

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.**

Shorter form 13:1-9.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

12 JULY 2020

AGAINST BEING DISCOURAGED

Adopting the shorter form of today's Gospel, let us concentrate on the riches contained in the parable of the Sower taken simply by itself.

Jesus probably told the parable to counter discouragement among his disciples stemming from the poor response his message was receiving from many quarters.

So, taking a familiar image from agricultural practice of his day, Jesus pointed to the very casual way in which those going out to sow a crop scattered the seed about. By no means all of it landed in good soil. Quite a bit could land in the three situations – on the path, on rocky ground, among thorns – resulting in the loss described.

Isn't this all rather wasteful? Not at all! The sower knows that each seed that falls on good soil will bear a yield many times in excess of itself: a hundredfold, sixty or thirty. This abundance so vastly outweighs the losses that he can afford to be casual and wild.

Like the sower, Jesus scatters his message far and wide. In the case of many who hear him the word suffers the fate of the seed that is lost. But when it really strikes home and finds a welcome, the corresponding 'yield' – hundredfold, sixty, thirty – more than compensates for all the loss.

In the face of opposition and indifference, Jesus does not lose confidence. When the word finds a generous response in the human heart, there is no limit to the riches of God's love and grace that can be channeled through such persons into the world.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

FIRST READING

Isa 55:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The rain makes the earth give growth.

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.**

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

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

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.

☞ **The word of the Lord.**

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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 for 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:



Sacred Heart Parish Church
 Roman Catholic Diocese of Armidale
 81 Vivian St. Inverell, NSW 2360 (P. O. Box 107)
 Email: inverellparish@armidale.catholic.org.au
 Phone 67221103

PRIESTS: FR JAMES POOVATHINKAL MS. P.P., VF
 PPC Chair: Mrs Sharon Hollis
 Holy Trinity Principal: Mrs Jillian Rainger—67224066
 Parish Secretary: Marion Fitzgerald—67221103. Office Hours
 Mon & Fri 8am—1pm; Thurs 8am—12 noon

PARISH MASS TIMES

Sacred Heart Church Inverell

Saturday 5.30pm
 Sunday 9.00am

Monday, Tuesday and 1st Saturday 9.30am
 Wednesday and Thursday 12 noon
 1st Friday Mass and Benediction 12 noon
 First Wednesday Anointing Mass (suspended) 12 noon

McLean Village Each Friday except 1st Friday 11am
 (suspended)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 8am - 9am
 Sunday 8am - 8.30am

Tingha St. Francis' Church Saturday 4pm
Ashford St Patrick's Church 1st & 3rd Sunday 11am
Bundarra St Mary of the Angels 2nd & 4th Sun 11am
Yetman St Joseph the Worker 5th Sunday 11.30am

Baptism (Saturday only) 11am;
Marriages and Funerals by Appointment
 For emergencies please phone 0428-126703



PARISH SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

MONDAY:	Rosary	9.00am
	Mass	9.30am
TUESDAY:	Rosary	9.00am
	Mass	9.30am
WEDNESDAY :	Rosary	11.30am
	Mass at the Church	12noon
Home Rosary at the home of Bernie & Colleen Graham, 11 Diamond Street, Tingha each Wednesday at 4.30pm All welcome.		
THURSDAY:	Rosary	11.30am
	Mass	12noon
FRIDAY	Rosary	9.00am
	Mass	9.30am

NOTE: Attendance at weekday Masses fulfil your Sunday obligation whilst social distancing applies due to Covid19.

OUR VISION AND OUR MISSION:
 We as a PARISH, try to live out our
VISION: To continually form a Christ-centred community based on the Gospel Values expressed through SERVICE in peace, justice and love.
MISSION: To know Christ more, His life and His teachings. To imbibe Christ's message of love and service. To try to share generously what graces and

Mass Intentions for the Week

Beryse Williams, Peter Dickins, Colin Harris, Phyllis (Gwen) Zemit, Patricia Clancy and members of the Clancy family, John Lennon.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK
 Ron Hedley (brother of Sr. Coral) Mary Kramer, Leo Germany, Baby Isabel Akhil, All those with the Corona Virus, Terry Hopgood, Joan Hiscox, Paul Saint, Debrah Brown, (sister of Margaret Jones) Kerrie O'Keeffe, Carmel Hooper, Sr Leo (Josie) Clancy, Alana Goldman, Rhonda Lee Watts (daughter of Phyllis Nichols) John Sanders, David Sanders, Rex Parry, Jeanette Rennie, Danny Dickins, Katrina Newbigin, Bob Kneipp. Brian Barker, Dorothy Ball, Denise Taveira, Joanne Essey, Graham Tom, Fred Boight, Agnes Hannigan **the sick members of our parish whose names are not listed here.**

We Pray for the Recently Deceased & Anniversaries
 Kevin Pay, Rena Valiukas, Paul Vassallo, Martin Coleman (Narrabri), Dennis Rixon (son of Kath and Keith Rixon) Stan Jackson, Julie Ellis, Sr Margaret Gleeson rsm, Leslie Kennedy, Sue Spackman, Stephano Banchong, Sam Asara, Murray Marshall, Patricia Durkin. **Eternal life grant unto them Oh Lord May their souls and all the faithful departed rest in peace.**

COVID 19 SAFETY PLAN FOR OUR PARISH
 (authorised by the NSW Government for the State of NSW)
Mass attendance and Weddings: One person per 4 square metre distance. The Sacred Heart Church dimensions can accommodate 120 worshippers at a time. Feel to free use the Parish Meeting Room if you are concerned about the numbers.
Funerals: up to 50 attendees without the 4 square metre rule, provided 'non-household' contacts can maintain 1.5 metre physical distance.
Contact Sheets: placed at each opened entrance to the Church. Parishioners attending the Church are required to record their full names. Visitors are required to record their name and contact details. This is a health tracing requirement in case of a Corona Virus outbreak. The sheets will be removed after each Mass and kept confidential.
If you are unwell please stay at home.
If you require Home Communion contact the office.

12TH JULY 2020 – 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / YEAR A
APOSTLES OF THE SEA SUNDAY

RETIREMENT MORNING TEA
 Noela Turner has recently retired from the position of Parish Secretary after 45 years of faithful service. We will have a special morning tea for Noela after 9am Mass on Sunday 26th July. All welcome to attend. Please bring a plate to share.

HOME ROSARY REGISTER—INVERELL
 A Co-ordinator and interested persons to host Home Rosary in Inverell are invited to register their contact details in a folder at the front door of the Church. Thank you.

UPCOMING MEETINGS		
Liturgy Committee	Saturday 8th Aug	10.00am
Parish Council	Monday 3rd Aug	5.00pm

ALTAR SOCIETY FOR JULY
 Linda Redondo, Suzette Dizon, Grace Almoite, Nhel Gascon

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION
 Due to Covid19 'Social Distancing' rules, parishioners are asked to **process in a single line** down either of the **two narrow aisles** to receive Communion, then **returning** to their pew via the main centre aisle or far aisles. Please maintain a 1.5metre distance between each other. Thank you.

PRAYER TO GOD FOR HELP
 God our Father, Creator of the world, almighty and merciful, out of love for us you sent your Son into the world as the doctor of our souls and our bodies. Look upon your children who, in this difficult time of confusion and dismay, turn to you seeking strength, salvation and relief. Deliver us from illness and fear, heal our sick, comfort their families, give wisdom to our rulers, energy and reward to our doctors, nurses and volunteers, eternal life to the dead. Do not abandon us in the moment of trial but deliver us from all evil.
 We ask this through the intercession of our Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PLAN GIVING ENVELOPES FOR THE 2021 FINANCIAL YEAR are at the front door of the Church for collection. Plan Giving (2nd collection) is for the running costs of the Church. If you would prefer to submit your Plan Giving by direct debit, please advise the office and use the following bank details:
 BSB No: 082-105 Account No: 001001010
 Account Name: Sacred Heart Parish Inverell

Due to Covid19 we have suspended some of our Ministries and reduced numbers rostered in others. Thank you for understanding.

ROSTER ...	JULY 11— SAT 5.30	JULY 12— SUN 9AM	JULY 18— SAT 5.30	JULY 19— SUN 9AM
GREETERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS	VOLUNTEERS
PROJECTOR	SUE SZUOMOWSKI	D.BRYANT	N. TURNER	MARY JANE GUEST
READERS	MIKE CASEY-RANSOM	BOB McGRATH	NOEL McCOSKER	S. HOLLIS
COMMENTATOR	JO KELLY	R.LONG	P. MATHER	M. ROBINSON
GIFTS	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
COMMUNION MINISTER	P.CROFT	J.HARRIS	J.MONIE	B. McGRATH
ALTAR SERVERS	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
MUSIC MINISTRY	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
CANTOR				
COLLECTION	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
MORNING TEA	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED	SUSPENDED
COUNTERS		GEOFF & ROBIN JOHNSON		G. HENRY & T. NEWBERRY