

There is a striking contrast between the poor widow described in the second part of today's Gospel and the Scribes and Pharisees in the first part. The simple piety of this woman of no social standing is contrasted with the arrogance and social ambitions of some so-called religious leaders. She is also contrasted with the rich donors ostentatiously offering money they can easily afford. It is doubtful that what they gave involved even the slightest diminution in their standard of living.

How often have we foregone a vacation, or a weekend away or even a single meal in a restaurant because the money for it was given to people who were living on the edge of survival? Again, the Gospel is pointing the finger at us and not to people who lived a long time ago.

This poor woman, in a daring act of trust in God's providence, put into the treasury everything she had — and it was next to nothing. She had two small coins. She put in both. She could have kept one for herself. But the service of God can never be in half measures.

The First Reading from the First Book of Kings has a similar story. It also features a poor widow and her son. Reduced to absolute penury she is on her way to get firewood to cook a last meal for them both from a little meal and oil, all that she has left. She sees nothing but death before them. Then Elijah, the prophet, himself hungry, comes and asks her for water and bread. When she tells him her situation, he still asks her to make a small scone for him. In a generous act of sharing, she does so and she is rewarded by there being enough for all three of them and the jar of meal and the jug of oil does not empty until the drought is over. The message is clear: when everyone gives, everyone receives.

It may seem a foolish thing to do but there are countless examples of people doing this in the service of the Gospel. The Gospel today is saying it is only when we realise that God and the Way of Jesus is the only real source of security that we will find the happiness, peace and security we all long for. This story in Mark also forms a bridge between the teaching life of Jesus and the Passion narrative which is soon to follow. This widow, who gives up everything she has to God and puts all her trust in God, is a symbol of Jesus himself who will soon make the total offering of his life, his work and his good name to his Father out of love for us.

This story is meant to be also a summation of all Jesus' teaching about discipleship. He wishes us to identify with this apparent "nobody" over against the avaricious, arrogant, ambitious, image-conscious mindset represented by some of the Scribes and Pharisees and the wealthy temple-goers. The rich and famous of the day. In fact, she was anything but a "nobody"; she had a greatness which they totally lacked.

What matters is not what we have or what we can get; not what we can do or what people think of us. What matters is that I be fully, freely, truly my real self before God and before others.

Can I let go of everything to give myself totally into his hands with the sure conviction that he will give me the support I need? When a lot of us do that our faith will be confirmed.

*Sacred Space*

# OLIVERIAN

## ST OLIVER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, PASCOE VALE

**PARISH PRIEST**  
**Pastoral Associate**  
**School Principal**

**Fr James Puppady**  
**Marthese Temming**  
**Delfina Pieri**

Presbytery: 1 Landells Road, PO Box 567, Pascoe Vale 3044 Telephone: 7036 9330  
email: [pascoevale@cam.org.au](mailto:pascoevale@cam.org.au)  
website: <https://stolivers.org.au/>

School: Landells Road, PO Box 667, Pascoe Vale 3044 Telephone: 9354 5130  
Parish Office Hours: 9am – 3pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

## MASS TIMES

**Saturday 5.00 pm (Vigil for Sunday)**

**Sunday 8.45 am & 10.30 am**

**Tue, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9.15 am**

**Confessions Saturday 10 – 10.30 am**  
*(In church through both side doors)*

**Baptisms 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month (by appointment)**

**Marriages By appointment with at least 6 months notice**

## PARISH ACTIVITIES

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Christian Meditation</b>	<b>7 - 8 pm Parish Centre</b> (contact Chris Rowland 0411 440 746)
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Italian Ladies Prayer Group</b>	<b>10.00 am Meeting Room</b>
	<b>Charismatic Prayer Group</b>	<b>7.30 pm Church</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Drop-In Centre</b>	<b>1 - 3 pm Church/Parish Centre</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>St Vincent de Paul</b>	<b>5.30 pm Meeting Room</b> <i>(last Thursday of the month)</i>

## FROM ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

**SUNDAY 11AM:** Live Streamed and C31 Televised (Channel 44 on Digital TV)  
**6AM:** Channel 10 - "Mass for You at Home"

**MONDAY - FRIDAY 1PM :** Live Streamed. *(Link below)*

**SATURDAY 8.00AM:** Live Streamed. *(Link below)*

<http://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass> and  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/archmelb>

## THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 6/7 NOVEMBER 2021

**Entrance Antiphon:** Let my prayer come into your presence.  
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

**Response to the Psalm:** Praise the Lord, my soul!

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia!  
Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!  
Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus  
in the breaking of the bread.

### Please remember in your prayers the following:

**Those who have died:** Davis Kunnen, Reg Whiting, Giuseppe D'Anna

**Anniversaries:** Vera Feain, Thomas Cushen, Giuseppe De Maria

**Those who are ill:** Josephina Varghese, Jenna Jenson, Marie Virag,  
Amelie Gutierrez, Frances Tamayo, Kath Layden,  
Ocean Goldsmith, Dalmiro Bellio, Lamberto Cruz,  
Monica Wickerson, Pasquale Buonomo,  
Sofia Ruggiero, Karen Hardy

6/7 November		13/14 November
<b>READERS:</b>		
Sat 5.00 pm	A. Taglieri [L], V. Pertile [R]	M. Pasco [L], A. Breen [R]
Sun 8.45 am	M. Tomayo [L], M. Carabott [R]	M. Carabott [L], M. Ziccone [R]
10.30 am	R. Polastri [L], B. Watts [R]	S. Bennardo [L], M. Temming [R]
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:</b>		
Sat 5.00 pm	C. Rowland	P. Saliba
Sun 8.45 am	M. Bolitho	V. Ricevuto
10.30 am	A. Cocomello	C. Steere

At St Oliver's parish we aim to create a child-safe and child-friendly environment. Privacy: In 2001 the Commonwealth and Victorian governments introduced legislation that deals with the manner in which public and private sector organisations may record, use, store and disclose information, including health information collected from individuals. This Parish is committed to upholding and implementing the Privacy Principles set out in the legislation.

## MASS FOR ALL SOULS

A practice during the Month of November is to offer Mass for the soul. If you would like a Mass offered for loved ones please leave envelope in the basket in front of Memorial Book at front of church.  
Fr James will offer a Mass for these families during the week.

## REMEMBRANCE BOOK FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER

If you wish to add a loved ones name to our Remembrance book for prayer, please add names to book at front of church. Parishioners who died this year are already included in remembrance book. Please check for names first.

May the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.

Please continue to support St Oliver's Parish and Fr James. The link:

<https://bit.ly/CDFpayPascoeVale>

You can also donate directly to the Presbytery Account

**BSB: 083-347**

**ACC: 53102 0158**

We are very grateful for your support at this time.

## LATEST COVID-19 INSTRUCTION

Latest instructions, for Religious Ceremonies and Gatherings:

**Fully Vaccinated** people can gather with a density quotient of 1 per 4sq.m. St Oliver's capacity is for 80 people, commencing this weekend 30/31 October 2021. The regular weekday Masses apply, (please note Unknown Vaccination Status Mass days). No bookings will be required. QR code and proof of vaccination or vaccination exemption status to be sighted on entry to church.

**For the Unknown Vaccination Status** (with a capacity of 30 people) we are offering the **Saturday Vigil Mass at St Paul's Coburg at 6.30pm**, commencing 30 October 2021 also:

- Wednesdays at 9.15am St Oliver Plunkett, Pascoe Vale
- Thursdays at 10.15am at St Paul's Coburg

No bookings required. QR code applies on entry to church.

**Penance - Reconciliation** for:

**Double Vaccinated** As usual Saturday 10.00 - 10.30 in the church.

**Unknown Vaccination Status** Need to make an appointment with Fr James.

Please call Parish Office on 7036 9330 or email [pascoevale@cam.org.au](mailto:pascoevale@cam.org.au)

For detailed COVID-19 updates from the Archdiocese of Melbourne, go to parish website: <https://stolivers.org.au>