



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

28th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

11th/12th October 2025

ADELAIDE HILLS PARISH

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Principal John Low

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Safeguarding Contact Person

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WHS Parish Officer

Marianne Berry

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SUNDAY'S GOSPEL REFLECTION

The band of lepers in the Gospel lived such isolation daily. They were seen as untouchables—feared even by their own families. They formed what might be called a "community of the isolated." Their shared suffering broke down barriers between Jew and Samaritan; enemies found solidarity in grief, pain, and loneliness. To make matters worse, people believed their illness was punishment for sin, leaving them burdened with guilt for a sin they could not even name.

As someone has said: "No matter our differences, when we hurt, we all shed the same tears." Pain can unite us across divisions. We see it today when hunger, bombings, and death bring people together in places like Gaza, Ukraine, and Sudan.

In the Gospel, the lepers cry out together, united in their need: "Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!" Jesus responds with a command: "Go show yourselves to the priests." Their healing unfolds as they journey. Most likely, they believed God had healed them, and so they obeyed by heading toward the Temple. But one man—the least expected, a Samaritan—realized what had happened. He recognized Jesus himself as the source of his healing. He returned, fell at Jesus' feet, and gave thanks.

Many of us, too, seek healing—whether from illness, grief, sin, or the inability to forgive. Sometimes God's grace is dramatic and unmistakable, but more often it comes quietly, gradually, as we travel through life. Like the lepers, we voice our needs along the way: forgiveness, patience, compassion, the strength to love those we find hardest to love. The healing usually happens, not in an instant, but "on the road."

Like the Samaritan, we sometimes come to realize that change has taken place—greater strength, patience, generosity, renewal. And we know this has not come from us alone. Jesus' words ring true: "Stand up and go; your faith has saved you."

There is still more to come, more healing yet to be done in us. But here and now, at this altar, we pause to give thanks. At the start of every Eucharist we echo the lepers' plea: "Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!" And here we realize that he has extended mercy to us again—as he does each time we ask.

We are being healed on the road. We travel together as a pilgrim people, and we return here, week after week, to the source of our healing and nourishment: the Eucharist.

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

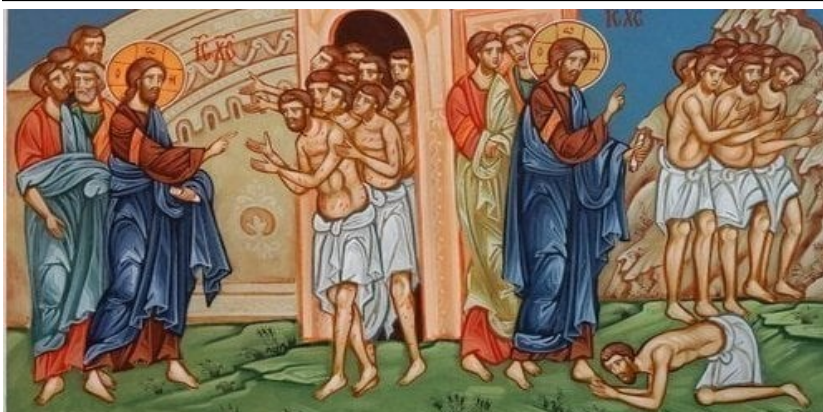
6pm Saturday Evenings

10.30 am Sunday

Our Lady of the Rosary East Stirling

5.30 pm Sunday

WE GIVE THANKS ALWAYS TO THE LORD



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, John Leeton Barbara Mott.

October Anniversaries: Peter White, Doreen Formby, Josef Zepf, Lawrie Smart, Paul Juniper, Dave Moller, George Klavins, Ernesta Della-Torre, Maria Laub, Betty Johnson, James O'Dea, Noreen O'Connell

Recently deceased: Bishop Patrick Power.

WEEKDAYS MASSES

Monday 13th	OLOR	9.00a.m.
Tuesday 14th	Mass at St Catherine's	9.00a.m.
	Rosary at the OLOR	4.00p.m.
Wednesday 15th	BIRDWOOD	9.00a.m.
Friday 17th	BRIDGEWATER	11.00a.m.

UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

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.
Thursday 23rd	Faith and Formation Team	6.00p.m.
Sunday 26th	ECOLOGY SUNDAY	
Tuesday 28th	Baptism Team meeting	10.00a.m.
	Liturgy meeting	11.00a.m.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We are ten lepers,
with scars
and wounds, and hope
for your healing touch.
From our souls' depths
we raise our voices
to you.

*Jesus, Master!
Have pity
on us!*

As we glimpse
the grace you
pour upon us,
we thank you.

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

The PFC will meet next Thursday 16th October at the OLAH Parish Hall at 4.00p.m.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th October at the OLAH parish hall at 6.00p.m.

ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND MASSES

NORTHERN End	BIRDWOOD Sunday 19th OCT 8.30am	LOBETHAL Sunday 26th OCT 8.30a.m
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Welcome
1st Reader
2nd Reader
Euch. Minister
Cleaning

PARISH
ASSEMBLY

Gayle Raven
Gayle Raven
Simon Murphy
Anne Moore
Gayle Raven

BRIDGEWATER	Sat 18th October 6.00 pm	Sun 19th October 10.30am
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Sacristan
Welcoming
Reader 1
Reader 2
Euch. Minister
Musicians
Counters
Cleaning
Our Lady
Flowers
Tea & Coffee

Ann Teteris
Karen Heusler
Henry Duszynski
Mark McGeough
Kathy Lloyd
Damien Mansfield
Marianne Berry & Cathy Oswald
Alan Miller & Ann Teteris
Orma Paine
Gloria Howe
PARISH ASSEMBLY

Di Golding
Gina Kelly
Paul Somers
Paul Robinson
Christian D

OLOR	Sunday 19th October 5.30pm	Sunday 19th October 5.30pm
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Sacristan
Welcoming

Paul Robinson
Debbie Somers

Paul Anderson
Sue Manchip



SUNDAY 19TH OCTOBER

After the 10.30a.m. mass at Bridgewater.
11.30a.m lunch in the parish hall.

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

2.00p.m. end of Assembly.

I would appreciate your presence for the
Parish Assembly.
FR FRED

OCTOBER - THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY

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

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 ST MATTHEW

Last Sunday at Bridgewater we celebrated the feast of St Matthews. St Matthew paid us a visit and collected the usual taxes which amounted to \$403.45. The amount collected will go to Catholic Charities. Thank you for your generosity, to "St Matthew" to those who organised the sausage sizzle and morning tea.

SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS:

Please save the date: Melbourne Cup Lunch, Tuesday 4 November. More details in the next few weeks.

ADVENT BOOKLET REFLECTIONS

The Advent Booklet is a pocket-sized book that includes daily reflections from the beginning of Advent to the Baptism of the Lord. This is an opportunity for us to be still each day, listen to God, and come to know that Jesus is the whole reason for our being. The booklet is free (paid by the parish), if interested to get a copy please put down your name in list provided at the back of the church.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

This Sunday we will celebrate the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Our church at East Stirling is dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary. We will recite the Rosary at 5.15pm and Benediction, Solemn Mass at 5.30pm followed by afternoon tea. Everyone is invited to attend.

ECOLOGY SUNDAY

Please join the Adelaide Hills Parish and St Catherine's School to celebrate together Ecology Sunday Mass on Sunday 26th October at St Catherine's school at 10.30a.m. We invite your pets to join us for a special blessing after Mass. There will be a sausage sizzle and Market Stall. The Tennis Court will be open for parking. There will be no 10.30a.m. Mass that Sunday at Bridgewater.



MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

If you would like a Mass offered for the deceased, friends and benefactors, please take an envelope from the back of the church "NOVEMBER OFFERING" please write their names on sheet provided inside the envelope and place it on one of the collection plates. It is customary to give an offering. The names of the de-ceased will be listed in the bulletin during November.

ALL SAINTS DAY

Mass will be celebrated at OLOR on Saturday 1st of November at 9.00a.m, also the vigil weekend mass at Bridgewater at 6.00p.m.

ALL SOUL'S DAY

Sunday 2nd November, masses celebrated during the usual weekend Masses

CWL STIRLING MEETING

Next meeting on Wednesday 15th October at the OLAH Parish Hall - 12.30pm with a sandwich, ready for a 1pm start - Look forward to seeing Members and Lady Parishioners - Tea/Coffee provided. Contact Pam Broadbridge 8339 5013.

WORLD MISSION DAY

As the Church prepares to celebrate World Mission Sunday 2025, on October 19, Pope Francis (wrote the message when he was still alive) has given us a powerful theme that resonates deeply in this Jubilee Year: **"Missionaries of Hope Among All Peoples."** In his message, the Holy Father reminds us that hope is at the heart of the Christian mission, calling every baptized person to be **"messengers and builders of hope"** in a world that often finds itself overshadowed by uncertainty and despair. Reflecting on the significance of this Jubilee Year, Pope Francis urges us to keep our gaze fixed on Christ, the centre of history, emphasizing that His mission continues today through the Church: "

THE BRIDGE

The October edition of The Bridge is out so please pick your copy from the back of the church. Those who wish to have a PDF copy can contact the parish office. We are grateful to Paul Robinson for his work in producing our monthly magazine.

SOUTHERN CROSS

Please buy a copy of the Southern Cross. Each copy costs \$2 and \$1 goes to the parish. Copies are at the back of the church

HALLOWEEN - Making Your Decision

Every year, a debate rages among Catholics and other Christians: Is Halloween a satanic holiday or merely a secular one? Should Catholic children dress up like ghosts and goblins, vampires and demons? Is it good for children to be scared? In the end, the choice is yours to make as a parent. As Catholics, we believe in the reality of evil. Tie the vigil explicitly to the Feast of All Saints, and explain to your children why we celebrate that feast. Let's reclaim Halloween for Christians, by returning to its roots in the Catholic Church!

BAPTISM PREPARATION TEAM MEETING

The Baptism Preparation Team will meet with Fr Fred on Tuesday 28th October at 10.00a.m. at the Parish meeting room. The current members of the Parish Baptism Preparation Teams are:

Pam Broadbridge & Deb Stapleton, Helen Cantwell, & Maria Thompson for Bridgewater and Anne Moore & Eric Toome for the Northern End. We thank each team for their dedication in preparing families for the baptism of their child, some baptism teams have been doing this wonderful service for many years. If you would like any more information on the Parish Baptism Preparation Teams, or wish to raise anything, please feel free to speak to them following Mass or contact the Parish Office.

Weekly Income 4th/5th October 2025 THANK YOU

First Collection:	\$631.90
Planned Giving Received:	\$1970.00
Loose Plate:	\$133.20

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

BSB: 066-782 Account: 10000277
Account Name Adelaide Hills Parish
Refer payment as "donation"

First Reading from the 2nd Book of Kings

Naaman the leper went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, as Elisha had told him to do. And his flesh became clean once more like the flesh of a little child. Returning to Elisha with his whole escort, he went in and stood before him. 'Now I know' he said 'that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel. Now, please, accept a present from your servant.' But Elisha replied, 'As the Lord lives, whom I serve, I will accept nothing.' Naaman pressed him to accept, but he refused. Then Naaman said, 'Since your answer is "No," allow your servant to be given as much earth as two mules may carry, because your servant will no longer offer holocaust or sacrifice to any god except the Lord.'
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power

Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation.

R

The Lord has made known his salvation;
has shown his justice to the nations.
He has remembered his truth and love
for the house of Israel.

R

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
Shout to the Lord all the earth,
ring out your joy.

R.



'We pray to be a church that does not serve money or itself, but the kingdom of God and his justice,' Pope Leo said during a special audience in St Peter's Square on 4 October. It was the same day that he also signed his first apostolic exhortation *Dilexi Te* (I have loved you), which will be released on 9 October. *Dilexi Te* is expected to focus on poverty and the poor. let us pray for all those who find themselves in precarious economic circumstances. We pray governments develop just policies and programs that recognise the rights of all people to live with dignity. We pray for all those organisations who offer a helping hand to those in their communities.

Second Reading from the first Letter of St Paul to Timothy

Remember the Good News that I carry, 'Jesus Christ risen from the dead, sprung from the race of David'; it is on account of this that I have my own hardships to bear, even to being chained like a criminal - but they cannot chain up God's news. So I bear it all for the sake of those who are chosen, so that in the end they may have the salvation that is in Christ Jesus and the eternal glory that comes with it. Here is a saying that you can rely on:
If we have died with him, then we shall live with him. If we hold firm, then we shall reign with him.
If we disown him, then he will disown us. We may be unfaithful, but he is always faithful, for he cannot disown his own self

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

For all things give thanks to God,
because this is what he expects of you
in Christ Jesus

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered one of the villages, ten lepers came to meet him. They stood some way off and called to him, 'Jesus! Master! Take pity on us.' When he saw them he said, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' Now as they were going away they were cleansed. Finding himself cured, one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan. This made Jesus say, 'Were not all ten made clean? The other nine, where are they? It seems that no one has come back to give praise to God, except this foreigner.' And he said to the man, 'Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK
29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1st Reading	Exodus 17:8-13
2nd Reading	2 Timothy 3:14-4:2
Gospel	Luke 18: 1-8