



Kyabram Catholic Parish

St Augustine's-Kyabram ~ St Patrick's-Tongala ~ St Sebastian's-Merrigum

St Augustine's – Kyabram, 69 Church Street, PO Box 341, Kyabram Vic, 3620

Tel: 03 – 5852 1026 Email: Kyabram@cdos.org.au

Parish Administrator – Fr John Paul Pasala

We come to worship we remember the Yorta Yorta & Bangerang People the original custodians of this land

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 13th June 2021



Readings for this week:

Ezekiel 17:22-24
2 Corinthians 5:6-10
Mark 4:26-34



Readings for next week:

Isaiah 49:1-6
Acts 13:22-16
Luke 1:27-66,80



Liturgical Jottings

Gospel Sequence

We resume the Season of the ordered Sundays (Ordinary Time) after 100 days of Lent, Easter and feast days. This week and the next, 11th and 12th Sundays, the readings form a sequence of Christ's teaching. The previous chapters of Mark gave accounts of some healing miracles. In this chapter Jesus teaches his followers using several agricultural parables and teaches his apostles by the calming of the stormy sea. They have to make a decision to remain his followers after the scribes from Jerusalem and even his family think he is possessed (3:22 & 31).

Quote of the Week

We are all born original, but many die as photocopies.
Blessed Carlo Acutis, died aged 15

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Focus on the Readings

We enter the parable section of Mark's Gospel. In the first half of the chapter (4:1-25) are the parables about the sower and seed and the lamp under the bushel. Jesus also gives two explanations on why he uses parables 4:12 & 33-34: so that they may hear, understand and turn away from sin by first quoting the opposite from the Prophet Isaiah 6:9-10. Story telling is prevalent in Jesus teaching as it is in many cultures and families. We convey our history, identity and wisdom. We remember past lessons and learn new ones. We listen to them, understand and honour them.

The Gospel selection today contains two parables: The Planting of Seed and The Mustard Seed comparing the growth in nature with the emergence and growth of, and purpose for the Kingdom of God..

The Prophet Ezekiel is also a good storyteller with his visions and prophecies including the noble cedar tree, the eagles and vines, hearts of stone and flesh, bad shepherds valley of dry bones, the river and the temple. Interestingly when the Lord uses similar images, he applies them quite differently. It is not the mighty and noble Cedar that provides shade and home for the birds but the lowly mustard bush. The parable of the Mustard Tree as the "Kingdom of God" would startle the listeners, challenge their ideas and even defy their common logic. God is certainly the "God of Surprises"

Text for Today

The seed is the Word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live forever. (Gospel Acclamation)

Words of Pope Francis

When human history seems to develop contrary to the will of God, we are called to live this period as a season of trial, of hope and in vigilant waiting for the harvest. The Kingdom grows mysteriously; its power is hidden in a small seed that is filled with victorious vitality. When times are dark, we need to trust in God's quiet but powerful action, and "remain anchored in God's faithfulness, in his presence which always saves. Angelus Address 17/06/2018.

On the Lighter Side

A seed supplier recalled times when customers return to complain that the seed he sold them did not sprout. He remarked that other customers had no problems with the seed from the same batch. But to satisfy them he suggested that they re-bag the seed and return it for a refund!



CONTINUING THE JOURNEY OF DISCERNMENT TO THE PLENARY COUNCIL

The final Diocesan-wide Zoom Discernment Sessions on the 6 thematic papers will take place on **Tuesday 15th June at 7:30pm**.

All are invited to take part in this process of discernment focusing on the Thematic Paper "How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church in Australia that is missionary and evangelising?"

Email plenary@sandhurst.catholic.org.au to register and receive the Zoom details.

To access the thematic paper head to the Plenary Council Website: plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

NO WEEK DAY MASSES

With Fr John participating in the Annual Clergy Retreat this coming week, there will not be weekday Masses this Tuesday (15th June) or Thursday (17th June) at St Augustine's Church.

STRONGER RALLY – CANCELLED DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS

The Sandhurst Youth Ministry Team are sorry to announce that the Stronger Rally to be held at Wangaratta on the 18th of June has been cancelled due to the latest Covid restriction rules. We apologise for the inconvenience and would like to thank all those involved in the organisation of this event for your help; we hope to catch up with all our Sandhurst Diocese youth soon. Follow Sandhurst Youth and Stronger Youth on Facebook and Instagram to keep up to date with the latest information.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Catholic Theological College (CTC, Melbourne) is offering free online Open Day Information Sessions "Getting Started in Theology" in June for anyone interested in beginning or extending their study journey. Choose one session Tues 15 June 7 pm, Thurs 17 June 10 am or Tues 22 June 7 pm at <https://ctc.edu.au/>.

They also have Semester 2 units open for enrolment for online or face to face classes, for credit with assessment, or audit without assessment. See <https://ctc.edu.au/study/timetable/>

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, both our Sacramental Reconciliation evening and Baptism/Confirmation Parents Formation meeting had to be cancelled.

Reconciliation will be rescheduled to early in Term 3.

We ask that you pray for the children and their families as they prepare for the Sacraments.

ST SEBASTIAN'S MERRIGUM REUNION

On **Sunday, 27th June** all Merrigum ex-parishioners are invited to celebrate Mass at St Sebastian's Church at 11.30am.

Following Mass, there will be a luncheon at the Kyabram Club beginning at 1.00pm.

If you require further information or would like to attend the luncheon, please contact Joe Chant on 0428 552 466 by Wed 23rd June 2021.

SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB

Spirituality in the Pub is definitely going ahead at the Terminus Hotel, Shepparton on **Tuesday** (not Monday) **15th June from 7.30 – 9pm** (meals from 6pm optional).



Sr Joan Chittister's virtual event, *The Future of Catholicism in Australia*, held early May, will be screened, followed by a facilitated conversation. For 50 years, Joan (a Benedictine Sister), has passionately advocated on behalf of peace, human rights, women's issues & church renewal.

Come & join the conversation – an opportunity to reflect together in the lead-up to the Plenary Council.

More information on fliers at back of church.
Enq: Kerry 0408 579904, Frank 5821 4362 or Fran 0409 012228.

ROSTERS – NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday 19th June at 7.00pm:

Commentator – M Radanov; Lector – L Ratcliffe;
Special Minister – A O'Meara

Sunday 20th June at 8.00am:

Commentator – M Carver; Lector – N Watt;
Special Minister – S Newbegin

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Sick: Nancy Taylor, Angela Finn, Julie Shaw, Joan Childs

Recently Deceased: Aileen Keane, Leo Cavicchiolo

Anniversaries: Aldo Meneghetti, Katharina Radanov, Ziva Radanov

(Please email the Parish Office to add names to our prayer list.)



DIARY DATES

Monday	14 June	-
Tuesday	15 June	No Mass
Wednesday	16 June	-
Thursday	17 June	No Mass
Friday	18 June	-
Saturday	19 June	Mass 7.00pm
Sunday	20 June	Mass 8.00am
Monday	21 June	-
Tuesday	22 June	Mass 5.00pm
Wednesday	23 June	-
Thursday	24 June	Mass 9.15am
Friday	25 June	-
Saturday	26 June	Mass 7.00pm
Sunday	27 June	Mass 8.00am Mass 11.30am Merrigum Reunion (and lunch)

Parish Administrator

Fr John Paul Pasala

Kyabram Presbytery: 5852 1026

Tatura Presbytery: 5824 1049

Pastoral Associate

Alma Limbrick (available in Parish Office on Thursdays, 8.30 to 5.00pm)

Administration

Leanne, Colleen and Ruth

Parish Office hours –

Mon/Tues/Wed – 8.30am to 12 noon

Thursday – 8.30am to 5.00pm

Parish Office email address

kyabram@cdos.org.au

Parish Office website:

www.kyabramcatholicparish.org.au

Principals

St Augustine's College

Brayden Stone – Phone 5851 3000

St Patrick's Primary

Jackie Stockdale – Phone 5859 0371

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr John Paul, Alma Limbrick (Pastoral Associate), Alana Brennan (Chairperson), Maurie Finn, John Forde, Jackie Stockdale, Brendon Lane, Finola Price, Brayden Stone, Mary Zobec

Mass Times

Kyabram

Week Day Masses (Tuesday and Thursday): see Diary Dates

Saturday: 7.00pm

Sunday: 8.00am

Tongala

Second Sunday of month 11.30am

Merrigum

Fourth Sunday of month 11.00am

Mass of Anointing is held the first Thursday of the month at 10.00am in St Augustine's Church.

GATHERING OF CATHOLIC MEN 2021

In 2020 almost 1000 men across Australia, including over 200 in Victoria across every Diocese, registered to participate in this ground breaking "Gathering of Catholic Men" by grouping in host sites and hubs as COVID allowed, or by watching the material privately.

In 2021 this event is being staged again on the **31st July** in a shorter format. It would be wonderful to increase the reach to Catholic men and to have more men gathering with likeminded men in clusters. The aim of the event has always been to inspire and encourage all Catholic men with a vision for personal discipleship, service and mission in the family, parish/diocese and the world. It is hoped that the event will reinforce the importance of gathering in the faith environment of the Church, ensuring that the Gospel is alive in our homes, parishes/dioceses and our communities.

See the church noticeboard for further information. To register go to the following link: www.catholicmensgathering.com.au.



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.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

13 JUNE 2021

LIVE BY FAITH, NOT BY SIGHT

The parables of Jesus have a marvellous way of giving us the feeling of having Jesus sitting beside us. They have always been able to cross barriers of time, space and culture. They have a power to delight and unsettle, to console and challenge that is undimmed with the passing of nearly 2000 years. They are deceptively simple and always invite further reflection. When Jesus spoke of the kingdom or reign of God he drew on the image of the mustard seed. In doing this he was able to speak of the hidden beginnings of God's reign and, at the same time, the certainty of its growth. This of course is where the parable is deceptively simple, and where its challenge is to be found. As in the time of Jesus, it is still difficult to believe in the certainty of the coming of the kingdom, especially when its growth continues to be hidden, and the hearts of many seem to remain unchanged.

It is precisely here that Paul's reflection on his life as a Christian in the first century can be a source of encouragement. While we can picture Paul's ministry as one of on-going successes, the reality was not so simple. Faced with rejection and misunderstanding from some of the community in Corinth he does not lose heart. Sometimes growth among them was hard to see but he keeps his eyes firmly on what lies ahead. He knows there are many times when we must have the trust to live by faith and not by sight.

Christopher Monaghan CP

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.**