

St. Mary of the Angels, Geelong

Monday 30th June 2025

Saturday 5th July 2025



Daily Reflections

<http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/daily.html>

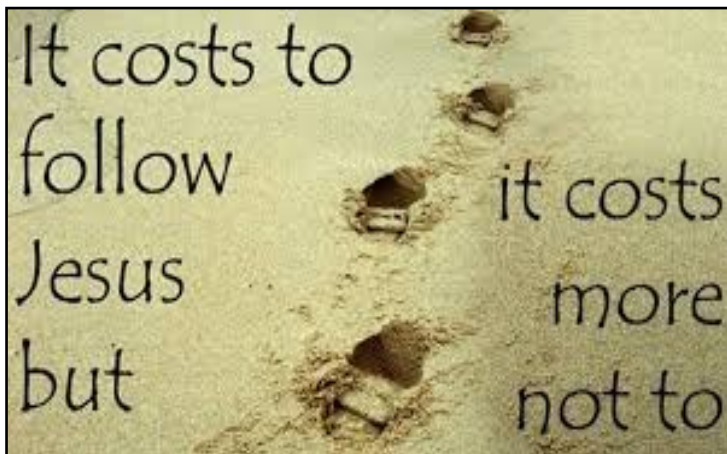
MONDAY 30TH JUNE 2025

13th week in Ordinary Time

Genesis 18: 16-33, Psalm 102: 1-4, 8-11. R. V. 8, Matthew 8: 18-22.

Reflections: The Lord is kind and merciful

In today's Gospel, Jesus elaborates on what following him entails. It can mean letting go of the security of home and family with the obligations involved. The men mentioned in the episode have heard the radical novelty of Jesus' teaching and experienced his care and healing presence for lepers and paralytics, even for those tormented by various kinds of evil possession, no doubt admiring from a distance these mighty works. Following Jesus, however, involves more than that. It is about being one with him at every stage of his journey, even to the point of accepting rejection and suffering. While the scribe appropriately calls Jesus' 'Master' and the disciple 'Lord' there is much they have to learn if they want to truly throw in their lot with him. This is the case for each of us.



TUESDAY 1ST JULY 2025

13th Week in Ordinary Time

Genesis 19: 15-29, Psalm 25: 2-3, 9-12. R. v. 3 Matthew 8: 23-27

Reflections: Let us consciously entrust our struggles and challenges to the power and love of the Lord today.

Today's readings can seem a little confronting. There is talk of the Lord raining down fire and brimstone (which is the old term referring to the odorous sulphur), of overthrowing whole towns and plains, and all the inhabitants of the towns, and everything that grew there. The Gospel speaks of a storm so violent that the waves were breaking over the boat. Perhaps these words reflect the tumult and conflict we experience in our own hearts and minds, in our present lives. And yet, in the midst of this storm is an invitation to call out to Jesus, to place our trust in him, to allow Jesus to calm the tumult within us. In times of difficulty, we are called to find our hope in the Lord. May we always call out to Jesus, particularly in those times of trouble and tumult.



WEDNESDAY 2ND JULY 2025

13th Week in Ordinary Time

Genesis 21: 5, 8-20, Psalm 33: 7-8, 10-13. R. v. 7, Matthew 8: 28-34

Reflection: The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

We all have our own inner demons to contend with, and perhaps we encounter others who we think are also 'possessed by demons'. And so, today's Gospel reminds us of Jesus' authority over all spiritual forces that seek to harm and oppress us. How do I respond to Jesus' power and presence in my own life? Do I ask God to free me from all that oppresses and holds me in darkness? Am I afraid of Jesus' power like the townsfolk, who implored him to leave the neighbourhood? Jesus, today I give thanks for your power and glory over oppression and darkness and pray that you continue to set my heart free. May I always welcome you into every part of my life.



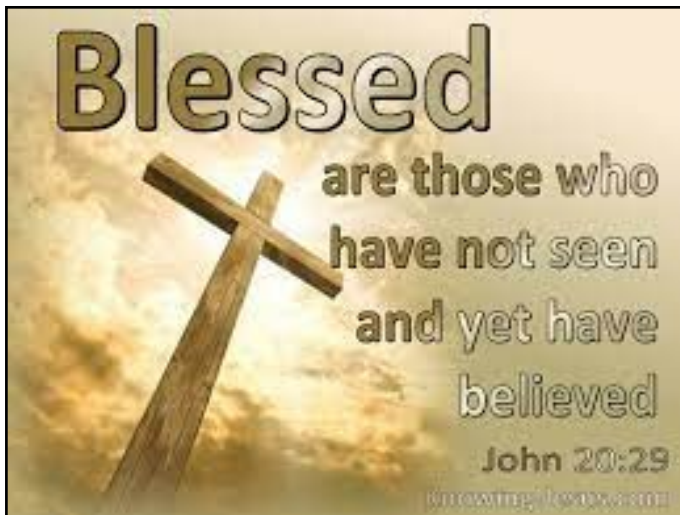
THURSDAY 3RD JULY 2025

St Thomas, Apostle Feast

Ephesians 2: 19-22, Psalm 116. R. Mark 16: 15, John 20: 24-29

Reflection: Go out to all the world and tell the Good News

We can take heart in knowing that one of the great saints, Thomas the Apostle, also experienced doubt when it came to believing that Jesus, the Lord, was truly in his presence. It's only human to experience doubts, worries and fears. However, rather than being alarmed by this, we can see it as an opportunity to foster a deeper faith. Look to Thomas whose doubts were transformed into unwavering faith following his personal encounter with Jesus. See it as an encouragement to seek out the Lord's presence in our everyday lives, through the Eucharist and other sacraments. In so doing, we pray for continued strength, courage, and faith and to be bearers of the good News—like Thomas the Apostle—in lands near and far.



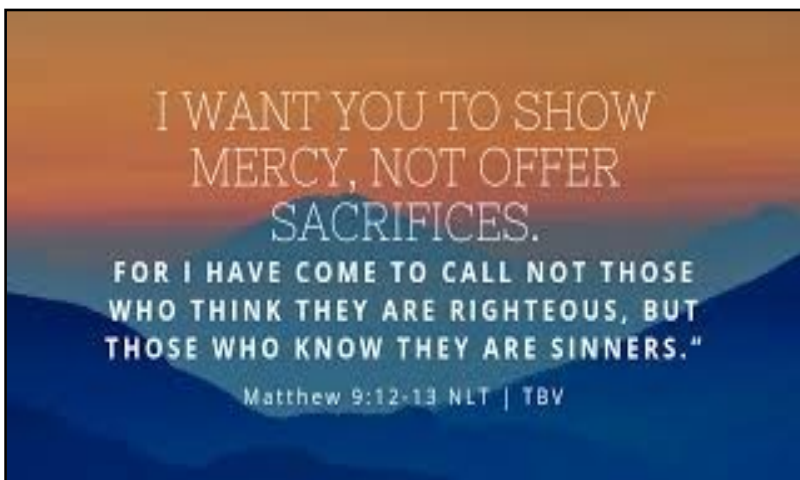
FRIDAY 4TH JULY 2025

13th Week in Ordinary Time

Genesis 23: 1-5, 15-29, Psalm 105: 1-5. R. v. 1, Matthew 9: 9-13,

Reflection. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good.

We can look to Jesus as our model for someone who embodies compassion, care and mercy. He shows us what it means to be truly inclusive and welcoming, particularly among those who have been rejected by others in society. He calls Matthew the tax collector, and others shunned by society to share a meal with him. He is scorned by some in the community for doing so. And yet, Jesus reminds us; I have come to be with sinners, to show love and mercy, and to demonstrate that all have worth and dignity in the eyes of God. We are challenged to question our own thoughts and actions. Am I not a sinner, too, in need of God's compassion and mercy? How am I being inclusive toward others? When am I being judgemental? How can I reach out, like Jesus, to those on the margins, extending God's grace, compassion, and care? Jesus, thank you for loving me, a sinner, and thank you for your invitation to be a channel for your compassion and mercy to all I encounter.



SATURDAY 5TH JULY 2025

13th Week in Ordinary time

Genesis 27: 1-5, 15-29, Psalm 134:1-6, R. v. 3,

Reflection: Praise the Lord for he is good.

In the Gospel, Jesus is questioned as to why he and his disciples are not fasting. In explaining his practice, Jesus says to John's disciples that now is not the time for fasting. While in the presence of Jesus, it is a time for his disciples to experience much joy and celebration for there will be a time for fasting later, when Jesus is taken away. Jesus then goes on to use the metaphors of applying a new patch to old cloth, and pouring new wine into old wine skins, noting that neither of these will last or function properly. Jesus is inviting us to think differently and respond creatively and openly to his ministry and message. Jesus' ways are not the old ways. We are invited to allow the newness and freshness of God's word and the Holy Spirit to bring new life into our mission of spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.



14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

