

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TEL: 9791-4611/OFFICE HOURS 9AM-3PM MONDAY-FRIDAY/EMAIL: dandenong@cam.org.au

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

16 JUNE 2024

the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time: he starts to reap because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. O God, who in the offerings presented here provide for the twofold needs of human nature, nourishing us with food and renewing us with your Sacrament, grant, we pray, that the sustenance they provide may not fail us in body or in spirit. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven . . .

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray . . .

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said . . .

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace.

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 26: 4

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek:

to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. As this reception of your Holy Communion, O Lord, foreshadows the union of the faithful in you, so may it bring about unity in your Church. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

EXPLAINING THE UNEXPLAINABLE

How do we understand the kingdom or reign of God? The Gospel of today brings two examples and a word about understanding parables. This passage is preceded by Jesus telling the parable of the sower and explaining it to his disciples. We have the inside running on this as we hear and read what Jesus explains, for we too are disciples. Today's first example tells what the kingdom of God is like, continuing the theme of the sower. We see the imagery of the kingdom of God as something that is not static but growing. It takes time to flourish and bring a harvest. Those on the land know this is an ongoing process season to season, sowing and harvesting. The kingdom of God is like this, growing wherever it is planted and harvested.

Then Jesus asks, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God or what parable will we use for it?' What follows expands further on the kingdom of God. It is like the smallest of seeds that will grow to become the greatest of shrubs giving shelter for further life and growth in its branches and shade.

It seems a mystery that Jesus used many parables like this to speak the word to them, 'but he explained everything in private to his disciples'. Jesus entices the crowd with images of what the kingdom of God is like. Jesus explains the meaning to those who believe. This echoes Paul's words in the second reading 'for we walk by faith, not by sight'. How would you explain the kingdom of God today?

DR ROSEMARY CANAVAN

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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THE LAWS OF GROWTH. We would love to be able to plant a seed today and have a magnificent tree tomorrow. But that is not possible. It will take many years for the tree to grow to its full height. Likewise, the Church is constantly growing towards fuller maturity. The Church is nourished in its growth by the Eucharist and the Word of God. The Church is like a growing tree, already bearing fruit and giving comfort, but always open to further growth.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 26: 7, 9

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. Lord Jesus, you are the image of the unseen God: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the first born of all creation: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the head of the body, the Church: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

COLLECT

P. O God, strength of those who hope in you, graciously hear our pleas, and, since without you mortal frailty can do nothing, grant us always the help of your grace, that in following your commands we may please you by our resolve and our deeds. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Ezek 17: 22-24

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel
I have made the small tree great.

The Lord says this:

'From the top of the cedar, from the highest branch I will take a shoot and plant it myself on a very high mountain. I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel. It will sprout branches and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Every kind of bird will live beneath it, every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches.

And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the one who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow, who withers green trees and makes the withered green. I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM

Ps 91: 2-3, 13-16. R. cf. v. 2

R. Lord it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord / to make music to your name, O Most High, / to proclaim your love in the morning/and your truth in the watches of the night. **R.**

2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree / and grow like a Lebanon cedar. **R.**

3. Planted in the house of the Lord / they will flourish in the courts of our God, / still bearing fruit when they are old, / still full of sap, still green, / to proclaim that the Lord is just. / In him, my rock, there is no wrong. **R.**



SECOND READING

2 Cor 5: 6-10

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing the Lord.

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mk 4: 26-34

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

The mustard seed, the smallest of all the seeds, grows into the biggest shrub of all.

Jesus said to the crowds: 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Sebastian Arockia
SEMINARIAN: Bro Nicolas Calandra
PARISH SECRETARY: Franca Van Bostel
FINANCE OFFICER: Deslene de Niese
GARDENER/CARETAKER: Mr. Kevin McLaren
PARISH CENTRE MANAGER:
Mr. Miguel Matamala

If you urgently need a priest please call 9791 4611, if Father does not answer, please leave a message and he will call you back.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday Morning: 9.15am
Saturday Evening: 6.00pm
Sunday: 8.30am, 10.30am and 5.30pm

WEEK DAY MASS TIMES

Monday to Friday: 9.15am
Friday (9.45am –12.30pm Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, concluding with Benediction at 12.30pm)

ANOINTING MASS

Last Friday of every month 9.15 am

DAILY ROSARY

After morning Mass Mon-Sat
(Friday will be before Mass)

RECONCILIATION

Saturday after 9.15am Mass and 5pm to 5.45pm
before 6pm Mass or upon request

BAPTISM

Please contact the Parish Centre on 9791 4611

MARRIAGE

Please book the Church at the same time as you book your venue. As marriage preparation is an essential condition of marriage, you must book your **preparation course** at least **4 months** prior to the wedding. Further details can be obtained from Fr. Sebastian

HOUSE BLESSING

If any Parishioner would like their house to be blessed, please contact Franca or at the Parish office on 9791-4611 to make a booking with either Fr Sebastian

COMMUNION AND ANOINTING OF SICK

Please inform the Parish Office on 9791-4611 if a sick person is seriously ill, homebound or hospitalised and wants to receive Holy Communion or the Sacrament of Anointing.

Any parishioners who take Communion to the sick, could you please put your name and the person you are taking Communion to, into the **Communion to the Sick** book. This book is kept in the sacristy.

St. Mary's Primary School Phone: 9791 7650
New St, Dandenong.
Principal: Terry Gardiner
St. John's Regional College Phone 9791 3366
Caroline St, Dandenong.
Principal: Timothy Hogan
St. Mary's Community Centre 9792 4884
Bookings: Miguel Matamala 0402 155 192

BINGO AT ST MARY'S

*St. Mary's Bingo is on Tuesdays at 12noon & Saturdays at 6.30pm in
St Mary's Community Centre,
New St, Dandenong*

**STREAMS OF MERCY PILGRIMAGE
8TH-22ND SEPTEMBER 2024**

Fr Sebastian Arockia and the parish of St Mary's Dandenong would like to invite you for a 14-day Streams of Mercy pilgrimage, departing on the 8th of September 2024. This pilgrimage features Prague, Warsaw, Krakow, Budapest, Zagreb, Medjugorje, for an all-inclusive price of \$7990 (30 pilgrims). The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Breakfasts & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. For enquiries & bookings, call 03 8839 6615 or email us pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au

GOSPEL REFLECTION—GREG SUNTER

This week's gospel is a wonderful example of the teaching style of Jesus. It even tells us that 'he would not speak to them except in parables'. Jesus used the parable form almost exclusively to share his message. He used imagery that was familiar to his audience; parables about the everyday life of a rural community: seeds, planting, growing, harvesting. The secret of Jesus' parables, when we understand the cultural context, is that there was always a 'twist in the tale' – what is called a 'discombobulating shift' – that turns the expected outcome of the story on its head.

This is nowhere more evident than in the image of the mustard seed. On the surface the parable is about the kingdom of God starting from very small, humble beginnings and growing into something great. However, immediately prior to this kingdom parable, Jesus has reminded us that the community makes a living out of growing grain crops like wheat for bread, etc. His parable about the mustard seed describes a tiny seed that grows into a great shrub 'so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade'. A farming community that was growing grain crops would be greatly alarmed at the thought of actually attracting birds to their fields or even nearby. Jesus' message about the kingdom of God is that it is actually disruptive and invasive. The kingdom brings unrest and disquiet to the predictable. The kingdom of God is unsettling. This is a much more challenging parable than it appears from a literal reading.

GOSPEL FOCUS – THE KINGDOM OF GOD

The references to the kingdom of God in the gospels always carry a paradox. It exists in the present, yet is something to be achieved in the future. It is here, but not yet. If we live 'as if' we are living in the kingdom here and now then we hasten its coming. The kingdom of God is not a place but a way in which the world operates. It is a kingdom that is ruled by justice and gives precedence to those who are regarded as nothing in the world. It is a kingdom of promise and hope that inspires and calls all people to more than they currently are.

 **catholic 2024 CATHOLIC MISSION CHURCH
mission PROPAGATION OF FAITH APPEAL**

Reach out. Give life. This week, you're invited to partner with the Church in Mongolia to help deliver essential services to people who need it most. Lack of access and social stigma mean that some of the most vulnerable people are not getting the support they require. The House of Mercy will provide a haven for many people, including those affected by homelessness and domestic violence. Without your partnership, people in need will go without the assistance they require. This week, we are called to "Invite others to the banquet", and we will invite you to share the warmth of God's love with our brothers and sisters who need it most in Mongolia. You can support this work by using the appeal envelope, going online at catholicmission.org.au/ Mongolia, or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also assist many other Church programs around the world.

SCAN ME



THE OPEN DOOR

That Made Me Laugh, That Made Me Wonder

Join us for a fun morning sharing poems, jokes, limericks and other reading material over a cup of coffee in homely setting. All welcome.

When: **Monday 24 June 10.30am – 11.30 am**

Where: The Open Door, 110 Ann St, Dandenong

Bookings essential: Ph 9791 8664 or E: Theopendoor@ssjg.org.au

Gold Coin donation is welcome

Line Dancing

Have fun moving to music in this vibrant group! Make connections & discover new ways to move & create. Absolute beginners welcome to enjoy a variety of easy dances. We adapt many of the dances for those who need/choose to stay seated.

When: **Thursday 20 June 10.30am – 11.30pm**

Where: The Open Door, 110 Ann St, Dandenong

Enquiries: Ph 9791 8664 or E: Theopendoor@ssjg.org.au

Suggested Donation: Gold Coin

Singers and Actors or backstage helpers wanted to join a choir for a concert or perform as a soloist on October 27 in Dandenong. If you would like to be part of a choir or would like to audition to do a solo at the concert, please attend an information meeting on June 1st at St Roch's church hall at 3pm or contact cogtheatregroup@gmail.com or contact 0413398528. Concert is being staged by Cog theatre group and partner schools and parishes.

FUNERALS

NEIL THEODORE—Thursday 20th June 10:15am Rosary followed
by 10:45am Funeral Mass (St Mary's Parish)



JAMES WADE—Friday 21st June at 11am Funeral Mass
St Michael's Parish, Berwick

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

The latest sets of Thanksgiving envelopes are available for collection from the church foyer. They can be picked up during the times when the church is open during the day and weekend.

While collecting your envelopes, if you see a pack with a neighbour's address or the address of someone that lives down the street from you and you could do them a favour by dropping it off in their mailbox, please do! It would be greatly appreciated!

If you do not find your Thanksgiving envelopes or if your Thanksgiving contribution is incorrect, please contact the Parish Office on 9791-4611 or email dandenong@cam.org.au. If you wish to change from Thanksgiving envelopes and make your contribution by credit card or direct debit please contact the Parish Office.

Thanks again to all our parishioners who contribute to the Thanksgiving for your continuing support for our Parish and our priests.

ROSTER WEEKEND 22-23 JUNE 2024

READERS

6:00pm: Ruth Kirpalani & Marina Walles
8:30am: Hannie Talora & Dalrene Corera
10:30am: Raul Spink & Elizabeth Lam Sam
5:30pm: Neville Thomas & Eva Jacobs

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

6:00pm: Bibiana Fernandes & Margaret Simmons
8:30am: Roseline Alain & Tim Evans
10:30am: Anna Minenna & Suzie Fernandes
5:30pm: Graham Newberry & Sharmini Perera

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased: Neil Theodore,
James Wade

Anniversaries: Peter Hartin,
Menon Bocks, Antonietta Mascaro,
Linda Mete, Giovanni Presti,
Ariya Wijeyemayaka

Sick: Rosa Maria Santos, Long Phan,
Ush Henry Bangkal, Leti Luki, Kathleen
Nelson, Anthony Andrew, Jim Lynch , Em-
manuel Bernardo, Ray Gilligan, Frank Pezza-
ro, Janet Augustine, Bridget Phyland, Des-
mond Hopper, Vincenzo Adrian, Tracey,
Chris Grubb, Marivic Cabuhut, Terence, Lea
Kirchhof, Patricia Villella, Tito Ioane
Solofuti, Samantha Vasanthy, Kevin, Michael
Conroy, Pauline D'Souza, Jim, Maria Perez,
Vicki Linossi, Vanessa Curcio, Alan John
Borninkhof, Angela Anthony, Ray Simmons,
Frank Camara, Rita Breen, Tasileta Lolesio,
Andrew Jackson, Imelda Quatre-bornes,
Charlie Mastrogiovanni, Cristina Arcaro
(*The privacy legislation requires us to have written permission by an authorised person before any name can be printed*) in the Marian.

(IF THERE ARE ANY NAMES THAT NEED TO
COME OFF THE SICK LIST PLEASE CONTACT THE
PARISH OFFICE)

**REGULAR GROUP MEETING
ST MARY'S PARISH**

LEGION OF MARY:

Saturday afternoons 4.30pm-5.30pm in the
Fellowship Room.followed by Rosary
before 6pm Mass

SPANISH PRAYER GROUP :

Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the church

AL-ANON : Tuesday evenings at 8pm in the
Fellowship Room. For more information
call 1300 252 666

**VINCENTIAN RETREAT
CENTRE:**

Fridays Mass with healing prayer 7pm

ST EPHREM CHALDEAN CHURCH:
Sundays Mass (Arabic) 12.30pm

ST MARY'S FRIENDSHIP CLUB:
3rd Wednesday of month lunch meet at
Dandenong RSL.12pm

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Thanksgiving: \$1431.00 **Presbytery:**\$444.00
Loose: \$2166.00

Bank Account: St Mary's General Account
NAB BSB: 083 347 **ACC. No.** 483196852

SAFEGUARDING AT ST MARY'S PARISH—
All volunteers in the Parish must have a Working
With Children Check and sign the Safeguarding
Code of Conduct. If your WWCC is out of date,
could you please update this and provide the parish
with a copy. Online training, Safeguarding Essen-
tials, also needs to be completed yearly. To access
this go to <https://melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding>. A WWCC ID and email address is
necessary for this. A copy of the Safeguarding
Code of Conduct is available at the Parish Office.