



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

16th July, 2023

Administrator Fr Denis Stanley
101 Riddell Rd, Sunbury Vic 3429
Ph: 9744 1060

Parish Secretary Tammie Dalgleish
P O Box 467, Gisborne Vic 3437
Ph: 5428 2591

CHILD PROTECTION - is everyone's responsibility

Check the Parish Website for:

Child Safety & Code of Conduct Policy
Parish Privacy Act / Professional Standards

A parent must accompany any child leaving the church during Mass.

Parish Email gisborne@cam.org.au

Parish Website <http://pol.org.au/gisborne/Home.aspx>

Secretary Hours Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am – 5:00pm

Dear Parishioners,

I would like to share with you that recently I was appointed by the Archbishop of Melbourne as the Administrator of St. Brigid's Parish, Gisborne.

My name is Fr. Denis Stanley, the Parish Priest of your neighbouring parish of Sunbury. This appointment will come into effect on Wednesday 5th of July 2023, and will stay in place until the issue being investigated is resolved.

I am happy to assist the parish and its three communities of faith during this time. The Vicar General has advised me that he will take responsibility to ensure that a priest is available for all weekend masses and baptisms.

I will be responsible for administration, as a contact person for parish leadership and for pastoral care. This will include funerals and care of the sick.

I look forward very much to serving you.

Fr. Denis Stanley
Administator - St. Brigid's Gisborne
9744 1060

sunbury@cam.org.au

(This message is repeated from last weekend in case some parishioners weren't able to attend Mass last week.)

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY

For a Eucharistic life

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

If you have not seen your envelopes please let me know as they may have been delivered to one of the other churches. Thank you all for your continued support of the Thanksgiving Program

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Here is Jesus telling another story about nature, in this case about soil good enough to bear a crop. Is he just a keen observer of the farmers of his time? No.

Throughout the Gospels there is a harmony between Jesus and the natural creation of a profound kind.

But St Paul intuited that link at a profound level in the case of the Risen Lord. This led him to make the most amazing claim that:

'The creation itself would be set free from its slavery to decay in order to share the freedom associated with the glory of the children of God.'

We, and the whole cosmos, share the legacy of a common destiny brought about by the powerful victory of Christ over the final instance of decay, destruction and every type of death.

We could pause a moment to pray with the angels as we do at every Mass: 'Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.'

mtate@bigpond.com

CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:

Please pray for those who are in ill health:

Eileen S, Corrine V, Megan B, Michael W, Glenys O, Anthony S, Ryan F, Jessica C, Cheryl L, Stephania C, Kylie I, George T, Bill P, Jacqueline D, Beau S, Fran S & John A.

We pray for the recently deceased, and for those who have an anniversary at this time, **Mary De Lai and**

Max & Betty McMahon.

May they rest in peace ☩

Please email Tam if you would like an Anniversary included in the prayers.



Rosters & Events



Ministers for next weekend's Masses

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

22nd & 23rd July, 2023

6:00pm Mass **St. Brigid's**
Reader: L. Scott & M. McCormack
Offertory: to be chosen on the day.
Eucharist: L. Wilson

8:00am Mass **St. Ambrose's**
Welcomer: J. White
Reader: M. Henry
Offertory: to be chosen on the day.
Eucharist: -----

Counters:
Not currently needed.

Flowers:

K. Page



9:30am Mass **St. Patrick's**
Reader: B. O'Callaghan
Offertory: to be chosen on the day.
Eucharist: *Volunteer required please*

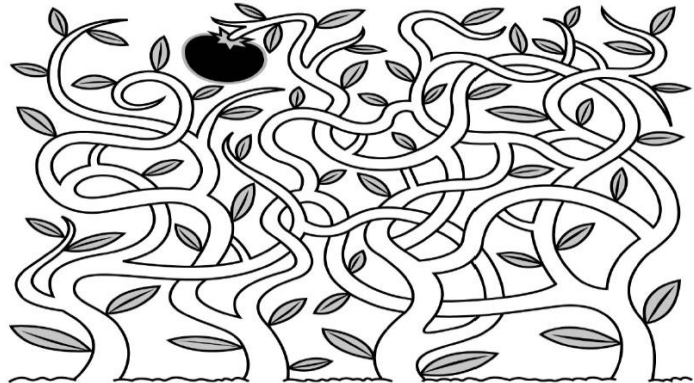
11:00am Mass **St. Brigid's**
Reader: C. Fry
Offertory: to be chosen on the day.
Eucharist: V. Firman

CONFIRMATION PRAYER

This Sunday, the Grade 6 children of our parish will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Bp. Terry Curtin and Fr. Denis Stanley will celebrate the Sacrament with the children.

Please keep them all in your prayers as they enter this important part of their Catholic journey.



Which of these four plants is the one bearing fruit?

WELCOME

St. Brigid's Parish community warmly welcomes visitors and new parishioners. We invite new parishioners to introduce yourself to Fr. Vinoth, fill in a census card located in the church foyer and place in either collection or contact Tam directly at the parish office.

THANKSGIVING

Any parishioner wishing to join the Thanksgiving program is invited to contact Tam at the parish office to arrange some Thanksgiving envelopes. Thanksgiving contributions by Direct Debit or Credit Card are also welcome.

THANKSGIVING BY DIRECT DEBIT

Anyone not already on the Thanksgiving Program who would like to contribute to the Church may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

St. Brigid's Church Account
NAB

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6742 95773

Please use your surname and TG number as the reference.

PRIEST & PRESBYTERY BY DIRECT DEBIT

Anyone not already contributing to the Priest & Presbytery expenses who would like to contribute may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

St. Brigid's Presbytery Account
NAB

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6672 72303

Please use your surname as the reference.

KARATE CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Thursday evenings 6pm - *1st TWO lessons free then \$7 per class*
No term commitment required; pay as you come.

Enquiries: Kathryn Aprile—0404 340 892

Weekly Social Cards Night

St. Brigid's Hall – Tuesday 7:30pm start - Entry \$10 per player

Light supper served on completion of play

EVERYONE WELCOME

SCRIPTURE STUDIES

Every Thursday—10am—St. Brigid's Church

Enquiries: Bernie Floreani—0414 890 377

Open House - meet after 11:00 am Sunday Mass

at the Kaffee Bar – 30 Aitken Street for a coffee and chat.

Everyone Welcome

Weekday Services 18th July to 21st July, 2023

Tues

Wed

Thurs

Fri

There will be no weekday Masses until further notice.

Sorry for the inconvenience.

Reconciliation & Spiritual Direction:

APPOINTMENT ONLY—please call Parish Office 5428 2591 to book a time

Please see parish website for any changes—www.cam.org.au/gisborne

St Brigid's Parish Weekly Thanksgiving Sunday – 9 July, 2023

Total Amount received \$ 962 (envelopes)

Total Amount received \$ 295 (credit cards)

Total Amount received \$ 100 (direct debit)

Presbytery Collection \$ 516 cash, c/c & d/d combined)

Thank you for your ongoing support through the Thanksgiving Program.

May the Lord bless you all.

Introduction: One of the great teaching styles of Jesus was his use of parables. Today we hear this narrative style when he explains the image of the sower and the seed. Can we produce the fruit Jesus expects?

1st Reading: Isaiah 55: 10-11

We hear one of the shortest texts ever provided in the lectionary. Small but beautiful! The image of the rain and snow are a parallel with the Word of God and its capacity to bring forth its fruits.

2nd Reading: Romans 8: 18-23

We hear Paul's use of the image of giving birth. He uses that to illustrate that suffering can also transform and we can find meaning through it.

Gospel: Matthew 13: 1-23 (shorter form 13:1-9)

We hear the parable of the sower and the seed as the teaching medium to understand the potential growth of the Kingdom of heaven amongst us.

Prayer of Intercession: Saint Paul tells us that we have the first fruits of the Spirit. Let us pray today, through the power of this Spirit, that all of us may be set free from slavery to every form of sin and corruption, as we wait for the fullness of redemption.

1. We pray for the successors of the Twelve, our Pope with the College of Bishops, who share their ministry to proclaim the Kingdom of God amongst us. May the Spirit bring forth a rich harvest for the Kingdom.

(pause) We pray to the lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

2. We pray that all who are baptised may fully live in Christ's Spirit and so obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God

(pause) We pray to the lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

3. We pray that all Christians may examine their attitudes and see what obstacles or distractions they indulge in which prevents the Word of God bringing forth its fruits

(pause) We pray to the lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

4. We pray with and for our farmers and primary producers that they may rejoice in the prospects of a good season that will bring food to a world in need

(pause) We pray to the lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

5. We pray for the parish children receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend that they be guided by Christ's Spirit in this next stage of their Catholic journey.

(pause) We pray to the lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

6. We pray for those in our parish who are sick and in need of healing, especially *Eileen S, Corrine V, Megan B, Michael W, Glenys O, Anthony S, Ryan F, Jessica C, Cheryl L, Stephania C, Kylie I, George T, Bill P, Jacqueline D, Beau S, Fran S & John A.* We pray for those who have recently died and for those who have an anniversary at this time, especially *Mary De Lai and Max & Betty McMahon.* May they rest in the Lord's peace.

(pause) We pray to the lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

Celebrant: O Provident God, we believe that your word achieves the end and succeeds in what it was sent to do. May the words of our prayers today be united with your word, your Son and our lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Next weeks readings: Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19; Romans 8: 26-27; Matthew 13: 24-43

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ,
Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
You take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us;
You take away the sins of the world; receive our prayer;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father. Amen

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, (*all bow*)
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried; "he descended into hell";
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen

The Living Word

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

16 July 2023

First Reading

Isaiah 55:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The rain makes the earth fruitful.

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

Psalm 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

Romans 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

Matthew 13:1-23

(or shorter form Mt 13:1-9)

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 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.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.