



11th

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**"To what shall we compare the kingdom of God? It is like a mustard seed ... once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants."
- Mk 4:30a, 31a, 32**

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

©LPI

FOCUS by Fr John Daly

Hanging in my wardrobe is a long-sleeved purple shirt with white and bright yellow trimmings. On the front of the shirt are the simple yet stunning words *"Hope Lives Here"*. Also across the front are printed words *"Relay for Life"* and *"Cancer Council"*.

Once a year I take this shirt off its hanger and wear it as I walk in the Relay for Life event to raise vital funds for the Cancer Council's research and prevention of Cancer. This event will take place this year from Saturday afternoon 11th August and continue through the night. It is a moving and lovely community experience.

Most of us have been touched by cancer - having survived cancer ourselves or experienced loved ones with cancer. Perhaps the most moving experience of the Relay for Live event is the placing of candles on the track in memory of those who have died from Cancer. It always reminds me of our Easter Vigil service of light.

Why not be part of this Community event? Not only will you enjoy it but you will both gain new friends and raise funds to support cancer research and prevention. Over the past years, as a Parish we have had teams walk or just be present in our parish tent, to raise funds and witness to the good that is in our Bundaberg Community.

A big fund-raising event for Relay for Life is our Parish High Tea which is being held on Saturday 14th July 2018 at St Patrick's Hall commencing at 10:30am. So far response to this important event has been poor. We need more donations for the raffles and more urgent, need people to 'commit' to attending. Come as an individual, bring a friend or two, or perhaps form a table.

For more details on Relay for Life Registration and the Parish High Tea, see the Parish Bulletin or contact the Parish Office on 4151 6666.

"Hope Lives Here". This hope becomes real only when we become involved as transmitters of Hope.



The Catholic Parish of Bundaberg

Under the Patronage of Mary Mother of the Church

Office Hours: 8.30am – 3.30pm Monday to Friday

Parish Office: Rossolini Place Level 1, 66 Woongarra St Ph: 07 4151 6666 Email: sbundaberg@rok.catholic.net.au PO Box 79 Bundaberg Q 4670

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Peter Tonti PP
Parish Priest

Rev Andrew Hogan
Associate Pastor

Rev Jomon Poothara
Associate Pastor

Mrs Anne Sheehan
Liturgy & Sacramental Coordinator

Mrs Denise Tuzes
Visitation & Bereavement Coordinator

Mr Norm Whyte
Business Manager

Mrs Diana Pippia
Administration & Finance Coordinator

Mrs Kaye Andersen
Receptionist

Bundaberg NET
Youth Ministry

SCHOOLS

**St Joseph's Catholic
Primary School**
Principal: Mrs Kaye Beston
sjbgrok.catholic.edu.au
Ph: 4151 4771

**St Mary's Catholic
Primary School**
Principal: Ms Madonna Davitt
stmarysbundaberg.qld.edu.au
Ph: 4152 2167

**St Patrick's Catholic
Primary School**
Principal: Mr Mark Fox
saintpatricks.qld.edu.au
Ph: 4152 1380

Shalom College
Principal: Mr Dan McMahon
shalomcollege.com
Ph: 4155 8111

CHURCHES

Holy Rosary Church
Cnr Barolin & Woongarra Sts

St Patrick's Church
16 Powers St

St Mary's Church
Cnr Barolin & Boston Sts

St James' Church
38 See St Barga

OTHER CONTACTS

Diocesan Safeguarding
Daniel Donnini: 4887 3080

The Diocese of Rockhampton
Response Line: 1800 830 113

Centacare: 1300 523 985

St Vincent de Paul: 4151 5455

Ozcare: 1800 692 273

Towards Healing: 1800 337 928

AFTER HOURS

**Anointing of the Sick
for Medical Emergencies**
Phone 4151 6666
& follow the prompts.

LIVE THE LITURGY

Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to a mustard seed, the tiniest of seeds. When planted, the tiny mustard seed grows into a tremendous tree with large branches. So, too, in each of our lives, small things can have profound effects. God can use one of our more insignificant gestures to radically change another person's life. It may be the kindness of a smile, our willingness to accommodate someone, listening to someone's story, helping someone who is hurting, standing up for someone who is right, or complimenting someone on something they did. We all have God-given gifts and talents. Our task is to use them creatively, consistently, lovingly, and generously. We trust that God will take care of the rest.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

You could buy a meal for a person who is hungry or for a person who just ate a feast. You could spend time with a lonely person or with someone who has more friends than you. You could step forward to join a parish committee that your experience and knowledge can help, or you can join a ministry where you will constantly struggle to figure out what to do. All of the above actions involve you giving and sharing yourself and your gifts. But not all of these actions will bear good fruit.

If a sower sows seeds only on rocky or weed-infested soil, nothing of great value will grow. But if that same sower plants his seeds in rich soil, then the harvest will one day be great. In all of the soils, the seed is being sown, but it is not the act of sowing that is the most important factor. In living a stewardship way of life, we must discern how best to share our gifts. Discernment needs the Holy Spirit and a desire to follow God's will, not our own. Our own desires and misconceptions can cause us to use our gifts unwisely. The more mindful we are of how, when, and why we are sharing ourselves, than the greater the impact for God's glory. God wants all of you, but not in a way that is without understanding and discernment. He wants you to shine as a light to the world through your stewardship just as He came to you as the Light of the World in baptism. You can't shine brightly if the match does not hit the wick.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

LIVING JUSTLY LIVING SUSTAINABLY

Today we begin **National Refugee Week** which encourages Australians to celebrate the best aspects of our nation's welcome of refugees, acknowledge unjust treatment of asylum seekers and refugees and commit to working together to ensure that we do better. World Refugee Day is Wednesday 20 June.

*We can rejoice in the positive contribution
made by refugees to our society over the years
and speak out against the violations to their human rights
suffered by asylum seekers and refugees.*

(Social Justice Diary 2018)

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Kevin Gerraty; Edna Gunn; Malcolm Breen; Anne Benfield; Barry Tryhorn (Rockhampton); Beryl Nicholls (Deception Bay); Anne-Marie Stent (Brisbane); Barry Foelz (Boonah); Dr Peter Hegarty (Warwick); John Walters; Kevin Sutton; and Christine Grogan.

NOTICES

Don't Forget! Fr Peter and Norm Whyte will be available after Mass this weekend at St Patrick's; St James and St Mary's Churches to discuss the proposed installation of the projectors and screens in each of these three Churches. Don't miss this opportunity to discuss this proposed matter and provide your feedback.

Cherish Life: Monday, 18 June 2018 from 1.30pm to 3.00pm in the Novakoski Centre.

Visitation Ministers Coffee & Cake Meeting: 10.30am Thursday, 21 June 2018 in the Parish Office Conference Room.

Welcome Fr Jomon: next weekend Fr Jomon Poothara, our new Associate Pastor, arrives in the Parish. Over the next two weekends you will have the opportunity to meet and welcome Fr Jomon after Mass. Next weekend Fr Jomon will celebrate Mass at St Patrick's & Holy Rosary Churches. Please bring a plate of goodies to share with your tea/coffee.

Relay for Life High Tea: from **10.30am Saturday, 14 July 2018** in St Patrick's Hall. Tickets are \$30 each and are available from the Parish Office. (Tables of 8 available). Donations towards the *High Tea's Raffles* would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped-off at the Parish Office during Business Hours ~ Thank you.

The 14th Annual eConference: Wednesday, 8 August 2018 from 10.00am to 2.00pm in the Parish Office Conference Room. This year's eConference will focus on engaging communities around Australia in a landmark discussion about the future vision & direction of the Catholic Church in our country. For registration and catering purposes, please contact the Parish Office by Monday, 6 August 2018.

Relay for Life 2018: is being held from **2.00pm Saturday, 11 August to 8.00am Sunday, 12 August 2018** at the Bundaberg Recreational Precinct. Registration costs \$30 and is payable at the time of registration. If you would like to register as member of the *Catholic Parish of Bundaberg Relay for Life Team* please visit the Cancer Council Office at 41 Woongarra Street, (*diagonally across from the Parish Office*) or for more information contact Denise Tuzes at the Parish Office on 4151 6666.

The 16th Annual Ecumenical Luncheon: will be held on **Saturday, 25 August 2018 from 10.00am to 2.00pm** at the Bundaberg RSL. Guest Speaker: Chaplain Gary Stone (The Veterans Padre). Tickets: \$35 per person. More information will be available in the coming week/s.

Ignite Youth Conference: will be held this year from Thursday, 27 September through to Sunday, 30 September 2018. Open to Ages from Grade 7 to Grade 12. For more information, please contact the Parish Office on 4151 6666.

2018/2019 Planned Giving Envelopes: are still available for collection from all Churches.

The Word Among Us: July edition is now available for collection from the Parish Office.

Situation Vacant: One of our current Religious Instruction teachers is unavailable next term and we are looking for someone to take her place. It is for two well behaved Year 6 classes at East State school on a Friday morning from 9.00am to 10.00am (with each lesson being half an hour). Lessons are all pre-planned and work-books provided. Blue Card required. For more information, contact Pauline Merefield on 0407 589 023.

Diocesan e-Newsletter: the latest edition of the Diocesan e-Newsletter is available to read on all Church Noticeboards. Alternatively, to receive a copy direct to your in-box, send an email with your name to: catholiccq@catholic.net.au or contact the Parish Office to organize a copy.

LITURGIES

11th Week of Ordinary Time

Monday 18 June 2018

9.00am St Patrick's - Mass

Tuesday 19 June 2018

9.00am St James' - LWC

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Wednesday 20 June 2018

8.00am Shalom - Mass

5.30pm St Patrick's - Mass

Thursday 21 June 2018

St Aloysius Gonzaga

6.30am St Mary's - Mass

Friday 22 June 2018

St John Fisher & St Thomas More

12.15pm Holy Rosary - Mass

Saturday 23 June 2018

7.30am St Mary's - LWC

9.00am Holy Rosary - Penance

NEXT SUNDAY

24 June 2018

The Nativity of St John the Baptist Year B (II)

Hours of the Solemnity
Psalter Week 4

Saturday

6.00pm St Patrick's

Sunday

7.00am St James'
8.00am Holy Rosary
9.00am St Mary's
5.30pm Holy Rosary

SCRIPTURES

First Reading

Isaiah 49:1-6

Second Reading

Acts 13:22-26

Gospel

Luke 1:5-66, 80



Using many parables, Jesus spoke to the people .

Today's gospel passage comes from a sequence called Mark's 'day of parables'. In the parables we can meet Jesus as an imaginative friend who is explaining his concerns and hopes to us. He tells us of 'the Kingdom', in which Israel's great hopes and all our human longings will be fulfilled. In Jesus' time, expectations were high and false human hopes were widespread. Jesus used figurative language, as more effective than plain language, to engage the people and awaken in them a sense of the mysterious message he brought. As our understanding of the mystery is awakened, so too is our understanding of the Saviour himself, for it is to the realisation of the 'Kingdom' that his whole existence among us is given.

Mark begins his 'day of parables' with three 'seed' parables. The familiar parable of the sower is not included in today's passage; it gives us the parable of the seed that grows mysteriously to produce a full harvest, and the parable of the mustard seed, the smallest seed familiar to Palestinian farmers, which can produce a bush ten or twelve feet high. The most striking feature of these parables is the contrast between the tiny seed and what it goes on to produce. The 'Kingdom' Jesus announces is not a worldly triumph (something we need constantly to be reminded of); of its nature it has beginnings which are unimpressive and obscure by human standards. But in the end it initiates the realisation of the final achievement of God. Reference to the sickle and harvest echoes what the prophets had said about the End-time. Mark's audience, who had already seen the Church grow from being a marginal Jewish movement into an international fellowship, would have appreciated the prophetic promise of the original parable of Jesus. The 'birds of the air' may be an echo of this. The seed growing mysteriously has a lesson for every age. The growth of the 'kingdom' is God's work, a work that is vast and mysterious. Vatican II teaches that God's grace is at work in every human existence 'in a way known only to God' (Gaudium et spes, n.22). We must distinguish the Church and the 'Kingdom' – of which the Church is the 'first-fruits' and sign in the world. And even in the Church, as we all recognise, what is important to God is often humble and hidden.

The whole life of Jesus, we can say, is a parable, leading us into the mystery of God's generous and merciful dealings with us. As we come to appreciate the 'Kingdom' Jesus announced, and see him caring for God's people in their needs, we come to know the commitments which shaped his human existence. More than one of the Fathers spoke of Jesus as the 'seed'. In fact, he himself said he was the seed that must fall into the ground and die to produce God's final harvest.

SCRIPTURE REFLECT & RESPOND

Ezekiel 17:22-24

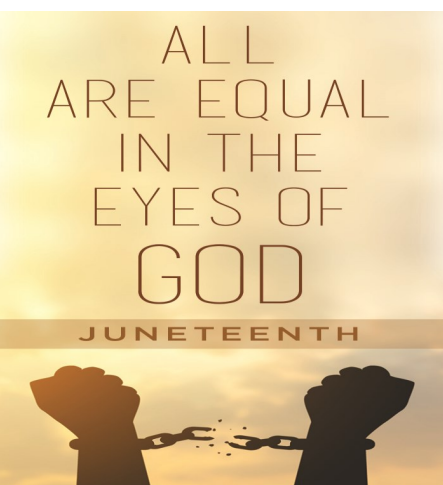
The prophet Ezekiel hears this "proverb" of the Lord (the restoration of Israel) while in exile in Babylon around 570 BC. How do you think the captive Israelites reacted to Ezekiel's words?

2 Corinthians 5:6-101

Paul speaks of Christians being "courageous." How does your faith give you strength and confidence?

Mark 4:26-34

Why do you think Jesus often spoke about the Kingdom of God by using parables?



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

In relationship with Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we serve joyfully as a people beloved and called by God.