

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

19 JULY 2020

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Shorter form 13:24-30.

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 one perfect sacrifice brought to completion varied offerings of the law, accept, we pray, this sacrifice from your faithful servants and make it holy, as you

blessed the gifts of Abel, so that what each has offered to the honour of your majesty may benefit the salvation of all. 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 110:4-5

The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of his wonders; he gives food to those who fear him.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of life. 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.

REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL

PATIENCE IS BETTER THAN MISPLACED ZEAL

Today's Gospel presents a further image from agriculture in Palestine. A poisonous weed called darnel affects wheat crops. In the early stages it looks very like the young shoots of wheat. By the time both plants can be distinguished their roots are so entwined as to make tearing out the darnel very injurious to the wheat.

The parable addresses the disciples' dismay at the continuing prevalence of evil in the world. If, as Jesus teaches, the Kingdom of God has dawned, why has God not intervened to root out evil once and for all?

Like the wheat and darnel in the field, good and evil are at present so inextricably co-existent as to make too ruthless an attempt to eradicate the one fatal to a successful harvest of the other. In the harvest time to come, however, God will deal once and for all with evil, before gathering in the 'wheat' of the kingdom.

The parable also challenges the kind of religious zeal that, filled with moral outrage, wants to go in and root out from the community of believers any considered unworthy to be there.

It can even apply on an individual level. So often a person's good qualities spring from the same source as their less desirable ones. An irascible person may struggle vigorously for justice; a laid-back character may be a good listener – and so on.

Christianity's long history of intolerance – the Inquisition, etc. – shows the tragedy and folly of being more zealous to root out evil than to encourage good. The final judgement belongs to God.

BRENDAN BYRNE, SJ

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WHEAT AMONG THE WEEDS. The world in which we live is a mixture of wheat and weeds. Wonderful acts of heroism and self-sacrifice occur alongside shocking acts of violence and abuse of power. In the midst of a world tainted by sin we are called to live the values of the kingdom of God. This can be difficult, but the Spirit will help us in our weakness and God, the just and merciful judge, will reward us.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Ps 53:6, 8
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.

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. Show favour, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in

the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Wis 12:13, 16-19

A reading from the book of Wisdom
In the place of sin, you give repentance.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, / to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. / Your justice has its source in strength, / your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. / You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned / and you expose the insolence of those who know it; / but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, / you govern us with great lenience, / for you have only to will, and your power is there. / By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people / how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, / and you have given your sons the good hope / that after sin you will grant repentance.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16. R. v. 5
R. Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. 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. **R.**

2. 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. **R.**

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

SECOND READING Rom 8:26-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf. Mt 11:25

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

GOSPEL Mt 13:24-43

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

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

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Let them grow together until the harvest.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this," he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."'

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

St Agnes' Catholic Parish, Highett

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18th & 19th JULY 2020/A



PARISH TEAM:

Rev. John W O'Reilly (Parish Priest)
Elizabeth Sebastian (Secretary)
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday(9:30am-3:30pm)

SCHOOL:

Mr Lachlan Foott (School Principal)
Shannon Shine (Secretary)
Naomi Field (Secretary)
Jessica Casey (R.E.L.)

Parish Office:

1 Locinda Street, Highett 3190
www.sahighett.org.au
Ph: 9532 1794
Email: highett@cam.org.au

School Office:

Peterson Street, Highett 3190
www.sahighett.catholic.edu.au
Ph: 9532 0344

MASS TIMES:

Weekend - SUSPENDED 6 weeks

Saturday
Sunday

Weekday - SUSPENDED 6 weeks

Monday, Tues, Thurs, Fri
Preceded by Rosary.

Please expect some changes to Mass times after the Lockdown.

ALL SPECIAL DEVOTIONS - SUSPENDED

RECONCILIATION - SUSPENDED

Saturday

BAPTISMS

Enquires are to be directed to the Parish Office.

LITURGY OF THE WORD: 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME/A

1st reading: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12 **2nd reading:** Romans 8:28-30

Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52

FEAST DAYS: 20 July - **St Apollinaris**, 21 July - **St Lawrence of Brindisi**, 22 July - **St Mary Magdalene**, 23 July - **St Bridget**, 24 July - **St Sharbel Makhluif**, 25 July - **St James (Apostle)**

ST AGNES' PARISH NEWS

In St Agnes Parish - clergy, employees and volunteers are committed to upholding a duty of care to all Children-and-Young-People and taking all reasonable steps to protect children and young people from all forms of abuse and harm and commit to safeguard the health and well being of children and young people.

Message from Fr John O'Reilly to all parishioners:

We pray for God's blessing upon our government, our country and our world.

Let us pray for the Level 3 LOCKDOWN to achieve the expected results.

Let us pray for all affected by COVID-19 and their families; the frontline and support services workers.

Let us pray that the struggling churches in the Melbourne Archdiocese and the Catholic Missions' work to be supported *from the heart* by wealthier parishes as *all comes from God*.

THE VIRTUOUS WILL SHINE LIKE THE SUN'

In all that we do let us first ask, **What Would Jesus Do (WWJD)**.

Thank you my people for your support during my time here at St Agnes. GOD BLESS.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: The St Vincent de Paul members of St Agnes visit underprivileged families in our area, and help with urgent necessities. Meetings have been held via ZOOM because of the Lockdown. However, new members are always welcome. If you are interested or need more information, please contact Rob 0448 492 099.

CATHOLIC CARE SUNDAY APPEAL

The support we receive from your parish during Sunday Appeal will help us to provide vital support to vulnerable families and individuals in our community who face financial hardship, homelessness and mental health issues.

Please keep in your prayers -

Sick: Francis Xavier, Augustine A, Cecily Anthony, Bill Power, Phillip Greco, Leslie Raymond, Ann Ward, Jerome D'Souza, Carol Davies



PLEASE PASS THE WORD AROUND THAT THIS BULLETIN IS ON THE ST AGNES WEBSITE AT:

www.sahighett.org.au

NOTICES FOR BULLETIN: Please send your notices to the Parish Office by 1:00pm on Thursday.

Live telecast of Mass on TV and online

The 11am Sunday Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral will continue to be televised free to air on C31 which is often listed as Channel 44 on digital TV and live streamed on their YouTube channel and website.

The weekday Mass is live streamed at 1 pm . Go to:

<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass> or

<http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand>

dailymass@shalomworld.org

www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass

ST AGNES' PARISH NEWS

VOLUNTEERS: Please make sure that your WWCC/POLICE CHECK documents are current, that is, have not expired.

COVID RESTRICTIONS: Level 3 - Lockdown for the next 6 weeks from 11:59pm Wednesday, 8 July - 18 August.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS: Please put your thanksgiving offering into one envelope with your number written on it and the amount. Please do the same for your presbytery offerings. This will reduce unnecessary work for the counters. Thank you for your understanding and assistance. Please phone the Parish Office if you have any questions or to drop off your envelopes.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP:

A special thanks to all our parishioners who support the thanksgiving and the Presbytery through your contributions.

"St Agnes is now registered for online payments. The link to the St Agnes Parish, Highett site is: [CDFpay for St Agnes Parish, Highett](#). We thank you for your financial support."

BIRTHDAY WISHES to Margot McCormick. Margot celebrates her 97th birthday on 23 July. We wish Margot God's abundant blessings.



FAMILY DISCUSSION: Talk together about the ways your family practices your faith (daily prayer, attending Mass, caring for others, etc.). Remind one another that you do these things as a family so that God's Word can take root in your lives and God's love will show in your actions, thoughts, and words.

UPDATED: COVID-19 guidance for parishes – Following the return to Stage 3 lockdown restrictions for the next six weeks, an updated set of guidelines has been prepared to assist Clergy and Faithful with questions pertaining to specific areas of liturgy and ministry in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Stage 3 restrictions sadly mean the public celebration of Mass will need to return to live-streaming where possible, and churches will need to be closed again to any private prayer. Following the announcement, Archbishop Peter A. Comensoli wrote to all clergy and parishioners: 'Now is a time for attentiveness to the care of one another. In the face of our own despondency and fears, our fatigue and anxieties, may we learn to hold firm in faith and hope, and experience sustaining moments of love.' For more information go to: <https://cam.org.au/Guidance-for-Parishes-COVID-19/>

Gracious God,
We give thanks anew for your providence and presence.
We prayerfully seek your grace, amidst COVID-19 here and overseas.
We pray for those in need of healing.
We pray for your peace with those who are anxious or grieving.
We pray you will continue to strengthen and sustain all those who are serving in response.
We pray for your Holy Spirit's discernment amidst the many choices and decisions facing our national, community and medical leaders.
We pray we each might see quickly what more we can do to help those who are vulnerable. This prayer for our nation in the family of nations, with all that is on our hearts, we gather now and pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

"RETREAT IN EVERYDAY LIFE - ALL SHALL BE WELL" - This Retreat is offered by Heart of Life over five weeks, beginning Monday, 3 August and concluding 31 August. This at-home retreat, available via Zoom, invites you to spend some time in prayer at home each day pondering your experiences of the day, and to be accompanied by a prayer-companion on how God might have been present for you. To register your interest, please call 9890 1101 or email holsc@bigpond.com no later than Monday 27 July.

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK 2020 - 2 - 9 August.

It is true that God has made his entire people a royal priesthood in Christ. But our High Priest, Jesus Christ, also chose some of his followers to carry out publicly in the Church a priestly ministry in his name on behalf of mankind. He was sent by the Father, and he in turn sent the apostles into the world; through them and their successors, the bishops, he continues his work as Teacher, Priest, and Shepherd. Priests are co-workers of the order of bishops. They are joined to the bishops in the priestly office and are called to serve God's people. Ordination of Priests (Roman Pontifical)