

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

30 July 2023



Readings for
this week:

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

Romans 8:28-30

Matthew 13:44-48 or 44-52



Readings for
next Sunday:

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

2 Peter 1:16-19

Matthew 17:1-9



Liturgical Jottings

Evening Prayer

The two hinges of the day in the Liturgy of the Hours are morning and evening prayer. Evening Prayer is also known as Vespers and recited at the end of the day's work or at sunset. Compline or Night Prayer is recited before retiring.

Vespers follow the same structure as that of Morning Prayer (see last Sunday's bulletin) but with three variations. The psalmody contains two psalms and a New Testament canticle. The Magnificat, hymn of Mary (Luke 1:39-56) is said or sung and the intercessions are more general praying for the church, the world and people in need, the sick and the dead, similar to the Prayer of the Faithful at Mass.

Evening Prayer and Night Prayer were often combined into one liturgy in parish churches, as distinct from monasteries and convent. The Eastern churches and the Anglican church maintain this old tradition. This prayer is traditionally called Evensong in English.

Looking at the Gospel

Two themes seem to weave through the readings for this Sunday: treasure and delight. The treasure is the extraordinary gift that comes from God; the delight is the joy that we experience when we realise that the treasure is ours. A third theme, which is found in the first reading, picks up a theme that we have considered several times during this period of Ordinary Time, namely, service of others.

The treasure is the kingdom of heaven. It is the prize that gives meaning to the present, and its fullest delight draws us into the future. The reign of God is the fulfilment of our deepest desires and our fondest hopes. Nothing in the world can compare with it, and that is why we are willing to sacrifice everything to attain it. The treasure that we find is really a gift that is given. We need not work to attain the kingdom, nor can we earn it in any way. It is given to us by God. All we have to do is accept it.

Solomon chose to be of service to others. In this he is a model for disciples to follow. We have discovered the treasure in the field; we have found the pearl of great price. What we have been given, we must now give to others. In giving we will lose nothing. In fact, we gain an abundance of blessings. All things work for good, and God is glorified in all. Such is the character of the kingdom of God. © Dianne Bergant CSA.

Pope Francis on Real Treasure

We are called upon to assume the attitude of the man and the merchant in the Gospel, so that we too may become healthily restless seekers of the Kingdom of Heaven. It is a matter of abandoning the heavy burden of our worldly certainties that prevent us from searching and building up the Kingdom: the covetousness for possession, the thirst for profit and power, and thinking only of ourselves. Jesus, who is the hidden treasure and the pearl of great value, cannot but inspire joy, all the joy of the world: the joy of discovering a meaning in life, the joy of committing oneself to the adventure of holiness.. *Homily 26 July 2020*

Quote of the Day

Ordinary riches can be stolen; real riches cannot. In your soul are infinitely precious things that cannot be taken from you. *Oscar Wilde*

On the Lighter Side


Why won't prawns share their treasure?

Because they're shellfish.

Pirates that used X to mark the spot where they bury their treasure are stupid. If they had used a G, nobody would ever find their treasure.

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	Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving	
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Antonio Ciavarella
	Our sick and their carers	Santo Vraca, Josie Anderson, Bernie Maher, Bill Moroney

DAY, TIME, DATE	COMMENTATOR	READER	GOSPEL PROCESSION	GIFT PRESENTATION	SPECIAL MINISTERS	SCREEN OPERATOR/ORGAN
Sat 6:00 pm 5 August	Carol Coulston	Peter Crombie	S Gregg	D Hamilton J Caiafa	N/A	Trish Warnett
Sun 10:30 am 6 August	Mary Gale	Debbie Worm	Hamish Worm	Ebony & Isobel Worm	Denice Bourke	Trish Warnett
Sun 10:30 am 13 August	CHILDREN'S MASS					
Sat 6:00 pm 19 August	Carol Coulston	Sheila Gregg	Mary Vraca	D Hamilton J Caiafa	N/A	Trish Warnett
Sun 10:30 am 20 August	TBC	Anne-Marie Nihill	D Phelan	A Basile M Sgammotta	A Ciavarella	Trish Warnett
Sun 10:30 am 27 August	Carol Coulston	Dean Filgate	D Corrigan	Barry & Jan Lowe	Debbie Turvey	Debbie Worm Trish Warnett

Two Week Mass Timetable Week commencing 31 July

Weekday Mass

Mon 31st July No Mass
 Tue 1st August No Mass
 Wed 2nd August 9:15 am Mass
 Thur 3rd August No Mass
 Fri 4th August 9:15 am Mas

Weekend Mass

Sat 5th August 6:00 pm Mass
 Sun 6th August 10:30 am Mass

Weekday Mass

Mon 7th August No Mass
 Tue 8th August No Mass
 Wed 9th August 9:15 am Mass
 Thur 10th August No Mass
 Fri 11th August 9:15 am Mass

Weekend Mass

Sat 12th August No Mass
 Sun 13th August 10:30 am Mass

Reconciliation 5 August

Combined Prayer Service

The Second Vatican Council emphasised the importance of Catholics spending time in prayer and dialogue with other Christians.

On Wednesday, August 16, at 7.30pm a combined prayer service will be held in St Brendan's Catholic Church.

The night will include a Liturgy of the Word service, music and fellowship with refreshments afterwards. We need your support for this occasion please as we extend hospitality to our brothers and sisters of other Christian Churches.

Ministers of other Christian Churches in Shepparton will be attending with their parishioners. Please mark this date in your diary.

God bless,
 Fr Joe and Fr Jackson.

SAVE THE DATE: Friday 1st September, World Day of Prayer for Creation.

Sandhurst Diocese will launch the Season of Creation 2023 with Mass at 11am, celebrated by Bishop Shane, at Notley Picnic Area in the Whipstick Forest, Greater Bendigo National Park, followed by a BYO Picnic Lunch. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to come along and celebrate this occasion.

(Venue is 16 minutes from the Chancery)

**Can you help – we need more Readers,
 Commentators and Screen Operators –
 please talk to Mary or Trish**

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Twelve of our children have begun preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Along with their families they will work through the Steps in Faith Programme to know that God always forgives and loves us unconditionally.

We pray for Alannah Mutimer, Mac Laidlaw, Samuel Alampi, Elise Smith, Olivia LoPiccolo, Mia Serhan-Baker, Emerson Hudson, Brendan Powles, Grace Spittles, Vivian Hipsely, Olivia Talarico, Noah McConnaughie as they journey towards the receiving the sacrament.

Please keep them in your Prayers over the coming weeks.

Carrying Forward the Plenary Council Online Workshops

Dr Chris Cotter and Leslie Cooper will be facilitating two online workshops focusing on the findings from the Plenary Council and the ways we can implement actions to support the commitments agreed to at the Council. These online sessions will start and end in prayer and invite participants to read and reflect on the decrees and share and listen to thoughts and ideas -- a process consistent with that used at the Plenary Council.

Choose either an evening session on Tuesday 8 August 7.00 – 8.30 p.m., or a morning session on Wednesday 9 August 9.00 – 10.30 a.m.

This event is free to all. You must register to receive Zoom login details. To register go to:

<https://www.trybooking.com/CJKVC>



On behalf of Fr John, our volunteers and all our Parishioners, we would like to wish Trish a very happy 90th Birthday for Monday 31st July.

This week's Gospel reading talks about the hidden treasure and the priceless pearl. Trish is our treasure she is priceless to our Parish. However, she is not only a treasure to Sacred Heart, but also the wider Tatura Community.

Trish has been a volunteer for over a dozen community groups and is still very involved with a number of groups, we will often see her setting up for a raffle down Hogan Street.

Trish let's celebrate the beginning of another wonderful year in your life! May your ways continue to be pleasant and may all your paths be peaceful. May the grace of God be with you always in your ensuing days!

With love and best wishes from everyone at Sacred Heart and the wider community.

Be *Fierce* for *Fair*

Feast of Saint Mary MacKillop 8 August 2023

This August let's walk in the footsteps of Australia's most loved Saint. Let's be fierce in the face of adversity. Let's be fair and act when we see injustice.

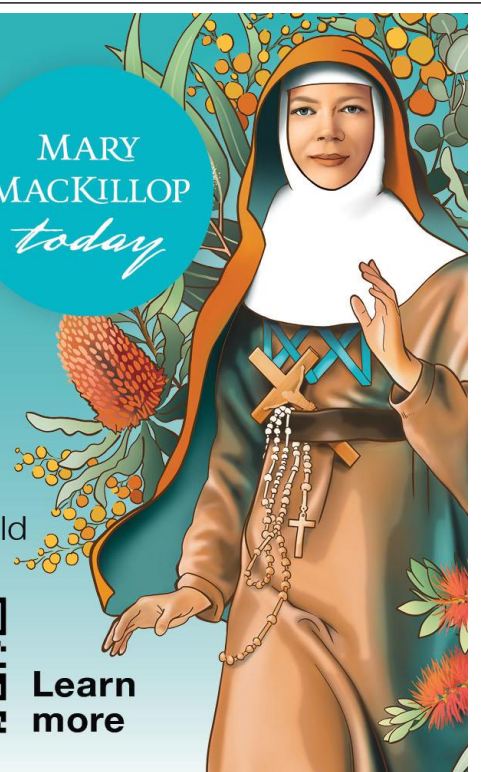
Discover how Mary MacKillop Today proudly continues Saint Mary's extraordinary 150-year-old legacy.

Together, let's be Fierce for Fair.



Learn
more

MARY
MACKILLOP
today



Themes for 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

<https://young-catholics.com>

The readings for the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time for Year A are about the wisdom of God which is very different from the wisdom of the world. The first reading recalls how Solomon requested the gift of understanding instead of material goods or power. The psalm reminds us that God's commands are more precious than gold. The second reading tells us to work for God's purpose. And in the gospel Jesus gives us more parables related to the Kingdom of God, including the treasure in the field, the pearl of great price, and treasures new and old.

The Kingdom of Heaven's Value: The gospel highlights the immense value of the Kingdom of Heaven, comparing it to a treasure hidden in a field and a pearl of great price. It emphasizes the worthiness of sacrificing everything to possess and experience the Kingdom's blessings.

Joy and Sacrifice: The response of the person who discovers the treasure and the merchant who finds the valuable pearl exemplifies the joy and willingness to sacrifice worldly possessions in order to obtain the Kingdom's eternal riches.

Discernment and Understanding: Jesus emphasizes the importance of discernment and understanding in relation to the mysteries of the Kingdom. He likens the scribe instructed about the Kingdom to a householder who brings out treasures both old and new, suggesting the need to appreciate the timeless truths of Scripture while also being receptive to new revelations from God.

Separation of the Righteous and the Wicked: The parable of the dragnet highlights the final separation of the righteous and the wicked at the end of the age, emphasizing the importance of making choices that align with God's righteousness and the consequences of rejecting the Kingdom.

Scribes as Teachers of the Kingdom: Jesus elevates the role of the scribes in teaching the Kingdom of Heaven, indicating the significance of sharing the truths of the Kingdom and its implications with others.

The Call to Hear and Understand: Jesus concludes by urging His disciples to become like scribes trained for the Kingdom, emphasizing the need for attentive listening, understanding, and the application of Kingdom principles in their lives.

Reflection Questions for 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

- How does Solomon's example teach us about the nature of leadership? Why do you think Solomon chose wisdom instead of asking for something to benefit himself?
- In your opinion, what qualities make a good leader according to Solomon's example?
- Do I see leadership as a place of privilege or a place of service? Do I base my decisions on what is good for me or what meets the needs of the common good?
- How can we apply the idea of servant leadership in our own lives, even if we are not in formal leadership positions? How can I help those around me develop leadership skills?
- How does the response of the person who finds the treasure in the field and the merchant who finds the valuable pearl reflect their understanding of the kingdom of heaven? What can we learn from their actions?
- What are some things in your life that you might need to give up or sacrifice in order to prioritize the kingdom of heaven? How can you apply the lesson from these parables in your own life?
- Jesus mentions that those who have been instructed in the kingdom of heaven are like wise household leaders who bring out both new and old things. How can you deepen your understanding of the kingdom and share its teachings with others?
- How does the message of these parables challenge you to reevaluate your priorities and make any necessary adjustments in your life?

ST DONATO FEAST DAY 60th Anniversary.

A mass to celebrate the annual St Donato Feast will be celebrated on Saturday 12th August 2023 at 10.00am at Sacred Heart Church followed by lunch and entertainment by Rick Brun at Tatura Italian Social club.

Tickets adults \$60 and youth (5-12) \$25.

RSVP by 1st August to

Nick Lagozzino 0412726481 or
Pino Lagozzino 0427677943, or
Joe Gagliardi 0438579989.

Acknowledgement to Country

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of year. We pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside First Nation Australians in truth, justice, and reconciliation.