

The Living Word

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

16 July 2023

First Reading Is 55:10-11

The rain makes the earth fruitful.

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 64:10-14. R. Lk 8:8

**(R.) The seed that falls on good ground
will yield a fruitful harvest.**

1. You care for the earth, give it water,
you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over
to provide its grain. (R.)
2. And thus you provide for the earth;
you drench its furrows,
you level it, soften it with showers,
you bless its growth. (R.)
3. You crown the year with your goodness.
Abundance flows in your steps,
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. (R.)
4. The hills are girded with joy,
the meadows covered with flocks,
the valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:18-23

All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.

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

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God,

Christ is the sower;

all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 13:1-23

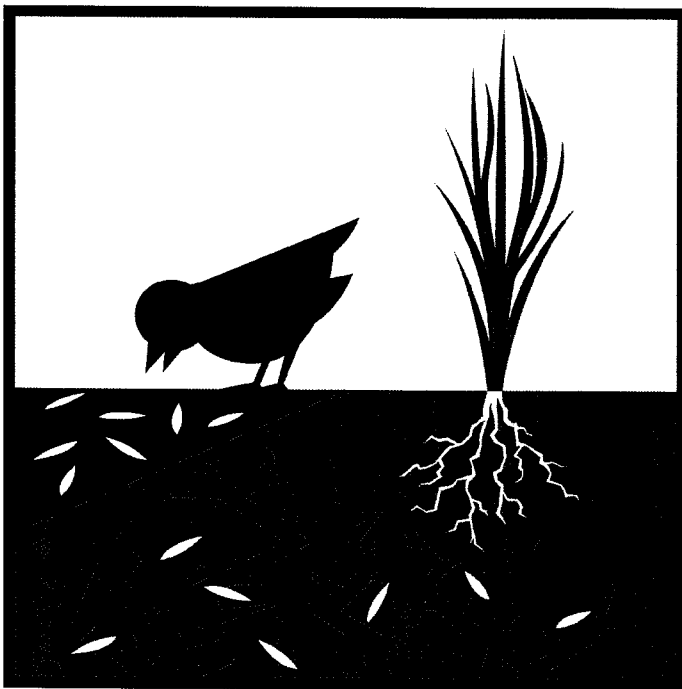
(or shorter form Mt 13:1-9)

A sower went out to sow.

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

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or



understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand,
see and see again, but not perceive.
For the heart of this nation has grown coarse,
their ears are dull of hearing,
and they have shut their eyes,
for fear they should see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their heart,
and be converted
and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

Reflection by Greg Sunter

The teaching of Jesus is grounded firmly in the Jewish world of the 1st Century. For most of his listeners, that world was an agricultural one and so the stories Jesus told were about the everyday realities of peoples' lives. He told stories about vineyards, wheat fields, building houses, planting seeds and reaping harvests. The imagery he used was drawn from the lived experience of those he taught. Jesus used a style of storytelling that was popular at the time: parable. A parable is a story with a moral or a lesson. A parable usually involves an extended metaphor and, at its heart, is teaching the listener about how to live or how to behave.

Another feature of parables is that they can be understood at different levels. At one level, there is the literal meaning of a parable – what it says is what it is about. In today's gospel, the parable of the sower can be read or heard as a literal story about sowing seed and the lesson one might take from it is to be careful where you throw the seed when sowing. At another level, parables have a metaphoric meaning. In this instance, Jesus actually explains the symbolism of the parable to his disciples. There is a further, interpretive level of a parable where a modern reader asks, 'What has that story got to say to me here and now?'

In his conversation with the disciples, Jesus makes clear that only some people are open to understanding the depth of the message contained within his parables. Some people will only ever hear the story and never hear the message. Mind you, he still has to explain the parable to the disciples! He has just chastised those who fail to understand and yet walks the disciples through the parable step by step!

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HOLY TRINITY

CATHOLIC PARISH

Incorporating the Mass centres and communities of

Holy Family	Our Lady Star of the Sea	Holy Trinity
101 Hitchcock Av	68 John Dory Drive	34 Stevens St
Barwon Heads	Ocean Grove	Queenscliff

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather, the Wathaurong people. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully in the land.

We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Fr Darien J Sticklen
Parish Secretary: Mrs Daniella Sutera
Safeguarding & Admin Support: Ms Jennie Ryan
Parish Mission Ambassador: Ms Josephine Barnes

Baptism Preparation:

Mrs Bel Campbell, Mrs Margaret-Mary Flynn, Mrs Maria Sammut

Holy Communion to the sick:

Jo Ballard, Sue Condon, Judy Considine, Louise Frances, Genevieve Malone, Eva Millie, David O'Connor, Majella O'Connor, Von Philp

For all other parish ministries, including RCIA, Sacramental Program, Men Alive, Faith Development & Spirituality Group, St Vincent de Paul local Conference, Trinity Aid for Refugees, etc., please visit:

www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au

PARISH OFFICE & PRESBYTERY

34 Stevens Street, Queenscliff 3225

Telephone: (03) 5258 1673

Email: queenscliff@cam.org.au

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
10:00am to 1:00pm (excluding public holidays)

PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St. Aloysius, Queenscliff
Principal: Ms. Miriam Leahy, Tel: 5258 1736
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove
Principal: Ms. Kerry Sells, Tel: 5255 4308

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

BARWON HEADS: Saturday Vigil 6:00pm
OCEAN GROVE: Sunday 9:00am
QUEENSCLIFF: Sunday 11:00am

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Please see below: Liturgy in our Parish this week

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

is available prior to each weekend Mass, and before or after weekday Masses if needed.

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Visit our website for all information or contact Parish office
www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/

COLUMBARIUM

Please visit www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/about-us/parish-columbarium/

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOL CHILDREN

Enrolments are now open for 2024.

Please visit our website for enrolment form and all information:
<https://www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/sacramental-program-2/>

Please send in bulletin notices by 1pm on Thursdays

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Recently Deceased: Nick Teague and Ritchie Lumb.

Anniversaries 16th July to 22nd July: John Kirkman, Shirley Tisdale, Elizabeth Lee, Kath McAllester, Nell Downie, Sheila Guthrie, Kevin Warren, Bill Laurie, Zelvie Harvey and Shirley Collins.

Please pray for those who are Sick: Elly Anwyl, Peg Benham, Naomi Bianco, Mary Blonk, Peter Bourke, Ron & Helen Carter, Sam Caruana, Brian Cotter, Jack Davin, Pat Dickeson, Ian Downing, Robert Drummond & Patti Semler, Gloria Forbes, Nell Faigneux, Kay Freyne, Ross Gilham, Margaret Gladstone, Martin & Mary Grundy, Peter Harrington, Jeannette Hodgkinson, Gregory Holien, Robert & Lyne Horner, Robert Hurley, Melissa Keogh, Gary Kingsbury, Hilda Koentjes, Margaret Lomas, Toni Lukauskas, George Marshall, Belinda Monterosso, Annette Mullany, Christine Naulty, Frank Nelson, Helen Pearce, Cecilia Piec, Mavourneen Ray, Margaret Renwick (Snr), Geraldine Richards, Sean Richards, Betty Rushton, Jeannett Stevens, Mary Sullivan, Pam Sullivan, Kevin Teasdale, Deanne Warren, Susan Weston, Michelle Williams, Peter Williams and Shirley Woodruff.

ROSTERS

If you are unable to meet your commitment on your day, please arrange a substitute. Thank you!

COMMENTATOR (C), LECTOR (L), SPECIAL MINISTER (SM),
WELCOMERS (W), PROJECTIONIST (P)

OCEAN GROVE: 23rd July at 9:00am:

(C) Luci Quinn (L) Nan Calnin (SM) Sandra Duggan, David O'Connor.
(W) Marg Lucas, Bev O'Meara.

QUEENSCLIFF: 23rd July at 11:00am:

(C) Ian D'Cruz (L) Maria D'Cruz (SM) Ann Maree Furphy (W) Roger Furphy.

COUNTERS: Tuesday 18th July at 10:00am:

Josephine Barnes, Greg Carey.

SAFEGUARDING ESSENTIALS TRAINING SESSION HELD ON SATURDAY 8TH JULY

A big thank you to the volunteers who attended Saturday's training session, hosted by our very own Jennie Ryan.

We had a turnout of 29 people which was amazing!

A massive shout out to Jennie for her time in arranging and preparing the training session – a job well done!

For all Safeguarding updates, please visit our website:

www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/safeguarding/parish-child-safe/

We appreciate your understanding and support as we work together to comply with our legal requirements. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

** NEWS & EVENTS **

If you need Pastoral care & support, or you are aware of others who may need assistance, please phone our Parish office. Mobile number for emergencies is on the recorded message.

Souper Saturday at Holy Family, Barwon Heads - Saturday 22nd July: following 6:00pm Vigil Mass. All welcome.

Trinity Aid for Refugees (TAR): anyone wanting to give support could email shirleyhurley@iinet.net.au or donate directly to Wesley Church Welcome Place: BSB 633 000, Account 160 305 066. You are welcome to visit Queenscliff Rural Aid for Refugees www.queenscliffar.org.

A message from the Faith Development and Spirituality Group – Winter Reflections: over the past three Sunday afternoons, more than 60 parishioners took part in our Winter Reflections program based on "The Uluru Statement from the Heart." We had a beautiful experience of older and younger people from our schools and the wider parish gathering and learning together. Our thanks to all the helpers and participants.

We wish the principals, staff and students a wonderful, joyous Term 3 as students returned to school this week.

*Together we pray for the children receiving the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.
Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.*

Building works and renovations at St Aloysius School are set to begin on Tuesday 4th July until 11th September. The school is undergoing bathroom and classroom renovations during this time. Temporary toilets will be located out the front of the school (on the grass area between the church and school). There may also be some weekend works over this period. The builders and trades are aware of Mass times and will do their best to keep the noise to a minimum.

SAVE THE DATE FOR A PARISH SPECIAL EVENT!

Variety concert with bring your own picnic afternoon tea.

DATE: Sunday 19th November 2023

VENUE: Our Lady Star of the Sea School Stadium

TIME: 1:30pm for a 2:00pm start

ENTERTAINMENT:

A variety of performances sourced locally, from amazingly talented people!

Further details closer to the date.

The Representatives Planning Team:

Barwon Heads: Sandra Duggan.

Queenscliff/Point Lonsdale: Ellen Bourke and Von Philp.

Ocean Grove: Julie Chapman, Josephine Barnes, and Maureen Earls.

St Mary's Parish Geelong is hosting an Alpha Course starting 20th July 2023.

Alpha is for anyone who is considering the BIG questions that seem unanswerable. The program is based around the Australian Catholic Context film series. It begins on Thursday, July 20 from 7-9pm at the Pioneer Room (150 Yarra St, Geelong). For further information or to express your attendance contact us via email or phone before July 14, 2023. Parish office: admin@stmarysgeelong.com.au or 5222 1977.

Presentation—Spiritual Journey into the Second Half of Life – Saturday 22nd July 11am to 2pm. This presentation consists of two sessions which look at the journey into the second half of life, from age 40+, presented by Dr Susie Hii MBBS, FRACP. Dr Hii trained in medicine at Melbourne Uni and works as a geriatrician. She is an Ignatian spiritual director and recently completed a Master of Spirituality. Sessions are free. **Registration essential: please register at St Bernard's Parish Office via email belmont@cam.org.au or phone 5243 2739.**

Please note: the presentation is on Zoom, if you do not have access to Zoom then we will arrange to show the presentation in the St Bernard's Parish Meeting Room for you.

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LITURGY IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

Monday 17th July – Weekday, Ordinary Time 15

Tuesday 18th July – Weekday, Ordinary Time 15
9:15am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion
at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

Wednesday 19th July – Weekday, Ordinary Time 15
9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff
with St Aloysius Junior students attending

Thursday 20th July – St Apollinaris (Memorial)
9:15am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

Friday 21st July – St Lawrence of Brindisi (Memorial)
9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

Saturday 22nd July – St Mary Magdalene (Feast)

Sunday 23rd July – 16th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME
World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly
Bible Sunday

+ + +

Thought for the Week:

I have seen what a laugh can do.
It can transform almost unbearable tears into
something bearable, even hopeful.

– Bob Hope.

+ + +



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Vinnies No Interest Loan Scheme ("NILS")

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email charlie.sutera76@gmail.com.