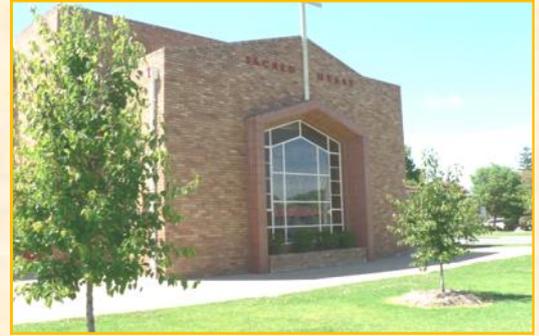


Sacred Heart Parish

North Albury



Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

23rd/ 24th September 2017

Parish Clergy

Fr Gabriel Murray

Parish Office

Fran Kernaghan

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

9.00 am – 2.00 pm

Phone: 60251516

Fax: 60404016

Web: <http://sacredheartnorthalbury.com/>

Mass Times

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm

SUNDAY: 9.30 am

WEEKDAYS: 9.30 am

Monday, Wednesday, Friday (Church)

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM

BAPTISMS—By appointment.

Preparation Course: 0411 883 661

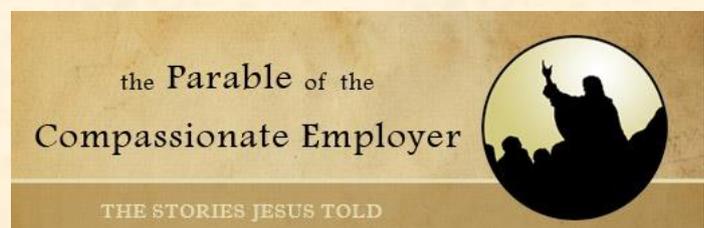
Social Justice Sunday

Today is Social Justice Sunday. The Australian Catholic Bishops have published a Social Justice Statement, titled: *Everyone's Business: Developing and inclusive and sustainable economy.*

The Statement recognises the great benefits of economic growth Australia has achieved over recent decades. However, not all Australians have shared in this national prosperity. We are all called to play our part in building an inclusive economy founded on true solidarity with those who are most vulnerable.

The Gospel reading for this Social Justice Sunday is Jesus' parable of the workers in the vineyard. Using an everyday example of economic hardship, Jesus teaches how the reign of God is open to all, generous, and especially mindful of those left behind. God provides sufficiently and fairly for each person, all the while attentive to the needs of those who experience exclusion and have little hope.

The vivid image of market place and vineyard still resonates. That the employer goes four times during the day to find workers in desperate need speaks of the precarious existence of the day labourer, and a market that fails to serve the whole community.



Parish Community



We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith especially:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Bernard Rolfe, Neil Russell,

Mary McLaurin, Noleen Low, Bernie Cudmore, Ada McDonnell

ANNIVERSARIES: Nicole Shirley, Keith Fegan, Molly Livermore, Berta Bihler, Albert Terhaar, Betty Arendarcikas, Laurel Lindsay, Sr Mary Aquinas, Valerie Burton, Bill Stewart, Muriel Freund, John Richardson, Dawn Tenteye, Glen Simpson, Wayne Scott, Elsie Dunn, Alfred Jeffrey, Phyllis Ryan, Mal McPherson, Bridget Delenc, Roy Clear, Thelma Clancy, Peter Conroy, Armer Boyle.

Gather our loved ones into your arms. Quiet our doubt and anger and send us your healing grace. Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer for the Sick

We pray for all those who are sick. May they draw strength and healing from God's presence with them and from our prayers and thoughts for them.

May they have peace in their hearts and know they are greatly loved by all.

We offer our prayers believing that God's presence and power can do more than we can ever know. Amen

ROSTERS

Sat / Sun: 23rd / 24th September

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Brian Waters	Sr Carina Morton
Lector 1	Michael Byrnes	Michael Stephenson
Lector 2	Karen Purtle	Kathy Nyhan
Eucharistic Ministers	Jim and Kaye Dean-shaw	Dianne & Peter Treacy Fran Kernaghan Pauline Willis
Cantor	Margaret and Ed Brown	
Musicians	Mary Hunt	Val Hayes
Counters: D Lum and Jane Togher		Cleaning Group: Group 6

Sat /Sun 30th Sept / 1st October

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Virginia Mitsch	Rosalie Martin
Lector 1	Pat Hickman	Jane Murtagh
Lector 2	Barbara Godde	Volunteer please
Eucharistic Ministers	Pat Hopkins Geoff Jervois	Noelene Cruise, Kevin Kennedy John and Helen O'Keeffe.
Cantor	John Van Lint	Anne McIntyre
Musicians	Judy Foley	Val Hayes
Counters: P. Toner & G. Bryant		Cleaning Group: Group 7

Prayer for Social Justice Sunday

God of justice and compassion, whose light shines into our hearts and into our nation's halls of power, strengthen our faith as we acknowledge the enormity of our task: to include all in the prosperity of this land. We pray for your spirit of generosity in challenging greed and neglect. Give us your grace to reach out to the lowest paid workers, families subsisting on meagre incomes, people who are homeless, the dispossessed First Peoples of this land, so that we may achieve change, inspired by the Gospel, that leads to human flourishing. May we be instruments of your compassion as we take up the needs of the poor, May we be instruments of your mercy as we bring truth to greed and neglect, May we be instruments of your creative spirit as we seek to make our world anew.

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

'We cannot wait any longer to deal with the structural causes of poverty, in order to heal our society from an illness that can only lead to new crises.'

Parish News

Weekday Masses

Weekday Masses will be celebrated each day in the Church at 9.30am Monday to Friday.

NOTE: DAYLIGHT SAVING BEGINS SUN.1ST OCT.

Sandhurst Catholic Charismatic Renewal Annual Conference coming up 23rd & 24th September in Shepparton. A response to Pope Francis' call "to share with everyone the grace of Baptism in the Holy Spirit". Please see posters or phone Brigita Hore 0412 042 196 for more details. All Welcome.

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 .

The latest Edition of Together features an article on the Plenary Council 2020 which is an opportunity for Australian Laity to raise their voices (see page 7). As stated in the Together, "The Plenary Council is the perfect time for the Australian Laity to start organising and raising questions about the participatory nature of the consultation process." This is a further initiative of Pope Francis. Copies of the latest Together Newspaper are available in the Church. There are many other interesting articles and well worth a read.

An Evening with Fr. Noel Connelly - Tuesday 26 Sept 17.

At the Slattery Catholic Centre, Smollett St. at 7.30pm.

Fr. Noel is a Columban priest who worked in South Korea as a missionary priest. He has also been Rector of the Columban seminary and leader of the Columban priests. He is also a member of the abovementioned Plenary Council 2020 Facilitation Team. He is a very entertaining speaker on a variety of topics. Entry by donation to Catholic Missions. Please ring (02) 6037 0012 to express your interest in attending.

Feast Days

Tuesday 26th September—Sts Cosmos & Damian

Wednesday 27th September—St Vincent de Paul

Thursday 28th September—St Wenceslaus

Friday 29th September—Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael (Archangels)

Extra cards from Fr. Kevin's Retirement masses have been printed and are now available at the Presbytery. These can be collected Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

ST PATRICK'S SPRING FASHION PARADE AND

AFTERNOON TEA—Sunday, 24th September

At St Patrick's Church Parish Hall, Smollett St.

LADIES AND GENT'S SPRING FASHIONS

Presented by Perl's of Albury

Admission \$20.00 per person

Refreshments from 1.30pm. Parade starting at 2.00pm — Lucky Door and Raffle prizes.

Contact Colleen on 6043 1442 or Parish centre on 6041 2588 for bookings.

Prayer for Our Sacred Heart Parish

God of Love,

Source of all hope and good things;

You call us in love, to share in the work and ongoing life of our Sacred Heart Parish.

Bless this parish of ours and lead us to be confident and joyful in serving those around us, so that through us, the world may catch a glimpse of the love you have for each one of us.

Make us instruments of your love to everyone that we encounter in our parish community, at home, at work and in our neighbourhood.

Help us to grow in gratitude so that we can recognise and thank you for all the good things you have given us.

Each day may we come to know you more clearly, love you more dearly and follow you more nearly.

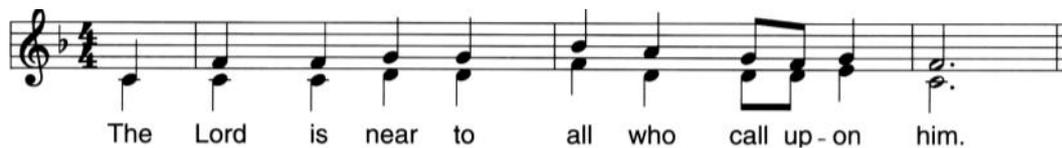
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

25th Sunday of the Year —Year A

Readings: *Is* 55: 6-9; *Phil* 1: 20-24, 27; *Matt* 20: 1-16

Responsorial Psalm



The Lord is near to all who call on him.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!

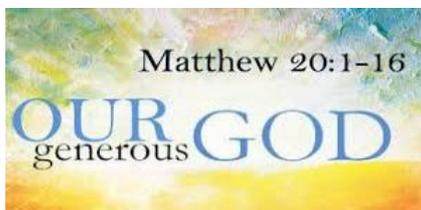
Open our hearts, O Lord,
To listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

Reflection on the Reading

On a first reading of this gospel story, the reader is probably struck by the unfairness of the situation. The landowner has employed day labourers at different times throughout the day to work in his vineyard. However, come the end of the day, the landowner pays all the day labourers the same amount. Not surprisingly, the labourers employed at daybreak to work the whole day are upset that those who have only worked the last hour of the day are paid the same amount. The landowner reminds them that he is paying them what they agreed at the start of the day, and yet the reader is left uncomfortable about the whole arrangement.

Of course, this is the purpose of Jesus' story! The key to the story is in the introduction. Most of the kingdom parables told by Jesus begin with a formulaic statement, 'The kingdom is like ...' and this one is no different. What follows is almost always a description of an everyday event that is turned on its head. In all of the kingdom parables recorded in the gospels, Jesus describes a world order in which people respond in unexpected and sometimes confusing ways. His message is that the kingdom, or reign, of God turns expectations upside down. In the kingdom, people who are treated badly in this world are held in great esteem; the balance of power is turned upside down; and the usual order of things is challenged. The landowner's final comment in the parable, 'the last will be first, and the first, last', is a perfect example of the challenging nature of Jesus' kingdom parables. In the kingdom, those who hold themselves to be first in this world will be brought down, and those who are treated as least in this world will be exalted.

A feature of the kingdom parables that Jesus used is a challenging 'shift' to the unexpected. Jesus only ever uses parables to describe what the kingdom is like, and never says exactly what it is or isn't. In each parable he compares the kingdom of God to something that would be familiar to a 1st century audience but then he twists the familiar and makes the challenging shift by making the familiar, unfamiliar. (This 'shift' is sometimes called a 'discombobulating shift'.) Jesus tells us that the kingdom of God disrupts our normal way of thinking, it turns our expectations upside down and it completely challenges our 'normal' relationships.



(Greg Sunter)

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