

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 13 June 2021



Readings for
this week:

Ezekiel 17:22-24
2 Corinthians 5:6-10
Mark 4:26-34



Readings for
next week

Isaiah 49:1-6
Acts 13:22-16
Luke 1:27-66,80



Liturgical Jottings

Gospel Sequence

We resume the Season of the ordered Sundays (Ordinary Time) after 100 days of Lent, Easter and feast days. This week and the next, 11th and 12th Sundays, the readings form a sequence of Christ's teaching. The previous chapters of Mark gave accounts of some healing miracles. In this chapter Jesus teaches his followers using several agricultural parables and teaches his apostles by the calming of the stormy sea. They have to make a decision to remain his followers after the scribes from Jerusalem and even his family think he is possessed (3:22 & 31).

Quote of the Week

We are all born original, but many die as photocopies.

Blessed Carlo Acutis, died aged 15

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Focus on the Readings

We enter the parable section of Mark's Gospel. In the first half of the chapter (4:1-25) are the parables about the sower and seed and the lamp under the bushel. Jesus also gives two explanations on why he uses parables 4:12 & 33-34: so that they may hear, understand and turn away from sin by first quoting the opposite from the Prophet Isaiah 6:9-10. Story telling is prevalent in Jesus teaching as it is in many cultures and families. We convey our history, identity and wisdom. We remember past lessons and learn new ones. We listen to them, understand and honour them.

The Gospel selection today contains two parables: The Planting of Seed and The Mustard Seed comparing the growth in nature with the emergence and growth of, and purpose for the Kingdom of God..

The Prophet Ezekiel is also a good storyteller with his visions and prophecies including the noble cedar tree, the eagles and vines, hearts of stone and flesh, bad shepherds valley of dry bones, the river and the temple. Interestingly when the Lord uses similar images, he applies them quite differently. It is not the mighty and noble Cedar that provides shade and home for the birds but the lowly mustard bush. The parable of the Mustard Tree as the "Kingdom of God" would startle the listeners, challenge their ideas and even defy their common logic. God is certainly the "God of Surprises"

Text for Today

The seed is the Word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live forever. (Gospel Acclamation)

Words of Pope Francis

When human history seems to develop contrary to the will of God, we are called to live this period as a season of trial, of hope and in vigilant waiting for the harvest. The Kingdom grows mysteriously; its power is hidden in a small seed that is filled with victorious vitality. When times are dark, we need to trust in God's quiet but powerful action, and "remain anchored in God's faithfulness, in his presence which always saves. Angelus Address 17/06/2018.

On the Lighter Side

A seed supplier recalled times when customers return to complain that the seed he sold them did not sprout. He remarked that other customers had no problems with the seed from the same batch. But to satisfy them he suggested that they re-bag the seed and return it for a refund!



	Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving	Margaret Henerbery, Bill Webster Aileen Keane
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Pellegrino Romano, Antonietta Carrafa
	Our sick and their carers	Ev Leahy, Kevin Geary

ROSTER		
Date	Saturday 19 June	Sunday 20 June
Commentator	Carol Coulston	Jasmine De Lai
Reader	Shelia Gregg	Ross Kelly



Spirituality in the Pub at the Terminus Hotel, Shepparton on TUESDAY (not MON) 15th June 7.30 – 9pm (meals from 6pm optional)

Sr Joan Chittister's virtual event, The Future of Catholicism in Australia, held early May, will be screened, followed by a facilitated conversation. A Benedictine Sister, Joan is one of the most influential religious and social leaders of our time. For 50 years, she has passionately advocated on behalf of peace, human rights, women's issues & church renewal. Come & join the conversation – an opportunity to reflect together in the lead-up to the Plenary Council.

Enq: Kerry 0408 579904 Frank 5821 4362
Fran 0409 012228

Mass Timetable Week commencing 14th June

Weekday Mass

Monday 14 th June	No Mass
Tuesday 15 th June	No Mass
Wednesday 16 th June	9:15 am Mass
Thursday 17 th June	No Mass
Friday 18 th June	9:15 am Mass

Weekend Mass

Saturday 19 th June	5:30 pm Mass
Sunday 20 th June	9:30 am Mass

Reconciliation (4th Saturday of the Month)
Saturday 26th June 11:30 am

Bishops Plenary Meeting Digest

The Catholic bishops of Australia met for their week-long biannual plenary meeting in early May. Bishops in some provinces gathered in hubs to participate in the video-conferencing sessions, while others participated from their home diocese.

Of note, Bishop Shane Mackinlay was elected vice-president of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia.

Covid Requirements

In accordance with the government requirements, we are only permitted to have 75 people attend Mass with social distancing of 1 person per 4 sq metre.

All parishioners attending any Mass must wear a Mask and use the QR Code or the sign-in sheets.

After every Mass (including weekday Mass) we need to disinfect and wipe down the pews. If you could please help it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you and God Bless
Fr John Paul

Stronger Tonight – Cancelled Due To Covid Restrictions

The Sandhurst Youth Ministry Team are sorry to announce that the Stronger Rally to be held at Wangaratta on the 18th of June has been cancelled due to the latest Covid restriction rules. We apologise for the inconvenience and would like to thank all those involved in the organisation of this event for your help we hope to catch up with all our Sandhurst Diocese youth soon.

Follow Sandhurst Youth and Stronger Youth on Facebook and Instagram to keep up to date

Continuing the Journey of Discernment to the Plenary Council

The final Diocesan-wide Zoom Discernment Sessions on the 6 thematic papers will take place on **Tuesday 15th June at 7:30pm**. All are invited to take part in this process of discernment focusing on the Thematic Paper "How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church in Australia that is missionary and evangelising?"

Email plenary@sandhurst.catholic.org.au to register and receive the Zoom details.
To access the thematic paper head to the Plenary Council Website: plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

GATHERING OF CATHOLIC MEN 2021

In 2020 almost 1000 men across Australia, including over 200 in Victoria across every Diocese, registered to participate in this ground breaking "Gathering of Catholic Men" by grouping in host sites and hubs as COVID allowed, or by watching the material privately.

In 2021 this event is being staged again on the 31st July in a shorter format. It would be wonderful to increase the reach to Catholic men and to have more men gathering with likeminded men in clusters. The aim of the event has always been to inspire and encourage all Catholic men with a vision for personal discipleship, service and mission in the family, parish/diocese and the world. It is hoped that the event will reinforce the importance of gathering in the faith environment of the Church, ensuring that the Gospel is alive in our homes, parishes/dioceses and our communities.

To register go to the following link:
www.catholicmensgathering.com.au.

Caritas welcomes Government's pledge to close global vaccine gap

Caritas Australia welcomes latest commitment to close global vaccine gap. On June 9th the Australian Government to pledge an additional \$50 million to the international vaccine effort, to provide much-needed vaccine doses to lower-income countries.

Feast of the Sacred Heart

On Friday 11th June we celebrated the "Feast of the Sacred Heart" which is very special for our parish. We are fortunate to be under the patronage of the Sacred Heart. We can claim a special response from Christ when we ask anything of Him under this title.

The Church has seen the Sacred Heart as a way of understanding the infinite love of God and the heart itself is a beautiful symbol of love.

The Solemnity was first celebrated in France. The liturgy was approved by the local bishop at the behest of St. John Eudes, who celebrated the Mass on August 31, 1670. The celebration was quickly adopted in other places in France. In 1856, Pope Pius IX established the Feast of the Sacred Heart as obligatory for the whole Church.



Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

O most holy heart of Jesus,
fountain of every blessing,
I adore you, I love you,
and with lively sorrow for my sins
I offer you this poor heart of mine.
Make me humble, patient, pure and wholly
obedient to your will.
Grant, Good Jesus,
that I may live in you and for you.
Protect me in the midst of danger.
Comfort me in my afflictions.
Give me health of body,
assistance in my temporal needs,
your blessing on all that I do,
and the grace of a holy death.
Amen.