



**ST COLUMBA'S PARISH**  
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**17th Sunday of YEAR A, 26/07/20**

**First Reading—1 Kings 3:5.7-12**

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its number cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD. THANKS BE TO GOD

**2ND Reading—Romans 8:28-30**

We know that by turning everything to their good, God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

THE WORD OF THE LORD. THANKS BE TO GOD

## GOSPEL—Matthew 13:44-52.

Jesus said to the crowds, ‘The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

‘Have you understood all this?’ They said, ‘Yes.’ And he said to them, ‘Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his store-room things both new and old.’

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD. THANKS BE TO GOD

*Almighty Father, we wish to commit our parish of St Columba of Iona into Your merciful hands. We want to be a vibrant and flourishing parish formed after your heart, a family of missionary disciples of Jesus where love and service spread out from us to everybody. Touch the hearts of all of us and everybody within our parish to experience once again the power of the risen Christ so that our hearts can be filled with your love, joy, courage, strength and unity. We commit to you, in a special way, the sick, the housebound, the struggling, even the weary. May Mary our mother be always close to us her children in all our hour of need. We make all these prayers through the merits of Jesus Christ your son. Amen.*

## NOTICE

### PLEASE NOTICE CHANGES IN MASS TIMES.

SATURDAY EVENINGS	4:30PM
SUNDAY S	10AM, 12 NOON
MONDAYS—FRIDAYS	10AM
SATURDAY MORNINGS	10AM

1. AS PER LEGISLATION, WE CAN TAKE NO MORE THAN 50 PEOPLE FOR MASSES AND NO MORE THAN 20 FOR FUNERALS.
2. WE ARE ADVISED TO RECORD ALL THE NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS OF ATTENDEES TO BE PASSED ON TO THE NHS IN THE EVENT OF AN OUTBREAK IN THE PARISH. AS PER DATA PROTECTION, IT IS GOING TO BE USED ONLY FOR THE ABOVE PURPOSE.
3. THE CHURCH OPERATES A ONE-WAY SYSTEM FOR NOW, WITH ARROWS, SIGNS AND CORDONED OFFPLACES ESPECIALLY SEATS. PLEASE FOLLOW SIGNS AND DIRECTIONS BY VOLUNTEERS.
4. MASKS ARE TO BE WORN THROUGHOUT YOUR VISIT. WE HAVE SANITISERS AT THE ENTRANCE AND EXIT TO BE USED BY EACH PERSON.
5. IF YOU NEED TO USED VOTIVE CANDLES, THERE IS A VOLUNTEER AT STANDBY READY TO LIGHT ON REQUEST, OR YOU COULD LIGHT FROM THE BIG CANDLE.
6. FOR NOW, NO PRIVATE PRAYERS ALLOWED AFTER MASS SINCE CHURCH NEEDS TO BE SANITISED BY VOLUNTEERS.
7. 4 WEEKEND MASSES—4:30PM VIGIL, 10AM, 12 NOON AND 5PM. (EACH WITH A MAXIMUM OF 50 PERSONS EXPECTED). A VOLUNTEER WILL BE AT THE DOOR TO ADVISE ON THE NUMBER.
8. ADORATION CHAPEL OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYERS EVERYDAY 12 NOON—3PM, EXCEPT SUNDAYS. MAXIMUM ADMITTED—ONE PERSON EXCEPT FOR HOUSEHOLDS. YOU COULD ALSO RING FR AMBROSE AT 07549260379 TO MAKE ANOTHER ARRANGEMENT THAT SUITS YOU BETTER.
9. HOUSEHOLDS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SIT TOGETHER DURING MASS OR PRAYER IN THE BIG CHURCH.