

St. Augustine's Parish, Maryborough

~inc. St. Kevin's, Barnett St. Avoca, St. Mary's, Hardy St. Dunolly,
St. Patrick's, Pyrenees H'way & Evans St. Amphitheatre,
St. Patrick's, Main St. Bealiba, St. Patrick's, Barkly-Redbank Rd. Redbank,
St. Augustine's, Burke St, Maryborough~

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4th October 2020 Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

COVID-19 WORSHIP RESTRICTIONS: Attached is a letter from our Victorian bishops asking Premier Daniel Andrews to consider bringing gathering numbers for Places of Worship into line with what is permitted for businesses, pubs and restaurants. They highlight how current Victorian restrictions fail the "pub test" in consistency. We look forward to these being eased further and, now that the weather is warming up, we may be able to soon consider gathering for Mass outside even if indoor worship continues to be impracticable. As they say in the classics, continue to "watch this space."

JOY DRIDAN RIP: We pray for Joycelyn Marie "Joy" Dridan whom God took peacefully on 23rd September aged 83. Following raising her family and her working life nursing others, we're thankful for the medical and nursing care Joy received over the last 25 years since first diagnosed with cancer. After her Funeral Mass at St Pat's, Amphitheatre last Tuesday, Joy was buried with her husband Peter (who predeceased her in 2008) alongside the grave of her parents Tom and Chrissie Ross at Amphitheatre cemetery. We pray for Joy and Peter's children: Julie, Jenny, Greg, Kerry, Paul and Kylie. May she Rest in Peace.

ANGELA CAPUANO RIP: We pray for Angela Capuano who had been a resident of Raglan House for several years including when her husband Giuseppe "Joe" died there in 2017. Prior to then they'd lived at Talbot since moving there from Melbourne in 1981. Angela died on Tuesday, aged 93, and following her Funeral Prayers tomorrow will be cremated. We pray for her daughter and son-in-law Maria and Ron Ham of Talbot and her son and daughter-in-law Fred and Maree Capuano of Sea Lake. May she Rest in Peace.

Remembering those who have died:

We pray for Joy Dridan and Angela Capuano who died recently and those whose anniversaries are at this time including: Joan Plucke, Ria Gleeson, Luke Palmer, Gladys Palmer, John Dewhurst, Bernard Rinaldi, Mariette Byrne, Joan Dellavedova, Evelyn Walsh, Gerald O'Callaghan, Sheila Mullins, Francis Harrison, Jeffrey Fitzgerald, Margaretha Val, Gavin Clohesy, Thelma Tardrew, Ethiny Farrel and Leonard Tardrew.

**Today's Readings: Isaiah 5:1-7, Psalm 79, Philippians 4:6-9, Matthew 21:33-43.
(He Leased his Vineyard to Others)**

Wild Grapes at Harvest

Rejection isn't easy. Everyone remembers the first time they were rejected at school, by the sporting team, or by the boy or girl who wouldn't be our friend. As we get older, rejection can become a serious problem. We have seen or heard account after account of violence and even murder by men who feel rejected by women who do not respond to their advances in the way they would like. However, rejection is inevitable. You will be rejected, one way or another. How we prepare resilience in our children/students to deal with this rejection is an important character-building lesson that we need to teach them.

In Philippians, Paul talks to us about rejection that occurs when we choose to follow the Jesus way. If anyone had a resume and pedigree that would endear him with the most noble of people, the most popular, the most wanted, it certainly was Paul. But if one is serious about following the way of Jesus, we can expect that not everyone will be so accepting of us. When we begin to align our values with those of Christ, rejection might just be inevitable. But for Paul, the goal was not to be accepted by others but to experience the power of resurrection, the power of a life lived in harmony with God. What happens when we shift our goals toward that goal? Does our concept of rejection and acceptance change? Do we discover the power of being true to ourselves and to everything that God calls us to be, even though there is a very real possibility that we might experience the rejection of others? This just might be the finest life work of a disciple: to thine own self be true.

'what you have done, and what you have failed to do'. Which weighs on our conscience more?

"Cease doing evil. Learn to do good" (Isaiah 1: 16 - 17).

Turn down one temptation to un-charity every day, and replace it with a conscious choice to be gracious. *"God's kingdom will be taken back from you and handed over to a people who will live out a kingdom life".*

Crime is Mindless

A person from Grand Forks, North Dakota in the United States robbed the First Community Bank in Fargo. After he left with the money, police were called and upon reviewing the ransom note, they realised it had been written on the robber's bank deposit slip, complete with his name and address.

In other not-so-bright-criminal news: A person walked into a store with a shotgun and demanded all of the money from the cash register. After the cashier put the money in the bag, the man asked for a bottle of Scotch from behind the counter. The cashier refused because he did not believe the young man was old enough to drink. The robber swore he was and handed over his ID to prove it. As soon as the robber left, the cashier was able to give the police the robber's name and address.

A person broke into a home and stole, among other things, season tickets to the football. The police arrested the burglar the following Sunday at the MCG, sitting in the homeowner's seat.

And from this week's gospel: A group of tenants killed the landlord's son believing that the dead man's land and inheritance would go to them. Moral of all these stories: Crime doesn't pay. Our divine inheritance will not come back hook or by crook, but by good and faithful service to God.

Jesus told those he encountered many things in parables. He used stories to illustrate the greatest examples of how best to live your life in the service of others. He challenged his followers by speaking directly about those on the margins and those the world most commonly ignores. Many were astounded by the things Jesus said and did and they left all behind and followed him.



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