

## THE WHEAT AND THE WEEDS

(Before praying the Angelus the Pope gave a reflection on the Gospel of Sunday)

In today's Gospel (cf *Mt* 13:24-43) we once again encounter Jesus who is intent on speaking to the crowd in parables about the Kingdom of Heaven. I will reflect only on the first one, that of the weeds, through which Jesus helps us understand *God's patience*, opening our hearts to *hope*.

The servants' intention is to eliminate evil immediately, that is, evil people. But the master is wiser, he sees farther. They must learn to wait because enduring persecution and hostility is part of the Christian vocation. Certainly, evil must be rejected, but those who do evil are people with whom it is necessary to be patient. This does not mean that type of hypocritical tolerance that hides ambiguity; but rather, justice tempered by mercy. If Jesus came to seek sinners more than the righteous, to cure the sick first before the healthy (cf *Mt* 9:12-13), so must the actions of His disciples be focused not on suppressing the wicked, but on saving them. Patience lies here.

Today's Gospel presents two ways of acting and of living history: on the one hand, the master's vision who sees far; on the other, the vision of the servants who just see the problem. What the servants care about is a field without weeds; the master cares about good wheat. The Lord invites us to adopt His own vision, one that is focused on good wheat, that knows how to protect it even amidst the weeds. Those who are always hunting for the limitations and defects of others do not collaborate well with God, but, rather, those who know how to recognise the good that silently grows in the field of the Church and history, cultivating it until it becomes mature. And then, it will be God, and He alone, who will reward the good and punish the wicked. May the Virgin Mary help us to understand and imitate God's patience, who wants none of His children to be lost, whom He loves with the love of a Father.

*After praying the Angelus, the Pope continued:*

*Dear brothers and sisters,*

In this time in which the pandemic shows no signs of coming to an end, I want to assure my nearness to all those suffering from the illness and its economic and social repercussions. My thought goes out especially to the populations whose sufferings are heightened due to situations of conflict. On the basis of a recent United Nations resolution, I renew the appeal for a global and immediate cease fire that would allow the peace and safety that are indispensable in order to provide the necessary humanitarian assistance.

In particular, I am following and am concerned about the renewed armed tensions in the past few days in the Caucus region between Armenia and Azerbaijan. While I assure my prayers to the families of those who have lost their lives during the clashes, I hope that, with the dedication of the international community, and through dialogue and good will, there may be a lasting peaceful solution for the good of those beloved peoples. ([www.vatican.va/angelus](http://www.vatican.va/angelus))



## Sacred Heart Parish Koorinal

**Parish Sec:** Roxy Locke

(Mon. Thurs. Fri. 9am-2pm)

**Pastor:** Fr John Baptist (Mob 0415 371 627)

**Parish Council Sec:** Marsha Reilly

**Presbytery:** 71 White Avenue, Koorinal. 2650

Telephone: 02 6922 6057

**Sunday Mass Times:**

Sat.Vigil:5:30pm Sunday: 10am

**Daily Mass Times:**

Monday - Friday: 5:45pm

Saturday: 9.30am

*Changes to Mass times will be on Chapel door.*

Reconciliation: Sat. 10.00am-10.30am

**Parish Pastor Email:** [kooringalchurch@sacredheartparish.net.au](mailto:kooringalchurch@sacredheartparish.net.au)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sacredheartkooringal/>

**Web Site:** <https://kooringalchurchsacredheartparish.net/>

**Parish Council Email:** [shkparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:shkparishcouncil@gmail.com)

**Safeguarding Officer:** Anne Brown Phone 6926 2937 Email [annie1.temple@gmail.com](mailto:annie1.temple@gmail.com)

### WE PRAY FOR:

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Brian Connolly, Mary Desira, Frank Corbett, John Hosie, Beryl Pearson, Gerard Davis, Gerard Gaynor, Sr. Ann McRae pbvm, Thea Bowen, Fr. Frank Bell, John Maloney, Laurent Stout, Michael W. Flett, Tony Madigan, Allan Davis, Barbara McDonnell, Fr. Wilfred Plunkett, Fr. Noel Connolly ssc, John Stout, Bill Matthews.

**ANNIVERSARIES/ REMEMBRANCES:** Alan Taylor

**SICK:** Theresa Gallucci, Ilona Gortva, Laurence Roche, Dorothy Castle, William Trist, Miriam McCoy, Joanne Huckel, Terry Phegan, Mary Condell, Genevieve Keogh, Dorothy Waterford, Shivaun Clifton, Barry Parnell, Hayden O'Callaghan, June Kimber, Bob Barclay, Denise Goonan, Adam Horsley, Finley Owens, Shirley Gabriel, Christopher Lee.

Let us pray that each of us may know how to bear witness, in daily words and gestures, to the joy of having found the treasure of the Kingdom of God, that is, the love that the Father has given us through Jesus.

# SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YR A

To prepare for next Sunday's Mass go to St Louis Jesuits – The Centre for Liturgy website: <http://liturgy.slu.edu> and/or Jerusalem Bible Translation of Readings: <http://www.universalis.com/>

**FIRST READING:** A reading from the first book of Kings 3:5. 7-12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared in a dream to Solomon during the night. God said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you'. Now, the 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 judgment 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.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Ps 118

*Lord, I love your commands.*

My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word.

The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold.

Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant.

Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight.

That is why I love your commands more than finest gold.

That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways.

Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it.

The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple.

*Lord, I love your commands.*

**SECOND READING:** A reading from the letter of St Paul to the 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 that 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 ACCLAMATION:** 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:** Matthew 13:44-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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 storeroom things both new and old'.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## GOSPEL CONNECTIONS

### Kingdom Stories

The last few weeks we've been treated to kingdom stories. Some are casual, like the woman kneading dough or the sower going to plant a field. Some are loaded with suppressed excitement: the merchant finding the pearl, or the discovery of treasure in an unmarked field. What kind of kingdom can be glimpsed from a net cast lightly into the sea, emerging with the day's catch and a year's worth of junk?

What's clear is that the Kingdom of God isn't a simple idea. It is not the usual religious jaunt from a life of good works to a heavenly reward. The kingdom is known through fidelity to small tasks yet holds enormous surprises and can lead to high spiritual gambles. We may be willing to put a pinch of piety into the dough and watch the bread rise. But not all of us will be selling everything, even to purchase the brightest pearl on earth. Gamble, with our nest egg?

In fact, every kingdom story has its own risk factor. Not every loaf will rise, not every field sown will produce a yield. The dragnet of human experience pulls up what is useful to spiritual growth and also more garbage to haul around. We are choosing, in every minute, how much we will sacrifice, how much to risk

*Which of the kingdom stories in the last two Sunday's gospels speak to your life right now?* (gpbs.com.au)

### FINANCE

**New Envelopes and Receipts are available in the foyer.**  
**Twinning receipts and envelopes are also available in the foyer.**

**There is no longer a numbering system, you are issued with 10 envelopes with your name printed on them, when you require more please notify the parish secretary. Email: [Koorinalchurch@sacredheartparish.net.au](mailto:Koorinalchurch@sacredheartparish.net.au)**

Direct debit to our PARISH BUILDING Account BSB 066 789 A/C No 6111068 showing your surname, this account attracts a 100% tax deduction.

Direct debit to account BSB 066 789 A/C No 100005658, which is our parish working account, attracts a 50% tax deduction using you surname reference as envelope givers.

PRESBYTERY ACCOUNT, you can direct your donation to BSB 066 789 A/C No 100005657 also showing your surname as reference, no tax deduction.