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| ***Immaculate Conception Parish***  P O BOX 600 Tumut  Catholic Community  Collection amounts for January 2016 ~PARISH NEWS~  ~ PARISH NEWS ~  **~ GOSPEL REFLECTION ~** |

The first of the parables in today’s gospel reading has no parallel in the other gospels. It compares God’s kingdom to a trusting sower who scatters the seed by day, sleeps by night, and simply observes the “earth produce of itself” until it is time to harvest the grain. The sower’s actions of scattering, sleeping, rising, and going in with his sickle are paralleled by his “not-knowing how” the seed is transformed into grain. We may, in our times, have a more sophisticated understanding of the process of growth. We have no less reason to stand in awe at the wonder of it all.

In an era of urbanization, supermarket chains, and online shopping even for groceries, we can easily lose sight of the source of food and the miracle of food production. This little parable serves as a reminder of the goodness of the earth and of the God who sustains our planetary home. It inspires us to contemplate the myriad ways in which the earth speaks to us of God and God’s empire or kin-dom. At another level, we might question how the sower’s actions and attitudes provide an image of God’s reign. Is it in the sower’s trusting that all will be well while “not-knowing”? Is it in the observation that the grain is ripe for the harvest? Is it in the prompt action to bring in the harvest? Parables are meant to tease their hearers/readers. They remain open-ended and challenging.

The second parable is probably familiar to most of us as it appears in all three synoptic gospels. Matthew and Luke both parallel the mustard seed parable with a parable about a woman mixing yeast into flour. Mark, in contrast, juxtaposes his mustard seed parable with that of the trusting sower. Mustard seeds were tiny, although they were not the smallest of seeds and have never been known to become the largest of shrubs. The idea that God's reign provides shelter for the birds to make their nests is a challenging one at a time when so many species are becoming extinct precisely because their habitats are being destroyed by human activity. Some scholars have pointed out that the mustard seed was a weed. To compare God’s reign with a weed may have raised a smile or two. It would certainly have exercised the minds of Jesus’ audience. Maybe Jesus’ disciples were in need of encouragement even in the early stages of the Galilean ministry. Maybe the curious and hostile were in need of a reminder to take this movement seriously, for extraordinary things can come from the most inauspicious beginnings. *An excerpt by Sr. Veronica Lawson*



**‘CLERGY’**

* **Fr. Sijo Jose (Parish Priest)**
* **Fr. George Ogah (Assistant Priest)**

**‘PARISH SECRETARY’**

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**Saturday Vigil: 6.pm**

**Sunday: 10am**

**Talbingo Sunday: 8.am**

**‘THIS WEEKS MASS TIMES’**

**Tuesday: 6pm in Chapel**

**Wednesday: 10am (School Mass)**

**Thursday & Friday: 8am in Chapel**

**Saturday: 9am (every fortnight – Thursday: 11am BUPA Liturgy Saturday: 9.40am BLAKENEY LODGE Liturgy)**

**‘ROSARY’**

**Saturday at 8.45am Exposition at 8.30asm (1st Sat of month)**

**‘RECONCILIATION’**

**Saturday at 5.15pm**

**‘LITURGY MEETING’**

**Tuesday: 2.00pm in Chapel**

**‘PRAYER GROUP’**

**(Rosary & Divine Mercy)**

**Wednesday: 2.00pm in Chapel**

**‘CONTACTS’**

**Care Group: Anne Huebner 69473406**

**11th Sunday Ordinary Time Year B**

**June 17th 2018**

***Entrance Antiphon***

**O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!**

***Gospel Acclamation***

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

***Responsorial Psalm***

**Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.**

***Gospel Acclamation***

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Alleluia, alleluia! Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed; the Saviour of the world will be our king. Alleluia!

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| T THIS WEEK Saturday & Sunday 16th & 17th June | | | |
| Ministry | Saturday Vigil 6pm | Sunday 10am | |
| Acolyte | Barry Madigan | Dave Shedden | |
| Reader | Liz Boxall | Kirsty Beavan | |
| Commentator | Patricia Wilks | Cathy Purcell | |
| Children’s Liturgy | ---------- | Caitlin Larter | |
| Musicians | Patricia & Monica | Anna Quinn | |
| Altar Servers | Gabbi & Maggi Dalisay | Chloe Turnbull & Lily Webb | |
| Church Care  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  LINEN Maria Cobden | ---------------------------------------- | | |
| NEXT WEEK Saturday & Sunday 23rd & 24th June | | | |
| Ministry | Vigil 6pm | | 10am |
| Acolyte | Peter Malone | | Trish Matthews |
| Reader | Confirmation | | Rodney Little |
| Commentator | Confirmation | | Jo Little |
| Children’s Liturgy | ---------- | | Pat Spannagle |
| Musicians | Anna Quinn | | Patricia & Monica |
| Altar Servers | Annabelle Sturgess & Genevieve Mason-Elliott | | Jude Moreno & Hunter Styles |
| Church Care | Group 1: Claire, Anne Hickson & Bev | | |

Feast Day**Wishing all our wonderful dads a Happy In m FEAST DAYS 21st June: Saint Aloysius Gonzaga 22nd June: Sts. John Fisher & Thomas More**

R O S T E R S

**Children are a gift. Each one is unique and unrepeatable, and at the same time unmistakably linked to his or her roots.**

***(Pope Francis)***

**~PARISH NEWS ~**

**CHURCH CARE** we are in urgent need of 2 or more volunteers to assist in the cleaning of the church, you will only be required every 8 weeks, if you can help please contact Anna at the presbytery. **CONFIRMATION MASS** will be celebrated at our Vigil Mass next weekend. We pray for all the candidates and their families. **CATHOLIC VOICE** your June edition is ready for pick up. **WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK** all Acolytes and Special Ministers are required to obtain a volunteer certificate. Could you please attend to this matter asap. If you have one, please bring it into the presbyteryso it can becopied and forwarded to Canberra**. MANY THANKS** this weekend to our faithful MUSICIANS

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**We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith especially:**

**RECENTLY DECEASED: Brian Rosetta & Kenneth Symons**

**MASS HAS BEEN REQUESTED FOR:**

Paul Kelly, Sr. Valerian, Pat Malone, Joan Malone, Frank Delany, Ken & Brian Gee, Mazx Butler, Imelda, Bede & Francis McInerney, Cecilia Haddah, John Hourigan, Russell & Peter Ritchie, Kerry Letts, Filomena Comai, Eileen Creighton, Muriel Maidwell, Thomas Maidwell, Margaret Anne Reardon, Steph Scott, Peter Bush, Alan Guthrie, Jim McInerney, Kath Stuckey, Iris Stuckey, Minnie Murphy, Alfred & Bridget Claffey, John Marzol, Joan & Pat Cronmy, Sean Gordon, Maureen Ashleigh, Kade Adams, Tom Sturt, Winifred Whitacker, Edward,Mary & Clem Malone, Pat Malone, Hickson & O’Sullivan families, Colleen Anderson, Reg & Mary Madigan, Matt Downing, Wilkinson & Downing families, Frank Stanfield, Peter Heffernan, Tim & Amy Twomey, Barbara Fuller, Tom & Merle Arentz, Harriet & Ruben Arentz, Kevin & Nola Arentz, Dulcie & Arthur Piper, Marie & Ray Cowan, Kevin Cowan, Kevin Hawthorne, Natalie Baker, Ian Barbour, Fr. Peter Quirk, Con & Ennis Twomey, Mons.John Twomey, Sr. M. Brenda Twomey, Sr. M. Canice O’Sullivan, Sr. M. Celine McCormack, Bert & Teresa Butler, Anne Lawrance, Joan & Bob Liddell, Mary & William Claffey, Ruby Harmer, Hassel & Joy McGrath, Noel Cook, Family members & relatives of Tran family, Frederick & Mabel McInerney, James Kelly, Tom & Dorothy French.

**‘We are the works of God’s hands, but we are also God’s hands at work’ *Flor McCarthy SDB***

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