



St Patrick's Parish Nhill

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First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.
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.'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

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. And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows.

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

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

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.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

12 July 2020



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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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.' **The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

MASS TIMES FOR JULY

SUNDAY, July 19: Mass at 5pm

SUNDAY, July 26: Mass at 5pm

COVID 19 Regulations

You must sign in as you enter the Church: name, address, phone number. * Use hand sanitizer at the door as you enter and use again as you leave the Church. You must remain at least 1.5m from all directions of anyone not from your house

Today, July 12th, is Sea Sunday, when the church prays for those who live and work at sea. There will be a national Appeal for Stella Maris, Apostleship of the Sea, the maritime agency of the Catholic Church.

Lenten Donations

During the week I was contacted regarding assistance for a young family doing it tough. I decided that the box of groceries at the back of the church would be most suitable. I delivered the contents to the Allied Department at the WWHS on Tuesday. I trust that this was the right decision regarding these food items. *Ann.*

May God bless the 3rd Term of the School year, keep all safe from the virus. Classes for SBC, SMJ, OLHC, St Patricks all begin this Monday July 13th.

SCHOOL GOVERNANCE TRANSFER TO DOBCEL:

We had a good Meeting with Stephen McArdle and Terry Harney of DOBCEL last Thursday week. Fr Peter will meet with Principals and Parish Pastoral Care next term before he signs the DOBCEL agreement.



PRAYER DURING CORONAVIRUS.

Mary, Help of Christians, we fly to you today as your beloved children. We ask you to intercede for us with your Son. Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of God's holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness. For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance. Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe away their tears and help them to trust. In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind. Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts. We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy. Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms, help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus.

Plenary Council Discernment Papers released

Here in the Diocese, for the month of July we will look at HOW IS GOD CALLING US TO BE A CHRIST-CENTRED CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA THAT IS MISSIONARY & EVANGELISING? 'Mission' is God's initiative and proceeds from the Trinity, whose love overflows in creation and redemption. The Word and Spirit are present and active in the unfolding of the universe and in all human history, as evidenced in the goodness and truth found in all cultures and societies. The incarnate Son of God through his life, ministry, death and resurrection revealed God to us and redeemed us in a unique and unsurpassable way through his paschal sacrifice. His evangelising activity gave birth to the Church which is the visible manifestation of the Gospel command to "Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations" (Mt 28:19). Have a read of the discernment paper, think about our parish and the Diocese. Look up jane.collins@ballarat.catholic.org.au and visit the Missionary and Evangelising theme's page.