



*Readings for
this week:*

Isaiah 55:10-11
Romans 8:18-23
Matthew 13:1-23 or 1-9



*Readings for
next Sunday:*

Wisdom 12:13,16-19
Romans 8:26-27
Matthew 13:24-43



Liturgical Jottings

Gospel Time

Ages ago this column featured an article on liturgical time of cyclical days, seasons and feasts. This time we look at Gospel time. The four evangelists never intended to give an exact chronology of Christ's life, travels and teachings. We see many discrepancies. Jesus cleanses the Temple at the beginning of his ministry in the Gospel of John and at the near the end of his ministry in the synoptic gospels. The Evangelists have greater concerns for the reader: proclaiming the kingdom of God, revealing the mysteries, a journey of faith, discipleship, Jesus is Lord and Saviour.

Gospel passages often begin: "On the same day"; "At that time," or simply: "Then," The current English lectionary often omits these words, taking heed of the translator's note: "A merely transitional cliché of no chronological significance." See The Jerusalem Bible Standard Edition 1966, Matt 13:1 note A.

Looking at the Gospel

The teaching of Jesus is grounded firmly in the world that he and his listeners live. His parables are based on farming, fishing, the marketplace and family. He told stories about vineyards, wheat fields, the sea and human realities. Matthew Chapter 13 has seven parables. A parable can be a short metaphor (hidden treasure, a pearl a dragnet) or an extended story with a moral lesson. Rarely does he explain them or elaborate on the different scenarios that we have about the Sower and Seed today.

The longer form of today's Gospel (Matt 13:10-23) exposes the parable as an allegory – every part has a symbolic meaning; every scenario has a different application for the listener. The parable challenges us to see into our lives the way we receive God's word: not at all, initial enthusiasm but lose interest, distracted by the things around us or with understanding and right action.

This parable is a meditation on God's words and works, on our freedom and the choices we make, on our world of trials, tribulations and successes. It is a parable we can read and reread, study and pray.

Prayer for the week

Lord Jesus, Sower of all the good that is in the world,
Place in us the seeds of goodness and justice.
Let our land yield a harvest of fraternal love
And sheaves of joy and eternal life.

Pope Leo XIV on the Sower and the Seed

This parable Jesus tells us that God throws the seed of his Word on all kinds of soil, that is, in any situation of ours: at times we are more superficial and distracted, at times we let ourselves get carried away by enthusiasm, sometimes we are burdened by life's worries, but there are also times when we are willing and welcoming. God is confident and hopes that sooner or later the seed will blossom. *First General Audience, Rome, 21 May 2025*

Quote for the Day

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love. *Francis of Assisi*

On the Lighter Side

Management to the Farmer: "Jim, we've looked at your distribution metrics. You're throwing premium seed on a paved footpath, tossing it into rocky soil and blackberries, When are you going to get a targeted marketing strategy?"

The Farmer: "Hey, the yield was up to a hundredfold in the good stuff. I'm just playing a numbers game!"



 Please email or contact the office to add names to the prayer list	For those who have died and those who are grieving	Antonio Salamone (1 month)
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Jim Hamilton, Nazzareno Amurri
	Our sick and their carers	Mary Vraca, Kim Mann, Russell Parsons, Rita Fairchild, Harney McKinnon, Sue McDonald

ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

Saturday 18th July 5:00pm

Commentator: Anne Hutchison
 Reader: Sheila Gregg
 Gospel Procession: Joyce Caiafa
 Gifts: Jan & Barry Lowe
 Screen Operator: Carol Coulston
 Music Operator: Trish Warnett

Sunday 19th July 10:30am

Commentator: Elisabeth Edwards
 Reader: John Keane
 Gospel Procession: Angela Lombardozzi
 Gifts: D Thomson & D Phelan
 Eucharistic Minister: Deb Turvey
 Screen Operator: Mary Gale
 Music Operator: Trish Warnett
 Money Counters: E Worm & C Coulston

Sunday 26th July 10:30am

Commentator: Domelina Phelan
 Reader: Anne Marie Nihill
 Gospel Procession: Elisabeth Edwards
 Gifts: C Otoole & C Bannan
 Eucharistic Minister: Ross Kelly
 Screen Operator: Anne Hutchison
 Music Operator: Trish Warnett

Saturday Mass times for 1st & 3rd Sunday of the Month

6:00pm (Oct – Mar) 5:00pm (Apr-Sep)

We thank all of our volunteers for their assistance during Mass

Two Week Mass Timetable Week Commencing 13th July

Weekday Masses

Wednesday 15th July 9:15am
 Friday 17th July 9:15am

Weekend Mass

Saturday 18th July 5:00pm
 Sunday 19th July 10:30am

Weekday Masses

Wednesday 22nd July 9:15am
 Friday 24th July 9:15am

Weekend Masses

Sunday 26th July 10:30am

Monthly events

Anointing Mass every 1st Wednesday Mass at 9:15am

Italian Rosary every 2nd Friday at 2pm in the Church

Reconciliation every 1st Saturday of the month (30 minutes before Mass)

4th Sunday of the month: Shared lunch in St Mary's Hall

Planned Giving Information Sheets

Could everyone make the necessary updates on the Information Sheet you received with your planned giving letter and return it to Trish by next Sunday 19 July, so your information can be updated on the accounting system. Thank you

Baptism congratulations

Harper Maria Hamilton, daughter of Daniel Hamilton and Sarah Herbertson who was Baptised at the Mass on Sunday morning.



We welcome her into our parish and faith community. May God bless you and keep you safe always Harper.

Planned Giving Sheets

There is a scheduled power outage for Hogan Street Tatura next Sunday 19 July 2026, from 8.45 am until the afternoon.

Mass will still be held at the normal time of 10:30am, and if we are without power we will not have screens or music.

Make sure you dress appropriately as there will be no heating if we are without power.



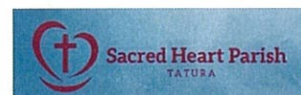
Thank You

Plate Collection and Envelopes

Thank you so much for your generosity and support of the parish.

Last week: \$ 1,222.40

May God bless you always.



Donation QR Code



But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.

Matthew 13:23

SANHURST FORMATION INSTITUTE “GROWING AS COMMUNITIES OF MISSION”

Join people from all over the Diocese at the SFI; two days to explore “Gospel, Mission, and Pastoral Outreach”; the First Direction of the Sandhurst Strategic Mission and Pastoral Goals. Opening Reflection and Closing with Bishop René Ramirez RCJ; Keynotes on both Friday and Saturday: “What is the Mission and What Does that Mean?”, and “Growing as Communities of Mission”. Many seminars to choose from, inter-parish dialogue, intergenerational dialogue and a special Youth Stream (16 – 35s). Friday 21 – Saturday 22 August 2026 at Riverlinks Eastbank, Shepparton For more information, go to our website: <https://sandhurst.catholic.org.au/item/3078-sandhurst-formation-institute2026> Or the Facebook Event: (20+) Diocesan Formation Institute | Facebook

Names on Prayer List: Please email or contact the office to add names on the prayer list.

Gluten Free Hosts: Please Trish or Fr Uday know if you require gluten free hosts.

Wills & Bequeaths: There is an information sheet on the table in the Narthex regarding Wills and Bequeaths. Please consider your Parish when you are considering your Will.

Rosters: for July and August are available in the Narthex.

Faith Sharing Group: all welcome to attend a ‘The Meeting in the Spirit’ group on the 4th Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 22nd July at 6:00pm in the Presbytery.

Baptism Preparation Meeting: Wednesday 2nd September at 5:30pm in the Church. Please contact the Parish office to book in if you would like to attend.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027 EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST CLOSE 17 JULY

Expressions of Interest for Sandhurst pilgrimage to WYD Seoul, South Korea, August 2027 close on 17 July. Already 42 people have responded. If you feel called to be part of this once-in-a-lifetime journey of faith, community, and encounter and are between the ages of 18 and 35, we invite you to take the first step! Head to our website for more information and fill out a no obligation expression of interest. Contact SYM with any queries: sandhurstyouthministry@sandhurst.catholic.org.au.

Preparing Our Hearts for God’s Word

The Gospel for the 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A tells the parable of the sower. Jesus describes different kinds of soil, showing how people respond to God’s message. Some are open and ready, while others are distracted or unprepared. This parable helps us reflect on the state of our own hearts.

Prayer

Lord, open my heart to Your word. Help me to listen, understand, and follow Your truth. Remove anything that keeps me from growing in faith. Give me the strength to endure struggles and the patience to trust in Your plan. May my life bear good fruit that brings glory to You. Amen.

CHILD SAFE PARISH

We are a Child Safe Parish, we have a zero tolerance for child abuse and aim to provide a safe, supportive and welcoming environment to all visiting children, young persons and vulnerable adults. If you are concerned for any form of abuse that is immediate you should call 000; a significant risk or harm, whether or not you have formed this belief on reasonable grounds, you should immediately raise your concerns with our Parish Child safety officer Debbie Turvey on 0407 804 317.

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 years. We pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside First Nation Australians in truth, justice and reconciliation.

Spirit Group

The Meeting in the Spirit Group: Our monthly meeting is Wednesday 22nd July at 6:00pm in the presbytery. Our theme this month is ‘Hope.’ We are invited, not required, to bring something that helps us to be people of hope. It could be a picture, a prayer, a song, a story or something from nature something that is meaningful to us.

St Donato Mass

Saturday 1st August 2026. 10am Mass at Sacred Heart Church Tatura. 11.30am doors open at Tatura Italian Social Club. Lunch 4 course meal Adults \$65 Youth \$25. Payment at the door. Bookings essential: Pino Lagozzino 027 677 943, Mary Zobec 0427 190 282, Frank De Palma 0427 552 686. Joe Gagliardi 0438 579 989.

Sacred Heart Parish, Tatura

PO Box 110 Tatura VIC 3616

Phone: 0436 112 232

Email: tatura@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Website:

<http://www.sacredheartparishtatura.com.au>

Facebook: Sacred Heart Catholic Parish Tatura

You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.'

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL
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ABUNDANT BLESSINGS

For the next several Sundays we will be in the very heart, the centre, of Matthew's Jewish-oriented Gospel. Jesus absorbed Jewish wisdom and sayings and taught them to his followers. He wanted to teach them about God's 'kingdom'. Today's Gospel has Jesus surrounded by a large crowd. He gets into a boat, sits down in the posture of a rabbinic teacher and instructs the crowd on the lakeside.

The parable that he offers is the most important in the whole Gospel. The principal agent is a sower scattering seed in typical fashion of the time. The farmer is oblivious to where the seed falls but intent that a harvest comes. The seed falls in places characteristic of the Galilean countryside: on the edge of paths and eaten by birds, on rocks, amongst thorns and in places with little depth of soil. But the seed also falls in rich soil and produces an extraordinarily abundant harvest. To a Galilean farmer, a twelve-fold harvest would be a wonderful gift. It would offer food for the coming year and pay off the taxes imposed by Rome and the Jewish religious authorities for the support of the Temple. The production is not twelve-fold, but a *hundred-fold*, sixty or *thirty*! This would be like a farmer winning the mega-lottery!

And this, says Jesus, is what the Kingdom is about. Despite apparent signs of frustration and even death, God's reign will be spectacularly rich and abundant. Jesus' parable teaching is an invitation to the Gospel audience and to us to believe in the ongoing abundant blessings of God's presence despite what appears to the contrary.



Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The rain makes the earth give growth.

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 64:10-14. R. Lk. 8:8

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

1. You care for the earth, give it water, / you fill it with riches. / Your river in heaven brims over / to provide its grain. **R.**
2. And thus you provide for the earth; / you drench its furrows, / you level it, soften it with showers, / you bless its growth. **R.**
3. You crown the year with your goodness. / Abundance flows in your steps, / in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. **R.**
4. The hills are girded with joy, / the meadows covered with flocks, / the valleys are decked with wheat. / They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 8:18-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till

now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! / The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; / all who come to him will live for ever. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 13:1-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

A sower went out to sow.

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but for anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

DIOCESE NEWS – 12/7/2026

SANDPIPER e-News



Official news
from the
Diocese of Sandhurst
straight to your inbox.



www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au/news-a-events3/sandpiper-e-news

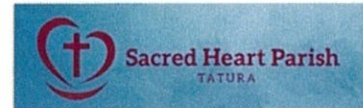
Discover Catholic Podcasts and events happening across Australia – retreats, pilgrimages, workshops and more.

Visit www.CathEvents.org.au to find opportunities to grow in faith and community. Event organisers can also list their events for free, helping more people connect and participate.

The latest Along the Track can be found on our website under the heading of **Sharings / Along the Track**

Diocese Website: <https://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au>

Diocese Facebook Page: Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst



Donation QR Code



PROJECT COMPASSION

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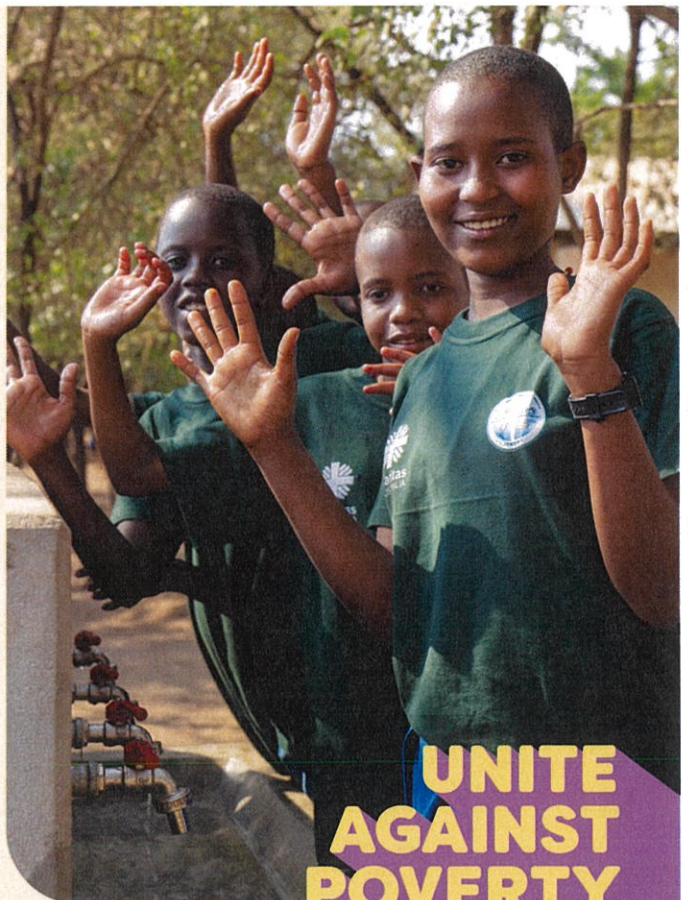
Presented to:

♥ Thank you ♥

Your generosity during Project Compassion this year will support our neighbours worldwide, empowering the most vulnerable people to build a just future for themselves, their families and communities.

Kirsten Sayers

Caritas Australia
Chief Executive Officer



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AGAINST
POVERTY**
this Lent



projectcompassion.org.au

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SATURDAY, 1ST AUGUST 2026

10.00 A.M. MASS

TATURA SACRED HEART CHURCH

11.30 A.M. DOORS OPEN

TATURA ITALIAN SOCIAL CLUB

LUNCH 4 COURSE MEAL

ADULTS \$65 - YOUTH \$25 (5-12 YEARS)

CASH PAYMENTS AT DOOR



ENTERTAINMENT BY RICK BRUN
GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES/AUCTIONS!



BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL FOR LUNCH

RSVP 21st July by phoning:

Pino Lagozzino 0427 677 943

Mary Zobec 0427 190 282

Frank De Palma 0427 552 686

Joe Gagliardi 0438 579 989



All names required for Group Bookings!

***Vegetarian/Gluten Free options available.
Please advise when booking***



Please note: The events listed above may be subject to change without notification.



INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS 2028

"We are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song!" — Pope John Paul II More than a one-time event, Eucharist 28 is a national journey of renewal, beginning in our own hearts and parishes. This Easter, we saw our churches filled with new life as many were welcomed into the faith. The invitation now is to keep that flame alive: to encounter Christ in the Eucharist every week as we prepare for a global celebration of the Eucharist and a Papal Mass celebrated in Sydney by Pope Leo XIV.

Find out more and register at [**eucharist28.org**](https://eucharist28.org).

BISHOP RENÉ RAMIREZ RCJ INSTALATION

On 11 April Pope Leo XIV appointed Bishop René Ramirez RCJ as the ninth Bishop of Sandhurst. He will be installed at Sacred Heart Cathedral on 30 July at 11am. Until that time, Fr Brian Boyle will continue to serve as Diocesan Administrator.

WHO IS BISHOP RENÉ RAMIREZ RCJ

From the Heart of Christ: Zeal and Mercy

As we prepare to welcome Bishop René Ramirez RCJ, as the Ninth Bishop of Sandhurst, let us take a moment to get to know the man who will soon become our shepherd.

Born in 1969 in Gapan City, Philippines, Bishop René joined the Rogationists of the Heart of Jesus in 1985 and was ordained a priest in 1998.

Throughout his priestly ministry, he has served in a variety of roles, including vocation promotion, seminary formation, education, social communications, and parish leadership. In Australia, Bishop René served as Parish Priest of Holy Family Parish in Melbourne's west, where he helped guide the renewal and growth of a vibrant and diverse faith community.

Many people across the Diocese of Sandhurst already know Bishop René through his ministry in Shepparton South, Nagambie, and Rushworth, where he served prior to his appointment as Auxiliary Bishop of Melbourne in 2024.

His episcopal motto, *Zelus et Misericordia* (Zeal and Mercy), expresses his desire to serve with both missionary enthusiasm and compassionate care.

As we prepare for his installation on 30 July 2026, let us continue to pray for Bishop René and for our diocesan family.