

Today's Readings

Is 55:10-11
Psalm 64
Rom 8:18-23
Mt 13:1-9



Response:

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

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!

Next Sunday's Readings

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 12:13-16-19
Psalm 85
Rom 8:26-27
Mt 13:24-43

This week's feasts

Sat 22 July—St Mary Magdalene

From the Tasmanian Catholic Justice and Peace Commission

Last year's Social Justice Statement, *A Place at the Table, Social Justice in an Ageing Society*, included a list of suggested actions. These actions have practical applications at the personal and parish level. Here is one of those suggestions. (More in following weeks.)

Assist with activities in retirement facilities or in the community.

There are many programs designed to reduce isolation among older people. There are home visits and pastoral care in the hospital and residential care settings, and transport and social activities aimed at developing community networks and peer support. All of these are vital to maintaining a healthy life and good social connections. Other interventions like support groups, skills development, bereavement support and counselling also help to manage the transitions of later life.

(Social Justice Statement 2016–17)

Most retirement and aged care facilities already have activities programmes. Offer to help with these or volunteer your skills in some different activities such as crafts, music or dancing.

Offer to help with special events such as celebratory dinners or Christmas lunches. You could also assist with Meals on Wheels or similar services in the community or help on a board if you have experience in governance.



The Parish Newsletter

Catholic Parish of Sandy Bay and Tarroona

Sunday 16 July 2017

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

A major theme of the Scripture readings is 'Growing in God's word'.

Rain is a treasured gift in the dry climate of the land in which the Israelites lived. God uses rain to bring life to dry land. Isaiah sees God's word as a treasure, and he compares it to life-giving water. Rain and snow fall from the sky and water the earth. They do not return to heaven as water but nourish the earth, providing good soil for seeds to grow into crops that can be harvested. Isaiah, as a prophet, knew his words – the word of God – were like rain, sent to nourish the faith of the people.

In celebrating a good harvest, the psalm connects the first reading and the Gospel. Seeds must have good ground before they can deliver a good harvest. The farmers do not take credit for their work but thank God for the earth and the rain. The psalmist thanks God for answering prayers for a good harvest. A good harvest is a blessing from God.

The suffering we experience now is nothing compared to the glory we will experience in the fullness of God's Kingdom. That is what the writer of the Letter to the Romans says to the early church concerning their destiny as God's children. He compares this trans-

formation of humanity and all creation to the birth of a child. When the mother is in labour, all she can think about is the pain. But when the child is born, the pain is forgotten, because she has so much joy at the birth of her child. This is the kind of joy that Paul says Christians will experience in their redemption.

The story about the sower and the seed is the first parable we encounter in the Gospel of Matthew. Jesus is a great storyteller. Jesus told stories about the Kingdom of God that begin where the people are at. So that this parable would not be misunderstood, the author of this Gospel provides an interpretation. The seed is the word of God. The seed on the path is someone who hears the word of God but refuses to listen to it. The seed on rocky ground is like someone who hears the word and accepts it when times are easy, but falls away when times are hard. The thorns are things in our material world that choke our ability to hear the word of God. Our challenge is to be like good ground – to hear the word of God and live it.

St Mary's Press, LiturgyHelp.com

Holy Spirit Church
275 Sandy Bay Rd, Sandy Bay
St Pius X Church
100 Channel Hwy, Tarroona
St Canice Church

Parish Priest: Fr Brian Nichols
Presbytery: 275 Sandy Bay Road, phone 6224 3797
Parish Office: Parish Centre, 271 Sandy Bay Rd
Secretary: Claire Manthorpe
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9.00 am to 1.00 pm

Anniversaries



Please pray for the repose of the souls of Margaret Corcoran, Margaret Doyle, Louis Fortunate, John Smith, Gordon Henry, William Denis Mark Cook, Elizabeth Ann Lewis, Terry Holt, Jack Kean, Margaret McCloy, Mary McMahan, Kathleen Orme, Cecelia Foley, Colin Craggs, Alan Duncan, Stanislaus Taskunas, Bruno Giudici, Gertrude Cosgrove, Freda Doolan, Gerald Leo Breen, Marie Therese Hill, Mary Try and Peter Edward Lund.

Weekday Masses – Holy Spirit Church

There are NO weekday masses as Father Nichols is away.

As such, the church foyer will only be open between 9am and 1pm.

Our parish secretary, Claire, is on long service leave until Monday 7 August.

The office will be in the capable hands of Anthony Borghesi during that time. Normal office hours will apply.

St Vincent de Paul

On behalf of the members of the Holy Spirit conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society, we extend our sincere thanks to all those kind people who continue to support the "good works" of the Society through donations via the "poor boxes". The money is used to provide emergency relief, principally food etc to those we visit. We service the needs of people in Battery Point, Sandy Bay, South Hobart, Dynnyrne, Mt Nelson and Taroon.

A big thanks to you all.

Rachel's Vineyard

Rachel's Vineyard has helped many men and women to move on with hope. You are not alone, there is hope after an abortion experience. We can help, our next Rachel's Vineyard retreat for healing after abortion will be held in Hobart, on

Oct 13th -15th 2017. To speak to someone please call Anne Sherston on the confidential phone lines 03 62298739 or 0478599241.

Gracefest

Gracefest is back this year and it's going to be HUGE as we will officially launch Tasmania's pilgrimage to the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Sydney! The event will be a small taste of what you can expect at the festival this year which will itself involve more than 15,000 participants. We're very excited to welcome Stephen Kirk and his band along with other national speakers who will also be speaking at the ACYF. The afternoon event will include live music, food, talks, praise & worship, activities, discussion, fellowship, adoration, and much more that will all add to the festivities.

Gracefest will be held on Friday 11 August from 3:30pm-6:30pm at Guilford Young College, Hobart and is open to all young people from year 9 up until 30 years of age. Registration for the event is free and you will simply need to visit the website below to register online: www.gracefesttasmania.org.au For more information on the event, email youth@aohtas.org.au or call Tom on 0400 045 368.

Sacraments Basic Course

A new FREE course for adults on the Sacraments will be offered by the Verbum Domini Biblical & Catechetical Institute starting Tuesday August 1 and 8 (Parts I and II), 6.30-9pm, at the Diocesan Centre, 35 Tower Rd, New Town. Module 1 will provide a fresh look at the biblical basis of Baptism and Confirmation and how these sacraments are so necessary for our Christian life. TCEO teachers can obtain professional learning credit for attendance. Parishioners, RCIA team members, and catechists are encouraged to attend. Register: call Dr. Christine Wood, ph. 6208-6236. Information: <https://hobart.catholic.org.au/>

Petition re Timor Sea Border

Archbishop Julian Porteous has passed on to the Tasmanian Catholic Justice and Peace Commission a Petition to the House of Representatives regarding the Timor Sea Border between Australia and Timor Leste (East Timor). The Petition is being sent to all Dioceses in Australia by the Sisters of St Josephs NSW and others concerned about ongoing justice for the people of Timor Leste, our closest neighbours.

The TCJPC wishes to support the call for the Australian Government to act in fairness and good faith in finalizing a permanent maritime border between Australian and Timor-Leste. The lack of a border has meant that Timor Leste has lost several billion dollars of tax revenue owed to them from oil and gas fields that instead went to Australia.

St. Pius X

There is a call for Volunteers to provide Church cleaning and do Readings at St. Pius X. For further information, please contact either Rosalina Flonta on 6227 8902 or the Sandy Bay Parish Office on 6224 1423 or via email at cposb@bigpond.net.au

Mass Times

Holy Spirit, Sandy Bay

Saturday: Vigil 6.00 pm
Sunday: 10.00 am & 5.15 pm

St Pius X, Taroon

Sunday: 8.30 am

St Canice

Monday to Saturday: 8.00 am

Mary's Grange

Friday 11.00 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday: 5.00 to 6.00 pm
Rosary and Prayers:
Monday: 10.30 to 11.00 am

Sacrament of Forgiveness

Saturday 5.30 pm
or by arrangement
(Ph 6224 3797)

or is available at:

St Joseph's (city)

Weekdays 12.30 to 1.00 pm
Friday 5.00 to 5.30 pm
Saturday 4.00 to 4.30 and
6.00 to 6.30 pm

Baptisms

By arrangement and with preparation.

Marriages

Six months' notice and with preparation

Low gluten hosts

We have some hosts with a gluten content of less than five parts per million. If you are gluten-intolerant please speak to the priest before Mass so he can consecrate these together with the usual hosts.