus Christ taught us to pray 'Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.'

How can this come about? Jesus identified two areas on which we need to focus to help make Heaven and Earth share the same space.

'Give us this day our daily bread.' This petition is very real for most inhabitants of the world – a plea for the necessities of life to stave off real hunger. If we respond to this plea, we can change a Hellish situation to a place where Heaven and Earth coincide.

'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.' But, first to Shakespeare: 'The quality of Mercy is not strained. It falleth as the gentle rain of Heaven on to the place beneath.'

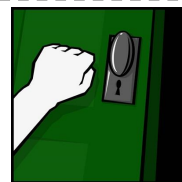
If we develop a hardness of heart which refuses to show forgiveness, then we are like earth concreted over and are unable to absorb God's forgiveness into our own lives. When we forgive someone, we become more able to absorb the gentle rain of heavenly mercy and forgiveness.

So, Heaven and Earth need not be as distant as supposed. Our Lord has shown us how we can help make these dimensions of existence coincide.

We could take a moment to resolve to pray the 'Our Father' by our lives, helping to provide evidence for our acclamation:

'Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts,

Heaven and Earth are full of your Glory'



News from Our Lady Star of the Sea

Welcome to term 3! We started the term with the staff delving into the revised Diocesan RE curriculum with the help of staff from DOSCEL. The students started back on Tuesday, and there was great excitement as they mingled with their friends and chatted about their holidays. On Friday, we celebrated our special Mass for Grandparents or a special person, followed by classroom activities, tree-planting and morning tea. It was wonderful to see so many people come together for the occasion.



CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal

Next weekend 2nd & 3rd August is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. As the Catholic Church's mission in action, CatholicCare Victoria delivers programs and services to support families, children, young people and individuals to help everyone reach their full potential.



The services include counselling and mental health services, specialised support for children and teens, refugee and asylum seeker help, pastoral care, support for separating families, social housing and homelessness support. Donations from our parish community help CatholicCare Victoria support the most vulnerable individuals and families in our community and empower everyone to live life to the full.

Please donate to the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Your support and generosity will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community. You can donate using the appeal envelope available in our parish, donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9967 2515.

Bass Prayer Group on Monday 28th July at

7pm. Contact Wendy Power 56 782271. All Welcome



Combined Churches Morning Tea

The next morning tea will be on Tuesday, July 29, at the Phillip Island Golf Club, at 10:00 am. Please let Sue know if you are coming. 0438 304 082.



Message of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV for the Fifth World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly, 27 July 2025 'Blessed are those who have not lost hope' (Sir 14:2)

Prayer for the Fifth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly



How beautiful are these words of yours, Lord! Help us to continue our pilgrimage through time, animated by the hope that comes from You! Help us in this divisive world, to bring the hope of communion. Help us in this world, wounded by wars, to bring the hope of peace. Help us in this world, which is dehumanizing, to bring the beauty of an ancient smile. Help us to be, for our grandchildren, for our loved ones and for everyone we meet, the memory of your tenderness. Help us to bring, in a world distracted from You, the Hope of a new life that only You can give! For in You, Lord, nothing is lost For in You, Lord, everything begins again! Amen

Bj'S Mowing & Garden. Blocks slashed, Household lawns, Holiday Homes. Weed spraying & Green waste removal. Free quotes. Call **Brendan 0414 463 395** or visit www.bjsmowing.com.au