

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

19 July 2026



Readings for this week:

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



Readings for next Sunday:

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12
Romans 8:28-30
Matthew 13:44-52



Liturgical Jottings

Liturgy & Social Issues I

The relationship between liturgy and social issues is ecclesiological in nature and has important theological and pastoral aspects. At issue is the liturgy's function in the church and the church's mission in the world. There will always be some relationship between liturgy and mission, but its nature and content will reflect what the liturgy does and is expected to do in the life of the church. Important developments in this area is underway, the relationship between liturgy and social issues continues to evolve.

The church certainly recognises human distress and the many serious problems in the human community. Its liturgical life has been shaped in part as a response to them. Baptism confronts sin and alienation in human life and reconciles people to God and the church. The Missal used at Mass provides prayers for the unity of Christians, peace and justice, refugees and exiles, and relief from famine. *New Dictionary of Sacramental Worship*

Looking at the Readings

The first reading from the book of Wisdom begins with the God of Justice and sovereignty over all. Perhaps an enduring image of God for many people is of a judge, hence the illustration given here. The reading, however modifies the image of God as a judge. Also the concept of God's strength is also modified. In a worldly sense judgment and strength means control and domination, paying out punishment and exercising power over others. Yet we are reminded that God's strength brings *leniency*, God's judgement is *mild*. The scales are tipped in our favour.

This reading complements the Gospel in a subtle way. There is a critique on the image of God. The Judaic and Christian image of God is that he is a just and merciful God. The Greek image of God prevalent in the time of the writing of the Book of Wisdom is that God is a stern judge in a world of good and evil. Jesus' parables on the mustard seed and the yeast speak of inclusivity, growth and change. The parable on the wheat and the dandel speak of the co-existence of good and evil. The mustard bush was considered a weed in the time of Christ – but it provided goodness to the birds of the air. The dandel is also a weed has no future. It cannot change; It is good for nothing. We live in a world that includes all. We can change, convert, grow and able to respond to God's call and live in harmony with all God's creation.

Weed of the Week

Dandel (Lolium temulentum) is a species of ryegrass that is toxic to humans and animals. In ancient agriculture, its similarity to wheat made it a significant problem, as it could easily contaminate a crop. The difficulty in distinguishing dandel from wheat until maturity underscores the parable's message about the challenge of discerning true believers from false ones.

Saints this Week:

Saint Mary Magdalen The Apostle to the Apostles, Wed 22 July
Saint Charbel Makhlouf, Maronite monk, Friday 24 July
Saint James, first Apostle to be martyred 44AD. Sat 25 July

Quote of the Day

If I am worth anything later, I am worth something now. For wheat is wheat, even if people think it is a grass in the beginning. Vincent Van Gogh

On the Lighter Side

What did mustard say to tomato sauce during the race?
"You'll never ketchup!"

Why did mustard break up with mayo? It found someone zestier.

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Please email or contact the office to add names to the prayer list

For those who have died and those who are grieving

For those whose anniversary occurs at this time

Our sick and their carers

Kathleen Connelly

Sue McDonald, Mary Vraca, Kim Mann, Russell Parsons, Rita Fairchild, Harney McKinnon

ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

Sunday 26th July 10:30am

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

Saturday 1st August 5:00pm

Commentator: Carol Coulston
Reader: Gem Reyes
Gospel Procession: Deb Turvey
Gifts: J Caiafa & D Hamilton
Screen Operator: Ged Pollard
Music Operator: Trish Warnett

Sunday 2nd August 10:30am

School Led Mass (Sacramental Children Presentation)

Eucharistic Minister: Debbie Worm
Screen Operator: Tony McDonald
Music Operator: Trish Warnett
Money Counters: E Worm & C Coulston

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

Eucharistic Adoration



Beginning in July, there will be Eucharistic Adoration on the first Friday of the month at 5:30pm in the Sacred Heart Church. All welcome. The next Eucharistic Adoration will be on Friday 7th August.

Two Week Mass Timetable Week Commencing 20th July

Weekday Masses

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

Weekend Masses

Sunday 26th July 10:30am

Weekday Masses

Wednesday 29th July 9:15am
Friday 31st July 9:15am

Weekend Mass

Saturday 1st August 10:00 am (St Donato)
5:00pm
Sunday 2nd August 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)

Ladies Cuppa & Chat



1st Wednesday of each month at 2pm in St Mary's Hall. All welcome.

The next one will be Wednesday 5th August

Baptism congratulations

Parker Koda Mallon, daughter of Liam Mallon & Emily Priday who was Baptised after Mass on Sunday morning.



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



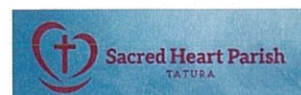
Plate Collection and Envelopes

Thank You

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

Last week: \$784.00

May God bless you always.



Donation QR Code



“Let them grow together until harvest.”

(Matthew 13:30)

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.

Unveiling Hidden Potential

The parable of the mustard seed in the Gospel for the 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A shows how something small can grow into something great. This reminds us that small beginnings should not be ignored. God often uses what seems little or unimportant to bring about His plan.

Sometimes, people feel like their efforts do not matter. A simple prayer, a kind word, or a small act of love might seem too small to make a difference. But just like the mustard seed, these small things have the potential to grow into something much greater.

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.

Shared Parish Lunch

Next Sunday 26 July, there will be a shared parish lunch in St Mary’s Hall after Mass. Please bring something share and BYO drinks. Everyone is welcomed.

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.

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.

Grandparents Day – Special Mass

Next Sunday 26th July is grandparent’s day so a Fr will be holding a special Mass for all Grandparents.

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.

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

kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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GOOD AND EVIL

Why do bad things happen to good people? It is a question often expressed in different ways. Bad people seem to get away easily with their bad deeds. Today's Gospel teaching speaks into this perspective. Jesus' parable teaching from last Sunday with his focus on seed continues today. Grain was an important agricultural commodity in the ancient world. It was the source of food and the means of addressing stressing taxation demands. Like last Sunday, the parable is about the Kingdom of God. In the parable, the farmer sows good seed but, unbeknown, a nighttime enemy sows darnel in the same field. Both seeds sprout and produce. The workers query the farmer about the reason for the presence of the darnel. It is the classic query of life: why is there evil in a world that is essentially good? Why darnel among the wheat when only wheat was sown? The solution offered by the farmer recognises the presence of 'an enemy' and the need to allow both seeds to grow until the harvest when the wheat could be gathered into the barn and darnel destroyed. Jesus' wisdom in this parable is salient. We live in a world and faith communities where good and bad co-exist. The coexistence of 'darnel' and 'wheat' should not surprise us—but it is not forever. There is the harvest time when justice will be meted out. This awareness of a definitive act of divine justice at time's end, one for which we pray in every celebration of the Eucharist for the coming of Jesus at the end of time, allows us to live in this in-between time as we seek to do good but, at times, experience the presence of evil and the agency of the 'enemy'. Nevertheless, God's kingdom will be ultimately fruitful.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Wis 12:13, 16-19

A reading from the book of Wisdom

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, / to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. / Your justice has its source in strength, / your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. / You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned / and you expose the insolence of those who know it; / but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, / you govern us with great lenience, / for you have only to will, and your power is there. / By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people / how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, / and you have given your sons the good hope / that after sin you will grant repentance.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16. R. v. 5

R. Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, / full of love to all who call. / Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer / and attend to the sound of my voice. **R.**

2. All the nations shall come to adore you / and glorify your name, O Lord: / for you are great and do marvellous deeds, / you who alone are God. **R.**

3. But you, God of mercy and compassion, / slow to anger, O Lord, / abounding in love and truth, / turn and take pity on me. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 8:26-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our



hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia! / Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; / you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 13:24-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Let them grow together until the harvest.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this," he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

He put another parable before them, 'The



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.



SANDPIPER e-News



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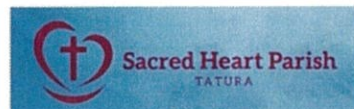
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Visit www.CathEvents.org.au to find opportunities to grow in faith and community. Event organisers can also list their events for free, helping more people connect and participate.

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>

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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.

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.