



MANLY FRESHWATER CATHOLIC PARISH

Mary Immaculate and St John the Baptist Churches

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 16th July 2023



Gospel Reflection

Chapter 13 of Matthew's Gospel is the evangelist's collection of Jesus' parables. The word "parable" comes from the Greek word *parabole*, which means

putting two things side by side in order to confront or compare them. And that is exactly how Jesus uses parables: He places a simile from life or nature against the abstract idea of the reign of God. The comparison challenges the hearer to consider ideas and possibilities greater and larger than those to which they might be accustomed.

Jesus' hearers expected God's kingdom to be the restoration of Israel to great political and economic power; the Messiah would be a great warrior-king who would lead Israel to this triumph. Jesus' parables subtly and delicately led people, without crushing or disillusioning them, to rethink their concept of God's kingdom.

In Palestine, sowing was done before the plowing. Seed was not carefully or precisely placed in the ground. The farmer scattered the seed in all directions, knowing that, even though much will be wasted, enough will be sown in good earth to ensure a harvest, nonetheless. The parable of the sower (which appears in all three synoptic gospels) teaches that the seed's fruitfulness (God's word) depends on the soil's openness (the willingness of the human heart to embrace it). connectionsmediaworks.com

LET US PRAY FOR

16th July 2023

Recently Deceased: Flor Cunanan; Fr Anton Bulla SVD

Anniversary: Christin Schaller; Ante Strinc; Vincenzo Calacoci; Leslie Connors

Prayers for the sick in our parish: "Lord, grant them and their carers strength and courage" Margaret Burridge; Stephen Robertson; Maureen Williams; Gerry Wybrandt; Amy Farrow; Patricia Duffy; Florencia Lira; Ken Waller; Mary Helen Fogarty; Belinda Nicholls; Jacqui Dawson; Gerry Ring; Zacchaeus Ratnam; Pat Smith; John Connors; Don Hews; Joan Jacobs; Sheila Lee; Donnacha Donnelly; Paul Donnelly; Julie & Rodney Wallis; Lyn Hillard; Ian Flynn; Jake Usher; Wayne Smedley; Shirley Ford; Apolinar Anasarias; Kay Flenady; Annette Frances O'Leary

Many Catenians Christmas in July meeting is on Wednesday, 19 July 2023 at St Kieran's Parish Hall will see us celebrate Christmas in July and it will be a Ladies Night. If you are interested in Catenians we would welcome visitors. Cost is \$45 per head – 3 course traditional Christmas dinner, incl tea/coffee. Drinks are BYO, so just bring along what you would like to drink. Don't forget you can pay for dinner direct to Manly Circle's bank account. Commonwealth Bank; BSB: 062-784; Account No: 100002363; Account Name: The Catenian Association Manly No 322. Please advise Romano Di Donato of your attendance asap or by Monday, 17 July 2023 – his email is romano@romanodidonato.com.au

We of Manly Freshwater Parish acknowledge the Kay-ee-my people, on whose ancestral lands we gather to worship today.

Congratulations to Fr John who has become a permanent member (incardinated) of Broken Bay Diocese.

Bishop Anthony Randazzo writes "Fr John is now officially an incardinated priest of the Diocese of Broken Bay. I take this opportunity to congratulate Fr John and to thank him for the marvellous pastoral ministry that he offers in our local Church."



Congratulations to parishioner Sandie Cornish, who has been selected as an expert and facilitator at the **Synod of Bishops on Synodality in Rome** in October 2023 and October 2024. Sandie will be among more than 450 delegates from

around the world. Archbishop Costelloe, an appointed president-delegate, says "Inspired by Pope Francis' vision of a 'missionary option', the Synod invites us all, as baptised members of the Church, to recognise our common call to form, together, a community of disciples who proclaim the mighty works of God (1 Peter 2:9) by what we say and by what we do: to become, together, signs and bearers of God's love for all people." Cath News



Raising Awareness and Education with the 3-Simple Steps to Potentially Save a Life in case of a Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) outside a Hospital.

The parish have been given two defibrillators which have been installed at each Church. You are invited to a demonstration on how to use the defibrillators this Sunday 16th July following the 9am Mass at Freshwater. It is easy and very educational!!!

PIETY STORE

Movie of the month "I Confess". An Alfred Hitchcock masterpiece. A deeply inspirational and suspenseful movie exploring; the truth, the cross, forgiveness and the seal of the confessional. Only \$10 @ the piety store.

CD of the month – St Ignatius and the company of Jesus – Craig Turner. The incredible true story on the founder of the Jesuits "St Ignatius of Loyola" and the legacy he left the world. Only \$5 @ the piety store.

Manly Freshwater Parish promotes SAFEGUARDING which involves the implementation of proactive, common sense and practical ideas that ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults in our community.

Livestreaming on Facebook Sunday 8:30am Mass
[manlyfreshwaterparishfacebook/videos](https://www.facebook.com/manlyfreshwaterparish/videos)



PARISH GIVING – thank you for your generous support. We encourage you to use the tap machines at the Church entrances. If you prefer to use cash there will be **ONE** collection during Mass at the offertory at Manly and **TWO** at Freshwater.



WORLD YOUTH DAY UPDATE...

Thank you to all who were able to support the World Youth Day Curry and Pasta Night on the 24th of June! The Saturday night event was well-attended by over 70 parishioners who were well-fed by an excellent mix of authentic curries and pastas, all donated by fellow parishioners. The Raffle prizes were provided by Giovanni and Marilyn of Pilu Restaurant, Freshwater, Andy Mandikian of Deep Sea Foods, Freshwater, Mae Mandikian of Freshwater House Homewares and Father David (of Manly fame), who donated several large Westfield vouchers. A special thanks is also given to Anthony Grillakis of Cheries Pies, Freshwater and the Parish Craft Group. Live music was provided by Leigh Heasman and Phil Nicol and MC'ing by Steve Wright. Many thanks also to Amorina Wright and Francis Raymond, without whom this and many other events would not have been possible. Their organisational skill and coordination have been a great blessing and the boys are very thankful indeed. This was certainly an event to remember!!!

It was a real joy to feel the love and generosity shown by all, to all. The event itself was held to support Josh Wright and Richard Heasman in their pilgrimage to World Youth Day in late July, held this year in Lisbon, Portugal. They will be representing the parish in their journey and are touched by your kindness and compassion.

Over just two months, your giving has raised over \$7200! This is an outstanding result, and the boys are very thankful and humbled by your generosity. Your support over the last three months has not only helped the boys in their journey, it has also helped the entire parish to come together as one community in love.

Whether or not you were able to attend the Curry Night, the boys know that you support them. Please continue to pray for them as they make their final preparations in the lead-up to their departure on 29th July.



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

First Reading

Isaiah 55:10-11 (JB)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The rain makes the earth fruitful.

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

The word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 64:10-14 (JB)

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

You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches. Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. R.

And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. R.

You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. R.

The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat, They shout for joy, yes, they sing. R.

Second Reading

Romans 8:18-23 (JB)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

The word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

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

Matthew 13:1-23 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
A sower went out to sow.

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive.

For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SOUTH STEYNE medical CENTRE

Nestled between the pines at South Steyne – our Medical Centre born from the belief of looking from a fresh perspective towards healthcare. You will find highly trained, experienced GPs and Nursing Staff, with a range of skills to provide you with quality comprehensive care.



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Parish Secretary: Jenny Beninati
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Parish Office: Mon to Thurs 8:30am – 4:30pm

Phone: 9977 5822

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www.bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater

St John the Baptist Church

cnr Johnson & Oliver St, Freshwater 2096

Presbytery: 9977 2100

After Hours Sick Calls: 0499 910 010

Parish Pastoral Council: Paul Pervan (Chair);

Michael McGrath (Deputy Chair); Margaret Dent

(Secretary); Patricia Carroll; Joanne Druery;

Val Buono; Ivica Covic; Robert Marshall;

Peter Nacard, Ian Press, Katalina Taefotu

Weekend Masses:

Manly: Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am, 6:00pm

Freshwater: Saturday Vigil 5:00pm & Sunday 9am

Weekday Masses:

Manly: Tuesday – Friday 9:15am

Freshwater: Tuesday – Friday 9:15am

Baptisms: please contact the parish office

Manly: 4th Sunday of the month

Freshwater: 2nd Sunday of month

Reconciliation: *Manly* Sat 10am – 11am

St Mary's Primary School 9977 2225

Principal: Paul McGuire

St John the Baptist Primary School 9939 6699

Principal: Alicia van der Merwe

St Paul's Catholic College 9977 5111

Principal: Michael Reid

Stella Maris College 9977 5144

Principal: Elizabeth Carnegie



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