

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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Administrator: Fr Ed Moloney **Assistant Priests:** Fr Jim McKay & Fr Francis Kureeckal

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Parish Support - *If you need help with anything, please phone one of our members:*

Gail Hall: 0412 311 586 Bernadette Franc: 0427 678 830

Special Parish Events (Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals) Phone: Bernadette Franc 0427678830

beaufort@ballarat.catholic.org.au

SUNDAY – June 16th, 2024

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

May this anniversary year be a season of renewal for our diocese, our community of communities from the Murray to the sea.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Pat Cleary, Jack Baubage, Pat McCluskey, Dot McCoy, Gloria O'Loughlan, Ann Agterhuis, Michael Wise, Daryl Pearce, John Bidmade, Albert Whatley, Jose Torres, Albert Pope, Lal Franc, Rev David de Dear, Margot Driscoll, Rosie Weightman & Betty Flemming.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Pat Byrne, Blake Dridan, Shelagh Mulcahy, Fr Adrian McInerney, Graeme Trethowan, Mia Hanrahan and all those in need of prayer.

ROSTER:

Introduction & Reading

Today: Bernadette Franc

June 23rd: Clarrie Johnston

Prayers of the Faithful

Today: Bernadette Franc

June 23rd: Sue Mahony

Assembly Leaders

Today: Genevieve Johnston & Angela Gerrard

Special Minister

Today: Clarrie Johnston

Music

Sue Mahony

Church Cleaning, Linen, Flowers

June 16th: Bernadette Franc & Therese Jess

June 23rd & 30th: Sue Mahony

Church Grounds

June 23rd & 30th: Bill Franc & John Jess

Newsletter

June: Bernadette Franc 0427678830

MASS TIMES

Next week: June 23rd 8.30 a m MASS

UPCOMING FEAST: June 24 Feast of St John the Baptist.

Preparation for the Diocesan Assembly in Nov

24. In preparation for the Diocesan Assembly, there will be formation sessions held around the diocese with a focus on leadership and governance.

Pope's intention for June - for those fleeing their own countries: *Let us pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys fraught with danger and violence, may find welcome and new living opportunities in their host countries. Lord, hear us.*

Prayer for Refugee Week *Lord, no one is a stranger to you and no one is ever far from your loving care. In your kindness watch over refugees and asylum seekers, those separated from their loved ones, those who are lost, and those who have been exiled from their homes. Bring them safely to the place where they long to be, and help us always to show your kindness to strangers and those in need. (Australian Catholic Social Justice Council)*

Petition to Retain the Lord's Prayer in Parliament

You are invited to sign a petition to retain the saying of the Lord's Prayer at the start of sittings of the Victorian Parliament. You can find the petition at <https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/get-involved/petitions/retain-the-lords-prayer-in-legislative-council-proceedings/>

St Vincent de Paul Society Winter Appeal The theme of the appeal this year is the "Working Homeless", focussing on the emerging trend of people who are experiencing housing hardship and disadvantage despite being in employment. For the period between May 2023 – May 2024, St Vincent de Paul provided material household assistance to the value of \$730,000 across greater Ballarat. To donate online, go to www.vinnies.org.au or call 131812.

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

Mk 4: 26-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The mustard seed, the smallest of all the seeds, grows into the biggest shrub of all.

Jesus said to the crowds: 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time: he starts to reap because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

16 JUNE 2024

EXPLAINING THE UNEXPLAINABLE

How do we understand the kingdom or reign of God? The Gospel of today brings two examples and a word about understanding parables. This passage is preceded by Jesus telling the parable of the sower and explaining it to his disciples. We have the inside running on this as we hear and read what Jesus explains, for we too are disciples. Today's first example tells what the kingdom of God is like, continuing the theme of the sower. We see the imagery of the kingdom of God as something that is not static but growing. It takes time to flourish and bring a harvest. Those on the land know this is an ongoing process season to season, sowing and harvesting. The kingdom of God is like this, growing wherever it is planted and harvested.

Then Jesus asks, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God or what parable will we use for it?' What follows expands further on the kingdom of God. It is like the smallest of seeds that will grow to become the greatest of shrubs giving shelter for further life and growth in its branches and shade.

It seems a mystery that Jesus used many parables like this to speak the word to them, 'but he explained everything in private to his disciples'. Jesus entices the crowd with images of what the kingdom of God is like. Jesus explains the meaning to those who believe. This echoes Paul's words in the second reading 'for we walk by faith, not by sight'. How would you explain the kingdom of God today?

Dr Rosemary Canavan

FIRST READING

Ezek 17: 22-24

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

I have made the small tree great.

The Lord says this:

'From the top of the cedar,
from the highest branch I will take a shoot
and plant it myself on a very
high mountain.

I will plant it on the high mountain
of Israel.

It will sprout branches and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.

Every kind of bird will live beneath it,
every winged creature rest in the shade of its
branches.

And every tree of the field will learn that I,
the Lord, am the one
who stunts tall trees and makes the low
ones grow,

who withers green trees and makes the
withered green.

I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 91: 2-3, 13-16. R. cf. v. 2

R. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord/
to make music to your name, O Most High,
to proclaim your love in the morning/and
your truth in the watches of the night. **R.**

2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree/and
grow like a Lebanon cedar. **R.**

3. Planted in the house of the Lord/they will
flourish in the courts of our God,/still bearing
fruit when they are old,/still full of sap, still
green,/to proclaim that the Lord is just./
In him, my rock, there is no wrong. **R.**



SECOND READING

2 Cor 5: 6-10

A reading from the second letter of St Paul
to the Corinthians

*Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it,
we are intent on pleasing the Lord.*

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

■ The word of the Lord.