

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Sandy Watkins: 0409 492 508
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Special Parish Events (Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals) Phone: Anne Beer 0417 369 322 / 5349 2168

Parish Support - *If you need help with anything, please phone one of our members:*
Gail Hall: 0412 311 586 Bernadette Franc: 0427 678 830 Anne Beer: 0417 369 322

SUNDAY – 11th July, 2021

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

More info & updates available at <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/religion-and-ceremony-regional-victoria>
Also, on diocese website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/coronavirus-the-churchs-information-and-advice-2/>

RECENT DEATHS:

Kathleen O'Brien

ANNIVERSARIES:

Mel Naylor, Pam Crick, Brian McCluskey,
Hec George, Desmond Lynch, Kevin O'Loughlan,
Thomas & Nora Mulcahy, Laurie Millar, John Byrne,
Audrey Cranston, Shirley McKenzie, Olga Parker

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Pat Byrne, Margaret MacDonald, Roger Molomby,
Graeme Dawson, Blake Dridan, Shelagh Mulcahy,
Fr Adrian McInerney, Mary Brennan
and all those in need of prayer.

ROSTERS

Introduction & Readings

Today: Sue Mahony

July 18: John Jess

Prayers of the Faithful

Today: Charlie Franc

July 18: Bernadette Franc

Assembly Leader

Today: Anne Beer & Angela Gerrard

July 18: Sue Mahony & Anne Beer

Special Minister

Today: Anne Beer

July 18: Gail Hall

Music

Today: Sue Mahony

July 18: Clarita Clancy

Church Cleaning, Linen & Flowers

July 18 & 25: Sue Mahony & Angela Gerrard

Aug 1 & 8: Chandler Family

Church Grounds

July 18 & 25: Jim Mahony & Tom Franc

Aug 1 & 8: Chandler Family

Newsletter

July: Angela Gerrard 0439 565 468

MASS TIMES – for next week

July 18 10.00am Mass

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sea Sunday

Today is Sea Sunday, when the church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without them, we would not have most of the items we rely on for daily living. Even during a pandemic, seafarers continue to bring into our ports products that sustain our population and economy. The Appeal today is for Stella Maris, Apostleship of the Sea, the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church. It supports seafarers both practically and spiritually.

To assist this ministry, please send your donations to <https://aos-australia.org/sea-sunday-appeal/>

Wimmera-Mallee Parish

Bishop Paul has decreed the establishment of the new Saint Paul VI Parish, Wimmera-Mallee. The new parish includes the area of the former parishes of Hopetoun, Horsham, Nhill and Warracknabeal. Monsignor Glynn Murphy and Fr Jim McKay currently serve in these parishes and will continue their service in the new parish.

Making Connections

Opportunities for discussion and personal prayer:

- How can you live more simply with only the things you need rather than the things you want?
- How do you feel when people don't listen to you? Do you always really listen to others?
- Have you ever been thrust into a new job or had to take on a responsibility without much preparation? How did you cope? What mistakes did you make? What did you learn from this experience? Was it a valuable experience for you? Share your stories with others.
- Find ways to share your faith and your journey with others this week. This is taking a risk and you may be ridiculed. Are you able to rise to the challenge?

Today's gospel acclamation makes a wonderful prayer for this week:

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we may see how great is the hope to which we are called

have heard the message of the truth and the good news of your salvation, and have believed it: and you too have been stamped with the seal of the Holy Spirit of the Promise, the pledge of our inheritance which brings freedom for those whom God has taken for his own, to make his glory praised.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf. Eph 1: 17-18

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mk 6: 7-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

He called the Twelve, and began to send them out.

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits. And he instructed them to take nothing for the journey except a staff – no bread, no haversack, no coppers for their purses. They were to wear sandals but, he added, ‘Do not take a spare tunic.’ And he said to them, ‘If you enter a house anywhere, stay there until you leave the district. And if any place does not welcome you and people refuse to listen to you, as you walk away shake off the dust from under your feet as a sign to them.’ So they set off to preach repentance: and they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

11 JULY 2021

OPPORTUNITY AND DANGER

When God intervenes in our lives it can mean radical change that brings with it both opportunity and danger. Amos' work had involved the care of trees – nothing had prepared him for his new ministry as prophet. Preaching far from his home, he was politely threatened, and told in no uncertain terms, that his message of judgement was not welcome at the king's shrine. His response was that while his message was discomfiting to hear, it had been given by God. It was not his own and his experience of God was so powerful that he could not deny it. He had a duty to preach the message he had been given.

The mission of the twelve is another example of the kind of radical change that can accompany a close encounter with Jesus. Called to share in Jesus' mission they are prepared and commissioned for this new task, a task which will lead them to face acceptance, as well as the risk of rejection. They are instructed that they must travel light, there is nothing they can carry that will defend them from a closed mind or a hardened heart.

The opening hymn in the letter to the Ephesians is a beautiful and loving reflection on what we have received in Jesus. It is filled with wonder for the fact that we have all been adopted through Jesus, who is the source of forgiveness and our freedom. There is an implicit invitation: having received so much how could we not share this with others – whatever the risk.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Am 7: 12-15

A reading from the prophet Amos.

Go, prophesy to my people.

Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, said to Amos, ‘Go away, seer; get back to the land of Judah; earn your bread there, do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel; this is the royal sanctuary, the national temple.’ ‘I was no prophet, neither did I belong to any of the brotherhoods of prophets,’ Amos replied to Amaziah. ‘I was a shepherd, and looked after sycamores: but it was the Lord who took me from herding the flock, and the Lord who said, “Go, prophesy to my people Israel.”’

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 84: 9-14. R. v. 8

R. Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say, / a voice that speaks of peace, / peace for his people. / His help is near for those who fear him / and his glory will dwell in our land. **R.**
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; / justice and peace have embraced. / Faithfulness shall spring from the earth / and justice look down from heaven. **R.**
3. The Lord will make us prosper / and our earth shall yield its fruit. / Justice shall march before him / and peace shall follow his steps. **R.**

SECOND READING

Eph 1: 3-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

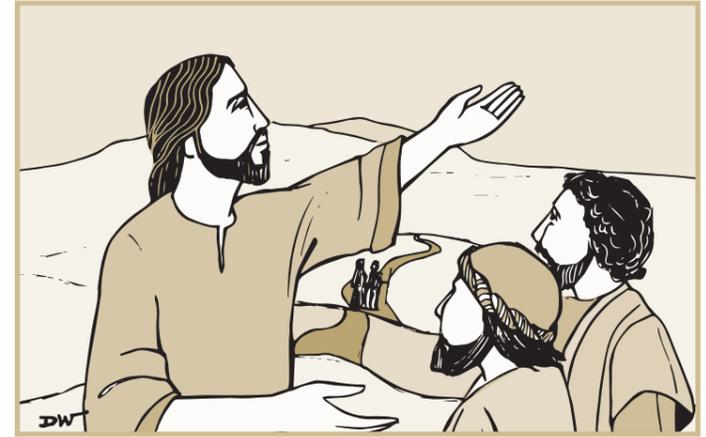
Before the world was made, he chose us in Christ.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ.

Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ,

to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence,



determining that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ, for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved, in whom, through his blood, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins. Such is the richness of the grace which he has showered on us in all wisdom and insight. He has let us know the mystery of his purpose, the hidden plan he so kindly made in Christ from the beginning to act upon when the times had run their course to the end: that he would bring everything together under Christ, as head, everything in the heavens and everything on earth. And it is in him that we were claimed as God's own, chosen from the beginning, under the predetermined plan of the one who guides all things as he decides by his own will; chosen to be, for his greater glory, the people who would put their hopes in Christ before he came. Now you too, in him,