



St Mary's Parish
E C H U C A
Growing in faith together

Newsletter

**27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
7th & 8th October 2023**

Reflection

Two parables about vineyards in the readings today both end in disaster. From the prophet Isaiah, the property is fitted out, the vineyard is properly planted and tended but produces sour and bad grapes and then destroyed. Jesus' parable tells of a similar building, planting and tending, but this time the harvest is good but the owner is robbed of its produce and his son is killed by the workers he trusted. Australian wine makers reflect another twist to this fragile industry when their great produce faces uncertain markets.

In the first parable, the vineyard is the image of God's people, or as expressed in the Responsorial Psalm: "The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel." In the second parable the owner's son is an image of Jesus, the workers who rejected the son are the ones Jesus addressed the parable to: "the chief priests and the elders of the people."

Today, "the Church receives the parable as an admonition addressed to itself. It cannot fail to do so because Matthew has too consistently insisted on the necessity of bearing fruit. The Church will be faithful to its mission and election only if it welcomes the prophets whom God does not cease to send it, only if it practices the gospel of his Son, only if it remains faithful through everything. The vineyard song still resounds in today's Church: Master of the vineyard, do not reject the work of your hands." (Year of the Lord Vol.4 p.213)

May the warm embrace of our Christian community extend to the Causer and Warren Family's as we joyfully welcome Lyla and Jobe into our midst, showering them with love, and spiritual growth as they receive the sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

Parish Priest: Fr. Novelito Lim
Email: nlim@stmarysechuca.org.au

Parish Secretary: Colette Porter
Mobile: 0457 583 536

Admin Assistant: Marianne Kelly

Parish Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday : 9am - 1pm
St Mary's Parish Centre
224-230 Anstruther Street, Echuca
Ph: (03) 5482 1127

Email: admin@stmarysechuca.org.au

Website: www.stmarysechuca.org.au

Facebook: St Mary's Parish Echuca

Community Coordinator: Julie Moyle

Email: pcc@stmarysechuca.org.au

PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekend Mass Times:

Saturday: 6:00pm Mass
Sunday : 9:30am Mass
G'Day Weekend

Weekday Masses: 9th - 13th October

Wednesday: 12.00pm Mass (Church)
With St Mary's Children
Thursday: 9.00am Mass (Parish Centre)
Friday: 9.00am Mass (Church)
10.00am Aged Care Liturgy

Reconciliation: Approach Fr. Novie Before Mass
Baptism: Every Second Sunday of the Month
Weddings: By Appointment with the Parish Priest
Ladies' Group: Every Tuesday 2pm (Parish Centre)
Men's Group: Every Saturday 9am (Parish Centre)
Playgroup: Every Friday 9am (Parish Centre)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Yorta Yorta Nation. This land is sacred, this land is gift, this land is thousands of years old. We acknowledge the immense beauty of this land and the dreams of the Yorta-Yorta People. We pay our respects to elders past and present and acknowledge the lessons the Yorta-Yorta people teach us about care, respect and justice for mother earth. We remember their story as we journey together in a spirit of hope, justice and peace.

If you wish to assist in "further supporting the Parish" we offer different ways of giving... direct debit, credit card or planned giving envelopes. Please ring the office for more details.

PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS are as follows:

St Mary's Echuca
BSB Number: 083-543
Account Number: 45-782-9206

Child Safety: Through our policies and practices, we protect the right of children to feel safe and to be safe. We promote the well-being and inclusion of all children. For more information, contact the parish office and look for the Child Safety Officer Mel Slattery.

PARISH NEWS

Community Connect - 14th and 15th October 'Share the Dignity'

'Share the Dignity' is a national charity making a difference in the lives of women experiencing homelessness, domestic violence or simply doing it tough. The charity collects and distributes period products and other personal hygiene products. Items include – Shampoo and Conditioner, Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Deodorant, Soap and Period Products. A collection box will be available at Mass for the next couple of weeks. If you are able to donate, please note that all products collected locally are distributed to local women experiencing hardship. Feel free to call Julie Moyle on 0409 826336 if you have any questions or queries. Thank you.



sharethe**dignity**

Diocese of Sandhurst

Liturgical Ministry Seminars

- Our Lady's Church, Wangaratta Sth (Sat 14 Oct 2023, 10:30-2pm)
- St Brendan's Church, Shepparton (Wed 18 Oct 2023, 5:30-8:30pm)

Plenary Keynote Presentation

Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter *Desiderio Desideravi* (2022) on Liturgical Formation of the People of God invites renewed reflection on the preparation and celebration of the Church's liturgy. In this keynote address, Prof. Clare Johnson, Director of the ACU Centre for Liturgy will provide an overview of Pope Francis' letter and suggest some implications for liturgical ministries. This will be followed by a choice of 3 workshop options: 1. Ministry of the Word - Dr Chris Cotter; 2. Extraordinary Ministry of Holy Communion - Ms Lyn Breen; and 3. Ministry of Liturgical Music - Dr Paul Taylor; that will explore areas of affirmation, challenge and invitation in these ministries.



Professor Clare Johnson



Dr Paul Taylor



Dr Chris Cotter



Ms Lyn Breen

COMBINED FAMILY GROUP

LUNCHEON

DOOR
PRIZES

ALL PARISHIONERS MOST WELCOME

Where: FROMELLES
RSL

When: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22nd 2023

Time: 12.00pm

RSVP SUNDAY 15th OCTOBER

TO LEADERS IF IN FAMILY GROUP OR
OTHERWISE CARMEL 0417 164 669

PURCHASE OWN MEALS

Thank you for your prayers, love, support, food, cards and especially your prayers, we are so very grateful to the most amazing community St Mary's Echuca.

God blessed us abundantly when we arrived here to be greeted by you all.

Our heart felt thanks to each and everyone of you on the passing of our beloved Cam RIP.

In God's merciful care.

The Purdon Family. (Carol). ♥



RCIA Program Coordination Opportunity:

Our parish has a rich history of successful RCIA programs. We're currently seeking a dedicated volunteer to coordinate the RCIA program alongside Malia Black, to begin with. We aim to establish a dynamic team to support the program, regardless of annual candidate numbers, and to promote awareness. If you're interested in joining this team, please get in touch with Fr. Novie. We anticipate a positive response from our parish community. Thank you.



Hangabout Playgroup

9am - 10:15am Friday mornings during the school terms.

St Mary's Parish 224 Anstruther St Echuca
(enter via side gate).

Enjoy fun activities - craft, singing, story time, outdoor play with the kids and meet others.

Mums, Dads & Carers are all very welcome



Contact Mel Slattery 0417 822 589 if you require further details.

PARISH CALENDAR (October)

- 8th October**—St. Joe's (Brigid, Delany, Chisholm Houses)
Involved in Sunday Mass
- 11th October**—Liturgy Team Meeting
- 13th October**—Aged-Care Liturgy
- 14th & 15th October**—G'Day Weekend –Men's Ministry and Care for Creation Team
- 14th & 15th October**—Community Connect Share the Dignity
- 17th October**—St Joes Graduation Mass 5.00pm
- 17th & 18th**—Colette away Secretaries Conference
- 18th October**—Mass with St Mary's children 12.00pm
Liturgical Ministries Seminar 3.00pm
- 21st October**—St Joes Family Mass
- 22nd October**—Combined Family Groups Gathering
- 24th October**—Finance Meeting 4.30pm
- 28th October**—Testimony Saturday
- 29th October**—St Mary's Family Mass

Parishioners, we have a name for our Parish magazine!

We thank all Parishioners who contributed suggestions for our inaugural magazine. We particularly thank Carmel Mackenzie (and her family) for the suggestion of Revelations. *'As a Parish magazine it won't be gossip but it probably will be information from all the groups plus other points of Parish interest – revealed.'* Carmel Mackenzie

Again, thank you everyone and we look forward to the launch of our magazine at the Parish Christmas party on 10th December.

'Revelations'

ROSTERS: Next Week - 7th & 8th October

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Christine Sebire
Terry McKiterick, Kajini Karunanayake

9.30am: St. Joseph's Students
St. Joseph's Students

Ministers of the Eucharist

6.00pm: Nick Lee
9.30am: Erik Melad, Bernie Oliver

St Anne's Church Cleaner: 7th
Pat Sanderson, Bev Kenna

Setting up the Church: 7th Rose Quinn

Setting up the Church: 8th Julie Moyle

Baptism Preparation: Jacqui Deola

Counters: 9th Eileen Pineo, Lois Williams

Hospital Visiting: Barb Green

Gardening: John Zealley, Ken Hatfield, Alfred Grigg

ROSTERS: Next Week - 14th & 15th October

Commentators/Lectors:

6.00pm: Kristy Serpell
Doug Black, Carol Purdon

9.30am: Cecilia Merrigan
Rachel McAsey, Jarrod O'Brien

Ministers of the Eucharist

6.00pm: Bob Cooper
9.30am: Margaret Hart, Mel Slattery

St Anne's Church Cleaner: 14th
Eileen Roberts, Tania Dixon

Setting up the Church: 14th Mary Atkins

Setting up the Church: 15th Rod Chisholm

Baptism Preparation: Jacqui Deola

Counters: 16th Brendan Shingles, Andrew Kennedy,
Peter Davey

Hospital Visiting: Jackie Delahunty

Gardening: John Zealley, Ken Hatfield, Alfred Grigg

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

Sick: Bruno Barbera, Pat Davey, Dan Carey, Howard Clark Jnr, Jayden Williams, Jodie Walton, Murry Perrett, John & Chloris Dignan, Beatrice Phillips, Anne Dodd, Patricia Vogele, Fred Molluso, Meredith (Maddick) Ryan, Peter Phillips, David Baker, Stephen Baker, Monica Beckwith, Julio and Nati Acebron.

Anniversaries: Magno Alcanzia, Roseanne Taylor, Greg Pollock, Kelvin Webb, Vanessa Makoni, Charles Hodson, Dorothy Carter, Bill Vagg, Jack Shearer, Tom Henderson, Stella Moore, Tom Arnold, Jack Stanley, Lissa Bosse.

Deaths: Mary Sanderson, Gomer Oliver (Tommy's brother)

First Reading Isaiah 5:1-7**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard.
 My friend has a vineyard on a fertile hillside.
 He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it.
 In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too.
 He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave.
 And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah,
 I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me.
 What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done?
 I expected it to yield grapes.
 Why did it yield sour grapes instead?
 Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.
 I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn.
 I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it.
 Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant.
 He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The word of the Lord.**Thanks be to God.****Responsorial Psalm** Ps 79:9, 12-16, 19-20**R. The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.**

You brought a vine out of Egypt;
 to plant it you drove out the nations.
 It stretched out its branches to the sea,
 to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **R.**
 Then why have you broken down its walls?
 It is plucked by all who pass by.
 It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
 devoured by the beasts of the field. **R.**
 God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
 look down from heaven and see.
 Visit this vine and protect it,
 the vine your right hand has planted. **R.**
 And we shall never forsake you again:
 give us life that we may call upon your name.
 God of hosts, bring us back;
 let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **R.**

Next week: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)**14th & 15th October Year A****1st Reading: Isaiah 25:6-10****Responsorial Psalm: 22****2nd Reading: Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20****Gospel: Matthew 22:1-10****Second Reading** Philippians 4:6-9**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians**

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.**Gospel Acclamation****Alleluia, alleluia!**

I call you friends, says the Lord,
 because I have made known to you
 everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 21:33-43**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.'
 ' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see?
 'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

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