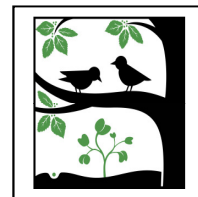


St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

www.stpatscathedral.weebly.com



11th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
Sunday 14th June 2015



Reflection - John Thornhill sm

Today's gospel passage comes from a sequence called Mark's 'day of parables'. In the parables we can meet Jesus as an imaginative friend who is explaining his concerns and hopes to us. He tells us of 'the Kingdom', in which Israel's great hopes and all our human longings will be fulfilled. In Jesus' time, expectations were high and false human hopes were widespread. Jesus used figurative language, as more effective than plain language, to engage the people and awaken in them a sense of the mysterious message he brought. As our understanding of the mystery is awakened, so too is our understanding of the Saviour himself, for it is to the realisation of the 'Kingdom' that his whole existence among us is given.

Mark begins his 'day of parables' with three 'seed' parables. The familiar parable of the sower is not included in today's passage; it gives us the parable of the seed that grows mysteriously to produce a full harvest, and the parable of the mustard seed, the smallest seed familiar to Palestinian farmers, which can produce a bush ten or twelve feet high. The most striking feature of these parables is the contrast between the tiny seed and what it goes on to produce. The 'Kingdom' Jesus announces is not a worldly triumph (something we need constantly to be reminded of); of its nature it has beginnings which are unimpressive and obscure by human standards. But in the end it initiates the realisation of the final achievement of God. Reference to the sickle and harvest echoes what the prophets had said about the End-time. Mark's audience, who had already seen the Church grow from being a marginal Jewish movement into an international fellowship, would have appreciated the prophetic promise of the original parable of Jesus. The 'birds of the air' may be an echo of this. The seed growing mysteriously has a lesson for every age. The growth of the 'kingdom' is God's work, a work that is vast and mysterious. Vatican II teaches that God's grace is at work in every human existence 'in a way known only to God' (*Gaudium et spes*, n.22). We must distinguish the Church and the 'Kingdom' – of which the Church is the 'first-fruits' and sign in the world. And even in the Church, as we all recognise, what is important to God is often humble and hidden.

The whole life of Jesus, we can say, is a parable, leading us into the mystery of God's generous and merciful dealings with us. As we come to appreciate the 'Kingdom' Jesus announced, and see him caring for God's people in their needs, we come to know the commitments which shaped his human existence. More than one of the Fathers spoke of Jesus as the 'seed'. In fact, he himself said he was the seed that must fall into the ground and die to produce God's final harvest.

Recent Deaths: William Davey, Sr Kathleen Mercovich,

Anniversaries: Kunjamma Chandy, Maureen Costigan, Margaret Doran, Ron Matthews,
Martin McGuiness, Irene Rose, Micahel West,

Next week's readings: *Sunday 21st June*

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Job 38:1.8-11 Ps 106:23-26. 28-31. R. v.1

2 Corinthians 5:14-17 Mark 4:35-41

We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism;

Jack Francis Nykoluk

son of Christopher and Melinda

Lexi Ava Richardson

daughter of Troy & Leonie

Hyacinth Lannen

daughter of James & Jill



May they grow in faith in their loving families and our Catholic Community.

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

Each year around the Feast of the Sacred Heart (June 5th) Cathedral parishioners are invited to contribute to the St Vinnies Winter appeal through a collection. This will take place over this weekend at the 6.30 pm, 8.00 am, 10.30 am and 5.00 pm Masses.

Last year St V de Paul conferences throughout Victoria provided over \$10 million in assistance.

Ordination

Parishioners are invited to attend the Ordination to the Priesthood of Francis Denton at St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne on Saturday 27th June at 10am.



E Conference to be held in St Patrick's Cathedral Presbytery, Tuesday 23rd, 9.30 am for 10.00 am start, BYO lunch, tea & coffee provided. RSVP: Friday 19th June 5331 2933,
ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

St Joseph's Parish Ouyen Youth Retreat, "Made 4 Greatness"

St Joseph's Ouyen is hosting its first ever Youth Retreat from July 6 -9, 2015.

For more information go to www.madeforgreatness2015.jimdo.com.

Catholic Women's League.

We will be attending 12.05pm Mass on Wednesday June 17th, and following Mass , a luncheon will be held at Gertie Mangan's home. Please bring a plate. Ladies interested in being part of our group are warmly invited to share this social day. Enquiries; Gertie Mangan 5334 1670., Sheila Wilton 5342 9678

Damascus College Performing Arts presents Alfred Hitchcock's The 39 Steps

Performances run from July 22 to 25 in the Valda Ward Auditorium at Damascus College. Adults \$15, students/children \$10, family of four \$40. Tickets can be purchased online through the Damascus website www.damascus.vic.edu.au

Hot soup to warm your heart - asylum seeker fundraiser

Next Wednesday at 12.30pm June 17, at Nazareth House Hall, Mill Street, Lake Wendouree, you are invited to a soup and sandwich luncheon. Guest speaker is our local refugee health nurse, Akua Ed Nignpense. Entry \$20 conc \$10. Games and competitions, musical entertainment. Inquiries to Carmel 0401175045/53322103 or Annekav 123@yahoo.co.uk. All welcome including children.

A movement of the Heart A Novena of Prayer from the Feast of the Sacred Heart, 12 June - 20 June, World Refugee Day. Seeking to rekindle a spirit of tender mercy and loving compassion for all those who flee persecution and violence in our world.

<https://www.facebook.com/amovementoftheheart>

Mental Health First Aid Training free for Parents of Teenagers (TPOT)

Free training in Ballarat for parents to help the mental and physical health of teenagers is being conducted by The Centre for Mental Health at The University of Melbourne. Contact Julie Fischer, Trial Manager, Centre for Mental Health, The University of Melbourne, jfischer@unimelb.edu.au, 9035 6770 or mobile: 0401 772 648.

The Australian Family Association presents Mary Doogan

A midwife in the UK, who was sacked from her job for exercising her conscience objecting to being involved in abortions. Mary will speak at ACU Ballarat on Monday, June 22nd 2015 at 7.30pm.

Ribbons

Thankyou to everyone who placed ribbons on the Cathedral gates and fence as a symbol of acknowledgement and support for victims/survivors of clergy sexual abuse and for all who are involved in the Royal Commission. The ribbons will be made into a permanent symbol of ongoing support.

Encountering Jesus in our Busy Lives - Archdiocese of Canberra Retreat: 11-13 September

This retreat is an opportunity for those who are always 'giving', to get away, unwind and relax amidst the beautiful surrounds of St Clement's Monastery, Galong. Within this haven, there will be beautiful times of prayer, inspiring talks and opportunities for silence.

Retreat Director: Archbishop Christopher Prowse, **Spiritual Directors:** Shane Dwyer and Eileen Glass, **Venue:** St Clement's Retreat & Conference Centre, Galong,

Accommodation Options: Retreat House: \$280 or Monastery Rooms: \$320 (Includes meal Friday night, Saturday, Sunday - breakfast and lunch plus all materials.)

Stewardship – to receive your quarterly receipt via email please contact Jacinta in the office.

Collections Envelopes \$5,975.00(includes direct debits) Parish Loose \$443.50
Presbytery \$1,917.30

Counters 14th June Team 1 Next week team 2

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Alfredton, Ballarat, Cardigan, Lake Wendouree, Lucas, Newington...

Phone 5331 2933

ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish office hours Monday - Friday 10.00 am – 5.00 pm

Clergy Frs Justin Driscoll, James Kerr, Anthony Nagothu, George Areeckal

Parish Office Jacinta Westbrook

Finance Officer Philip Westbrook

Family Ministry Anita Houlihan

Hospital Pastoral Care Kerrie Gunsser

St Patrick's Primary Mark Hogbin, Principal

St Thomas More Alfredton Rosa Tocchet, Principal



Cathedral Parish Masses	June 20 th /21 st	Smythesdale	Skipton	Rokewood		
6.30 pm Vigil,	8.00 am,	10.30 am,	5.00 pm	7.30 pm	9.00am	10.30 am

Masses during the coming week

Monday 12.05pm Cathedral

Tuesday No Mass Redan 12.05 pm Cathedral

Wednesday 9.30am Sebastopol 12.05 pm Cathedral

Thursday 9.30am Redan 12.05pm Cathedral

Friday 9.30am Sebastopol 12.05 pm Cathedral 1.30 pm Benediction

Saturday 10.00am Cathedral

Sacrament of Reconciliation Friday 11.00 am, Saturday 11.30 am