



**Catholic Communities of:**  
**St Matthew's, Bridgewater**  
**Our Lady of the Rosary, Stirling East**  
**St Joseph the Worker, Lobethal**  
**St Matthew's, Birdwood**

**15TH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME YEAR C**

**12th/13th JULY 2025**

## **ADELAIDE HILLS PARISH**

### **Parish House**

**1 Wembley Avenue (P O Box 718)**  
**BRIDGEWATER S A 5155**  
**Telephone 08 8359 0674**

### **Email:**

**stmatthew@adelaidehillsparish.com.au**

**Website: adelaidehillsparish.com.au**

**Facebook: Adelaide Hills Parish**

### **Parish Priest**

**Fr Alfred (Fred) Farrugia**  
**email: a281657@hotmail.com**

### **Judith Mcphee**

### **Parish Secretary**

**judy@adelaidehillsparish.com.au**

### **Cathie Oswald**

### **Pastoral Coordinator**

### **Custodian of Parish hall**

**catherine@adelaidehillsparish.com.au**

### **St Catherine's Catholic School:**

### **Mark Simpson**

### **Acting Principal:**

**Telephone: (08) 8238 8238**  
**www.stcaths.catholic.edu.au**

### **Child Safe Contact Person**

### **Mark McGeough**

**mcgeough@internode.on.net**

### **WHS Parish Officer**

### **Marianne Berry**

**marianne3079@gmail.com**

## **SUNDAY'S GOSPEL REFLECTION**

The Gospel today presents the familiar story of the Good Samaritan. The priests and Levites, according to their traditional religion, were not allowed to touch a dead body. Since the man was "half dead," they might have thought he was dead and felt no qualms about leaving a dead body in the ditch, thus observing their customs and piety.

The Samaritans were traitors to the Jewish faith and nation. They had allied themselves with the enemies of the Jews and the Jews, in turn, had destroyed their temple. Jesus' deliberate choice of a Samaritan has the sharp edge that might enable the parable to pierce the shield of traditional thinking and presumptions about people. Whose side would God be on in this parable? This certainly has God working outside the religious and observant world of Jesus' listeners. This parable threatens our sureties about friend and foe, God and religion, custom and religious practice.

With whom do we identify? Maybe with the Samaritan. He must have known from his own experience what it felt like to be "beaten up" and left behind. His own experience as a member of a despised group, an outsider to the religious and national thinking of the Jews, may have made him respond to the victim by the side of the road. We need to find places in their lives where they have been excluded, victimized, judged. Feeling and remembering what that pain felt like might help us be sensitive to victims of abuse, harassment, negligence, favouritism, racism, etc., we know, or come upon in our daily lives. We don't have to travel far, the road to Jericho might pass through our own homes, work places, and neighbourhoods.

But maybe we choose to identify with the "half dead" person in the ditch. Where in our lives are we in need of the stranger, or outsider to come to our aid? Have we ever been helped by one considered "outside" our circle? Did that experience do anything to soften our attitudes towards that person's group? Did it help us put aside our stereotypes? The lawyer in this story is surprised by what he finds himself having to admit: the Samaritan was the neighbour. The Samaritan had compassion. Once we can speak such truths we can be assured the parable has cracked through our customs and even our religious attitudes to help us see God. Perhaps our own family or religion have planted ideas about other people. These judgements of others have damaged us as well, because of what we were taught, we too have "fallen in with robbers". We have been victims, damaged and left by the side of the road. Jesus, the Outsider, comes by, sees our wounds and comes to heal us. This parable is the instrument of our healing, it is the oil he pours on our wounded spirits.

## **WEEKEND MASS TIMES**

### **St Matthew's Birdwood**

**8.30 am: 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month**

### **St Joseph's Lobethal**

**8.30 am: 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays of the month**

### **St Matthew's Bridgewater**

**6pm Saturday Evenings**

**10.30 am Sunday**

### **Our Lady of the Rosary East Stirling**

**5.30 pm Sunday**

## **WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR?**



## WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS ...

**For those recovering from surgery, illness and the sick:** Margaret Carroll, Betty White, Anne MacDonald, June Harvey, Jeff Oliver, Gabrielle Morgan.

**July Anniversaries:** Linda Golding, Lew Brickhill, Joanne McFarlane, Gertrude Meyer, Dorothy Adkins, Sheila Chabrel, Noel Wilckens, Von Arthurson, Paul & Frederick Forster, Joan Somers, Bob Hill, Isabel Sykes, Geneveive Bellim, Jim White, Garry D. Phillips, Colleen M. Overton, Albin Wohlfart, Francis McAuliffe, Frank Wolff, Keith Messinger, Vera Marek, Elwyn Muldoon, Reginald Hewish, Christina Wicks.

**Recently deceased** Helen Healy, Neil Osborne

## MASS TIMES DURING THE WEEK

Monday 14th	Mass at OLOR	9.00a.m.
Tuesday 15th	Rosary at the OLOR	4.00p.m.
Wednesday 16th	Mass at Birdwood	9.00a.m.
Friday 18th	Mass at Bridgewater	11.00a.m.
Saturday 19th	Reconciliation	12.00p.m.

## UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES JULY/AUGUST

Wednesday 16th	Our Lady of Mt Carmel	
Monday 21st	Feast of Mary Magdalene	
Tuesday 22nd	Parish/School meeting	9.30a.m.
Wednesday 23rd	Parish Pastoral Council	6.00p.m.
Saturday 26th	Feast of St Joachim and Anne	
Sunday 27th	Grandparents day	
	Ecology meeting after Mass	11.30a.m.
Tuesday 29th	Liturgy Group meeting	11.00a.m.
Wednesday 30th	Northern End meeting	9.45a.m.
Friday 1st	First Friday of the Month	
Saturday 2nd	Sacramental workshop	1.30p.m.
Sunday 3rd	Volunteer Sunday	
Friday 8th	Feast of Mary McKillop	
Sunday 8th	First Holy Communion	10.30a.m.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Lord,  
I love you.  
Expand my heart;  
Let me love my neighbours.  
Make us brave enough  
to cleanse wounds,  
work to get clean air laws  
give shelter to travellers when  
needed, help pay bills  
and lend a helping hand.  
When we love you  
in our neighbour,  
let us find  
you in ourselves.

## FR FRED ANNUAL LEAVE

Fr Fred will be going to Malta from the 25th August to the 22nd September. It was almost three years ago that Fr Fred had his annual holidays. At this stage he is working out to have all weekend masses covered in those four weeks

## ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND MASSES

NORTHERN End	BIRDWOOD Sunday 20th July 8.30am	LOBETHAL Sunday 27th July 8.30a.m
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Welcome	Mary Nyeboeur	Gayle Raven
1st Reader	Eric Toome	M Smitherman
2nd Reader	M Smitherman	Simon Cox
Euch. Minister	Anne Moore	Anne Moore
Cleaning		Maria Littler

BRIDGEWATER	Sat 19th July 6.00 pm	Sun 20th July 10.30am
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Sacristan	Mark McGeough	Gina Kelly
Welcoming	Karen Heusler	Di Golding
Reader 1	Alan Miller	Paul Somers
Reader 2	Joan Davey	Fernando Farrugia
Euch. Minister	Deb Stapleton	Karen Dutton
Musicians	Damian Mansfield	Damien Mansfield
Counters	Alan Miller & Bill Roberston	
Cleaning	Judith Farrugia & Karen Heusler	
Our Lady	Cantwell Family	Cantwell Family
Flowers	Gloria Howe	Gloria Howe
Tea & Coffee	Volunteers please	

OLOR	Sunday 20th July 5.30pm	Sunday 27th July 5.30pm
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Sacristan	Paul Anderson	Paul Anderson
Welcoming	Rosey Jones	Annette Lamont

## SECOND COLLECTION PLEDGE

**EXISTING GIVERS:** Please collect your new set of envelopes from the back of the Church.

**NEW GIVERS:** If you would like to start contributing to our second Collection pledge via weekly envelopes or Direct credit/Debit please speak to Fr Fred.

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Celebrations for milestone wedding anniversaries in the Archdiocese will again be held in local parish communities to recognise couples in their life-long commitment. Couples who are celebrating a special milestone wedding anniversary this year 2025 and wish to receive the certificate please speak to Fr Fred. **Nominations will close on Friday, September 5.**

## SEA SUNDAY APPEAL

Each year, Sea Sunday is set aside by many Christian Churches as a day to remember, celebrate, and pray for Seafarers and their families, and to give thanks for their lives and work. Seafarers work tirelessly in the high seas throughout the year bringing us more than ninety percent of the goods we need. In our Archdiocese, Sea Sunday will be observed on Sunday, 20th July 2025. I encourage you to take this opportunity to highlight the significance of this day and to promote the Annual Sea Sunday Appeal within your Parish Community.

## RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

I would appreciate that in our parish those who wish to receive Holy Communion on the tongue are asked to come at the end of the communion procession. **FR FRED**

### ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT SUNDAY

Last Sunday we celebrated the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander. Thanks to Gloria Howe, Maria Thompson, Michael Russell, Gayle Raven and Jo Brickhill who brought artifacts made by Aboriginal artists and craftsmen for our display at our churches. May this day was a celebration and a moment of grace, healing, and transformation for all of us.

### HOLY FATHER'S APPEAL - PETER'S PENCE

Last weekend there was a special collection for the Pope's Appeal. The amount collected was \$502. The money will support Pope Leo's ministry among us. The Holy Father's Appeal enables the Pope to respond to emergency situations throughout the world and provide financial aid to those who desperately need it.

### GRANDPARENTS/ELDERLY DAY

In the Jubilee Year, the Day for Grandparents is intended to be an opportunity to reflect on how the presence of grandparents and the elderly can become a sign of hope in every family and church community." Beyond reflections, the celebration should be an opportunity to promote visiting the elderly and intergenerational encounters. On Sunday 27th July, at the 10.30a.m. Mass at Bridgewater we have special prayers, an experience shared by a grandmother and afterwards we have a sausage sizzle. Please invite Grandparents and the elderly to join us for this celebration.

### OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Wednesday 16th July is the feast of the Scapular; tradition says that Our Lady gave it, herself, about the year 1251, to the blessed Simon Stock, an Englishman; this devotion has since spread all over the world. Mass in honour of Our Lady of Mount Carmel will be celebrated on Monday 14th July at 9.00am. at Our Lady of the Rosary at East Stirling.

### CWL STIRLING MEETING

Next meeting is on Wednesday 16th July, 2025 at 12.30pm for 1.00p.m. (Please bring your sandwich) at OLAH Parish Hall, Bridgewater - Afternoon tea provided. ALL Parish Ladies Welcome.

### SOUTHERN CROSS

The July edition of *The Southern Cross* will be delivered to parishes this week, for distribution at weekend Masses. This month's edition has a centre-spread infographic on the 2026 Diocesan Synod and all the latest news from parishes and schools. .

### THE BRIDGE

The July edition of *The Bridge* is out now. Please take your copy from the back of the church.

### VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering in church benefits members of the congregation *and* the church itself. Church volunteers perform tasks that staff members do not have the capacity or skills to accomplish. They use their time and talents for community service, fulfilling their desire to help others while ensuring the local church can direct more funds to its mission. Volunteer Week will be celebrated in our parish on Sunday 3rd August

### FIRST WITNESS TO THE LIGHT

Mary Magdalene's experience with darkness and desolation helped her seek out the new dawn of the Resurrection. The Gospels portray Mary Magdalene, whose feast day is 22nd July, as close friend of Jesus, and first witness to the light of the resurrection. Her name reveals a glimpse of her importance among the disciples as alongside Peter the 'Rock' she holds her own as Mary the 'Tower' of faith. Mass to celebrate the feast of St Mary Magdalene will be celebrated on Monday 21st July during the morning mass at OLOR.

### ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD WRITING GROUPS

People in the Archdiocese are invited to submit expressions of interest to be a member of the 2026 Archdiocesan Synod Writing Groups. The Writing Groups are responsible for developing the five thematic papers which will form the basis for discernment at the Synod: Formation for Mission and Leadership; Mission of Catholic Education and Being Church Together; Structures and Planning for Communion, Participation and Mission; Becoming Missionary Disciples; Communion in Grace- Sacrament to the World Expressions of interest may be emailed to Sarah Moffatt and Peter Bierer ([smoffatt@adelaide.catholic.org.au](mailto:smoffatt@adelaide.catholic.org.au); [pbierer@adelaide.catholic.org.au](mailto:pbierer@adelaide.catholic.org.au)).

Please include your name, contact information, your writing group of preference, and a brief explanation of what you would contribute to the writing group. Expressions of Interest close on Friday July 18 2025.

### WALK A MILE IN MY BOOTS 2025

This winter, thousands of people in our community will struggle to find a meal, a hot shower, or a safe place to rest. With demand for Hutt St Centre's services doubling since last winter, we need your help now more than ever. Will you take a step towards ending homelessness? No one should have to face homelessness alone. Walk in solidarity with our community on Friday 8 August — a powerful moment to stand with the 7,000+ South Australians without a safe place to call home. In Australia, it's estimated that a person sleeping rough walks around 28km (17.8 miles) each week — just to reach essential services and find safety for the night. Will you step up to help end homelessness for them? If you're interested in partnering with Hutt St Centre for Walk a Mile in My Boots or sponsoring the event please contact Lauren Pike, at [lauren@huttstcentre.org.au](mailto:lauren@huttstcentre.org.au).

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Next meeting is planned for Wednesday 23rd July at the OLAH parish hall at 6.00p.m.

### Weekly Income

5th/6th July 2025

### THANK YOU

First Collection:	\$500.40
Planned Giving Received:	\$2705.00
Loose Plate:	\$115.75

If you would like to donate by Direct Debit use the parish bank account details below:

BSB: 066-782 Account: 100000277  
Account Name Adelaide Hills Parish  
Refer payment as "donation"

## 15TH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

### A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'Obey the voice of the Lord your God, keeping those commandments and laws of his that are written in the Book of this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul. 'For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach. It is not in heaven, so that you need to wonder, "Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" Nor is it beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder, "Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" No, the Word is very near to you, it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance.'

**The word of the Lord.**  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm:

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

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.

The precepts of the Lord are right,  
they gladden the heart.  
The command of the Lord is clear,  
it gives light to the eyes. R.

The fear of the Lord is holy,  
abiding for ever.  
The decrees of the Lord are truth  
and all of them just. R.

They are more to be desired than gold,  
than the purest of gold  
and sweeter are they than honey,  
than honey from the comb. R.

### A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers - all things were created through him and for him. Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity. Now the Church is his body, he is its head. As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

**The word of the Lord.**  
**Thanks be to God.**

### READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1st Reading	Genesis	18:1-10
2nd Reading	Colossians	1: 24-28
Gospel	Luke	10: 38-42

### Gospel Acclamation

#### Alleluia, Alleluia!

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life;  
you have the words of everlasting life.  
**Alleluia!**

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, 'Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the Law? What do you read there?' He replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.' 'You have answered right,' said Jesus. 'Do this and life is yours.'

But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him on to his own mount, carried him to the inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said "and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have." Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into the brigands' hands?' 'The one who took pity on him' he replied. Jesus said to him, 'Go, and do the same yourself.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



How do our priests, brothers, nuns and deacons find the strength to continue to love and resist the pressure of society? Where do they find the poise required to celebrate the successful and embrace those on the margins? They are the champions of humanity. They love the best of our actions and lovingly call out our worst. If I were in their shoes it would be so much easier to sit it out and hope that time would soften hardened hearts. Watch from the sidelines and make sure my house was in order. Why risk being a target? It would be quite understandable if they kept their opinions within the walls of the church. Instead they go out to spread the Good News and offer love to those who are vilified.

It is the world and times in which we live that dictate how smooth or difficult their life of service might be. There is irony in this, however, as a life of service is full of both trial and great joy.