



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

**20TH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME YEAR C**

**16th/17th AUGUST 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**

### **Safeguarding Contact Person**

### **Mark McGeough**

**mcgeough@internode.on.net**

### **WHS Parish Officer**

### **Marianne Berry**

**marianne3079@gmail.com**

## **SUNDAY'S GOSPEL REFLECTION**

The opening verses of this Sunday's gospel (vv. 49-50) are unique to Luke. In them we find the symbol of fire. No symbol can be reduced to a simple explanation, and so the biblical image of fire is multivalent, it speaks in many ways and on many levels.

Jesus is anxious to see his mission accomplished. In Jerusalem he will undergo a baptism of pain and death when darkness will reign. But his death will strike a fire that will burn in the midst of the community of believers and no power will be able to overcome it. The fire of the Holy Spirit will guide the new pilgrim people to their divine destiny. Unlike the flame in the temple, which was extinguished when the temple was destroyed, this flame will never go out, will always burn away sin and show the way to holiness. Jesus yearns for that fire and his death will ignite it, set it burning in the world.

What about the flame of constancy that burns in faithful Christians all around us? The aged and dying woman still fingering her beads, saying the name of Jesus over and over as she dies surrounded by her children; the theologian spending long and solitary hours in study and writing; the father holding down two jobs so his daughter can go to college; the teenager resisting the tidal wave of daily temptation; the minister raising her children and still spending long hours tending her flock; the young couple choosing low teachers' salaries because they want to "make a difference in the lives of the younger generation; the priest or deacon, spending a long day visiting the sick in the hospital and still finding time for some prayer and study for the next preaching.

You get the idea: look around your community and name the flame of God's presence. It's easy to excoriate a community for not having a burning faith, or not carrying a bright torch of zeal. But with the eyes of faith, we will notice the fire is far from out. It burns steadily in our community and we witness its effects in many marvellous, though frequently quiet and anonymous ways. It's the preacher's job to point out the fire Jesus started, to indicate where we can look to see evidence that it still burns. For in naming the flame, we are naming God's active, holy and cleansing presence in our midst. So, it turns out, we can say, "Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ!", when we hear today's gospel!

## **I HAVE COME TO BRING FIRE TO THE EARTH**



## **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**

## 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, Mirla Mills, Judith McPhee.

**August Anniversaries:** Flo Wilckens, Ruth Howe, Peggy Starr, Liz Kenyon, Tommy Moore Jack Powell, Elda Frazer, Frank Russell, Christopher Way, Maria Tarca, Stella Fletcher, Sally Porter, Domenic, Nancy & Tony Puntoriero, Garry Phillips, Beth Smith, Kathleen White, Ray Miller, Rod White, Gwen Noye, Freda O'Brien, John Ostigh, Frank Smerdon.

**Recently deceased:** Edward Woods

## MASS TIMES DURING THE WEEK

|                |                            |           |
|----------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Monday 18th    | Mass at OLOR               | 9.00a.m.  |
| Tuesday 19th   | Liturgy at St Catherine's  | 9.00a.m.  |
|                | Rosary at the OLOR         | 4.00p.m.  |
| Wednesday 20th | Communion service Birdwood | 9.00a.m.  |
| Friday 22nd    | Mass at Bridgewater        | 11.00a.m. |
| Saturday 23rd  | Reconciliation             | 12.00p.m. |

## UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES AUGUST

|                |                               |           |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Sunday 17th    | Bridgewater community Meeting | 11.45a.m. |
| Wednesday 20th | Parish Pastoral Council       | 6.00p.m.  |
| Friday 22nd    | Queenship of Mary             |           |
| Sunday 24th    | Social Justice Sunday         |           |
| Monday 25th    | Fr Fred leaves for Malta      |           |

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Jesus,  
with you is  
never "sometime,"  
or "maybe,"  
or "not today."  
There is only  
"always love"  
without limit.  
A burning bush of love  
that you came to  
share with us.  
Please,  
help us with our  
indifferent,  
poorly lit  
trying to love.



## FATHER'S DAY

Is a time to celebrate fatherhood in all its forms - both individual fathers and the impact of fathers on society. Father's Day is celebrated on the first Sunday of September in Australia. If anyone is interested to deliver 5 minute tribute to his father at Saturday Vigil mass, Sunday mass at Bridgewater, Birdwood and the OLOR, please speak to Fr Fred or Cathy Oswald,

## ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND MASSES

| NORTHERN<br>End | LOBETHAL<br>Sunday 24th Aug<br>8.30am | BIRDWOOD<br>Sunday 7th Sept<br>8.30a.m |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--|
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--|

|                |                      |                |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Welcome        | Gayle Raven          | Mary Nyeboeur  |
| 1st Reader     | Anne Moore           | Roz Crossing   |
| 2nd Reader     | Joan Murdoch         | Simon Murphy   |
| Euch. Minister | M. Smitherman        | Anne McEvoy    |
| Cleaning       | Aivee & Lauren Kelly | Janet Harrison |

| BRIDGEWATER | Sat 23rd August<br>6.00 pm | Sun 24 th August<br>10.30am |
|-------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|-------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|

|                  |                               |                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Sacristan        | Mark McGoough                 | Gina Kelly      |
| Welcoming        | Karen Heusler                 | Sue Arthurson   |
| Reader 1         | Henry Duszynski               |                 |
| Reader 2         | Mark McGeough                 | Paul Robinson   |
| Euchar. Minister | Stasia Duszynski              | Pam Broadbridge |
| Musicians        | Powerpoint                    | Powerpoint      |
| Counters         | Kathrine Johnson & Ric Sachse |                 |
| Cleaning         | Jan McDonnell & Dan De Fazio  |                 |
| Our Lady         | Di Golding                    | Di Golding      |
| Flowers          | Gina Kelly                    | Gina Kely       |
| Tea & Coffee     |                               |                 |

| OLOR | Sunday 24th August<br>5.30pm | Sunday 31st Aug<br>5.30pm |
|------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
|------|------------------------------|---------------------------|

|           |               |               |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| Sacristan | Debbie Somers | Debbie Somers |
| Welcoming | Debbie Somers | Sue Manchip   |

## 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

## RECONCILIATION

Fr Fred will be available for reconciliation every Saturday at 12.00p.m. Please go to Parish house first to alert Fr Fred so that he comes to church.

## CWL STIRLING

Monthly Meeting on Wednesday 20th August, 2025 at 12.30pm with sandwich for 1.00pm start - OLAH Parish Hall - Look forward to seeing CWL Members and Interested Lady Parishioners. Pam Broadbridge - 8339 5013

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Next meeting will be held at OLAH parish hall at Bridgewater at 6.30p.m. on Wednesday 20th August at 6.00p.m. the agenda consists of preparing for the Parish Assembly on the 19th October and the Volunteering journey at Bridgewater.

## THE BRIDGE

The August edition of The Bridge is now available at the back of the church. Please take your copy. You can spread good news by placing the magazine in the waiting room when you go for any appointment such as medical or dentist clinics. You can also hand the magazine to your friends. God works in mysterious ways!

## SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

Social justice Sunday is observed every year on the final Sunday of August. This year's commemoration falls on August 31. The Catholic Church in Australia has a long tradition of commemorating Social Justice Sunday. The day is celebrated to remind everyone about the significance of social justice in our society. It addresses various issues, including poverty, inequality, and environmental concerns. The goal is to ensure that every person has access to basic human rights and opportunities, regardless of their background. By focusing on these topics, Social Justice Sunday aims to create a fairer, more equitable world where everyone can thrive. Social Justice Sunday also serves to educate people about the importance of solidarity and community support. It promotes understanding and action towards making positive changes in society.

This day is not just about recognizing problems but also about taking steps to solve them. By engaging in activities such as community discussions, charitable donations, and advocacy, individuals can contribute to a more just and inclusive society.

## IMPORTANT DATES

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Sunday 7th September  | Father's Day   |
| Sunday 14th September | Safeguarding Sunday<br>Bridgewater/Family mass                     |
| Sunday 28th September | Feast of St Matthew<br>Birdwood/Bridgewater<br>Feast of St Francis |
| Sunday 5th October    | Social Justice activity  |
| Sunday 12th October   | Lunch/speaker/Bridgewater<br>Feast at the OLOR                     |
| Sunday 19th October   | Jubilee celebration<br>Parish Assembly<br>Both at Bridgewater      |
| Sunday 26th           | Ecology Sunday<br>St Catherine's School                            |

## IN A NUTSHELL

This document "In a Nutshell" was distributed a fortnight ago during all the weekend masses. All volunteers are asked to take a copy, read the document, and sign the last page. A kindly reminder to those who forgot to bring back their forms. Please bring the signed form as soon as you can. Those who did not attend these last two weekend masses and missed out, there will be copies at the back of the church. The signed form needs to be brought back to the church.

## QUEENSHIP OF MARY

Queenship of Mary Feast day: August 22 In this feast, particularly cherished by the Popes of modern times, we celebrate Mary as the Queen of Heaven and Earth. Pope Pius XII in the Papal Encyclical Ad Coeli Reginam proposed the traditional doctrine on the Queenship of Mary and established this feast for the Universal Church eight days after the feast of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven. Mass of the Queenship of Mary will be celebrated on Friday 22nd August at the Bridgewater during the 11.00a.m. mass..

## VOCATION SUNDAY

Last Sunday we celebrated Vocation Sunday Awareness. Let us continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life from our parish. Thank you also for your generosity as we raise \$354 to support our seminarian who are studying for the priesthood.

## HOLY COMMUNION 2025



Last Sunday our parish celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Communion to 18 children. It was a joyful experience not only for the children but also for their parents and families. This brought to an end the sacramental program for this year. Soon we will be calling for children who wishes to do the Sacramental program 2026.

## SINGERS NEEDED

Second Sunday of the month, to sing for Damien's music accompaniment for the Mass. Those of us able, meet at the church at 4pm on the Saturday before the Sunday, to familiarize with the music. We find this helpful when we meet again at 9:45 am, for the final decision-making for the Mass.

We appreciate that the Adelaide Hills Parish Community is very fortunate to have the quality of music Damien generously offers. We believe it is an expression of gratitude and respect, for those of us with moderate singing ability to sing along with his accompaniment.

## KOPANANG COMMUNITY

We wish to thank Rosa Richardson who donated once again beautiful knitted binnies and blankets for the Kopanang children. They have been given to Sr Shiela as she will be soon visiting the Kopanang community. Thanks to the Social Justice group through their fund raising have sent \$1700 to the same community.

## FR FRED

AS you know I will be leaving to Malta on Monday 25th August. All weekend masses are covered while there will be communion services for other masses during the week. Any problems please contact Cathy Oswald.

## Weekly Income 9th/10th August 2025 THANK YOU

|                          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| First Collection:        | \$711.30  |
| Planned Giving Received: | \$2060.00 |
| Loose Plate:             | \$233.00  |

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"**

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The king's leading men spoke to the king. 'Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.' 'He is in your hands as you know,' King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank. Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said, 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well where he will die.' At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm  
*Lord, come to my aid!*

I waited, I waited for the Lord  
and he stooped down to me;  
he heard my cry. R

He drew me from the deadly pit,  
from the miry clay.  
He set my feet upon a rock  
and made my footsteps firm. R

He put a new song into my mouth,  
praise of our God.  
Many shall see and fear  
and shall trust in the Lord. R

As for me, wretched and poor,  
the Lord thinks of me.  
You are my rescuer, my help,  
O God, do not delay! R

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shamefulness of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God's throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!  
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;  
I know them, and they follow me.  
Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over!  
'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

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



READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK  
21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

|             |         |                |
|-------------|---------|----------------|
| 1st Reading | Isaiah  | 66:18-21       |
| 2nd Reading | Hebrews | 12: 5-7, 11-13 |
| Gospel      | Luke    | 13:22-30       |