



He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables
and expound things hidden since the
foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

One loves someone so much—a child, a parent, a spouse or partner—yet when one tries to pray for that person the words seem only a pale shadow of the intensity of feeling and total love one feels. Stop! Simply put the person or situation before God and say nothing. The Holy Spirit will express our heartfelt prayer for us.

One's heart is breaking with grief for someone close who is very ill or dying. Or one feels a terrible anxiety or anguish. Words don't come easily even though one wants to pray. Stop! Put the person or situation before God and say nothing. The Holy Spirit will express our heartfelt prayer for us.

Perhaps accentuated by the constant messaging of social media, when trying to pray we can get anxious when there is a lull in the noise and no words come.

We could pause for a moment to relax and to allow the Spirit to express our plea in a way which could never be put into words.

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Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

19 July 2020

First Reading Wis 12:13,16-19

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R. v.5

(R.) *Lord, you are good and forgiving.*

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call. Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice. (R.)
2. All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord: for you are great and do marvellous deeds, you who alone are God. (R.)
3. But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord, abounding in love and truth, turn and take pity on me. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:26-27

The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

Gospel Acclamation See Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;

you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 13:24-43

(or shorter form Mt 13:24-30)

Let them grow together until the harvest.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

My dear people,

I trust you are all keeping safe and well. We are living through extraordinary times. Each day is a changing reality, and your continued patience and strength in these difficult times is greatly appreciated. Care of our people is of utmost importance as we enter into a six-week lockdown.

I hope that the first week back under Stage 3 restrictions has not been too taxing or stressful for you. For my part I found the first week to be okay. It must be because I was occupied with a lot of online meetings this time around. People are now more used to life under the restrictions having gone through it once before.

It is amazing how technology has enabled us to stay in contact and even run high-level meetings.

I believe that things will get a bit more difficult though once we fully realise that face to face contact with people is not possible. I guess having this contact after the several weeks of initial isolation, even if it was only for about six weeks, has helped fill up the tank of the need for human contact. While face to face contact is now not possible, let us make sure we keep in touch with other means of communication.

We also keep in mind members of our school communities. Most of our children are back to remote learning and that will again not be easy. Let us pray for strength and courage for everyone at this time, imploring our Patron saint to intercede for us. We must pray fervently that we will return to some degree of normality as soon as possible. Please know that I am praying for each of you at this time.

May the Peace of Christ be with you,
Fr Arockia Sebastian msfs

IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK

Maria Lamanna, Patrick White

RECENTLY DECEASED

Fr. Kurian Cheriyanalalayil msfs

ANNIVERSARIES

Phillip Muscat, Perin Pereira, Maria Carni

MASS AT HOME

St Peter's Parish

Our Sunday Mass continues to be uploaded to the Parish Website, Facebook and YouTube to allow our parishioners to participate from their homes: **Website:** <http://pol.org.au/keiloreast/Home.aspx>
Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-Parish-Keilor-East-248965765799277>

YouTube: St Peter's Church Keilor East

St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne

All Masses at St Patrick's Cathedral will continue to be live streamed on the Archdiocesan YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/archmelb>) or Catholic Archdiocesan website: www.melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass.

Television

Channel 31 (televised to greater Melbourne) at 11am Sunday. Please note the channel is often listed as Channel 44 on digital televisions.

PARISH FINANCES

We are most grateful for your contributions during this challenging time. Thank you all for your support. Online donations can be made as follows:-

Presbytery Collection – 1st Collection

Account Name: St Peter's Presbytery A/C
BSB: 083 347 Account No. 66541 7521
Reference as your first initial then surname, or remain anonymous

Church Collection – 2nd Collection

Account Name: St Peter's Church Account
BSB: 083 347 A/C No. 53530 4676
Reference as your first initial then surname and if known, your giving number e.g. ASmith T/G 500

Parish Office is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, if you wish to drop off your envelopes (only if you are well enough to go out). Entry is via Bellarine Avenue.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Wednesday 22 July St Mary Magdalene

Saturday 25 July St James

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You;

Never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen.

A Prayer for Healthcare Workers during this time of the Coronavirus COVID-19

From the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin

Loving God,

we place into your care

all our doctors, nurses and healthcare workers.

Give them courage of heart and strength of mind and body.

Keep them safe from harm.

May they know our deep gratitude for all they are doing

to heal and help those affected by the coronavirus.

God of all consolation

may they know your protection and peace.

Bless them in these challenging days and bless their families.

Amen.

HEART OF LIFE Centre for Spiritual and Pastoral Formation 'Emotions as Guardians of our Soul' - Reflection event via Zoom, Sat 18 July 2020, 10am - 1pm. Facilitated by Rev Dr Peter Bentley, this event offers participants the opportunity to explore which emotions are inviting us to pay attention to our authentic self during this time of uncertainty. We will focus on some of the core emotions that regularly arise in everyday life and see how they contribute to alerting us to key areas of transformation. Cost \$25.

<https://www.trybooking.com/BKJOS>

For more information Ph: 9890 1101.



A Prayer to St Joseph

St Joseph,

You were receptive to God working in your life.

Help us by your prayers at this time of trial.

You kept Jesus and Mary under your watchful care: may your prayers assist our local Church to respond to those in need.

You taught the Christ Child your trade and prayers: help us to follow his example of love.

You were part of God's plan for all humanity: assist us to be vigilant and responsible this day.

You spent your life in service:

May we be mindful of others, particularly the elderly and vulnerable, caring for them in these difficult days.

You trusted in the clear primacy of God over all history and every situation: help us to grow in faith and pray to the Father, *Thy will be done*.

Amen.

AVE MARIA COLLEGE YEAR 7 – 2022

Applications for Year 7 in 2022 close Friday 21 August 2020. Contact the Registrar on 9331 9308 or via email at registrar@avemaria.vic.edu.au