



He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables
and expound things hidden since the
foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Shorter form 13:24-30.

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THE COMMUNITY DOES NOT WEED OUT THE WEEDS

Today's Gospel is taken from the world of Galilean farmers. Galilee, where Jesus grew up, was almost entirely covered with carefully tended fields, in contrast to the desert areas of Judea where herds of animals were more common. The parable of the Wheat and the Darnel (Weed) is rooted in nature and in the behaviour of people. Darnel is a poisonous plant often found in wheat fields. The 'enemy' who sows darnel would be a jealous neighbour. Jesus uses this situation to describe how people living in the kingdom of God should behave. The critical point of the parable is the householder's decision to let the darnel and wheat grow together.

By this parable, Jesus tells his disciples that the harvest is assured; the wheat will ripen as the owner intends. It is the same with the mission of Jesus. Whatever damage people may cause, nothing can defeat this mission, not even the wiles of the devil (the 'enemy' in the parable). But co-existence is not the final stage. At the harvest, the wheat (the righteous) are gathered into the owner's barn; while the weeds (the children of the evil one) are used for fuel. 'Burning' symbolises their bad end.

At the start of the Jubilee Year of Mercy Pope Francis said in his homily: 'Here, then, is the reason for the Jubilee: because this is the time for mercy. It is the favourable time to heal wounds, a time not to be weary of meeting all those who are waiting to see and to touch with their hands the signs of the closeness of God, a time to offer everyone, everyone, the way of forgiveness and reconciliation.'

Who knows, with the grace of God and the patience of the community, the 'weeds' may eventually turn into wheat?

FIRST READING

Wis 12:13, 16-19

A reading from the book of Wisdom

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, / to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. / Your justice has its source in strength, / your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. / You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned / and you expose the insolence of those who know it; / but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, / you govern us with great lenience, / for you have only to will, and your power is there. / By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people / how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, / and you have given your sons the good hope / that after sin you will grant repentance.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16. R. v. 5

R. Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, / full of love to all who call. / Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer / and attend to the sound of my voice. **R.**

2. All the nations shall come to adore you / and glorify your name, O Lord: / for you are great and do marvellous deeds, / you who alone are God. **R.**

3. But you, God of mercy and compassion, / slow to anger, O Lord, / abounding in love and truth, / turn and take pity on me. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 8:26-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts



knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. 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

Mt 13:24-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Let them grow together until the harvest.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this," he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.'"

St Clement of Rome Church

Address: Egan Drive, Bulleen 3105 - **Phone:** 9850 3262, **Fax:** 9850 2550
Email: bulleen@cam.org.au, **Web:** www.stclementsparishbulleen.org.au
Office Hours: Monday—Friday 9:00am-3:00pm



Parish Priest : Monsignor Franco Cavarra (Parish Office 9850 3262) or (Presbytery 9850 6073)
Italian Chaplain: Fr Vito Pegolo (0419 736 890), **School Principal:** Mr Michael Heenan (9850 1216)
Pastoral Associate: Cecilia Tan (9850 3262), **Parish Secretary:** Bernadine De Silva (9850 3262)
Communion to the Sick: Trish Atherton (9850 2746) **Clifton Centre:** Mary Hansen (9850 1860)
St Vincent de Paul Helpline (1800 305 330)



Congratulations & Welcome to God's Family at St Clement's Parish
Alannah Bello baptised this weekend.

Sacramental Program 2017

Applications for 2018 now being accepted. Forms can be downloaded from the parish website.

CONFIRMATION :

Day of Reflection : Wed 26th July from 9am—3pm
Confession : Sat 29th July after 9.15am Mass
Rehearsal & Archbishop's Talk : Tue 1st Aug from 9am—12noon
Confirmation: Sun 6 August, 2017 @ 2.30pm at St. Patrick's Cathedral

FIRST EUCHARIST FOR THE CHILDREN ATTENDING STATE SCHOOLS

Reconciliation before First Communion: Saturday 23 September 2017 @ 10.00am
 First Communion for After School RE children: Saturday 23 September 2017 @ 5.30pm

The fee to cover all administrative and resource cost is \$150 per sacrament per child. Fees payable on enrolment through the Parish Office. Please see Bernadine who is in charge of accounts. Enrolment forms can be downloaded from the website or collected from the Parish Office. All enrolment forms must be completed and submitted by the last date for enrolment.

EXPERIENCE TAÍZÉ

Friday, 28 July, 6pm-7pm at St Pius X Church Come and experience this calming, quieting, welcome respite from the hustle and bustle of life.... All are welcome! Light supper after prayer will be provided.

ASSISTED SUICIDE/EUTHANASIA PETITION

Stage Two of the Melbourne Archdiocese's strategy to oppose the proposed legislation was carried out last weekend with parishioners putting their names to petitions to be given to our local members. "All up", 385 names were collected on the six petitions.

This was a great result and parishioners who took the time to write their names on the petitions are congratulated. The petitions were hand delivered to the members' offices on Wednesday, 19 July 2017.

Stage three of the Archdiocese's strategy at St Clement of Rome will take place over the weekend of 12/13 August 2017. This stage will involve parishioners writing letters to each of the six members and having those letters hand delivered to the parliamentarians' post boxes at Parliament House. Prompt sheets with points to address and the parliamentarians' addresses will be provided. These letters will have to be returned to the Church over the weekend of 19/20 August so they can be taken to Parliament House early the following week.

Together, we parishioners of St Clement of Rome, can make a difference.

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS

Mass Times: Sat 5:30pm (*Vigil*), Sun - 9am, 11am (*Italian*) & 6pm (*Maronite Community Mass*)

Tues 9:15am (*Italian*), Wed-Sat 9:15am. **Eucharistic Adoration:** Tues-Fri 8-9am (in the Chapel)

Reconciliation: Sat 10am (and on request). **Marian Devotions:** Sat 8.40am.

Baptisms: Welcoming (3rd weekend) & Baptism (4th weekend) every month. **Weddings:** By Appointment.

Recently Deceased : Jaroslav Prib

Death Anniversaries : Stephen Leong

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace. Amen

PARISH DIARY

Tue 25th July @ 4.30pm—Eucharist Classes in the Clifton Centre.
 Tue 25th July @ 7pm—Child Safety Meeting in the Parish Office.
 Wed 26th July @ 9.15am—Day of Reflection (Confirmation).
 Sat 29th July @ 10am—Hope Ministry in the Parish Office.
 Tue 1st Aug @ 10am—12pm—Confirmation Rehearsal at the Cathedral.
 Tue 1st Aug @ 4.30pm—Eucharist Classes in the Clifton Centre.

Collections Last Weekend
1st Collection (Thanksgiving)
 Actual — 2,008
2nd Collection (Presbytery)
 Actual — 981
Many thanks & every Blessing!

Next Film - "The Red Turtle" at Family Care Sisters

This beautifully animated film is a superb visual first collaboration between Dutch animator/ director Michael Dudok de Wit and the famous Japanese Studio Ghibli. A man is shipwrecked on a desert island and must face the challenges of nature and survival, initially alone. His story is simple, yet poignant, becoming more mysterious, meditative and profound as life's milestones are expressed in the cycle of birth, death and rebirth. There is no dialogue in this film, which allows for the subtle influence of the visual images, silence together with natural soundscape and film score. This film quietly asks big questions about ambition, acceptance, the beauty of companionship, love and death.

Where: Family Care Sisters. 69 Alto Ave. Croydon
 When: Wed. 15th August 2017
 Time: 9.50am – 3pm. BYO Lunch. M/Tea, Tea/Coffee provided.
 Cost: \$25
 Bookings: Ring 9723 6797

The Yarra Deanery of Catholic Churches is offering Training in Mental Health For those who take Holy Communion to the Sick and Elderly



Many of those who take Holy Communion to the sick and elderly can be faced with challenging mental health issues.

This course teaches an awareness for adults in how to best deal with such challenges. The neighbouring parishes in the Yarra Deanery – the parishes in Bulleen, Doncaster, Doncaster East, Donvale, Heidelberg, Heidelberg West, Ivanhoe and Templestowe - recognise a duty of care to the wonderful volunteers who support the sick and elderly and take our most precious gift to them.

This course runs over two nights, for two hours each night. Hand-outs will be provided. The number of participants is limited to a maximum of 15. The course will cover anxiety, depression, paranoia and issues related to cognitive decline such as dementia and advanced Parkinson's.

When: 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm on Thursdays 10 and 17 August 2017.

Where: St Kevin's Catholic Church, 26-44 Herlihy Road, Lower Templestowe, 3107.

Instructor: Bill Spawton, Mental Health Nurse. Bill has been an instructor to the instructors in mental health first aid training.

Cost: Nil to participants.

Registration is essential. If you are interested in attending this course please contact: Garry Nolan via email on: min.gn@bigpond.com

Liturgy Roster

	Sat 5.30pm	Sun 9am
22/23 July	<i>Sacristan</i> Elroy De Witt	Francis & Gloria Ng
	<i>COMMENTATOR</i> Jacinta De La Cruz	Jim Cowhey
	<i>Reader</i> Rene De La Cruz	Sylvie Duff
	<i>Special Ministers</i> Enza Wilcox	David Mitchell
	Warwick Wright	Pam Mitchell
	John Bruce	Maria Papalia
		Elsa Waters
		Chris Zordan
		Trish Atherton
		Grace Canatelli

29/30 July	<i>Sacristan</i> John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	<i>COMMENTATOR</i> Rene De La Cruz	Mark Gregor
	<i>Reader</i> Paul Sammut	Rocco Gagliardi
	<i>Special Ministers</i> Linda Cultrera	Anne Fusca
	Rene De La Cruz	Rita Gagliardi
	Elroy De Witt	Fulvia Gerasolimo
		Gabriella Grande
		Eleanora Mascitti
		Sylvia Mascitti
		David Mitchell

Youth Group News!!!

Our next youth gathering here at St Clement of Rome will be held on Friday 18th August from 6.00pm—8.30pm in the Clifton Centre. All youth from grade 5 and up are all welcome to attend. Please register by Tuesday 15th August to secure your place.

Email : lindacultrera@gmail.com or Mobile : 0412 411 731.
 Looking forward to catching up with everyone.

Firm Foundation Youth Group Team

DOMINICAN FRIARS VOCATIONS DAY

Saturday 29 July, 9am-4pm

St Dominic's Church and Priory, 816 Riversdale Road, Camberwell

Young men aged 17 to 36 who may be interested in the religious life, particularly the Dominican charism, are invited to a vocations discernment day. The day will include Mass, Eucharistic adoration, talks, and a tour of the church, the priory and the library. Lunch too!

Cost: Free

Details and RSVP (for catering): Fr Thomas at vocations@op.org.au by Saturday 22 July