

PARISH BULLETIN

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time — 16th August 2026 (Year A)

FR TONY — GOSPEL REFLECTION

This week's Gospel reveals a faith that refuses to let go. The Canaanite woman approaches Jesus from a place of desperation, yet also deep trust. Even when she encounters silence and what seems like rejection, she persists. Her love for her daughter fuels her courage, and her humility opens her heart to grace. In the end, Jesus praises her: "Woman, great is your faith."

This passage challenges us to examine how we respond when God feels distant or when prayers seem unanswered. Do we withdraw, or do we continue seeking, trusting that Christ hears even what we struggle to express? The woman's perseverance shows that authentic faith is not fragile; it is bold, patient, and anchored in hope.

Her story invites us to bring our needs honestly before God, confident that His mercy extends beyond boundaries and expectations. Faith grows when we keep turning toward Him, even in the silence.

Proper of the Mass

First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6–7

Response: O God, let all the nations praise you!

Second Reading: Romans 11:13–15, 29–32

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 15:21–28

Feasts of the week ahead

Wednesday — John Eudes, priest (1601–1680)

Born in France, he preached and encouraged devotion to the hearts of Jesus and Mary.

Thursday — Bernard, abbot and doctor (1090 – 1153)

A French born Cistercian, he fought for peace and unity in the Church, against schism.

Friday — Pius X, pope (1835 — 1914)

Born near Venice, as pope he defended Catholic doctrine against modernist heresies, and extended the practice of frequent communion.

Saturday — Queenship of Mary

This feast celebrates Mary's role as Queen of the Universe and Queen of Heaven.

Special day this Week — Tuesday: Vietnam Veterans Day

As a war memorial church, St Michael's honours and remembers all Australians who served in this war, including those who died, were wounded, or who carry the physical or emotional scars of their service. We also reflect on the impact on their families.

Children's liturgy

The next children's liturgy will be held at the 8.30am Mass on **Sunday 6 September**.

Mass and Prayer Times

Monday 5.30pm Mass with Confession immediately after Mass (Benediction & Adoration afterwards first Monday every month)

Thursday 7.00am Mass

Friday 9.00am with Confession before Mass and Adoration after Mass. Second Friday of every month is Anointing Mass.

Saturday 9.00–10.00 am Adoration with Rosary and Divine Mercy

Saturday (vigil Mass) 5.00pm and **Sunday** 8.30am Mass

ST MICHAEL'S DORRINGTON

PARISH CONTACT INFO

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We pray for: Michelle Muir, Margaret Lawson, June Meecham, Patrick King, David Carr, Don Morrison, Keiren Calder, Susie and Tom, Fr Aidan Carvill, Jan Lidstone, Sharon Bell, Ian Tyson, Peter Shafton, Yvonne Auer, Luke Barden, Killian Maguire, Kathleen Isepy and Fr Pat Doran.

Prayers for the recently deceased.

We pray for all who have died including Fr Michael Mullane and Mary Mullane, Stephen Anning, Patricia David (Dinah), Kathleen Mitchell, Tracy Kelly, Alan Williams, Rose Graham, Phoebe Semple, Romilia Ventura, Delma Schmidt, Trevour Pettersen, and Veronica Robertson, and all whose anniversaries occur around this time.

PARISH CONSULTATION 22/23 AUGUST — Consultation Process

Our Parish Consultation will take place next weekend, 22–23 August. Following the final prayer at each Mass, parishioners are invited to remain for approximately 10–15 minutes to participate in the consultation.

A questionnaire will be distributed, and you may choose to:

- complete it individually;
- discuss and complete it as part of a small group; or
- request a telephone consultation if you would prefer to share your thoughts in that way.

Those requesting a phone consultation are asked to provide their contact details, together with their preferred day and time for the call.

If you're unavailable on the weekend and would like to participate, make yourself known via the sheets at the back of the church and we will organise to get you the questionnaire and collect your response.

We aim to complete the consultation process by the end of August. The responses will then be collated into a report for Fr Gerry upon his return from leave in October. Following his review and acceptance of the report, a copy will be made available to all parishioners.

Thank you for taking the time to contribute your thoughts and ideas. Your participation will help shape future growth in faith, community and mission at St Michael's Parish.

Volunteer Opportunities in Australia–Pacific Region — The Cagliero Project

The Salesians of Don Bosco are seeking long term (6–12 month) volunteers for departure in January 2027 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Mongolia. Applications close October 31, 2026. Enquire at cagliero.org.au or lhichaaba@salesians.org.au

ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE MULTICULTURAL MASS

All are invited to the annual Archdiocese of Brisbane Multicultural Mass, celebrating the rich diversity of the Catholic Church across the Archdiocese of Brisbane. Mass will be presided by Archbishop Shane Mackinlay and concelebrated by priests ministering to cultural communities, marking the World Day of Migrants and Refugees. Stay after Mass for cultural performances, refreshments and children's activities. All welcome to wear traditional or cultural dress.

When: 30 August | 2pm – 5pm Where: Queen of Vietnamese Martyrs Catholic Church, 54 Flint St, Inala

Register and find out more: tinyurl.com/MultiMass26

Annual Catholic Campaign

The Annual Catholic Campaign will be held over the weekend of 22/23 August, in support of the Retired Priests Foundation, Holy Spirit Seminary, Centacare, the Mary MacKillop Bursary Fund and the annual Grants Program. Giving Envelopes will soon be available in the pews.

