



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

26th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

27th/28th SEPTEMBER 2025

ADELAIDE HILLS PARISH
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SUNDAY'S GOSPEL REFLECTION

The rich man in today's parable didn't do anything wrong. He broke no commandments as he daily passed poor Lazarus at his door. But he does fall under Amos' condemnation of the "complacent in Zion." This man's life was spent enjoying the benefits of his wealth; he wore the latest fashions and sat down to his gourmet meals – each day. All the while Lazarus was within reach, longing for the scraps from the table.

Last week's gospel ended with Jesus' instruction that we can't serve two masters, God and mammon (wealth). Indecision over our priorities and inaction about our choices are not an option. If we don't use what we have wisely and with these scriptures in mind, we fall under Amos' indictment against our complacency in this weekend first reading.

The poor are born, live and die in anonymity. Manufacturers of tombstones and monuments for cemeteries have a sales pitch that says, "Remember your loved ones for the ages." If you can afford it. No one inscribes the names of the innumerable poor of the ages on any granite markers. They die and are forgotten. However, through this parable Luke is saying, "There! The ages will not forget this man." Luke has done an unusual thing. He has named the insignificant poor one." He implies that all the wealth, recognition and esteem of others are merely temporary: in effect, they have no lasting value. So, why hoard them and risk being forgotten with them? We are invited to reflect upon what and whom we have pinned our hopes. Lasting or fading?

Once again, through this parable, Jesus has taken the side of the poor and vulnerable. Luke has shown that Jesus was of lowly birth. For example, his parents offered the sacrifice of the poor when he was presented in the temple. Those following Jesus on his journey to Jerusalem, are learning that having material possessions should cause a disciple to be cautious. We learn that while possessions are not evil in themselves, they are dangerous and must be handled wisely. The rich man takes no such careful scrutiny of what he has and how he uses it. His wealth is only for himself.

The details of the parable are poignant indeed. Who can forget them? The dogs of the street, who lick Lazarus' sores, have more pity than the rich man. Jesus' listeners would have been taken up short hearing this parable, since his contemporaries thought that riches were a sign of blessings from God. (It should make us cautious the next time we go about giving thanks for our "blessings." What blessings and where did they come from?) In a similar vein they would have thought the poor man had sinned and his condition was God's punishment

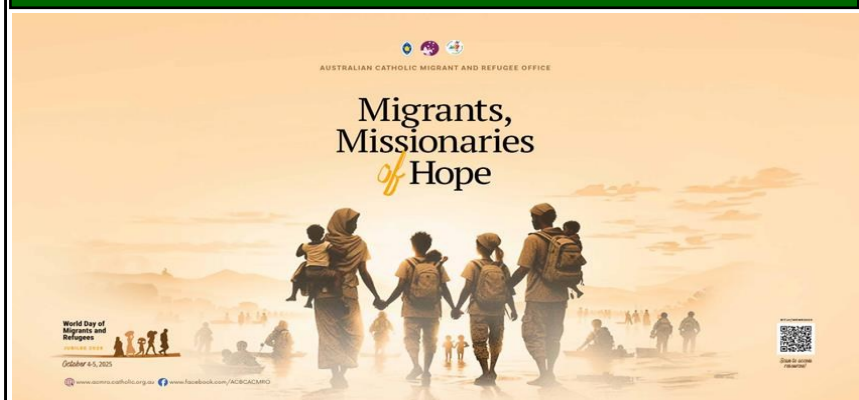
WEEKEND MASS TIMES

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

MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 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,

September Anniversaries: Marg Grant, Shirley Forester, Betty Gebert, Paul Farrugia, Veronica Davey, Mabel Phillips, Glenda Le Gallant, Fred Nixon, Jan Evans, Tony Bellem, John Rutherford Smerdon, William Cramond, Dennis MacFarlane, Betty Schipp, Maria Dunaiski, Kaye McCarthy, Joyce O'Driscoll Anna Versteeg, Francis McEvoy

Recently deceased:

WEEKDAYS MASSES

Monday 29th	OLOR	9.00a.m.
Tuesday 30th	Rosary at the OLOR	4.00p.m.
Wednesday 1st	BIRDWOOD	9.00a.m.
Friday 3rd	BRIDGEWATER	11.00a.m.

UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Sunday 28th	Migrants and Refugees Sunday	
Monday 29th	Feast of St Michael Archangel	
Tuesday 30th	Minsters of the sick	10.00a.m.
	Liturgy Meeting	11.00a.m.
	OLOR Community meeting	6.00p.m.
OCTOBER		
Thursday 2nd	Faith and Formation Team	6.00p.m.
Friday 3rd	First Friday of the month	
Sunday 5th	Feast of St Matthew	10.30a.m.
Wednesday 8th	Northern End meeting	9.35a.m.
Sunday 12th	Feast of our Lady of Rosary	6.00p.m.
Tuesday 14th	Parish/School meeting	9.30a.m.
Wednesday 15th	Parish Pastoral Council	6.00p.m.
Thursday 16th	Parish Finance Council	4.00p.m.
Sunday 19th	Parish Assembly	11.30a.m.
Sunday 26th	ECOLOGY SUNDAY	
Tuesday 28th	Liturgy meeting	11.00a.m.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Oh Lord, help us to look for Lazarus in our daily lives.

Don't let us step over him or look the other way in our busyness.

Stop us from rolling the window up when he asks for money.
Rouse us to actions that change the customs that leave your friends lying somewhere eaten up by sores and hunger, and never, ever let us remove Lazarus from his children.
Point out to us what needs fixing, and move us with your love to help mend the things we can.

ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND MASSES

NORTHERN End	BIRDWOOD Sunday 5th OCT 8.30am	LOBETHAL Sunday 12th OCT 8.30a.m
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Welcome	Mary Nyeboeur	Gayle Raven
1st Reader	Marg. Smitherman	Marie Littler
2nd Reader	Lea Crosby	Michelle Chua
Euch. Minister	Janet Harrison	Anne Moore
Cleaning	Smitherman/Crosby	Gayle Raven

BRIDGEWATER	Sat 4th October 6.00 pm	Sun 5th October 10.30am
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Sacristan	Kathy Lloyd	Di Golding
Welcoming	Anne Teteris	Gina Kelly
Reader 1	Henry Duszynski	Nolan Parodi
Reader 2	Mary Homann	Paul Robinson
Euch. Minister	Stasia Duszynski	Gina Kelly
Musicians	Helen Cantwell	Powerpoint
Counters	Connie Golding & Janet Harrison	
Cleaning	Jan McDonnell & Dan De Fazio	
Our Lady	Orma Paine	
Flowers	Gloria Howe	
Tea & Coffee	Family Farrugia	

OLOR	Sunday 5th October 5.30pm	Sunday 12th October 5.30pm
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Sacristan	Paul Robinson	Paul Anderson
Welcoming	John Rodella	Kathy

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.

The importance of parish assembly is to encourage a culture of synodality, where community members engage in deep listening and communal discernment, guided by the Holy Spirit. They serve as a platform for collective worship, prayer, and teaching, enhancing the spiritual life of the congregation. Assemblies also provide opportunities for evangelism and outreach, helping to welcome visitors and demonstrate the commitment to service. Overall, parish assemblies are essential for building a strong church community and promoting a mission-oriented life.

FR FRED

ST MICHAEL'S THE ARCHANGEL FEAST

Monday 29th September is the feast of St. Michael, one of the three archangels — the only angels named in the Bible, is the "Prince of the Heavenly Host," Michael, whose forces cast down Lucifer and the evil spirits into hell, is invoked for protection against Satan and all evil. Pope Leo XIII, in 1899, having had a prophetic vision of the evil that would be inflicted upon the Church and the world in the 20th century, instituted a prayer asking for St. Michael's protection. **Mass will be said on Monday 29th at 9.00a.m. at the OLOR. We will recite the prayer of St Michael.**

MIGRANTS & REFUGEES SUNDAY

When host nations recognise the gifts migrants and refugees bring and offer welcome and acceptance in return, everyone wins. The World Day for Migrants and Refugees invites us to recognise the contribution that they make to our nation. It also encourages us to welcome them. In times of economic hardship hospitality to people coming from other nations is especially important and challenging. Many people are forced from their own homes by poverty and conflict and seek a new life elsewhere. At the same time people in more wealthy nations fear for jobs and homes. People leave their own nations for many reasons. Many flee from war and the military bands that plunder and kill in their homeland. Others are displaced as global warming leads to higher temperatures, lack of rain, or floods and fires that destroy their crops. Others flee from lawlessness and violence that threaten them and their children. In the face of harsh conditions in their homelands they are attracted to the safer and more plentiful life they see in developed and peaceful nations. They may also be seduced by the unrealistic promises of people who exploit them. They make their way to other lands by plane, boat or overland. Migrant and Refugee Sunday is particularly important. It reminds us that each human being is loved by God and that we are not enemies but brothers and sisters. A happy society is one that is hospitable to strangers, compassionate to people in need, and respectful of difference. In Australia our ancestors were all once immigrants and foreigners.

IN A NUTSHELL

To all our volunteers.

Around 60% 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.

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.

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. Thanks for your cooperation.

FR FRED

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

This feast was instituted by Pope St. Pius V in thanks -giving for the great naval victory over the Turks at the battle of Lepanto on the 7th October 1570, a favour due to the recitation of the Rosary. Our church at East Stirling is dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary. We will celebrate the feast on Sunday 12th October. We will recite the Rosary at 5.15pm and Benediction, Solemn Mass at 5.30pm followed by a sausage sizzle.

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 5th October at 10.30am. at Bridge-water. 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

The Feast of St Francis of Assisi, is a Christian celebration that is held annually on the 4th of October. On this day commemorations are held to remember St Francis of Assisi, a 12th Century born patron Saint of animals and the environment. Celebrations include prayer, food donations being collected at Church, and in some cases, special Church services blessing your pets. For this reason, this day may also be referred to as World Animal Day. *On Sunday 26th October at St Catherine's school we will celebrate Ecology Sunday with Mass and the blessings of our pets at 10.30a.m. There will be no mass that Sunday at Bridgewater.*

FIRST FRIDAY

In the visions of Christ reported by Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque in the 17th century, several promises were made to those people who practiced the First Fridays Devotions. In many Catholic communities the practice of the Holy Hour of meditation during the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during the First Fridays is encouraged. Mass at St Matthew's Bridge-water on Friday 3rd October at 11.00a.m. followed by 20 mins of silent adoration and benediction. Everyone afterwards is invited to attend light lunch.

FATHERS' DAY RAFFLE WINNERS

The Winner of the Father's Day Raffle by CWL Stirling was Karen Grant. Thanks to all parishioners for supporting this Raffle.

OCTOBER—MONTH OF THE ROSARY

During the month of October every Tuesday at 4.00p.m. at the OLOR church, we will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, recite the Rosary and benediction.

Weekly Income 20th/21st September 2025 THANK YOU

First Collection:	\$600.70
Planned Giving Received:	\$2295.00
Loose Plate:	\$71.50

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 Amos

The almighty Lord says this:

Woe to those ensconced so snugly in Zion and to those who feel so safe on the mountain of Samaria. Lying on ivory beds and sprawling on their divans, they dine on lambs from the flock, and stall-fattened veal; they bawl to the sound of the harp, they invent new instruments of music like David, they drink wine by the bowlful, and use the finest oil for anointing themselves, but about the ruin of Joseph they do not care at all. That is why they will be the first to be exiled; the sprawlers' revelry is over.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Praise the Lord, my soul! .

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free.!

R.

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down.
It is the Lord who loves the just,
the Lord, who protects the stranger

R.

He upholds the widow and orphan
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age.

R.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Timothy

As a man dedicated to God, you must aim to be saintly and religious, filled with faith and love, patient and gentle. Fight the good fight of the faith and win for yourself the eternal life to which you were called when you made your profession and spoke up for the truth in front of many witnesses. Now, before God the source of all life and before Jesus Christ, who spoke up as a witness for the truth in front of Pontius Pilate, I put to you the duty of doing all that you have been told, with no faults or failures, until the Appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who at the due time will be revealed by God, the blessed and only Ruler of all, the King of kings and the Lord of lords, who alone is immortal, whose home is in inaccessible light, whom no man has seen and no man is able to see: to him be honour and everlasting power. Amen.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor,
to make you rich out of his poverty..

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

A man who used to dress in purple and fine linen and feast magnificently every day. And at his gate there lay a poor man called Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to fill himself with the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even came and licked his sores. Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. 'In his torment in Hades he looked up and saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus in his bosom. So he cried out, "Father Abraham, pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames." "My son," Abraham replied "remember that during your life good things came your way, just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted here while you are in agony. But that is not all: between us and you a great gulf has been fixed, to stop anyone, if he wanted to, crossing from our side to yours, and to stop any crossing from your side to ours." 'The rich man replied, "Father, I beg you then to send Lazarus to my father's house, since I have five brothers, to give them warning so that they do not come to this place of torment too." "They have Moses and the prophets," said Abraham, "let them listen to them." "Ah, no, father Abraham," said the rich man "but if someone comes to them from the dead, they will repent." Then Abraham said to him, "If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead.""

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

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK
27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1st Reading	Habakkuk	1:2-3; 2:2-4
2nd Reading	Timothy	1: 6-8, 13-14
Gospel	Luke	17:5-10