

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

16 JUNE 2024

EXPLAINING THE UNEXPLAINABLE

How do we understand the kingdom or reign of God? The Gospel of today brings two examples and a word about understanding parables. This passage is preceded by Jesus telling the parable of the sower and explaining it to his disciples. We have the inside running on this as we hear and read what Jesus explains, for we too are disciples. Today's first example tells what the kingdom of God is like, continuing the theme of the sower. We see the imagery of the kingdom of God as something that is not static but growing. It takes time to flourish and bring a harvest. Those on the land know this is an ongoing process season to season, sowing and harvesting. The kingdom of God is like this, growing wherever it is planted and harvested.

Then Jesus asks, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God or what parable will we use for it?' What follows expands further on the kingdom of God. It is like the smallest of seeds that will grow to become the greatest of shrubs giving shelter for further life and growth in its branches and shade.

It seems a mystery that Jesus used many parables like this to speak the word to them, 'but he explained everything in private to his disciples'. Jesus entices the crowd with images of what the kingdom of God is like. Jesus explains the meaning to those who believe. This echoes Paul's words in the second reading 'for we walk by faith, not by sight'. How would you explain the kingdom of God today?

Dr Rosemary Canavan

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.



Est. 1887

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time 16th June 2024
 St Joseph's Catholic Church, 30 Fitzgerald Street
 St Thomas Aquinas' Church, 43 Bromby Street

In the Pastoral Care of the AUGUSTINIANS

- ▶ Fr Luca Park OSA Parish Priest
- ▶ Fr Marydas Arackal OSA Assistant Priest
- ▶ Fr Matteo Cho OSA (Korean Chaplain)
- ▶ Fr Brian Buckley OSA Prior

ADMINISTRATION

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH CENTRE
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secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au
www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au
 Postal: Box 21 South Yarra 3141



OUR PARISH AND THE AUGUSTINIANS

Commit to creating an environment where the safety of children and vulnerable persons is paramount. All volunteers are required to have a Working With Children Check.

Pastoral and Administrative Support

- ▶ Stephy Coosnapa (Parish Pastoral Assistant) ▶ Juliet Oei (Business & Facilities Manager: Wed - Fri)
- ▶ Safeguarding: Stephy Coosnapa ▶ Bernadette Dennis (St Joseph's Outreach Services)
- ▶ Toni Stuart (Parish Secretary, Weddings & SJOS Volunteer Co-ordinator: Tues/Thurs/Fri)

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

St. Joseph's • 10.30am Mass
 Fourth Sunday of the month
 (except school holidays and long weekends)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Joseph's • Sat: 5.15pm – 5.45pm, by appointment or before/after Weekday Mass

ANointing / HEALING MASS

(Sacrament of the Sick) First Tuesday of the month 10am at St Joseph's Church

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME

Anyone ill or housebound may contact us to request a visit for communion at home.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- ▶ Liturgy Committee: Thurs 20 June 6.30pm
- ▶ Friends of St Augustine: Sat 22 June 11am

AUGUSTINE PLANTING TO HARVEST



"O you Christians, whose lives are good, you sigh and groan as being few among many, few among very many. The winter will pass away, the summer will come. The harvest will soon

be here. The angels will come who can make the separation. We, in this present time are like those servants of whom it was said, 'Do you want us to go and gather them up?' For we were wishing, that no evil ones should remain among the good. But we have been told, 'Let both grow together until the harvest'. The reapers will come, and who the reapers are he has explained, 'And the reapers are the angels'. We are just human, but the reapers are the angels". (from Sermon 73)

Liturgical Calendar for the week commencing 16th June 2024

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Saturday 15 th June	6.00pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 16 th June 11 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.30am Mass	9.00am Mass
Monday 17 th June 11 th Week in Ordinary Time		
Tuesday 18 th June 11 th Week in Ordinary Time	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Wednesday 19 th June 11 th Week in Ordinary Time	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Thursday 20 th June 11 th week in Ordinary Time	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Friday 21 st June St Aloysius Gonzaga	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Saturday 22 nd June Sts John Fisher & Thomas More	9.00am Mass	



End of Financial Year - AUGUSTINIAN FORMATION APPEAL

Tax deductible donations to support the next generation of Augustinian priests may be made by scanning this barcode. More Information: accounts@osa.org.au or www.osa.org.au or Ph. 02 9938 0200



SJOS ANNUAL APPEAL AND WINTER MORNING TEA

Next weekend the SJOS Annual Appeal will be held at all masses to raise funds for the continued

work of St Joseph's Outreach Services in our parish.

Volunteers and friends of SJOS are invited to SJOS Winter Morning Tea in the coffee room Sunday 23 June 11.30am.

VISIT OF FR SALDIE RESOLADO OSA



We welcome Fr Saldie Resolado OSA who is visiting our parish this weekend to facilitate the *Ignite the Light* retreat and will celebrate the 10.30am mass.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Robert Huggins, Margaret Wallin, Mark Ho, June Cochrane, Ronald Seaman, Mito Gloudemans, Anne Rigg, Ced John Netto, Julie Mahony, Paul Chong, Larissa Popowski, Isabella Chong, Thomas Bedier, Luke Dennis, Sonia Guzman, Damien Ryan, Stephen Soh, Anne Morton, Cecil D'Crux.



IN LOVING MEMORY



Recently Deceased

✠ Caroline O'Neill

Anniversaries

- ✠ Felix Balcerzak ✠ Harold Williams
- ✠ Marie Theresa Wiltshire ✠ Jorge Vargas
- ✠ Christopher Chong ✠ Rupert Atkinson
- ✠ Daniel Leow Chin Meng

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Congratulations to Abrie, Chelsea, Jack, Lucas, Michaela, Thomas & Winifred who received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation on Thursday at St Joseph's.



CHILDREN'S FIRST COMMUNION



Enrolments are open for preparation classes for children making their First Communion. Please contact Stephy at the parish office.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING



The Council met last Wednesday evening and again spent some time discussing the formation of a social committee, the

ongoing planning for the renewal lease agreement with SJOS, recent maintenance work on the parish buildings, and the continuing challenges of compliance with safeguarding protocols.

MASS COLLECTIONS 9/06/2024

Clergy (Augustinian Community)	
1 st Collection, CDF & bank deposits.	\$ 684.55
Church (Parish Ministries)	
2 nd Collection	\$ 340.60
Envelopes.....	\$ 120.00
Direct Debit/EFT/ CDF Pay/ Cr Cards	\$ 645.00
Tap Point Terminals.....	\$ 630.00
<i>Thank you for your generosity</i>	