FEAST OF ALL SAINTS

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

ADELAIDE HILLS PARISH

31ST OCT/1ST NOV 2026

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

Paul Robinson
Parish Secretary
paul@adelaidehillsparish.com.au

Cathie Oswald
Pastoral Coordinator
Custodian of Parish Hall
catherine@adelaidehillsparish.com.au

St Catherine's Catholic School:
John Low
Principal
Telephone: (08) 8238 8238
www.stcaths.catholic.edu.au

Safeguarding Officer
Mark McGeough
mcgeough@internode.on.net

WHS Parish Officer
Marianne Berry
marianne3079@gmail.com

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

St Matthew's, Birdwood
8.30am: 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month

St Joseph's, Lobethal
8.30am: 2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday of the month

St Matthew's, Bridgewater
6pm Saturday Evening
10.30am Sunday

Our Lady of the Rosary, Stirling East
5.30pm Sunday

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

Originally, All Saints Day celebrated those who had died as martyrs in persecutions. In the early church, and some churches today, "saints" was the name for Christians. Today we remember, celebrate, and assure one another, "See what God can do among ordinary people! Just as they are saints, so shall we be." Correction – "So are we now! Praise God!"

If we are in church today.what will we see? Of course, the Book of the Scriptures catches our attention during the first part of the Mass. After hearing God's Word we turn to the altar and the bread and wine we will offer for consecration. But, as our eyes turn towards the altar, perhaps our gaze will fall on the images of the saints that surround us in statutes, paintings and mosaics on the walls.

There they are, those Beatitude people described in today's gospel: once poor in spirit, mourning, lowly, justice-seekers, persecuted, martyred for their faith, merciful, peacemakers – God's children whose lives reflected the animating and faith-sustaining presence of the Spirit. After such reminders of God's great works in the lives of the saints, we have reason to give thanks. The presider will introduce the Eucharistic Prayer, "Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God." And we will respond, "It is right and just." True enough, but there is more to include in our thanks, more saints, not from the past. but those who are among us now. Who are they? How do their lives reflect the holiness of God? Thank you God for their witness to your presence among us, doing what you have done through your Son and his saints through the ages.

Robert Ellsberg's book, "All Saints" (New York: Crossroad, 1998). Ellsberg includes biographical sketches of those named saints by the Catholic Church. He also includes Christians from other denominations, as well as Muslims, Jews and even those without membership in any faith tradition. It is what the Book of Revelation reminds us today: "After this I had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people and tongue."

The feast of All Saints is a feast of the Holy Spirit. The second person of the Trinity took flesh to save us. The third person, the Holy Spirit, is God acting among us, bringing God's plan for us humans to fulfillment. The Spirit works in many ways, but one sign of the Spirit's presence is the creation of a community of life. The Spirit is God's communication of grace, pouring the life of God into us limited humans, who often go astray, forming us into a people who are enabled to walk in God's ways.

As the visionary of the Book of Revelation tells us today: "After this I had a vision of a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation, race, people and tongue." The Spirit links all humans through the universal love of God. How do saints come about? Through the limitless work of the Spirit. Where and when does this happen? In every land and every age. Through the Spirit we are, even now, being united to God and connected to one another.

WE ARE ALSO CALLED TO HOLINESS



WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS ...

For those recovering from surgery, illness and the sick: Margaret Carroll, Betty White, June Harvey, Mirla Mills, Judy McPhee, Danilo Cruz. Fran Marshall.

November Anniversaries: Thelma Smerdon, Fr Brian Schmidt, Stella Dacko, Frank Clements, Stephen Manna, Susanne Movat, Daniel Clements, Tony Nichols, Mario Della Torre, Colin Sutton.

Recently deceased:

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 2nd	**Our Lady of the Rosary**	**9.00am**
	St Matthew's Bridgewater	**6.00pm**
Tuesday 3rd	**Liturgy at St Catherine's**	**9.00am**
	Rosary at the OLOR	**4.00pm**
Wednesday 4th	**St Matthew's, Birdwood**	**9.00am**
Friday 6th	**St Matthew's, Bridgewater**	**11.00am**
Saturday 7th	**Reconciliation**	**12.00pm**

UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Sunday 1st	**All Saints Day**	
Monday 2nd	**All Souls Day**	
Friday 6th	**First Friday of the Month**	**11.00am**
Thursday 12th	**Parish Finance Council**	**4.00pm**
Sunday 15th	**Ecology Meeting after Mass**	**11.45am**
Tuesday 17th	**OLOR Community Meeting**	**6.00pm**
Wednesday 18th	**Northern End Meeting**	**9.45am**
Saturday 21st	**Baptism Afternoon Tea**	**2.30pm**
Sunday 22nd	**Feast of Christ the King Advent Retreat**	**12.00pm**
Tuesday 24th	**Liturgy Meeting**	**11.00am**
Friday 27th	**Memorial Mass**	**7.00pm**

SECOND COLLECTION PLEDGE

Second collection pledge envelopes, which will start on this weekend (1st November 2026), are ready to be collected from the back of the church. Eighty families faithfully continue to honour their pledge through the envelope and I thank them for their generosity. It's important also to acknowledge and thank 70 families who contribute regularly through credit or debit card.

MEMORIAL MASS

As November is traditionally the month of remembrance within the Catholic Church, we are given the opportunity to reflect on and pray for those who are no longer with us, especially those who died during this year. The Memorial Mass is on Friday 27th November at 7.00pm at Bridgewater. Forms of attendance will be available from next weekend. It's important to remember that completing the form means commitment to attending.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2027

Application forms for the Sacramental Programme for 2027 can be collected from either the school or parish office or accessed via the parish website. Those applying must wish to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Holy Communion. Children on the program need to be in Year 4 or upwards next year. The program will commence with an introduction meeting in mid- February 2027.

FIRST FRIDAY

In many Catholic communities, the practice of the exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during the First Fridays is encouraged. Mass will be held at St Matthew's Bridgewater on Friday 6th November at 11.00a.m. followed by 20 mins of silent adoration and benediction. Everyone is then invited to attend a light lunch.

ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND MASSES

NORTHERN END	LOBETHAL Sunday 8th November 8.30am	BIRDWOOD Sunday 15th November 8.30am
Welcoming	Gayle Raven	Mary Nyeboer
1st Reader	Marie Littler	Eric Toome
2nd Reader	Simon Murphy	Margaret Smitherman
Euch. Minister	Eric Toome	Janet Harrison
Cleaning	Hennie Murphy	C & B Fairbairn

BRIDGEWATER	Saturday 7th November 6.00pm	Sunday 8th November 10.30am
Sacristan	Mark McGeough	Di Golding
Welcoming	Ann Teteris	John Leeton
Reader 1	Alan Miller	Jordan Gansan
Reader 2	Mark McGeough	Nathalie Irons
Euch Minister	Ann Teteris	Karen Dutton
		John Leeton
		Deb Stapleton
Musicians	Stephan & Jordan	Damien Mansfield
Counters	J.Harrison/C.Golding	J.Harrison/C.Golding
Cleaning	A.Miller/A.Teteris	A.Miller/A.Teteris
Our Lady	Orma Paine	Orma Paine
Flowers	Gloria Howe	Gloria Howe
Tea & Coffee		

OLOR	Sunday 8th November 5.30pm	Sunday 15th November 5.30pm
Welcoming	Annette Lamont	Jenny Johnston
Cleaning	Jenny Johnston	Jenny Johnston

PRAYER OF THNKSGIVING

O loving God,
deliver us from falsehood and deception.
Free us from the vice of self-seeking.
Give us the grace to imitate Jesus.
Teach us to follow His humble ways.
May his mind enlighten us,
His will strengthen us,
and His heart enflame us.
Let the faithful share the Gospel
to all peoples and cultures
and to all creation
with the same love with
which the Divine Master preached it.
We thank and praise you;
we glorify and adore you;
we love and serve you,
now and forever. Amen

LITURGY MEETING

We wish to apologise for leaving Mary Homann, a most important member in the Liturgy Group, from last week's Bulletin. To recap and correct the error, the members are Fr Fred, Mary Homann, Cathie Oswald, Paul Anderson (OLOR), Paul Robinson and Jo Brickhill (Northern End).

ADVENT RETREAT

The Church celebrates the Feast of Christ the King on 22nd November, the last Sunday before Advent, also known as the last Sunday of the liturgical year. As was the case last year, the Advent Retreat will be held on this Sunday. With parishioners not yet involved in Christmas celebrations, it's a good opportunity to prepare for Advent. The retreat will commence after the 10.30am Mass at Bridgewater and will end by 2.15pm.

ALL SAINTS' DAY
This weekend we celebrate All Saints' Day, to commemorate the saints, known and unknown. It is also called All Hallows' Day or the Feast of All Saints. It is intended to honour all saints. This includes those who are not celebrated individually or are no longer celebrated. All Saints' Day is celebrated to acknowledge those who have reached heaven.

ALL SOULS' DAY
Monday 2nd November is All Souls' Day, when we remember our dear departed family members and friends and also the benefactors of our parish. ***There will be Mass at OLOR Stirling East at 9.00am and at St Matthew's Bridgewater at 6.00pm.***

MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS
If you would like a Mass offered for the deceased, friends and benefactors, please take an envelope marked 'NOVEMBER OFFERING' from the back of the church, write your name on the 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 deceased will be listed in The Bulletin during November.

MELBOURNE CUP LUNCH
Please join the Social Justice team for lunch on Tuesday 3rd November to celebrate the running of the Melbourne Cup. Enjoy a delicious chicken and 'champagne' lunch, take part in the sweeps, wear your best hat and watch the race on the big screen. For catering purposes, bookings are essential. Email Cathie or write your name on the sheets at the back of the church. Tickets are $30 each.

NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCES—masses will be offered for the deceased relatives and friends of:
Susan Mclean, Roberto & Jocelyn Fogagnolo.
O Lord Jesus Christ, grant to the souls of the /faithful departed, the full remission of their sins. Be mindful, most merciful Saviour, of that Soul in Purgatory who was most devoted to Thee in the Holy Eucharist. Shorten the moment of his deliverance, that he may glorify Thee, and aid me in my journey toward eternity. Amen.

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL
Members of St Vincent De Paul will launch their Christmas Appeal in our parish during weekend of 14/15th November by distributing the usual envelopes. Christmas is all about family, spending time together, sharing a meal and creating meaningful memories. These moments are precious. But what if you couldn't provide a meal for your family, or even a home? This is the reality many Australian families face this Christmas.

STIRLING CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
During the Stirling Christmas Pageant, our parish is holding an bacon and egg sandwich stall on Sunday 7th December from 11.00am to 4.00pm. We are asking for volunteers who can help in the catering. Please speak to or contact John Leeton on 0419 2543 814 john.leeton2@bigpond.com.

PEOPLE COME AND GO
In these last couple of months, we lost four parishioners who passed away - and a further five parishioners left the parish for new accommodation. We have welcomed eight new parishioners in Bridgewater and Northern End, while at OLOR, people come and go. Parishioners who decide to move or retire leave behind a lot of good work that they did throughout the years they had been part of the parish, one example being volunteering. As it's often a massive headache to find a replacement, I am reminded that we need a eucharistic minister volunteer to take communion to the Catholic residents at Clayton Church Home in Woodside, and volunteers to join the cleaning roster at the Northern End and Bridgewater.
FR FRED

BAPTISM FAMILIES' CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON TEA:
The Adelaide Hills Catholic Parish invites all families who have had children baptised in the parish in recent years to attend a Christmas Afternoon Tea/Get-Together in the Parish Hall, 1 Wembley Avenue, Bridgewater (adjacent the church) on Saturday 21st November at 2.00pm. St Nicholas will make an appearance during the afternoon, with special treats for all children. Please RSVP before Monday 16th November, indicating numbers of adults and children and any dietary restrictions.

CWL SA: STATE CONFERENCE 2026
With the theme "Walking Together", please join us at St John the Baptist Meeting Hall in Plympton on Saturday 31st October from 9.00am for our State Conference, which features four guest speakers and concludes with Mass at 3.00pm. All women are welcome and on-site and street parking is available, Tickets at $30 can be purchased from cwlsasecretary@gmail.com or by calling CWL and include morning tea and lunch. Please advise of any dietary requirements. It's sure to be a great day, not to be missed!

WORKING BEE AT THE OLOR
A 'Summer Garden' Working Bee will be held at OLOR from 8.00am on the first Saturday of each month, starting 7th November. Please join us!

PLEASE NOTE
I wish to draw your attention to the parking of cars beside St Matthew's Bridgewater church. This space is NOT FOR PARKING. It's there to allow people drive, drop off people or goods, reverse and leave facing the road. It's about ensuring that everyone leaves the area safely and is able to see cars coming from both directions. It's not advisable to reverse into the road as this can cause serious accidents. **FR FRED**

WORLD YOUTH DAY SEOUL 2027
Applications Open!
Young adults aged 18 to 35 are invited to join the Archdiocese of Adelaide's Diocesan Pilgrimage to Seoul, South Korea, for World Youth Day 2027.Join thousands of young people from around the globe as we come together in faith, prayer and celebration. Encounter the many different cultures, build lasting friendships and experience the vibrancy of the universal Church while deepening your relationship with Christ.

VOCATIONS HOLY HOUR
The Vocations Office warmly invites you to gather in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament for a Holy Hour dedicated to vocations in the Archdiocese of Adelaide. Please join us on Tuesday 3rd November 2026 at 6.00pm at St Francis Xavier's Cathedral as we give thanks to Our Lord and pray that He may guide each of us in discerning what God is asking of us today. Light refreshments will be served after the Holy Hour in the Cathedral Hall. All are warmly welcome.

WEEKLY INCOME 24/25 OCTOBER 2026

First Collection:	**$4680.40**
Planned Giving Received:	**$1,910.00**
Loose Plate:	**$109.70**

If you would like to donate by direct debit, use the parish account below:

BSB 066 782
Account: 100000277
Refer payment as "Donation"

ALL SAINTS DAY

FIRST READING
A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel. After that, I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle around the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.' One of the elders then spoke and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my Lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. R.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. R.

He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. R.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING	Wisdom	6:12-16
SECOND READING	1 Thessalonians	4:13-18
GOSPEL	Matthew:	25:1-13

SECOND READING
A reading from the first letter of St John

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Alleluia, alleluia!
Come to me all you that labour
and are burdened,
and I will give you rest,
says the Lord.

Alleluia

GOSPEL
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There He sat down and was joined by His disciples. Then He began to speak. This is what He taught them:
'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

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

