



STS PETER & PAUL'S

CATHOLIC PARISH

SOUTH MELBOURNE

Under the Pastoral care of the Capuchin Friars

19th July 2020



16th Sunday Ordinary Time A

Of Wheat and Weeds

God is always teaching His people, we hear in today's First Reading.

And what does He want us to know? That He has care for all of us, that though He is a God of justice, even those who defy and disbelieve Him may hope for His mercy if they turn to Him in repentance.

This divine teaching continues in the three parables that Jesus tells in the Gospel today. Each describes the emergence of the kingdom of God from the seeds sown by His works and preaching. The kingdom's growth is hidden—like the working of yeast in bread; it's improbable, unexpected—as in the way the tall mustard tree grows from the smallest of seeds.

Again this week's readings sound a note of questioning: Why does God permit the evil to grow alongside the good? Why does He permit some to reject the Word of His kingdom?

Because, as we sing in today's Psalm, God is slow to anger and abounding in kindness. He is just, Jesus assures us—evildoers and those who cause others to sin will be thrown into the fiery furnace at the end of the age. But by His patience, God is teaching us—that above all He desires repentance, and the gathering of all nations to worship Him and to glorify His name.

Even though we don't know how to pray as we ought, the Spirit will intercede for us, Paul promises in today's Epistle. But first we must turn and call upon Him, we must commit ourselves to letting the good seed of His Word bear fruit in our lives.

So we should not be deceived or lose heart when we see weeds among the wheat, truth and holiness mixed with error, injustice and sin.

For now, He makes His sun rise on the good and the bad (see **Matthew 5:45**). But the harvest draws near. Let's work that we might be numbered among the righteous children—who will shine like the sun in the kingdom of the Father.

Scott Hahn

ABOUT OUR PARISH

Parish administrator:
Fr John Spiteri OFM Cap

Parish secretary:
Mon, Tues and Thurs
9:30am–3pm

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MASS TIMES

*...I have loved you with an everlasting love,
therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.*

Jeremiah 31:3

Catholic community reaches out to tower residents

Cathnews Published: 10 July 2020

"Parish Priest of the Flemington Kensington Parish, Fr Hien Vu, has members of his parish community living in the towers in lockdown.

'We have around 50 families in flats at the moment,' he says.

'On Sunday night, we had a meeting with the leadership team from our parish schools to find ideas and ways to help these families. Over the last few days, we have been calling all these families.'

Several local Catholic parishes and schools have been reaching out to the residents locked down in these towers to offer support, Fr Hien explains.

And from Tuesday, the Flemington Kensington Parish opened up the Parish Hall as a Covid-19 Testing station for the local community. 'Sixty families in the parish are in contact with those in the public housing towers including 11-12 families in the Flemington estate.'

Tragically, some families were separated during the lockdown. 'Several children left the towers and couldn't get back in. So now they are living with relatives,' Fr Hien says. 'We are particularly mindful of three families that are currently separated.'

The school leadership met over the weekend and during the week, says Fr Hien and, these teams are making calls to those families every day to offer support.

Catholic Social Services Victoria (CSSV) convened a meeting with key member organisations and put a statement out on the public housing lockdown last weekend.

Executive Director of CSSV, Joshua Lourensz released the statement saying '[The residents'] welfare is of key concern to us during this time.'

Following concerns over the severity of the lockdown from the wider Melbourne community, the CSSV statement stressed it was of 'vital importance that each one of the 3,000 plus residents are treated with respect in regards to their inherent dignity' and urged the government to take a 'person-centered response in line with the Catholic tradition of upholding the dignity and preciousness of each person.'

'And where people remain house-bound for at least five days, we must be careful in the way we go about caring for the health of people.'

The statement explained the complexity of the living situations of residents and stressed the need for a respectful approach, as many residents struggle with a range of complex issues.

'We are continuing to determine how we can assist in this situation,' Joshua says.

Retreat in Everyday Life **"ALL SHALL BE WELL"**

This at-home retreat, available via Zoom, spans five weeks.

Date: Monday, 3 August 2020, at 1.15 pm AEST - Monday, 31 August at 1.45 pm AEST.

The retreat includes:

- Prayerful reflection 798
- Prayer -companion once a week, at a mutually -suitable time.

A weekly reflection sheet to help focus your prayer will be made available to you.

Please apply before 27 July to Heart of Life @ **+61 (3) 9890 1101** or info@heartoflife.melbourne

A small donation will be welcome. <http://www.heartoflife.melbourne/bookings/donate/>

We thank you in advance for supporting our parish community.

If you are not familiar with Zoom and would like to take part – we could explore you being involved by another means eg. phone, Facetime etc.

St Brendan's school delivers support to families in housing towers

Wednesday 15 July 2020. *Catholic Education Melbourne*

In a demonstration of true Catholic community spirit, St Brendan's School, Flemington, has mobilised over recent days to support the families of its 33 students locked down in the area's community housing towers.

Staff have pitched in to pack boxes of goods, including food, personal items and even nappies.

In addition, the school has delivered iPads and Chromebooks to ensure the students and families have access to the technology they need to stay in touch with their school and resume remote learning if, and when, it becomes necessary.

The school has supported families by hosting virtual support meetings using Google Meet. The meetings have been well attended by families in lockdown, as well as the wider community across the parishes of Flemington and Kensington.

Principal Peter Hayes says he couldn't be prouder of the way the school and wider community have come together to assist, even over the holiday period.

'This is a very challenging time for everyone in our 3031 community postcode and every little bit helps.

'As a Catholic school, we want to take whatever action we can to support our families, and especially those locked down in the community housing towers.

'We want them to know that we are here for them and doing what we can to ensure they have what they need and, even more importantly, feel supported and connected to their school community.

'We will continue to look for ways to support all our families over the coming weeks', Mr Hayes said.

FEAST OF THE WEEK



Saint Mary McKillop

19th July

Mary Helen MacKillop RSJ (15 January 1842 – 8 August 1909) was an Australian nun who has been declared a saint by the Catholic Church, as St Mary of the Cross. Of Scottish descent, she was born in Melbourne but is best known for her activities in South Australia. Together with the Reverend Julian Tenison-Woods, she founded the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart (the Josephites), a congregation of religious sisters that established a number of schools and welfare institutions throughout Australia and New Zealand, with an emphasis on education for the rural poor.

The process to have MacKillop declared a saint began in the 1920s, and she was beatified in January 1995 by Pope John Paul II. Pope Benedict XVI prayed at her tomb during his visit to Sydney for World Youth Day 2008 and in December 2009 approved the Catholic Church's recognition of a second miracle attributed to her intercession.[3] She was canonised on 17 October 2010, during a public ceremony in St Peter's Square at the Vatican.[4] She is the first Australian to be recognised by the Catholic Church as a saint.[5] Mary MacKillop is the patron saint of the Roman Catholic

Please remember in your prayers and Masses the following people who are ill:
Sr Annunciata, Valda Hogan, Flo O'Hara, Sr Joyce Stewart, Peter Wood, Vandersman Family, Joanne Kilmer, Lilliana Bobadilla, Ruby Roxa, Eunice Costa, Richard Fennessy, Giovanna Santarossa, James Burnes, James Atkins, Jeff Martin, Naomi McSweeney, Alison Fraser, Richard, Miles Buntieski, Colin Crawford, Frank O'Connor, Maria Cimino, Teresa Sheehan, Ann Trindade.

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon: See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

1st Reading – Wisdom 12:13 16-19

The wisdom of God is like no other. Instead of oppression there is forgiveness and that those who are virtuous must be kind to others so that they are given hope. The way God is, is the way we should be: kind and forgiving.

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call. Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice.

All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord;

For you are great and do marvellous deeds, you who alone are God.

But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord, abounding in love and truth, turn and take pity on me.

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

2nd Reading – Romans 8:26-27

We really don't know how much we need redemption. Thus we do not know how to pray. It is the spirit that intercedes for us.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the Kingdom. Alleluia!

Gospel – Matthew 13:24-43

Jesus continues to describe the Kingdom in parables that are familiar to the agricultural background of His listeners.

Next week's readings:

1 ^s	1 Kings 3:5,7-12
2 nd	Romans 8:28-30
Gospel	Matthew 13:44-46

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray together:

We pray for Pope Francis, that by the power of the Spirit he will keep calling the church to be renewed and reformed.

We pray for a global cessation of hostilities, that poor and struggling nations can focus their energies on dealing with the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We pray for front-line health care personnel and their support staff, that they stay safe and well and take good care of themselves.

We pray for policy-makers planning for a post-pandemic economic recovery, that they will be guided above all by the common good and by care for creation.

We pray for farm workers around the nation, that they faithfully observe safe working practices at all times.

We remember with compassion our family and friends who have gone before us. Hold them in your keeping, especially those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur about this time Jean & Joe McInerney, Len Webster, Vera Berger, Esme Foreham, Cecilia Gardiner, Fr Jim Briglia, Seok Won Gregory Jin.

Collections : July 11/12, 2020

Collection : \$

Online per week (June): \$1070

1st Collection goes to the Friars, and the 2nd collection goes to the running costs of the Parish.

EFT Donations:

Account Name: Parish SS Peter & Paul

BSB: 083 155

Account number: 515577466

*Please note our new roster will commence when we can attend mass again.
Hoping everyone stays well and safe.*

Carol