

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Anyone who is not against us is for us. If your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off.

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.'

'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

29 SEPTEMBER 2024

'THE LITTLE ONES'

You may recall from last week's passage from the Gospel of Mark that Jesus placed a child among them. The child exemplifies others who believe in Jesus and are open and receptive to learning more. In today's passage, among a series of instructions, we hear of 'these little ones who believe in me.' The instruction is a continuation of the teaching to the failing disciples about how to receive Jesus.

John, who is one of the leadership group of the Twelve, addresses Jesus as 'teacher' and asks a question that reveals his own misunderstanding. Having seen someone casting out demons in Jesus' name, he says 'we tried to stop him, because *he was not following us.*' Jesus responds to refocus them to him. Their proclamation of the good news is not about gaining followers of the Twelve but inviting followers of Jesus. In this context the further instruction of not putting stumbling blocks in front of 'the little ones who believe' makes more sense.

The language that follows seems strange to us, yet the negatives are graphically pointing to the real goal of entering the fullness of life in the kingdom of God. This is the reward for all who might offer even a cup of water to one in need. As we reflect on the readings today, take time to think who 'the little ones who believe' are among us. How do we see our role in encouraging others to join us as disciples and servants of Jesus, and acting in his name?

Dr Rosemary Canavan

FIRST READING

Num 11:25-29

A reading from the book of Numbers.

Are you jealous on my account? Who decrees that all people may prophesy?

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look,' he said, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 18:8, 10, 12-14. R. v. 9

R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect, / it revives the soul. / The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, / it gives wisdom to the simple. **R.**
2. The fear of the Lord is holy, / abiding for ever. / The decrees of the Lord are truth / and all of them just. **R.**
3. So in them your servant finds instruction; / great reward is in their keeping. / But who can detect all his errors? / From hidden faults acquit me. **R.**
4. From presumption restrain your servant / and let it not rule me. / Then shall I be blameless, / clean from grave sin. **R.**



SECOND READING

James 5:1-6

A reading from the letter of St James.

Your wealth is rotting.

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Jn 17:17

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your word, O Lord, is truth:
make us holy in the truth.
Alleluia!



St Patrick's Parish, Kilmore

Parish Priest: Fr Prakash Cutinha
Phone: 5782 1084
Email: kilmore@cam.org.au
Website: pol.org.au/kilmore/Home.aspx
(Emails or calls outside of office hours will be attended to when we are next in the office.)

Parish Secretary: Caterina Bosevski
Bookkeeper: Lorraine Nagle
Pastoral Worker: Sr. Yen Phung LHC (Sr. Anne)
Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri, 9.30am – 4.30pm

OUR CHURCHES

Kilmore: St Patrick's Church, 37 Sutherland Street, Kilmore Vic 3764
Broadford: Our Lady Help of Christians, Cnr The Parade & McKenzie Sts, Broadford Vic 3658
Wallan: Our Lady of the Way, 30 Alcantara Blvd, Wallan East Vic 3756
Wandong: St Michael's, 33-35 Wandong Ave, Wandong Vic 3758

MASS TIMES

Saturday: Broadford at 5.00 pm & Kilmore at 6.30 pm
Sunday: Kilmore at 7.45 am, Wallan at 9.00 am & Kilmore at 10.30 am
Weekday Masses: Kilmore, Tuesday—Saturday Mass at 9 am (Except: Wednesday at 9am in Wallan)
Reconciliation: Tuesday after 9am Mass, Kilmore
Adoration: Thursday after 9am Mass, Kilmore
Rosary: Thursday at 2.00pm in the Church, Kilmore *(Not running during school holidays)*

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, 1 Conway Street Kilmore VIC 3764

Phone: (03) 5782 1579 **Website:** <https://www.spkilmore.catholic.edu.au>
Principal: Mr Michael Bourne **Email:** principal@spkilmore.catholic.edu.au

OUR LADY OF THE WAY, 30 Alcantara Blvd, Wallan East VIC 3756 (P.O. Box 284, Wallan, VIC 3756)

Phone: (03) 8609 1784 **Website:** <https://ourladywallan.catholic.edu.au>
Principal: Mr Terry Cooney **Email:** admin@ourladywallan.catholic.edu.au

ASSUMPTION COLLEGE, Sutherland St, Kilmore, VIC 3764 (P.O. Box 111, Kilmore VIC 3764)

Phone: (03) 5783 5000 **Website:** <https://assumption.vic.edu.au>
Principal: Paul Finneran **Email:** principal@assumption.vic.edu.au

ROSTERS:

	<u>28/29 Sep</u>	<u>5/6 Oct</u>
<u>BROADFORD 5pm (Sat):</u>	28 Sep	5 Oct
Reader	Peter Kelly	Daniel Mercovich
Eucharist Minister	Brian O'Dwyer	Arthur Donovan
<u>KILMORE 6.30pm (Sat):</u>	28 Sep	5 Oct
Reader	TBA	Marita Dumaresq
Eucharist Minister	Velia Barro	Clare Clancy
PowerPoint	Boyd Family	Boyd Family
<u>KILMORE 7.45am (Sun):</u>	29 Sep	6 Oct
Reader	TBA	Sean Carroll
Eucharist Minister	John Dixon	Justine Sapiano
PowerPoint	Justine Sapiano	Carroll Family
<u>WALLAN 9am (Sun):</u>	29 Sep	6 Oct
Reader	Janette Hinchcliffe	Jeremy Holt
Eucharist Minister	Terry Cooney	Vivienne Lawrence
PowerPoint	Tracey Brincat	Fetu Thompson
<u>KILMORE 10.30am (Sun):</u>	29 Sep	6 Oct
Reader	Michael Bourne	Kath Pirie
Eucharist Minister	Lynne Beaumont	TBA
PowerPoint	Ian Pirie	Kathy Curry
<u>FLOWERS:</u>	Ann Harrigan	Carry Eid
<u>HOME EUCHARIST:</u>	John Dixon	Arthur Donovan
	Mary Donovan	

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Sick List:

Gerard McCaughey, Sonia Savolokin, Shae Newey, Steven Campbell, Danny Prelac, Jim Ahearn, Robert Duncan, Pina D'agostino, Eva Aschberger, Ian & Sandy Domeyer, Richard Lloyd, Theo Aitchison, Lee Stewart, Tessa Borg, Kelly Borg, Peter Hanvin, Ronnie Johnson, Beth Murphy, Dot McIlroy, Susan Foster, Rita Devlin, Rosa Dahm, Guadalupe Agreda, Patrick Hogan, Nuvia Prelac, Bernadette McWhinney, Sandra McCaughey & all the sick of the parish.

Anniversaries:

Wilf Podbury, Audrey Meier, Martin Nolan, Joan McDonald, Irene Sullivan, Michael Burtonclay, Ivy Wright, Paul Anthony Murphy, Francesca Younghusband, Ellen Flannery, Kay Robin Johnstone, Ellen Donovan, George Wood, Neville Pearce, Ian Nagle, Richard Breen, Francisca Ferraresi and the anniversaries of all which occur at this time as well as all people who are in need of our prayers.

Mon 30th Sep: 9am Communion Service, no Mass.

We continue to pray for Fr. Prakash as he recovers in hospital. His family has asked that we pass on the message that Fr Prakash has had a stroke, he was seriously unwell but his treatment has been effective and he is now progressing well. He is uncontactable at the moment & requests privacy at this point in time, while he recovers. We have passed on the message to his family, that our parish community is praying for his speedy recovery.

The St Vincent de Paul Conference thank everyone who helped to stock their craft stalls. The amount raised was \$1150.

We wish to express our sincere thanks for all the well wishes and support. Thanks from the parish office team.

St Patrick's Parish is a Child Safe Environment. We ask that all children be accompanied by an adult, in and around the Church.

Working together for God—Reflection 29 September 2024, 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

A flock of geese flying in formation is a beautiful sight. Scientists who have researched why they fly in a V-formation have discovered some fascinating details.

First, it conserves their energy. Each bird flies slightly higher than the bird in front of it. This decreases wind resistance for each bird. Second, the geese take turns at being the leader and fall back in the group when they get tired. This enables them to fly for a long time before they need to stop for a rest.

The tired geese support the group from behind and recharge themselves as they fly at a slower speed. Third, the V-formation enables them to keep track of every bird in the group, and to communicate and coordinate with the group. In fact, research has also discovered that flying in formation is so beneficial that other birds such as ducks, ibis, swans, seagulls, pelicans, and flamingos also fly in formation.

Valuing the initiative and contribution of each person at different points in their journey and drawing the best from each member in the group are also important tenets in faith communities.

In this week's gospel, Jesus discourages the disciples from preventing a man from working a miracle in his name. Jesus tells them, "You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us". Jesus thus redirects the disciples' initial focus on excluding those who may not be in their immediate circle, to emphasising the commitment to doing the will of God: healing, teaching, and proclaiming the good news that God's love is available to everyone.

Today, we are called to embrace diversity amongst the faithful and to appreciate that the variety of our gifts and talents nourishes and enriches the entire community. Jesus speaks with great tenderness of everyone who acts in faith and good will, calling them his "little ones". He encourages us to be generous and to not exclude anyone from whole-hearted and loving service of God.

The community in Taizé, Saône-et-Loire, Burgundy, France is a modern example of a community of faith which embraces diversity. When Brother Roger founded the community towards the end of World War Two, it initially sheltered war refugees. Taizé is now renowned for being an ecumenical community of brothers, who have created beautiful music and work for peace and justice.

Currently, it comprises eighty brothers from Catholic, Anglican, Protestant traditions, from nearly thirty countries. Brother Matthew, the current prior, penned a beautiful prayer recently which describes this spirit of diversity in service:

God the Creator, all that comes from your hands is good. Help us to discern your presence in the beauty of your creation, and to rejoice that we are a part of it. May your light shine on every corner of this earth and on every creature with which we share our common home.

Sophie Clements

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'Mass for All Nations': Migrant and Refugee Mass, St Patrick's Cathedral

'God walks with His people.'

Celebrate the 110th World Day of Migrants and Refugees with migrant communities from all over Melbourne at the annual Mass for All Nations on Sunday 29 September at St Patrick's Cathedral.

2pm: Procession and Rosary in various languages

3pm: Mass celebrated by Archbishop Peter A Comensoli and migrant chaplains of the Archdiocese

All most welcome!

Spiritual Retreats at Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, East Melbourne

The Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre will begin a series of reflection nights and retreats commencing with a Reflection Day focussing on the central theme of the Year of Jubilee 2025 : ***Hearing the Audacious Call to be Pilgrims of Hope*** facilitated by Mark Walsh. The day will include times of contemplation using scripture and times of prayer. www.mmhc.org.au/spiritual-retreat/

Day: Monday, 28th October, 2024, **Time:** 9.30am to 3.15pm, **Venue:** Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, 362 Albert street, East Melbourne, **Price:** \$120 (Morning tea provided, BYO Lunch)

Live Your Best Life in Love...A Marriage Encounter weekend is for you...

Every married couple deserves this very special weekend. Time-out to nurture your most precious relationship away from daily distractions. The two of you will come away from your weekend feeling more deeply connected and with tools to help keep the passion alive. No group sharing required. The weekend is based around Catholic values. Couples of all faiths are welcome.

Please check our website for more details and to book your special weekend:

Our next weekend is: 4 - 6 October 2024 at St Paul's Retreat Centre, Wantirna South. Starts Friday evening at 7pm and finishes Sunday afternoon around 4:30pm.

We are also offering a weekend in Trafalgar, Gippsland on November 16 -17th, 2024.

Information/Bookings: Please phone Mercy & James 0409 183 676 or Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au & Website: wwme.org.au