

St. Mary of the Angels Geelong

Monday 20th July 2026

Saturday 25th July 2026



Daily Reflections

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

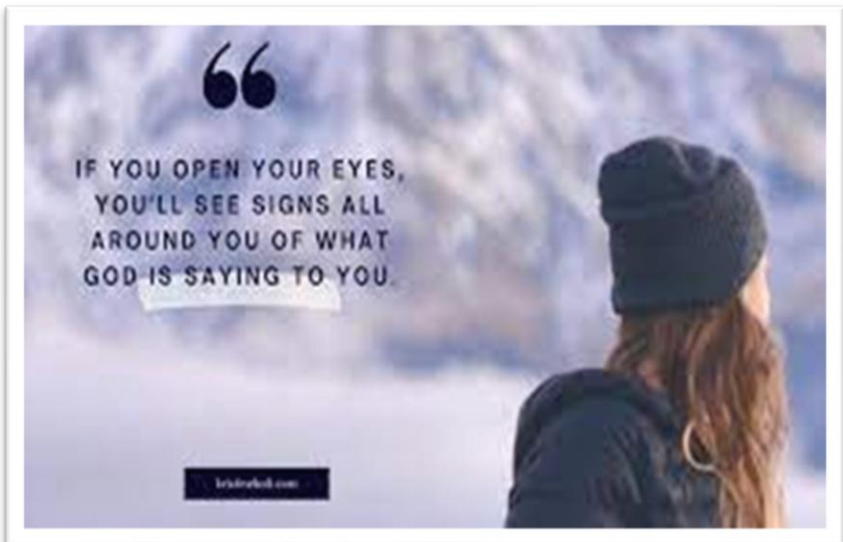
MONDAY 20TH JULY 2026

16th Week in Ordinary Time

*Micah 6: 1-4, 6-8, Psalm 49:5-6, 8-9, 16-17,21, 23. R.v. 23,
Matthew 12: 38-42.*

Reflections: We walk by faith and not by sight.

For Micah, the mountains and hills know that acting justly, loving tenderly and walking humbly with God are the appropriate gifts to bring into God's presence – but often humans do not. The scribes and Pharisees demanded more evidence than the many cures, feeding of multitudes, and insightful teaching Jesus had already amply provided. Consequently, the only sign left is his death, burial and resurrection, which Jesus obliquely refers to as the 'sign of Jonah'. Jesus' original listeners may have been perplexed by the 'sign of Jonah', but we have the full benefit of its significance. May this, and the many other signs we are given, inspire us to continually repent like the people of ancient Nineveh, and seek wisdom like the Queen of the south.



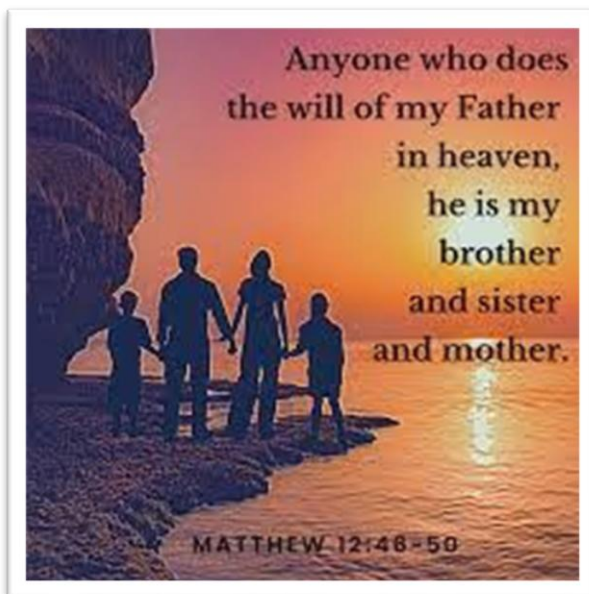
TUESDAY 21ST JULY 2026

16th Week in Ordinary Time

Micah 7: 14-15, 18-20, Psalm 84: 2-8. R. v. 8, Matthew 12: 46-50.

Reflection: Lord show us your mercy and love.

The Gospel today proposes that we are not to become devotees or fans of Jesus. Instead, we are invited to be his family members. St Francis of Assisi, in his Letter to the Faithful, said that we are Jesus' brothers and sisters when we 'do the will of his Father in heaven', and that, '*we are mothers when we carry him in our heart and body through love and a pure and sincere conscience.*' This Gospel also reveals that Jesus experienced the consternation of his family for tasking the demands of faith seriously, something that we too may experience. Meditating on Micah's image of God as a shepherd leading the flock, an incomparable God, who delights in mercy, can deepen our familial relationship with Jesus and hopefully, lead us to inspire our own families to grow in faith.



WEDNESDAY 22ND JULY 2026.

St Mary Magdalene,

16th Week in Ordinary Time

Song 3: 1-4, Psalm 62: 2-6, 8-9, R. v. 2, John 20: 1-2, 11-18.

Reflection: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Mary of Magdala has often been misrepresented in Christian history. The Scriptures for her feast indicate who she really was – a woman of deep faith, who ‘sought what her heart loved’; a wholehearted disciple who recognised the Risen Jesus when he called her by name. Full of gratitude from her initial healing encounter with Jesus in Galilee, she accompanied and supported Jesus and his disciples out of her own resources all the way to Jerusalem. It was her love that drew her to his tomb, it was her testimony that convinced the other disciples that Jesus was risen. She was indeed a new creation in Christ. May we grow in such love of Christ that we too become convincing signs of his presence in the world.



THURSDAY 23rd JULY 2026

16th Week in Ordinary Time

St Bridget

Jeremiah 2: 1-3, 7-8, 12-13, Psalm 35: 6-11. R. v. 10,

Matthew 13: 10-17

Reflection:. ... ‘Be still and know that I am God’

When Jesus explains why he teaches the crowds in parables it seems unfair that they, unlike his disciples, are deprived of the mysteries of the kingdom. Jesus is, in fact, issuing a stern directive to the disciples themselves. They are to be earnest listeners, observant responders, who are willing to grow in understanding of these mysteries. Jesus presents a stark choice which compliments the ‘double crime’ lamented by Jeremiah in the first reading; abandoning God and relying solely on one’s own abilities. ‘We face such a choice every day of our lives.



FRIDAY 247th JULY 2026

16th Week in Ordinary Time

***Jeremiah 3: 14-17, Psalm : Jeremaih 31: 10-13, R cf. v. 10,
Matthew 13: 18-23.***

Reflection:.. The Lord will guard us like a shepherd guarding his flock.

Jeremiah envisions a Jerusalem where the Ark of the Covenant has become redundant because the people have themselves become the new Ark by their unwavering loyalty to God. Jesus provides the means to becoming such people with his succinct explanation of the Parable of the Sower which we can readily apply to our personal, family and faith community circumstances. At any given moment we can be at risk on the edge, on rock among thorns, or safely in good soil. Seed is stuck where it lands, unless transplanted to a better location. When we find ourselves in risky situations, yearning to be nourished by good soil, may our Divine Gardner deftly transplant us to such soil.



SATURDAY 25th JULY 2026

16th Week in Ordinary Time

St James the Apostle

2 Corinthians 4: 7-15, Psalm 125. R.v. 5, Matthew 20: 20-28

Reflection: ‘...the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve’.

The question of the mother of the Sons of Zebedee provokes outrage among the disciples but an intriguing response from Jesus: he asks her and her two sons if they are prepared to drink the same cup as himself. He dispels false ambition and clarifies that Christian leadership is expressed in humble service. We are simply earthenware jars that hold the treasure revealed by God in Christ Jesus. James was the first Apostle to be martyred in 44 so he did drink the same cup as Jesus, while his mother is named in Matthew's Gospel as one of the women who had accompanied and cared for Jesus from Galilee onwards, and was present at his crucifixion (Matthew 27: 55-56). We have no way of knowing if we will ever be called to martyrdom like St James, but we can emulate his unnamed mother in faithfully following Jesus to the end.



17th Sunday in Ordinary time

