

St. Mary of the Angels Geelong

Monday 8th September 2025

Saturday 13th September 2025



Daily Reflections

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

MONDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 2025

23rd week in Ordinary Time

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Micah 5: 1-4, Psalm 12: 6-7, R. Isaiah 61: 10, Matthew 1: 18-23.

Reflections: With delight I rejoice in the Lord.

This ancient feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary celebrates the birth of the woman chosen by God to bear Christ into the world. Beginning with the narration of the genealogy of Jesus, we are shown how Mary, through her marriage with Joseph, legally becomes a part of the House of David, together with her son Jesus, in fulfilment of the Hebrew scriptures. This is followed by Matthew's account of the events leading to the birth of Jesus, a story so familiar to us from the Christmas narratives and yet so awe-inspiring. Today's reading reminds us that when God chose to become incarnate in human history, he was born of a woman. Because of this, as the angel had foretold, Jesus, Emmanuel, would be God-with-us. Truly human and truly divine. Today we celebrate and give thanks for Mary, who by opening herself in faith to the action of the Holy Spirit in her life, changed the world forever.



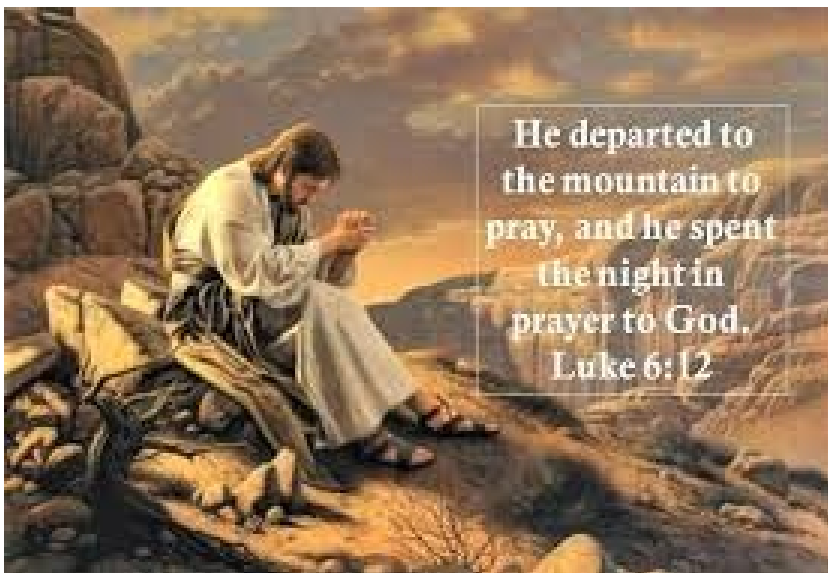
TUESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2025

23rd Week in Ordinary Time

Colossians 2: 6-15, Psalm 144: 1-2, 8-11. R. v. 9, Luke 6: 12-19.

Reflections: Sing with joy to the Lord, your help.

Life can get busy. With the pressures of family, work, sport and even Church commitments, sometimes, it can be hard to find the time to really be alone with God and pray. Consequently, we can find ourselves tackling these big, busy days with our spiritual tank running on empty. In today's reading, Jesus is about to have a huge day. First, he will name and call his twelve Apostles. Then, he is faced with a crowd of people, all eager to hear him, touch him and be healed by him. And all of this is a prelude to his delivery of the most famous sermon ever which begins with the Beatitudes. To prepare himself, Jesus heads for the hills and spends the night in prayer, Jesus knows he needs time in communion with the Father and the Holy Spirit so he can refill his tank and share the fruits and the power of that communion with others.



WEDNESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2025

23rd Week in Ordinary Time

Colossians 3: 1-11, Psalm 144:2-3, 10-13, R. v. 9, Luke 6: 20-26

Reflection: The Lord is compassionate to all his creatures.

It's surely hard to be happy when you're poor, hungry and weeping. But today, in Luke's version of the Beatitudes, we learn something fundamental to the Christian life. Firstly, we see Jesus' concern and compassion for the poor, the suffering and marginalised. And then we see how in this context Jesus up-ends the values of this world and directs our sights to heavenly values. In the Beatitudes Jesus invites us to develop an attitude of heart which is detached from earthly comforts, such as possessions, fine food and shallow happiness because those things will not fill our soul or satisfy us. Rather, we should develop a kind of detachment, a lightness, where we don't depend on these things for our happiness, but we serve our neighbour with compassion and keep our eyes and our thoughts on Jesus who will lead us to a deeper fulfilment and joy and finally to our reward in heaven.



THURSDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2025

23rd Week in Ordinary Time

Colossians 3: 12-17, Psalm 150: 1-6, R. v. 6, Luke 6: 27-38.

Reflection: The Lord has made known his salvation.

In this second part of the Sermon on the Plain, Jesus turns from the spiritual to the practical—we must love our enemies. I am reminded of the story of Corrie Ten Boom. Corrie and her family were Christians in Nazi-occupied Holland during WWII. They hid Jewish people in their home until they were betrayed by someone in their town and sent to concentration camps. There Corrie, was astounded when her sister insisted, they pray both for the cruel camp guards and for the man who betrayed their family to the police. But taking seriously Jesus' call for us to love our enemies, that's exactly what she did and after her eventual release Corrie spent the rest of her life speaking about how this one small, but incredibly difficult action showed her that God's love is greater than evil and can reach down into even the worst and most deprived of situations.



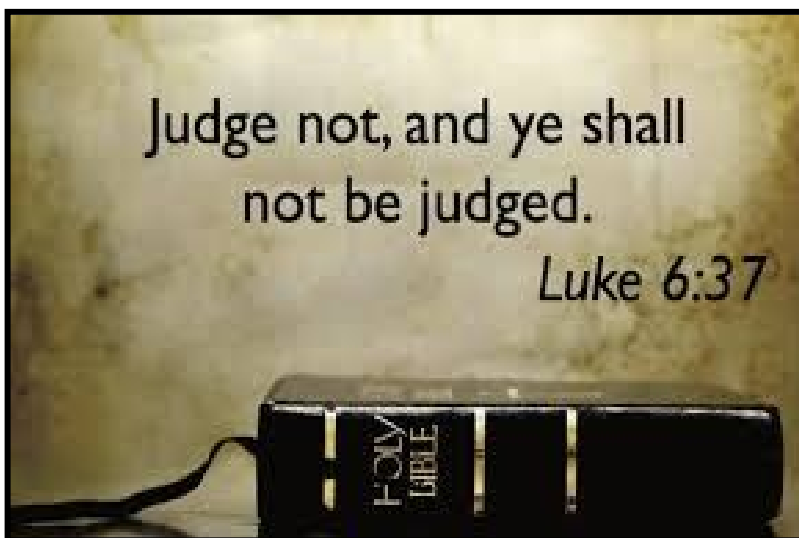
FRIDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2025

23rd Week in Ordinary Time

*1 Timothy 1: 1-2, 12-14, Psalm 15:1-2, 5, 7-8, 11. R. cf. v. 5,
Luke 6: 39-42*

Reflection. You have searched me and you know me O Lord.

Today's Gospel never fails to hit home with me and I suspect many others. How easily we find ourselves criticising others while giving ourselves all the leeway in the world for our own transgressions. Jesus wants to be able to see things as they really are and this begins with seeing ourselves as we really are. We are not asked to turn in on ourselves and start seeing fault in all that we do, but simply to see clearly that while we criticise others, we must first attend to how we are living our own life. Imagine if everyone in the Church, our family, and the world took this Scripture to heart and started living this way. Sometimes it is our duty to correct others, but as the gospel says, we're always in a better position to see the speck in their eye if we have already cleared out the plank from our own.



SATURDAY 13th SEPTEMBER 2025

23rd Week in Ordinary time

1 Timothy 1: 15-17, Psalm 112: 1-7. R. v. 2., Luke 6: 43-49.

Reflection: Blessed be the name of the Lord forever.

If you're looking for a practical guide to the good life, then today's Gospel is a great place to start. In the examples of good and bad trees producing good and bad fruits and the builder laying deep foundations on solid rock, Jesus is showing us that our inner life and our actions are closely linked. To produce good fruits in our life we need to have first taken the effort to nurture a strong, healthy tree of faith. Similarly, we need to go deep in digging our spiritual foundations if we are to withstand the storms that life throws at us. How to do this? Jesus gives us the answer—we must come to him, listen to his words and act on them. Put simply, we have to fill ourselves with God's goodness so that we can draw from that well of goodness in our daily actions, especially in tough times.



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

