



**Sacred
Heart
Parish**
TATURA

Sacred Heart Parish Tatura

Parish Priest: Fr Uday Kumar Mammeni ALCP/SS

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

26 July 2026



*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

Liturgy and Social Issues II

The church's liturgical life has responded to social issues in its rituals. The sacrament of penance testifies to the church's continuing struggle against sin in its own members and its commitment to forgive sin and support personal conversion. On all occasions the liturgy calls people to holiness and reminds them of their obligation to practice justice and live in charity with all.

Another facet of the church's response is its official statements on social and political issues. These statements deal with a wide range of local, national, and international problems, both theoretically as well as concretely. Especially since Pope Leo XIII's encyclical *Rerum Novarum* issued in 1891 and more recently Pope Leo XIV's encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas* this year addressing human society and artificial intelligence. These interventions manifest the seriousness with which the Church has taken contemporary social and political problems. *New Dictionary of Sacramental Worship*

Looking at the Readings

The first reading opens with God asking Solomon what would he like God to give him. Solomon is the newly appointed king, he may wish for many things. This type of request of God offering his help to his chosen servants occurs regularly in Scripture and in other forms in classical literature and even fairy tales: "Your wish is my command" Genie in *Aladdin's Lamp* and also in Doctor Who. In a wise response Solomon asked for wisdom: "Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, ..." (Verse 9). Like prevenient grace, that is grace given to receive grace (see Prayer over the Gifts, Mass of Immaculate Conception of BVM). It seems that Solomon had prevenient wisdom. Such a gift should be our aspiration!

The Gospel today completes Matthew's Parables Discourse (chapter 13) with four very short parables: treasure in the field, the fine pearl, the dragnet and the storeroom. Each parable requires wisdom: Someone who finds the treasure in the field needs to know what to do. Similarly the merchant seeking the fine pearl and the fishermen discerning what fish to take to market and what to throw back into the sea. And finally the householder who goes looking into the larder. Like Solomon, these agents must discern the good from the bad. The kingdom of heaven is a treasure we must seek with all our heart. The world consists of good and bad, people of every kind. While final judgement is with God we live alongside people of all kinds here and now but look and work towards the future with freedom and hope.

Quotes

"Knowing yourself is the beginning of all wisdom." Aristotle

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" Solomon (Prov 9:10)

"Fear of the Lord" is now rendered: "Wonder and Awe in God's Presence"

Pope Leo on Grandparents and the Elderly

The life of the Church and the world can only be understood in light of the passage of generations. Embracing the elderly helps us to understand that life is more than just the present moment, and should not be wasted in superficial encounters and fleeting relationships. Instead, life is constantly pointing us toward the future. In the book of Genesis, we find the moving episode of the blessing given by the aged Jacob to his grandchildren, the sons of Joseph; his words are an appeal to look to the future with hope, as the time when God's promises will be fulfilled.

On the Lighter Side

"Our club is looking for a treasurer." "Didn't you just hire one last month?" "Yes, that's the one we're looking for."

"What does a fruitcake pirate do with his treasure? He berries it on a dessert island."





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

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

ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

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

Sunday 9th August 10:30am

Commentator: Theresa Cook
Reader: Ross Kelly
Gospel Procession: Anna Ciavarella
Gifts: S Gregg & D Phelan
Eucharistic Minister: Elisabeth Edwards
Screen Operator: Debbie Worm
Music Operator: Trish Warnett
Money Counters: L & D Worm

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 27th July

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

Weekday Masses

Wednesday 5th August 9:15am
Friday 7th August 9:15am
Friday 7th August 5:00 pm (Eucharistic Adoration)

Weekend Masses

Sunday 9th 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

Ladies Cuppa & Chat



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

The next one will be this coming Wednesday 5th August

Grandparents & Elderly

We pray in thanksgiving for grandparents and all that their lives of witness to the gospel can bring to family and parish life. May all the elderly, particularly those in care facilities or living alone, be respected and loved by those of us who come after them.

Eucharistic Adoration



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.



Plate Collection and Envelopes

Thank You

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

May God bless you always.



Donation QR Code



**"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field."
(Matthew 13:44)**

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 26th August 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.

The Priceless Kingdom

The gospel for the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A teaches about the kingdom of heaven through parables. Jesus compares it to a hidden treasure and a valuable pearl. Both are worth more than anything else, and people gladly give up everything to have them.

These stories remind us that God’s kingdom is the most important thing in life. It is more valuable than money, success, or material possessions. People search for meaning and happiness in many places, but true joy comes from being part of God’s kingdom.

Jesus also talks about a fishing net that catches all kinds of fish. The fish are later separated, just as the good and bad will be separated at the end of time. This shows that being part of God’s kingdom is not automatic. It requires a choice to follow Him.

Prayer

Lord, help us seek wisdom like Solomon and trust in Your plan for our lives. Teach us to value Your kingdom above all else. Give us the courage to follow You and let go of anything that holds us back. May we live with faith and wisdom, always putting You first. Amen.

Parish Shared Lunch today

Everyone is welcomed to join us in St Mary’s Hall after Mass for a shared lunch.

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.

Sacred Heart Parish, Tatura

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happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.'

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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COMMUNION WITH GOD

Today we continue to hear from the central chapter in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus' parable teaching about the kin-dom of God. Over the past Sundays we have been hearing parables concerned with sowed seed (15th Sunday) and the mystery of the darnel sown among the wheat (last Sunday). Today we hear that the kin-dom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, a common banking technique by peasant farmers to protect their most valuable possessions. Someone discovers this treasure; hides it again and then sells every possession to buy the field and claim the treasure. Between the discovery and the purchase, the finder goes off "happy". The overwhelming joy of the discovery leads the merchant to sell everything to buy the field. This is an image of the disciple, of us, in discovering that the true encounter with God, the experience of the kin-dom, is most precious. Nothing can substitute it.

The second parable that concludes today's Gospel is like the first. It is about a merchant's search for valuable pearls and, in finding one, sells everything to have the pearl. In the ancient world, in the time of Jesus and Matthew, the pearl represented purity, beauty, power, wealth, even divinity. The discovery of the pearl by the parable's merchant leads, as in the first parable, to the selling of everything possessed to gain the pearl.

Both parables speak into our desire for ultimate and intimate communion with the God revealed through Jesus. When we experience such communion, we realise how valuable it is; nothing can compare to it. Intimate communion with God cannot be bought nor can anything else in human existence substitute for it. This communion is deepened in every celebration of the Eucharist.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

A reading from the first book of the Kings
You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this', the Lord said, 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM Ps 118:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130. R. v. 97

R. Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, / is to obey your word. / The law from your mouth means more to me / than silver and gold. **R.**
2. Let your love be ready to console me / by your promise to your servant. / Let your love come to me and I shall live / for your law is my delight. **R.**
3. That is why I love your commands / more than finest gold. / That is why I rule my life by your precepts: / I hate false ways. **R.**
4. Your will is wonderful indeed; / therefore I obey it. / The unfolding of your word gives light / and teaches the simple. **R.**

Rom 8:28-30

SECOND READING
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

■ The word of the Lord.

cf. Mt 11:25

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

Mt 13:44-52

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off

DIOCESE NEWS – 26/7/2026

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

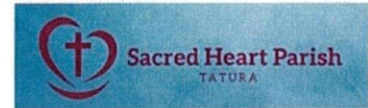
Discover Catholic Podcasts and events happening across Australia – retreats, pilgrimages, workshops and more.

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



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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.