



HOLY EUCHARIST PARISH

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FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

15 & 16 JULY 2023

REDEMPTORIST COMMUNITY

Parish Priest & Mission Leader

Fr Vincent Long Pham CSsR

Priests in Residence

Fr Joseph Xuan Hieu Nguyen CSsR

Fr Patrick Corbett CSsR

Parish Secretary

Mary-Lucy Atonio PH: 9366 1310

Parish School Principal

Michael Bonnici PH: 8312 0900

Filipino Chaplain

Fr Joselito Asis

South Sudanese Chaplain

Deacon George B.P. Meat

MASS TIMES

- ♦ **Tues-Fri:** 9:00am
- ♦ **Saturday:** 5:00pm
6.30pm Vietnamese
- ♦ **Sunday:** 8:45am, 10:00am,
6:00pm
12:00pm Vietnamese

Other Masses

- 1st & 2nd Sun. Sudanese Mass 3pm
- 3rd Sun Samoan Mass - 2.00pm
- 4th Sun Filipino Mass - 3.00pm



Please join us to wish a happiest birthday to our one and only Fr. Patrick Corbett CSsR, who will be celebrating his birthday on Wednesday, July 19th. We thank God for the gift of you and pray for many more years full of blessings and good health to continue your Ministry with Holy Eucharist Parish Community.

THE LIVING WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-11

The word that goes out from my mouth does not return to me empty

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.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 64 (65):10-14

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

You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches.

Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain.

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

And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows; you level it, soften it with showers; you bless its growth.

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

You crown the year with your goodness.

Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows.

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

The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy, yes, they sing.

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

Second Reading Romans 8:18-23

The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons

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.

Gospel Acclamation 1S3:9,Jn6:68

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 13:1-9

A sower went out to sow

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such large 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!

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

One of the privileges of my life has been an ongoing involvement in Catholic education, especially in religious and theological education of staff. While my connection now is somewhat removed from the day to day life of schools, I am keenly aware of the selfless dedication of leadership and staff in their efforts to create environments for the children and young adults in our communities to receive God's word in its multi-layered reality. A sense of wonder and appreciation of the goodness of creation, of respect for the human and the more-than-human Earth community, is at the heart of any truly worthwhile education. The experience of violence or broken trust in the lives of some children may inhibit that sense of wonder and respect. Sensitive educators, at home and at school, are attuned to the diversity of experience among children and are called to attend to the inevitable diversity of needs so that all might be open to learn and to grow in wisdom and grace.

Jesus' parable of the soil, seed and sower reminds us that the grace of God's word is there for everyone who is open to receive it. If the seed takes root in rich soil, the harvest is assured. If it misses the mark and falls on the path, the benefit is for the birds alone and not for the human community. If the soil is rocky, the growth is premature and short-lived and the harvest is very limited, so that the birds are deprived along with the human community. If the seed falls among thorns, it is choked-so once again, there is no harvest. The readiness of the soil is all important, though the extent of the yield is the measure of God's abundant grace.

This parable reflects Jesus' closeness to the whole Earth community and his familiarity with the lives of ordinary people. While scattering of seed before ploughing seems a rather wasteful method of sowing a crop, such a practice is attested in the ancient world. Is the sower an extraordinarily generous God or an exploitative and wasteful estate owner? Parables tease their hearers and invite them to ponder their many levels of meaning. We have to bring our own life experience into dialogue with the word of each parable and search out its meaning for us.

When we consider our children, the parable of the soil, seed and sower may yield its wisdom more slowly than parents and teachers may wish. Young people tend to mature at different rates and their faith develops in myriad ways that only God as harvester truly comprehends. We do whatever we can and trust that God will ensure an abundant harvest.

By Sister Veronica Lawson rsm

HOW CAN WE MODEL THE LOVE OF JESUS BY SHOWING COMPASSION?

One of the most visible character attributes of God, as seen in Scripture, is His compassion. Both the Old Testament and New Testament testify to the unconditional love and mercy that arises from His compassion, even and especially when it is viewed alongside those passages that describe God's just and holy wrath towards sin.

God is always completely who He is. From our human experience, we expect God to be "one or the other," as we are. Instead, all His attributes are divinely and perfectly in harmony with Himself – never in competition. As the Psalmist reminds us, God is not like us: "You thought that I was altogether like you" (Psalm 50:21).

"God's essence is one indivisible whole, so that each and all of His perfections actively characterize God's entire being. God's perfections must be thought of as always actively present together and mutually influencing each other without any hierarchy, even when they are not all mentioned in a given passage of Scripture." – John MacArthur

What Is Compassion?

The dictionary defines compassion as "a feeling of deep sympathy and sorrow for another who is stricken by misfortune, accompanied by a strong desire to alleviate the suffering." It differs from empathy or pity, in that while these words indicate an emotional response to the suffering of others, compassion moves one to act.

The Old Testament Hebrew word for compassion is *rāḥami* and is often translated "mercy." In the New Testament, the Greek word is *spagchnizomai*: to be moved as to one's inwards. The root word is *spagchnon*, from which we get "spleen." The bowels or inward parts were seen to be the seat of inward affection, love, and pity, expressing an intense emotion, a yearning, that deeply moves one inwardly, creating a desire to relieve suffering.

Exodus 33:19 – "And He said, 'I Myself will make all My goodness pass before you, and will proclaim the name of the Lord before you; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show compassion on whom I will show compassion.'"

Exodus 34:6 – "Then the Lord passed by in front of him and proclaimed, 'The Lord, the Lord God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding

in lovingkindness and truth.”

God proclaimed His name to Moses in response to his request to see God’s glory. When we get a glimpse of God’s glory, we are seeing His attributes on display. How comforting to read that God defines Himself as compassionate. His very essence is one of compassion, moved to act because of the suffering of humanity.

Psalm 103:8, 13 – “The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness. ... Just as a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him.”

Here are four practical ways that Jesus taught us to show compassion:

1. Compassion for Those with Physical Needs

Matthew 15:32 – “And Jesus called His disciples to Him, and said, ‘I feel compassion for the people, because they have remained with Me now three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way.’”

While Jesus’ ultimate work and mission was spiritual, accomplishing eternal salvation for the souls of men, He took much time to address the physical needs of those who came to Him for help. One of His more familiar parables describes “the good Samaritan” who illustrated what it means to “love your neighbor as yourself.” The pious religious priest and Levite passed by the man in need, but the Samaritan saw him and felt compassion (Luke 10:33). Jesus concludes with the moral of the parable:

Luke 10:36-37 – “Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers’ hands?” And he said, “The one who showed mercy toward him.” Then Jesus said to him, “Go and do the same” (Emphasis added).

We can model the love of Jesus by meeting needs. James puts this principle in terms we cannot fail to understand:

James 2:15-17 – “If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, and one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,’ and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that? Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself.”

Physical needs are also often manifested in illness and disease. While we do not have the power to heal sickness as Jesus did out of compassion (Matthew 14:14), we should do what we can to alleviate the suffering of the sick, including praying diligently for healing (James 5:14-16), visiting to provide encouragement and practical help (Matthew 25:35-40), and bearing with patience the extra burdens of caring for others with illness (Galatians 4:13-15).

Galatians 6:2 – “Bear one another’s burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.”

2. Compassion for Those Who Mourn

Luke 7:11-15 – “Soon afterwards He went to a city called Nain; and His disciples were going along with Him, accompanied by a large crowd. Now as He approached the gate of the city, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a sizeable crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, He felt compassion for her, and said to her, ‘Do not weep.’ And He came up and touched the coffin; and the bearers came to a halt. And He said, ‘Young man, I say to you, arise!’ The dead man sat up and began to speak. And Jesus gave him back to his mother.”

A famous quote attributed to Ben Franklin says, “In this life, nothing is certain but death and taxes.” We all have an appointment with death (Hebrews 9:27). Some are born into extreme poverty and live their whole lives in need. Others come into the world surrounded by great riches and have their every want or desire granted. Yet physical circumstances have no bearing on a man’s ability to escape death; it is the great equalizer.

Jesus came to do away with the fear of death that holds all men captive (Hebrews 2:14-15). As His followers, we can show the greatest compassion towards those who mourn, giving them hope in the reality that Christ has done away with its sting (1 Corinthians 15:54-55). During His earthly ministry, Jesus brought back to physical life several who had died, acting out of compassion (Lazarus, the widow’s son, etc.). But all these died a natural death again. Grieving during a time of death provides one of the greatest opportunities to show the compassion of Christ to those who mourn.

3. Compassion for Those Who Have Made Poor Choices

Luke 15:20 – “So he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.”

The story of the prodigal son hits home for all of us. Sometimes we are the wayward child gone astray from our Father’s love. But without compassion, we might find ourselves in the place of the self-righteous, jealous brother who resented the outpouring of love and mercy his younger brother found in the father’s welcome.

This parable illustrates the way God responds to us, and how we ought to feel deeply and act intentionally to restore those who are suffering because of their own willful choices. There’s no better way to show the redemptive love of Christ.

4. Compassion for the Lost

Mark 6:34 – “When Jesus went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and He felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things.”

Matthew 9:35-37 – “Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness. Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.””

The gospel presents a mission of compassion and mercy. Separated from our Creator by the wide gulf of sin, we were lost and without hope. God’s heart was moved to act to relieve our suffering, sending His only Son as the sacrificial Lamb of God to atone for the sins of the world.

As followers and imitators of our Savior and Lord Jesus, may all our acts of mercy lead to an invitation to receive the good news of salvation and be reconciled to the Father. Sharing the gospel is an act of compassion with eternal results.

By Sheila Alewine



Join us in celebrating the Grandparents’ Day during our Tagalog Mass on Sunday, 23 July 2023 @ 3:00pm at Holy Eucharist Church, 1A Olean-der Drive, St Albans South. Celebrant: Fr. Joselito C. Asis, Chaplain to the Filipinos.

For Details:

Fr. Asis - 0404 261 228 or
Celine Rivera - 0433 132 041

CLEANING ROSTER

Week starting 19 July 2023 -
Group 12 - South Sudanese
Community: Peter & David



**READERS/COMMENTATOR/
COORDINATOR/EUCHARISTIC
MINISTERS**

- Tues 9:00 AM, 18-07-23**
Reader Xuan Duong
Eucharistic Min. Monica Lomen
- Wed 9:00 AM, 19-07-23**
Reader Carmen Camilleri
Eucharistic Min. Carmen Camilleri
- Thurs 9:00 AM, 20-07-23**
Reader: HE School
Eucharistic HE School
- Fri 9:00 AM, 21-07-23**
Reader Helen Maddela
Eucharistic Min. Catherine Bartolo
- Sat 5.00 PM, 22-07-23**
Lit. Coordinator: Reno Attard
Commentator: Chelsea Perera
Readers: Alaistair Surrao
Violeta Montoro
Eucharistic Min. Carmen Camilleri
Wendy Forbes-Perera
Reno Attard
- Sun 8.45 AM, 23-07-23**
Lit. Coordinator: Monica Lomen
Commentator Wilma Marmur
Readers: Shirley Krismanic
Mini Eddy
Eucharistic Min: Helen Maddela
Salve Nidea
Monica Lomen
- Sun 10:00AM, 23-07-23**
Lit. Coordinator: Christine Pedroso
Commentator: Rita Martin
Reader: Jinky Monteros
Ed Cablao
Eucharistic Min. Christine Pedroso
Br. Tony Gatt
Saua Tufuga
- Sun 6.00PM, 23-07-23**
Lit. Coordinator Xuan Duong
Commentator Lani Laririt
Reader Rod Lalunio
Larnie Mendoza
Eucharistic Min. Xuan Duong
Larnie Mendoza
Rod Lalunio

CHOIR GROUPS

- Saturday 22nd July 2023**
♦ 5pm – St Francis Choir
- Sunday 23rd July 2023**
♦ 8.45am - Charlie Schembri
♦ 10.00am - Fernandez Family
♦ 6pm - Samoan Choir

LET US PRAY FOR

The Sick
Pam Norris, Alfred & Pauline Storace, Arnord Fernandez, Toni Antonowicz, Anna, Maria Kim, Yulette Tanner, Jessie Spiteri, Stella Sandle, Frank, Doris Carabott.

Recently Deceased
Connie Curmi (*Funeral Mass 10:30am 20/07/2023*)

Death Anniversaries
Lawrence Grasso, Janja Rakonic, Gerard Mizzi(10th Anniv.), Joseph Mizzi, Maria Nguyen, Anna Tran, Domenico Gianfala, Michael Angelo Leobando, Giuse Pham Con, Maria Pham Thi Tan, Giuse Pham Cung, Joseph, Frank & John Xerri, Tran Thi Huong, Cornelio Maddela, Grazio (Horace) Camilleri, Joseph & Franc Xiberras, Reno Cauchi, Mac-co Ngo Van Tinh, Lucia Huynh Thi Kim Hue, Phero Ngo Minh Truong, Maria Huynh Thi Thanh Kieu, Phero Le Nghia, Matta Le Thi Linh, Phero Le Quang Tuan, Theresa Nguyen Ngoc Giang Thu, Dominico Le Ngoc Son, Mary Camilleri, Richard Curmi, Iro & Jessie Vella, Angela Chircop, Peter Disco, Wayne Camilleri, Bartolo family, Brincat & Galea family, Maria Vu Thi Yeu Thuong, Duong Family, Do Family, Vincent Duong Kham Su, Michael Alphonsus Schiller, Mollie Rice (Marie), Raymond Abela and All Souls

SAFETY FOR ALL

Holy Eucharist Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Holy Eucharist parish respectfully acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we reside and worship.

VOCATION VIEW

The seed of a vocation seeks fertile surroundings. Sometimes it gets stepped on, sometimes it gets choked, sometimes it lacks depth. But other times it is nourished by loving and caring friends.

All information used in accordance with the terms of our privacy policy.