



15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

16 July 2017

Year A



Next Week's Readings

1st Reading: Wisdom 12:13,16-19
2nd Reading: Romans 8:26-27
Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

RESPONSE

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.
Alleluia!*

CHRIST SOWS THE SEED

There's some real wisdom in this week's Gospel. Jesus used a lot of farming examples, because many of the people who followed him lived off the land. This week he compares the word of God to a seed that needs fertile ground to take root.

Here are some important points from that comparison. First, God seeds the world with the divine word. God's word is powerful. Like a seed, it has all it needs to grow in our lives and bear fruit that will change us and the world around us. We don't have to worry about figuring out a way to live a happy life. The word will guide us to that.

Second, we only need to make our lives fertile ground for the word. God's strength and wisdom will naturally grow in us over time. That's good news because, like a plant, the word needs time to grow in us. Don't worry about being perfect. You are going to do wrong things. You'll back down at the wrong times. You'll hurt people at times. But if you let God's word grow in you as you grow older, you'll find yourself falling less often, standing up for what's right more often, and making fewer mistakes that hurt people.

Say sorry when you need to. Repair relationships when you make mistakes. But be patient with yourself as you continue to develop into a mature disciple. Keep trying. And keep your soul fertile by reading the word regularly, going to Mass and serving those who suffer in our world. Someday you'll be amazed at what God has planted in you.

Excerpt from Gospel Connection of GPBS available at www.mailchi.mp; image by pinterest.com



POPE APPROVES NEW PATH TO SAINTHOOD: HEROIC ACT OF LOVING SERVICE

Pope Francis has approved a fourth pathway to possible sainthood -- giving one's life in an heroic act of loving service to others.

In a new apostolic letter, the pope approved new norms allowing for candidates to be considered for sainthood because of the heroic way they freely risked their lives and died prematurely because of 'an extreme act of charity.'

The document, given 'motu proprio' (on his own initiative) went into effect the same day of its publication, 11 July, with the title 'Maiorem hac dilectionem,' which comes from the Gospel according to St John (15:13): 'No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.'

According to the apostolic letter, any causes for

beatification according to the new pathway of 'offering of life' would have to meet the following criteria:

- Free and willing offer of one's life and a heroic acceptance, out of love, of a certain and early death; the heroic act of charity and the premature death are connected.
- Evidence of having lived out the Christian virtues -- at least in an ordinary, and not necessarily heroic, way -- before having offered one's life to others and until one's death.
- Evidence of a reputation for holiness, at least after death.
- A miracle attributed to the candidate's intercession is needed for beatification.

Full text is available in Melbourne Catholic website

THANKSGIVING CHURCH: \$ 1,931.46 PRIEST: \$ 1,162.00 <small>(RETIRED PRIESTS & ARCHDIOCESE)</small>	A BIG Thank You to all who have responded to the annual collection for the Holy Father. We appreciate your generosity.
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PRAYER AND CONDOLENCES

The OLOL Parish Family offers its deepest condolences and prayers to **MONIQUE MACKELLIN** and family, for the passing away of her father, **Thaddeus Gostkowski**; to **RUKSHI RAMESH** and family, for the passing away of her mother, **Lakshi Serasinghe**.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING AND THEIR FAMILIES

ANNIVERSARIES: Charles O' Farrell, Jack Gottardo, Ethel Roach, Pieter Scholten, Alby O'hehir, Kathleen Borman, Marie Wallace, Germano Artini, Bonnie Arthur, Mae Lamb, Harold Rogers, Mary Turner.

SICK: Mary Edmonds, Pauline Muscat, Marta Kristan, Kala Lindsay, Geoff Bell, Stan Piergrosse, Dorothy Reilly, Ted Davies, Peter Lisle



ST VINCENT'S HEALTH TO REJECT EUTHANASIA LAWS

While proposed new laws to legalise euthanasia are set to be debated in parliament later this year, some hospitals will refuse to assist patients in ending their lives. The CEO of St Vincent's Toby

Hall spoke to 3AW's Tony Jones, claiming that St Vincent's will ban their staff from performing assisted suicides.

'It's important to say that everybody is coming at this from the point of view that they care about people dying well,' Hall said. 'The heart behind this, I think, everyone has got in common. Our view is that palliative care is the right way to help people have an excellent end of life.'

St Vincent's is Australia's biggest Catholic non-for-profit healthcare provider. The hospital set up the first palliative care facility in Melbourne in 1938, in Caritas Christi Hospice at Kew and remains a leading provider of palliative care services in Victoria.

Full text at www.melbournecatholic.org.au

POPE TO SEND SALVADORIAN CARDINAL ON KOREAN PEACE MISSION

Celebrating a Mass in his native El Salvador, newly created Cardinal Gregorio Rosa Chavez said his first major assignment would be to travel to South Korea for a meeting on how to achieve peace with North Korea.



During a homily in San Salvador's Metropolitan Cathedral July 8, Cardinal Rosa Chavez said that although he will "continue to be the least of my brother bishops" as auxiliary bishop, he was also entrusted to other matters by Pope Francis. "I already received my first invitation to go to Seoul, South Korea, to attend a meeting to see how we can achieve peace between North and South Korea," the cardinal said.

Tensions continue to escalate on the Korean Peninsula after North Korea conducted its first successful intercontinental ballistic missile test on July 4. With an estimated range of 8,000 kilometers, the missile is capable of striking the U.S. mainland with a nuclear-tipped warhead. Full text at www.ucanindia.in

GUILD OF ST STEPHEN CONFERENCE 2017

4pm Sunday 24 September to 12pm Wednesday 27 September
Retreat Centre at the Sacred Heart Parish in Croydon

Participants have 3 options

- 1) Attend the Conference from Sunday to Wednesday, including staying for 3 nights.
- 2) Attend the Conference on Monday and Tuesday, 8am-8pm, returning home on each night
- 3) Attend the Conference just on Monday, 8am-8pm and then return home.

Application Form will be available in mid-August, together with the final costs.

MOTHER TERESA'S BLUE-BORDERED SARI AN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY NOW

The famous blue-bordered sari of Mother Teresa, who has been canonised as Saint Teresa of Calcutta by the Vatican, has been recognised as an Intellectual Property of the Missionaries of Charity.



"The Trade Marks Registry, Government of India, has granted the registration of the trade mark for that pattern of blue border of sari," Intellectual Property attorney Biswajit Sarkar said.

The diminutive nun of Albanian descent went around the streets of Kolkata since 1948 to be with the poor and the destitute wearing a white sari with three blue borders, the outer border being wider than the two inner ones.

"The blue-designed border on the sari worn by nuns of Missionaries of Charity was recognised as Intellectual Property for the organisation on September four, 2016, the day the Mother was canonised," Sarkar said here. "The Missionaries of Charity does not believe in publicity and as such it was not publicised, but since we are witnessing unscrupulous and unfair usage of the design across the globe, we are now trying to spread awareness among people about the trademark," Sarkar said.

Full text at www.ucanindia.in

FEAST OF THE WEEK

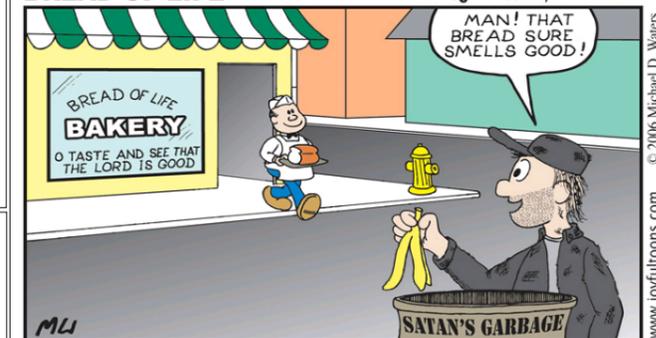
20 July - St. Apollinaris
21 July - St. Lawrence of Brindisi
22 July - St. Mary Magdalene



PRAYER GROUP MEET-UP

Every Wednesday, 7pm in the Narthex
Everyone is invited to join in the discussion with Cassius who will explain why people overeat or get addicted to gambling, drugs, pornography, etc.
Light meal provided. For details contact Andrew Kayser at 0459991867

BREAD OF LIFE



But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. - 2 CORINTHIANS 2:14 NIV

ALWAYS PRAY TO HAVE

*Eyes that see the best in people,
A heart that forgives the worst,
A mind that forgets the bad,
A soul that never loses
FAITH IN GOD*