

Mary Immaculate Parish

Eagle Vale

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Assistant: Fr. Didier Indibi OMI

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Under the care of the
Oblate of Mary Immaculate

200 YEARS

Constitutions & Rules 1826 -2026

27th Sunday in Year A

4th October 2026



A note from the Parish Priest.

be Disciples.
One.
Sent.

WEEK 9

Theme: Sent to bear Fruit (Matthew 21:33-43)

In the parable of the *Two Sons*, last week Jesus not only challenged the chief priests and the elders to understand that living the Covenant is more than just an outward adherence to the Law but he also forced them to admit that their manner of living was not in harmony with God will. But despite having been caught out by their own answers they are still not moved. Jesus goes on to tell them the parable of the *Wicked Tenants*.

Once again Jesus uses imagery based on real-life situations and from their own cultural principles and the code of conduct which the elders and common people alike are bound. Jesus knows very well that when he calls them to comment they will have to reflect these deeply established norms.

In developing land to become vineyards, it would take the Landlord years and require major investments of time and money; clearing the land, building walls to protect from feral animals; digging a winepress; building a tower to guard ripening grapes against thieves and feral animals. The listeners of the time would know the symbolism of the *Tower*, here as in Isaiah 5:2, the tower represents God's watchful oversight, protection, and provision for His people

They would employ tenant farmers who would cultivate the land and tend the vine to ensure a good harvest in exchange for fair wages and a share of the crop (the fruits) at harvest time. The tenants did not own the vineyard but were expected to care for the vineyard as if it was their own. This was a matter of public honour and essential in this culture. The beginning of the parable is ordinary enough, however as usual Jesus takes the story to an extreme which catches them off guard.

When the time comes for the harvest, the tenants not only refused to give the landowner what is his, but they *seize, violently attacked and stoned the messengers*. The refusal to give an account of the harvest is enough to bring shame on themselves but the landowner would also be shamed and humiliated before everyone in the area.

The expected response would have been a violent retaliation. When Jesus asked the officials what they thought should happen to the tenants their answer is clear and decisive, 'they deserve *a wretched end* and the vineyard be place into the hands more honourable tenants.

However much to the amazement of the listeners, no doubt, Jesus says, the landlord sends his own son. This is perceived as a sign of weakness. And when the tenants see his son, the heir to his estate, the rebellion turned into something far more sinister. For not only did they plot to keep the harvest for themselves, but by killing the son they would also strike at the owner's claim to the vineyard itself.

The Parable Explained.

This parable is about the history of Israel. In Isaiah 5:1-7" the vineyard is the *House of Israel* and the people of Judah, *the plant he cherished*". He cleared the ground for them to inherit and tended them like a delicate vine, despite their infidelities. He sent prophets, time and again to call them to repentance, but they ridiculed and killed the prophets and would not repent. Instead for their infidelity God sent them into exile, not so much to punish them but rather to 'prune them'. Even in their exile God continued to send prophets to teach them to hope for salvation.

Now, in the "*end times*" God sent his Son, knowing what the response will be. Like the son in the parable, Jesus is perceived as a threat to the hold that the chief priests and the elder have on the 'vineyard'. But the killing of the Son, Jesus, does not lead to the destruction of the vineyard for God refuses to abandon the vineyard. God wants to reclaim the vineyard. By means of his death, Jesus becomes the *cornerstone* on which everything is aligned.

God's response is not to destroy Israel. Jesus' death is the definitive proof of God's love for his people. God recreates Israel into a new vineyard, one that is not limited to a particular place and time, or to a particular people. It is taken from those who would seek to control it and given to anyone who will

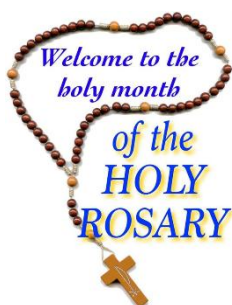
serve it. The parable teaches us that *being* in the vineyard is not what makes us holy. It is working to produce the 'fruit' of the Vineyard, and to offer them to God that makes us holy.

As we have seen in the parable, those who perceive God's gifts as *entitlements* or look at stewardship as *ownership*, are the ones who will try to withhold the vineyard from the owner. Sometimes those closest to the vineyard are the ones that produce the least amount of fruit. One cannot manage the vines and not love the owner.

REFLECTION FOR THE WEEK

Every level of leadership and every ministry within our parish is a position of trust. With Jesus as our cornerstone we model Mary Immaculate Parish on the example of God's Vineyard and make it visible in all our actions. Making Christ known by creating a culture of welcome and service, encouraging others to pray and work with us and empowering them to recognize and use their gifts, we become disciples who call others to become disciples.

Fr. Leo Mifsud OMI



October - The Month of the Holy Rosary

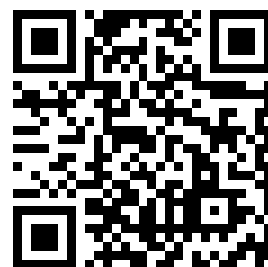
The month of the Holy Rosary is **October**, a special time in the Catholic Church dedicated to honouring the Blessed Virgin Mary and meditating on the life of Jesus Christ.

Feast Day: The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary falls on **October 7**. Pope St. Pius V established this feast to celebrate a major Christian naval victory at the Battle of Lepanto in 1571.

- ❖ Catholics worldwide are encouraged to pray the Holy Rosary daily during this month.
- ❖ Praying the rosary involves counting prayers on beads while meditating on four sets of biblical "mysteries": the **Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious, and Luminous** Mysteries.

Intention for Peace: Papal tradition often highlights October as a time to pray for world peace, echoing messages from Marian apparitions like those at Fatima and recent appeals by Pope Leo XIV.

How to Pray the Rosary click on the QR



Pray with Pope Leo XIV: One Million Children Praying the Rosary



From 1-7 October, *Aid to the Church in Need* invites you to join with Pope Leo XIV and Catholics worldwide for the *One Million Children Praying the Rosary* prayer campaign, for peace and unity in the world.

Families, parishioners, prayer groups, and schools are all encouraged to register to take part!

For free Rosary resources and to register, please scan the QR code or visit:

www.acninternational.org/millionchildrenpraying

"When one million children pray the Rosary, the world will change." - Saint Padre Pio



THANK YOU

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL 2026

Our parish has contributed **\$1389.90** to the Appeal.

Tax-deductible donations are still being gratefully received at dow.org.au/giving or call **(02) 4222 2400**

"I am deeply grateful for the way our diocesan community continues to support both those who have served us faithfully and those preparing to serve in the years ahead. Thank you for your generosity and prayerful support." – Bishop Brian Mascord

FAITH & FRIES – CAMPBELLTOWN Wednesday 14 October | 4:30pm–6:30pm,

'Register by 5 October to go into the draw for our giveaway! - Grill'd', Macarthur Square, 200 Gilchrist Street - Register: dow.sh/fries

Grab dinner at Grill'd, hear a real-life faith story and join a live Q&A panel, the topic for the night is Dating & Relationships. Whether you're involved in your faith, just curious or somewhere in between, you're welcome!

Free to attend, with a special \$15 burger and chips deal available to purchase.

9th -11th October, Marriage Encounter Weekend

Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville – We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact **Christine & Terry Mahony** on **0490 774 419** or nswbookings@wwme.org.au

16th -18th October - Compass Catholic Family Camping Weekend

Registrations are now open for our next CCFC Weekend planned for **Friday 16 - Sunday 18 October**. Join with families from across the Diocese for a relaxed weekend of family fun, faith and food! For more information and to register go to: dow.sh/familycamping26

16th -18th Oct. Handmade: Creative Healing Retreat, Carmel House, Varroville.

Carmel House, Varroville

Come away for a weekend of reflection on how carefully God has made and upheld your life through different creative prayer experiences. This retreat is for both men and women. Hosted by the MGL Sisters.

Registration link: www.trybooking.com/DIDCB

31 October Vocar's Youth October 2026

Do you have a high school-aged young person who you would love to see grow in their faith, discover the beauty of the Catholic faith and make like-minded friends? Then they won't want to miss **VOCARIS Youth** - a free, fun and faith-filled day for students in Years 7-12 on **Saturday, 31 October, 10:00am-3:00pm at Wilton Community Centre**, featuring a Cookie Station, Sausage Sizzle Lunch and Ice Cream Topping Bar! **For more information or to register, visit <https://dow.sh/Vocar'sYouth>.**

World Youth Day Seoul 2027 – Diocesan Pilgrimage

Applications are now open for the Diocese of Wollongong's pilgrimage to World Youth Day Seoul 2027!

If you're interested in joining thousands of young Catholics from around the world for this once-in-a-lifetime experience of faith, community and pilgrimage, visit dow.org.au/wyd27 for information on the itinerary, costs, travel arrangements and FAQs. Not ready to apply just yet? Join our mailing list at dow.sh/wyd27 to receive the latest updates and announcements.

Long Term Volunteer Opportunities in the Australia-Pacific Region The Cagliero Project, Salesians of Don Bosco

We 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 31st, 2026. Send us an enquiry - www.cagliero.org.au or lhichaaba@salesians.org.au.

Survey of Catholic Couples

The Australian Catholic Bishops want to hear about the experience of Catholics in their first 10 years of marriage. The information gathered will help inform the development of pastoral responses and resources for this vital stage of married life.

Any couple married in the last 10 years, where at least one spouse is Catholic, can contribute their valuable insights via

<https://thepmrc.org/survey>.

All answers are anonymous and confidential, and participants can contact the researchers directly with any questions via the survey link. Your contributions would be highly valued.



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Parish News



Tuesday 6th October - 6:30pm Mary Immaculate Parish Hall

Your best dance energy

Bring: Comfortable shoes Loose, breathable clothing - Water bottle Towel

Ann @ 0408340343

Shafrai @ 0451860404

Tuesday 5th Oct, 7:30pm F.R.E.S.H.MEN
A Gathering for the Men

An invitation for all men to come, join us for a night of fellowship. BYO, snacks and drink to share.

WHERE: At the presbytery, on 2 Aquamarine Drive, Eagle Vale
For more information contact the parish office (462643055)

Friendship

Recreation

Encouragement

Strengthening

Healing

MEN

22 – 25th October 2026

De Mazenod

Family Gathering

One Heart, One Family, One Charism.

Join members of the De Mazenod Family from across Australia as we gather for a weekend of prayer, formation, community and celebration while reflecting on the bicentenary of the Constitutions and Rules.

Whether you've been part of the De Mazenod Family for many years or are just beginning the journey, everyone is warmly invited. For more information or to register,



When: 22-25 October 2026

Registration: from \$100

Where: St Eugene's Retreat Centre, Newborough, Victoria

Visit: <https://omi.com.au/dmf-gathering> or QR

PLEASE PRAY FOR-

THE SICK: Please pray especially for: Patricia Ramos, Lucito Tan, Sandra Baynie, Bing Herradurra, Bill Webb, Maryse Purvis, Elias Busuttil, Rana Afram, Elaine Freeman, David Maxwell, Luca Thistleton, Fr Ross Naylor, Felisa Orca, Jennifer Doran, Fr Brian Egan, Lourdes Collaco, Phillip Whitehouse, Willow Morrison, Lisa Farnhill, Adrian Banks, Christine Debski, Ana Villagonzalo, Pinky and Evelyn Arenas, Lachlan Abood, Charbel Aziz, Margaret Roberts, Georgette Ganvert

THE DECEASED: Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Adolfo Eayava** recently deceased, **Fred Duggan, Tanios Daoud, Joyce Mifsud, Aurora Habac, Pamela Meredith, Roy Ward, Vera Smolonogov and Helen Mason** whose anniversaries occur at this time and all Holy Souls. May they rest in the peace of the Lord.

Feast Days for the coming week Wed. 7th **Our Lady of the Rosary;**
Pope Leo XIV’s INTENTION of OCTOBER - For mental health ministry.
Pray that mental health ministry spreads across the Church to help end illnesses' stigma.

MASS INTENTIONS 3 rd – 10 th October.	
Sat Vigil 5:30pm	For the anniversary of death of Fred Duggan
SUN 8.30am	For the anniversary of death of Tanios Daoud
10.00am	For the People of the Parish (Pro Populo)
5:30pm	For the anniversary of death of Joyce Mifsud
Mon. 9.00am	For the anniversary of death of Aurora Habac
Tues. 9.00am	For the soul of Adolfo Eayava recently deceased
Wed. 7:30pm	For the souls of Pamela Meredith, Roy Ward, Vera Smolonogov and Helen Mason
Thur. 9:00am	For strength and healing for Maryanne Ranger
Fri. 9:00am	For healing for Patricia Ramos
Sat. 9:30am	

Ministers for weekend 26 th /27 th Sept	
Saturday 5.30pm	
Acolyte:	Robert Squires
E. Minister:	
Readers:	1. Julian Rookes 2. Tricia Manjon
Sunday 8.30am	
Acolyte:	Michael Arthur
E. Minister:	Olivia Dsouza Anna Marie Ve’e
Readers	1. Ogbeyelu Onyi 2. Kirsty Simpson
Sunday 10.00am	
Acolyte:	Sam Kula
E. Minister:	Charles Morell Tony Rego
Readers:	1. Genoveva Loyola 2. Jacqueline Kho
Sunday 5.30pm	
Acolyte:	Thomas Philippe
E. Minister:	Michelle Fogarty
Readers:	1. April Alhambra 2. Jeanne Alhambra

Celebrating Seniority! Develop sustained self-reliant futures in overseas communities!
Learn about our [diverse assignments](#) suited to your qualifications and time of life. Meet past volunteers Wendy and Mick who will share their adventures of life and laughter in PNG and Timor Leste, leaving a lasting positive impact on communities. Scan below to register or see [palms.org.au/events](#) **Date:** Monday 19 October 2026 **Time:** 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm AEDT
02 9560 5333 palms@palms.org.au



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EAGLE VALE

LEGION OF MARY
Holy Rosary
AND
STATUE HOME VISITS

TO BOOK A VISIT, CONTACT

MILA 0449 934 596
HABIB 0405 712 935

WEEKEND MASSES
Saturday Vigil 5:30pm
Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am
5:30pm.

WEEKDAY MASSES
Mon & Tue: 9:00am
Wednesday: 7:30 pm
Thurs. & Fri 9:00am
Saturday: 9:30am

FILIPINO MASS
– 2nd Sunday- 4:00pm.

RECONCILIATIONS
*Saturdays 10:00am to 11:00am
(with exposition))*

DEVOTIONAL TIMES
ROSARY:
before weekday Masse

DIVINE MERCY Chaplet-
Fridays after 9am Mass with
Benediction on 1st Friday
Meetings - 4th Friday @ 6.30pm
(in Madigan room)

HOLY HOUR PRAYERS
Sponsored by the Filipino Group
First Saturday - After Mass
Saturday: 9:30am

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES
by appointment.

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