



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

21st SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

23rd/24th 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
ON ANNUAL LEAVE

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

In Jesus's society, when people ate together they became part of the inner circle, they were like family members. Those who are locked out of the house, in his brief parable, are claiming prerogatives from Jesus be-cause, they say, they belong to his "company," they ate and drank with him and his disciples. Based on their standards of acceptance, they are right, they belong with Jesus. But Jesus says more is required of those who sit at table with him. For those of us with him at this Eucharistic table, more is required than membership in our church, parish and com-munity. Salvation is not guaranteed to a privileged group who claim rights based on membership.

Those requesting admission at the door proffer still more credentials to get in. They claim Jesus taught in their streets and sat among them in their synagogues. Jesus' response is abrupt. More than hearing him is necessary; more than being able to recite correct doctrine is needed to make us people who bear his name – Christian. We have to put his words into practice. But how inclusive should that practice be? As wide as the world in which we live. We must be open to all, "from the east and the west, and from the north and the south," for those who are good, no matter what their background, will be invited to dine with Jesus and the great ancestors of faith, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Such a vision must have startled Jesus' hearers who thought they would be among the privileged because they could claim Jesus as "one of ours."

We may be too restrictive in our estimation of where God is present and acting. We tend to look only within our church walls to see God's special ones; we tend to rank one denomination over another as "truer" than others; we tend to make too sharply-defined distinctions between the useful and useless; we tend to jump to conclusions about people's worth from how they look and speak, the jobs they have or don't have, the income they make, their place of origin. Well, the last shall be first and the first last and "they" will come from all the points of the compass to sit at the table. So, we had better put on our biblical lens, look again and, if we have not already done so, start "striving" to live as people with another vision of reality.

When we enter the final and everlasting banquet, Jesus tells us, we will be surprised at those enjoying the feast. God has a pretty broad vision and we will be surprised at those who "made it" through the narrow gate. If we accept this vision of the end time then we should start pre-paring for it now. We need a change of glasses; we need to look at our world through biblical lens and act accordingly.

THEY SHALL COME AND SEE MY GLORY



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, Krystina Rowland,

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

WEEKDAYS COMMUNION SERVICES DURING FR FRED'S ABSENCE

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------|
| Monday | OLOR | 9.00a.m. |
| Tuesday | Rosary at the OLOR | 4.00p.m. |
| Wednesday | BIRDWOOD | 9.00a.m. |
| Friday | BRIDGEWATER | 11.00a.m. |

UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Monday 25th August | Fr Fred leaves for Malta | |
| Tuesday 23rd September | Fr Fred returns back | |

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Jesus,
your gate
is narrow yet
it opens easily and
we can come through it.
There's a key that opens it
and everyone does have access to it.
It's the key of love.
It was given to us
when we were created:
Love God.
love your neighbour.
It's key that opens the narrow gate,
the one with the sign on it
that says
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 will be celebrated on Sunday the 1st of September in Australia. If you wish to have your father/grandfather/husband mentioned in that weekend, please put his name in the list provided at the back of the church

On the weekend 6th/7th September we celebrate Father's Day Father's Day The following parishioners have accepted to deliver a speech to honour their father. Margaret Way, Saturday at Bridgewater, On Sunday Pam Broadbridge at Bridgewater, Eric Toome at the Northern End and Paul Somers at the OLOR. Thank you for accepting our invitation.

ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND MASSES

| NORTHERN End | BIRDWOOD Sunday 7th Sep 8.30am | LOBETHAL Sunday 14th Sept 8.30a.m |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|---|
|--------------|--------------------------------------|---|

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

| BRIDGEWATER | Sat 30th August 6.00 pm | Sun 31st August 10.30am |
|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Sacristan | Mark McGoough | Di Golding |
| Welcoming | Karen Heusler | Gina Kelly |
| Reader 1 | Mark McGeough | Christian Dumance |
| Reader 2 | Volunteer | Paul Somers |
| Euch. Minister | Anne Teteris | Paris Huffman |
| Musicians | Helen Cantwell | Powerpoint |
| Counters | Marianne Berry & Mary Feijen | |
| Cleaning | Sue Arthurson & Karen Heusler | |
| Our Lady | Di Golding | Di Golding |
| Flowers | Gina Kelly | Gina Kely |
| Tea & Coffee | | |

| OLOR | Sunday 31st Aug 5.30pm | Sunday 7th Sep 5.30pm |
|------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
|------|---------------------------|--------------------------|

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|----------------|
| Sacristan | Paul Anderson | Paul Anderson |
| Welcoming | Sue Manchip | Jenny Johnston |

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!

IMPORTANT DATES

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

PARISH ASSEMBLY

SUNDAY 19TH OCTOBER 2025

After the 10.30a.m. mass at Bridgewater.

11.30a.m meeting in the parish hall

12.00p.m. presentation and discussion of the themes.

2.00p.m. end of Assembly.

Please put this important event in your diary

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.

IN A NUTSHELL

To all our volunteers.

Only 45% of our volunteers have brought back the signed page form from the document In A Nutshell distributed in all of our centres. The 60% left please bring the signed form and put it at the back of the church. Mark McGeough, our Safeguarding officer will collect them as Fr Fred will be on annual leave

SINGERS NEEDED

HAVE YOU READ THIS MESSAGE?

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.

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. Fr Fred will return to Adelaide on Tuesday the 23rd September.

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

The Adelaide Hills Parish and the Diocese of Adelaide are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. May our message be that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. We will celebrate Safeguarding Sunday with a Children's Mass during the 10.30a.m. Mass at Bridgewater on Sunday 14th September.

CWL STIRLING FATHERS' DAY RAFFLE

The CWL are holding their usual Father's Day Raffle. Tickets \$2 each available before or after Mass. Thanks to OFFE Jewellers for kindly including a gift Thanks to all Parishioners for supporting the raffle.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Please support the Catholic Charities 2025 Appeal – a brochure will be handed to each family I next weekend or make donation online www.adelaide.catholic.org.au or via Catholic Charities Appeal, Reply Paid 912, Adelaide SA 5001. Or visit Catholic Charities pages on their website. Donations of more than \$2 are tax deductible.

PARISH PASORAL COUNCIL

In our last meeting we discussed the forth coming of our Parish Assembly. The date was confirmed to be Sunday 19th October after the 10.30a.m. mass at OLAH parish hall. Light lunch will be provided. A sub committee will be formed to develop the themes that will be discussed during the Assembly. It was also noted that the document IN AN NUTSHELL only around 45% of volunteers have returned back the signed sheet. The parish once again is going to participate in the Stirling Christmas Pageant on Sunday 7th December. Fr Fred said that as far as he can see everything has been prepared during his annual leave together with the financial report. Mark gave a report also about St Catherine's school. John reminded about the Season of creation. especially Ecology Sunday and the blessing of pets on Sunday 26th October at St Catherine's school. Next meeting will be Wednesday 24th September.

FEAST OF ST MATTHEW

The feast of St Matthews falls on the 21st September but for pastoral advantage we will celebrate the feast on Sunday 28th September at 10.30am. at Bridgewater. This celebration we remember especially all our past and present benefactors and helps to strengthen the identity of our parish in a day and time when more and more people are looking for an identity as members of our parish, On the feast day we will have a sausage sizzle after-wards.

SEASON OF CREATION 1st September/4th October

Season of Creation sets out to awaken our respect for creation. It invites us to see the world, not as something apart from us, but as a delicate and interlocking set of relationships of which we are part. It invites us to appreciate our world through the lens of God's love in the making of our world and in all our relationships in it. The season calls us to be thankful. The season of creation is a time to attend to our world, to celebrate its beauty and respect its delicacy, and to join others in coming to its defence.

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

Weekly Income 16th/17th August 2025
THANK YOU

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| First Collection: | \$604.90 |
| Planned Giving Received: | \$1615.00 |
| Loose Plate: | \$190.30 |

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 Isaiah

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.

O praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim him all you peoples! R

Strong is his love for us;
he is faithful for ever. R

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life,
says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father,
except through me.
Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed. 'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!" 'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from the east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. 'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK
22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

| | |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| 1st Reading | Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29 |
| 2nd Reading | Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24 |
| Gospel | Luke 14: 1, 7-14 |

**Catholic Social Justice Sunday
(31 August)
reminds us of the breadth of God's
love and concern for us and for our
world.**