



# Encounter

VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA CATHOLIC PARISH

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY  
TIME - YEAR A

*A living, vibrant  
faith community*

Vol 14 : No 11

## VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

### OUR VISION:

To build a faith community centred on the loving relationship of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, expressed in personal lives and communal parish activities.

### OUR MISSION IS TO:

- Develop relevant and prayerful Eucharistic celebrations
- Foster the experience of a personal relationship with God
- Provide Faith Formation opportunities
- Care for each other particularly the sick, lonely, aged and disabled
- Witness to God's love for our earthly common home and all its creatures that abound

### WE WILL:

- Reach out to those in need
- Be committed to Catholic Social Justice principles
- Pray and work together with Christian Churches and all people of goodwill
- Engage with young people
- Care for our environment towards a sustainable future
- Strengthen bonds with First Nation peoples

## MASS TIMES

- **VICTOR HARBOR**  
Weekend - Saturday 6.00pm;  
Sunday 11.00am.  
Weekdays - Tuesday, Thursday,  
Friday 9.00am
- **GOOLWA**  
Weekend - Sunday 9.00am.  
Weekday - Wednesday 9.30am

## RECONCILIATION

St Joan's, Victor Harbor - Saturday  
11am - 11.30am, or by appointment.



### FIRST READING

**Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13**

Seek the Lord, all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord.

In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths. But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Psalm 145: 7-10**

*Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!*

1. 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.
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord., who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan.
3. It is the Lord who loves the just, but thwarts the path of the

wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age.

### SECOND READING

**1 Corinthians 1:26-31**

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: *if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Mt 5:12**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Rejoice and be glad: your reward will be great in heaven.*

*Alleluia!*

*(Continued page 4)*

**VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA  
CATHOLIC PARISH**  
NGARRINDJERI and  
RAMINDJERI land

**CATHOLIC PARISH HOUSE**

32 Seaview Road (PO Box 464)  
VICTOR HARBOR SA 5211  
Telephone: 8552 1084 (*Please leave a message if the Office is unattended - we will get back to you asap*)  
Email: [catholicvhg@bigpond.com](mailto:catholicvhg@bigpond.com)  
Web: [www.victorgoolwacatholic.org.au](http://www.victorgoolwacatholic.org.au)

**PARISH TEAM CONTACTS**

• **PARISH PRIEST**

Fr Vinh-Quang Tran (8552 1084;  
in an emergency - 0429 098 802)  
Email: [Vinh2511@bigpond.com](mailto:Vinh2511@bigpond.com)

• **PARISH MANAGER**

Mrs Pat Clingan (0410 593 617)  
(Monday & Thursday: 10am - 12 noon)  
Email: [Parish\\_manager@bigpond.com](mailto:Parish_manager@bigpond.com)

• **PARISH ENCOUNTER**

Please forward items for the newsletter to the Parish Office - 8552 1084, [catholicvhg@bigpond.com](mailto:catholicvhg@bigpond.com) (*All items for the newsletter by Wednesday evening*)

• **PARISH TREASURER**

Mr Merv Mallett (0412 103 443)  
Email: [parish\\_treasure@bigpond.com](mailto:parish_treasure@bigpond.com)

• **INTEGRITY & SAFEGUARDING**

We are a safeguarding Organisation which is committed to the care, well-being and protection of children, young people and adults at risk.

- Andy Nicholls  
(VH/G contact - 0475 893 521 or [andrewnicholls6@gmail.com](mailto:andrewnicholls6@gmail.com))
- Integrity and Safeguarding Dept  
(8210 8150 - select Option 2)
- CSHW SA (Work, Health and Safety) please contact Jim Dabinett  
(0460 033 529)



(Continued from page 1)

**GOSPEL**

**Matthew 5:1-12**

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.

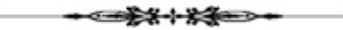
Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.

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.’



**BACKGROUND ON THE  
GOSPEL READING**

Today's reading is the beginning of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, which is found in Matthew's Gospel. The form of the Beatitudes found here is not unique to Jesus. Beatitudes are found in the Old Testament, in the psalms, and in wisdom literature, for example. They are a way to teach about who will find favour with God.

We quickly note in this reading that the people whom Jesus calls “blessed” and “happy” are not people we think of as blessed or happy . . . the poor in spirit, the meek, the persecuted. This Gospel is one of reversals. Jesus' blueprint for happiness reflects little of what the world might call happiness.

“Blessed” is sometimes translated as *happy, fortunate, or favoured*. In other words, Jesus is saying that divine favour is upon those who are poor, those who mourn, those who are persecuted. This news might have

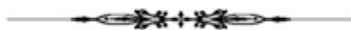
been welcome—and surprising—to the crowds who heard Jesus that day.

The Beatitudes can be understood as a framework for Christian living. Our vocation as Christians is not to be first in this world, but rather to be first in the eyes of God. By referring to the good things that the faithful will experience, Matthew reminds us that those who act in the manner described in the Beatitudes will find their reward with God.

*Loyola Press  
website*

**SYMBOLS AND IMAGES**

The ‘poor’ are those who are not smug and self-satisfied. Those who ‘mourn’ are those who grieve at the effects of sin in the world. The ‘meek’ are the lowly and powerless in any situation. Those who ‘hunger for righteousness’ are those who long for justice and peace. The ‘pure of heart’ are those who seek God alone. The ‘peacemakers’ are those who work to restore broken relationships. Those who are ‘persecuted’ are those who are ridiculed for their faith. Taken all together, the Beatitudes describe what a Christian should be like.



**THIS WEEK'S READINGS  
(02 - 5 February)**

- **Monday, 02:** Presentation of the Lord (Malachi 3:1-4; Lk 2:22-40)
- **Tuesday 03:** Weekday, Ord Time 4 (2 Sam 18:9-10, 14, 24-25, 30 – 19:3; Mk 5:21-43)
- **Wednesday 04:** Weekday, Ord Time 4 (2 Sam 24:2, 9-17 ; Mk 6:1-6)
- **Thursday 05:** St Agatha (1 Kg 2:1-4, 10-12; Mk 6:7-13 )
- **Friday 06:** St Paul Miki and companions (Sirach 47:2-11 ; Mk 6:14-29)
- **Saturday 07:** Weekday, Ord Time 4 (1 Kg 3:4-13 ; Mk 6:30-34)
- **Sunday 08:** FIFTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (1s 58:7-10; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16)

**PASTORAL CARE**

If you need a priest for anointing prior to medical treatment or if you are ill (not necessarily life-threatening) or for last rites please contact: (08) 8552 1084 or in an emergency 0429 098 802.