



**St Matthew's Holland  
Park Weekly Bulletin  
7th September 2025**

*This week's Revd. Morris'*

*message: **What 'salty deeds' will we be called to this week?***

## **HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO ALL OUR DADS!**

In today's gospel reading, Jesus lays it on the line -***The Divine offer of Grace, Peace, Mercy and Salvation is not to be taken lightly - it demands in return to be our top priority... trumping all others.***

Gosh, it is relatively easy to share with others the 'good news' concerning generous offer of Divine Grace and Agape Love ... but we are not being truthful with ourselves, or others, unless we also speak of our response to that offer, namely that following Jesus and His will and way must take the top spot in our lives - in our attitudes, decision making and day to day actions... and this is a key part of 'dying to self' and our ego's insistence upon its agenda and its aggrandisement. [ e.g. See Luke 9:23 ]

As we all know, this is not easy stuff. Yet, unless we do strive to do this we will remain enmeshed in our own egos and the 'false selves' that we create in order to project to others and the world the person we would wish them to see. It's like the old fashioned formal portrait paintings that adorned the houses of royalty and nobles : ***'That is how I wishes to be viewed and remembered'*** the subjects seem to say to us. The figures are slim, the features handsome or beautiful, the clothing and surroundings opulent. No warts or imperfections to see here! [ Sound a bit like our social media posts huh?]

However, it is only by *'letting all this go'* can our true selves be free to emerge. This is the person behind the mask - the person we were all created and meant to be and become. This is the paradox. It is only by putting Jesus first [ loving Him more than our own lives and and all those and that which we hold dear ] that, by Divine Grace, we are enabled to become truly ourselves.

### ***What lessons can we take from this gospel reading today?***

Jesus is reminding us that our faith must ultimately be an 'all in' decision and we are warned not to be 'lukewarm'. Jesus harshly criticises the church in Laodicea of this in Revelation 3:14-22. He says in part : ***'You are neither hot nor cold'. You think that you are rich ...and self reliant... but in fact you are wretched, miserable, poor,***





**blind and naked. 'Turn from your indifference and become enthusiastic about the things of God'.**

The last admonition from our gospel reading is **'What good is salt that has lost its saltiness?'** Jesus is calling us to be **'all in' and salty ...not half hearted and lukewarm.**

Besides, perhaps us 'being all in' will mean that we will act quite differently from those around us. Others may then wonder what you 'have' in your life that they don't?

***I wonder what 'salty deeds' we will be Divinely invited to join in with this week?***  
**Gospel reading:** Luke 14:2-14

**To dig further:** <https://www.workingpreacher.org/commentaries/revised-common-lectionary/ordinary-23-3/commentary-on-luke-1425-33>

**Upcoming Parish Activities :** **Midweek service - Wednesday 10:30; Bible Study** Wednesday night at Heather's @ 7 pm; **Op Shop** - Thursday and Saturday 9 am until Noon; **Bible study** on Friday morning 10:00am; **Sunday 21st September - our Patronal Festival with Bishop Bill**  
**Date claimers: Nicaea Event - 12th October 2025** Dr Peter Kline 1700th anniversary of the first ecumenical council of Nicaea - Afternoon tea 2:45 - wine and nibbles to follow Suggested Donation \$10; **Behind the scenes thx:** Sean and his IT BBQ and Mid Week Liturgical assistance  
**Readings for next Sunday:** Jeremiah 4:11-28; Ps 14; 1 Timothy Chapter 1; Luke 15:1-10  
**PC Highlights:** Draft MAP Approved and will be circulated shortly for comment; July financial results ACT \$6316; BUD \$ 6055; YTD ACT \$50,070 BUD \$42585; New Healing Services 3-4- pm on the 27/9; Yesterday's Raffle results will be announced at notices and advertised here next week.

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**[NB Randal and Susan will be on Holidays from 10th until 15th September and in**

**Toowoomba on the 21st September] Bank Details:** Holland Park Anglican Church Anfin BSB 704 901; Acct: 00000760. **Parish website :** [https://](https://www.stmatthewshollandpark.com/)

[www.stmatthewshollandpark.com/](https://www.stmatthewshollandpark.com/) **Parish Private Facebook site :** [https://](https://www.facebook.com/groups/292308270851142)

[www.facebook.com/groups/292308270851142](https://www.facebook.com/groups/292308270851142) ; **Public Site:** [https://](https://www.facebook.com/StMatthewsHollandPark)

[www.facebook.com/StMatthewsHollandPark](https://www.facebook.com/StMatthewsHollandPark) ; **Tipper's Treasure's Facebook site:**

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61559040358754>

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY:**

We acknowledge and pay respect to the Turrbal and Jagera Peoples, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather today. We acknowledge their continued spiritual connection to country and surrounding land, sky and water. We pay our respect to their Elders, past present and emerging and pray that we may continue to learn from and nurture one another in the spirit of Reconciliation.