



Holy Spirit Catholic Parish

93 Burdekin Ave, Amaroo ACT and 220 Victoria St, Hall ACT
Supporting and supported by Holy Spirit, Good Shepherd,
Mother Teresa Primary Schools and St John Paul II College

22-23 July 2023

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year A



Holy Spirit Amaroo

Monday

No Mass
Office closed

Tuesday

9:15am Mass

Wednesday

9:15am Mass
6:00pm Holy Hour and
Reconciliation

Thursday

9:15am Mass

Friday

7:00am Mass
12:00pm Mass

Saturday

4:15pm Reconciliation
5:00pm Mass

Sunday

8:00am Mass
9:30am Mass
5:00pm Mass

Might and Mercy

(Matthew 13: 24 - 43)

Just as power is used for good or harm, not all seeds are created equal. Jesus tells a story of good seed and bad, and how they grow up together in the harvest of the world. We experience this reality in the contents of our own hearts. We have wonderful, generous impulses; and also cruel, petty thoughts. We may be heroic in our love one day, and selfish the next. We forgive and withhold forgiveness. Our fields are waist-high in grain and thistles.

No wonder that good and bad grow up together in families; parishes are a mixture of charity and snobbery; politics is full of high-minded ideals and crude scandal. If we were surprised when nice people do things that are not nice, we have to look no further than this parable for the reason. Reasons are not excuses, of course. Jesus says even a tiny seed of good can create immense goodness. A bit of yeast makes the whole dough rise. The existence of evil is no reason to view it as inevitable. If I find within myself both good and evil, I have a responsibility to grow the grain and invite the Spirit to uproot the thistle in me.

Pray

God of dreams and visions, we enter into moments of stillness and feel your presence. Through relationships – our relationships with you and with others – we know that you are constantly with us. We thank you for your many gifts to us, but especially for the gifts of being named, known, and cherished by you. Amen.

Ponder

Try “preventative” and “punitive” justice. Give people a break: forgive and show mercy before it’s deserved. Be kind when kindness isn’t returned. Try patience instead of irritation. Plant a good seed in every encounter. “Are you listening to this? Really listening?”

Kids' Corner

Have you ever seen a seed when it first sprouts? So tiny and tender! But sometimes a weed pops up nearby. If you try to pull it, you might hurt that little seedling too. Sometimes it’s best to leave the weed alone until the seedling is stronger. In the parable, Jesus is telling us that sin can be all around us. It’s not going to go away. We are all tempted – even Jesus was tempted. But if we put our trust in Jesus and nothing else, we don’t have to worry about what happens around us. We will grow strong in Jesus’ love.

Jesus, keep me close to you always. Amen.

- www.gpbs.com.au



St Francis Xavier Hall

Sunday Mass

8:30am
2nd and 4th Sunday of
each month

Prayer Requests—for World Youth Day Pilgrims to take to Portugal and pray for you.



All parishioners are invited to write down their prayer requests on cards provided in the foyer for our pilgrims to take to World Youth Day and pray. It is a great way to keep our pilgrims connected to our parish and think about home while they are away!

This Weekend's Readings: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19, Romans 8:26-27, Matthew 13:24-43

Upcoming Events

- * **Sunday 30 July 3.30-4.45pm | True Life in God (TLIG) Prayer Meeting** (Prayer & Fellowship). Bring your rosary beads. For further information on the True Life of God Messages visit the Parish website. Contact: Tom Kalliath: 0434 689 957 or Tony Cassar: 0497 804 676
- * **Morning Beans for Young Adults will return on Friday 18 August at 7:30am-9:00am** - Blossoms Café Ngunnawal
- * **Saturday 26 August at 7:00pm | Parish Family Games Night**
Save the date! Tickets to go on sale soon.
- * **8-15 October | Parish 30th Anniversary Celebrations**
Save the date for this week long celebration of various events.

Becoming Catholic



Interested in finding out about the Catholic faith or interested in becoming a Catholic?

If you, or anyone you know, would like to become a Catholic or to simply learn more about the Catholic faith, this process is a good place to start.

An introduction evening will be held in the Parish rooms on **9 August 2023 at 7pm**.

If you would like to find out more about the program, please see Fr Troy or Fr Eden or contact Theivani on theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

GRANDPARENTS

"If you are lucky enough to still have grandparents, visit them, cherish them and celebrate them while you can."

Grandparents, with their gentle presence and heartfelt advice, hold a special place in our hearts. They are a family's greatest treasure and the family's strong foundation. They can pass on important family traditions and life stories that a grandchild will not only relish when young but will grow to appreciate even more over time.

Grandparents have a magical ability to create a safe and nurturing space where their grandchildren feel cherished and accepted. In their embrace, grandchildren find comfort and understanding as they offer a listening ear, a shoulder to cry on and a wealth of wisdom from a lifetime of experiences. Loving grandparents celebrate the smallest achievements and shower their grandchildren with endless pride and encouragement. They instill a sense of belonging and self-worth, which builds confidence and resilience.

Grandparents provide an unwavering support system, empowering their grandchildren to dream big and reach for the stars. The love of a grandparent is immeasurable.

"Dear God, bless our cherished grandparents with love, health and happiness. Thank you for the wisdom, care and unconditional love they bring into our lives. May our time together be filled with joy and precious memories. Amen."

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Please keep the following individuals in prayer.....



For those who are sick

Jim Banks
Dorrell Hogan
Alan Demascus
Kathy Morris
Elisabeth Faith O'Connell
Caitlin Wigglesworth
Kwang Hui Lim
Grant
Maria Therese Cummins
Gail
Peter Knight
Elizabeth
Adriano Cesar Junior
Maria Teresa Meireles
Theresa and Joseph Tan
Cyril Jolicoeur
Jan Morris
Bill Honess
Ghylianne Chelmiah
Mon
Tony Johnston
Brianna Alter
Joyceline Radjam
Dylan Smith
Jason Yeh

Recently Deceased

Kristian Metcalf
Mate Babic

Anniversaries

Lazarus Motha
Kevin Norton

We include those who are members of our Parish or relatives. Please email the parish office or click here to request prayers.

[Prayer Requests](#)

Youth Group Next date!

Sunday 20 August 2023
from 5pm-7pm.

The Youth Group will start with the 5pm Mass followed by a gathering afterwards.

Invitation to Become A Mentor

You are invited to express an interest to become a RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) mentor.

A mentor serves as a guide and example to someone seeking to become Catholic by accompanying them in friendship and with prayer, the mentor introduces the person to how Catholics live and practice our faith. The primary role of a mentor is to offer a welcoming spirit by:

- ◆ Inviting the candidate to sit with you and your family at Mass
- ◆ Showing them around the parish
- ◆ Introduce them to your parishioner friends
- ◆ Encourage them to get involved in ministry and parish life such as morning teas, events etc.

Mentors are not expected to have theological knowledge to provide the candidate with any teachings.

Mentors will be paired with someone who has expressed an interested in becoming Catholic at our Parish.

No prior training or experience required as mentors will receive ongoing support and formation from Fr Troy.

Who can be a mentor?

- ◆ Anyone who has been fully initiated in the Catholic Church; and be a practicing and participating member of the parish community.
- ◆ Singles, Young Adults, Couples, Seniors or Families are all invited.

Information session for Mentors:

An information session will be held **on Wednesday 16 August 2023 at 7:00pm** at the parish office for all who would like to become a mentor.

For more information, please contact theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

FAMILY Games Night

7:00PM - 9:30PM
SATURDAY 26 AUGUST
HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH & GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL HALL
93 BURDEKIN AVENUE, AMAROO

TRIVIA ROUNDS!
PRIZES FOR BEST THEMED TABLE GAMES FOR KIDS AND ADULTS
SAUSAGE SIZZLE

\$10 per person
Gold Coin Entry for under 12 years old

FIND OUT MORE @ WWW.HOLYSPIRITGUNGAHLIN.ORG.AU

HELP US WITH OUR GAMES NIGHT

We are seeking donations for our prizes for adults and children. Please bring these along to Mass or you can drop them off at the parish office.

We are happy to receive any of the following:

- Wines
- Boxed Chocolates
- Gift Vouchers
- Small Toys or Games
- Colouring Pencils/Crayons and Colouring Books
- Pre-packed gift hampers (non-perishable)
- Money for us to purchase prizes



We also need volunteers to help us run a few things. If you would like to be involved, please contact Theivani: theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au or 0472921518.

Gospel Reflection

At first glance today's gospel seems to draw a clear distinction between the wheat as the good crop and the darnel as the bad crop. The darnel was sown by the enemy while everybody was asleep. It was regarded as a toxic crop to be weeded out.

Darnel has an intoxicating effect, if consumed. In fact, its official name, "Lolium temulentum", comes from a Latin word for "drunk." In contrast, wheat is described as the good seed which sprouted and ripened. Indeed, Jesus describes it as a metaphor for his own self-giving love: that "unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit" (John 12:24).

Yet, if the darnel is indeed the bad crop, we might well ask ourselves why the farmer has decided to let both crops grow till the harvest? The answer to that question is that this parable, like all parables, reveals surprising truths about aspects of God. In this instance, it describes the mercy and love of God. Here, God is not a ruthless farmer who is targeting the darnel. Rather, God allows both wheat and darnel to grow to the harvest. Each and everyone has the opportunity to return God.

The Dominican theologian Herbert McCabe explains that we should not be deluded into thinking that, if you are sorry for your sins, God will come and forgive you, that he will be touched by your appeal, change his mind about you and forgive you. McCabe would have us understand that the truth is, instead, that God never changes his mind about you.

God is simply in love with you. What he does again and again is change your mind about him. You are not forgiven because you confess your sins. You come to celebrate that your sins are forgiven.

Today's psalm describes God's mercy and compassion. It speaks of a God who is "abounding in love and truth" (Psalm 85:15). John Duns Scotus, the 13th century Franciscan theologian, similarly believed that God did not enter human history because Adam and Eve had sinned; rather, God became man because he loved humanity so much, he desired to be one with us.

In the midst of our struggles, God takes the initiative and draws near to us. The second reading describes how "the Spirit comes to help us on 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" (Romans 8:26).

We are called to an awareness that God loves us immensely and to respond to God's love and fulfil our destiny as flourishing beings, nourished in the rich soil of God's compassion and mercy.

Sophie Clements

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3rd World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly

On Sunday July 23 we celebrate the 3rd World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly. The date is chosen to coincide with the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne (grandparents of Jesus) during the week. Pope Francis has chosen the theme "His mercy is from age to age" (Luke 1:50).

Prayer

Virgin Mary, Mother of faith and hope, an example for this humanity bent by indifference, make me as willing as You to accept the will of God, to magnify and praise His Mercy. Mary, Mother of fortitude, you who knows my heart, do not allow me to become discouraged. I confidently surrender my life into your hands.

Heal my wounds. May your tenderness accompany me on the way. Your presence, Mother of love, brings us to experience the joy of seeing our families united. Help me to transmit the tenderness and Love of God to the grandchildren and youth so that, in addition to praying for them, we can pray with them. Mary, may the gift of the Holy Spirit intercede for me: sustain my weakness; breathe into my heart the consolation that I may leave traces of faith among the young, bearing witness to the beauty of life, knowing that life has a limit and that beyond it lies before us our Father's embrace.

Amen.

COMMUNITY GARDEN COMPOSTING



FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SCRAPS

Would you like to help our community garden and at the same time send less of your household waste to landfill

IT'S NOT ALWAYS EASY TO FIND TIME

If you would like to be involved but don't have much time, you can drop off your fruit and vegetable scraps and place them in the marked compost bin



HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

Just collect your fruit and vegetable waste. It's best if pieces are small in size as this helps them to break down more quickly. No citrus or plastic fruit labels. Everything else is pretty good. We also take coffee grounds...



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Theivani in the parish office via email: theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au or Fiona via our Facebook Page Holy Spirit Parish Community Garden We may also create a WhatsApp group if there is interest.





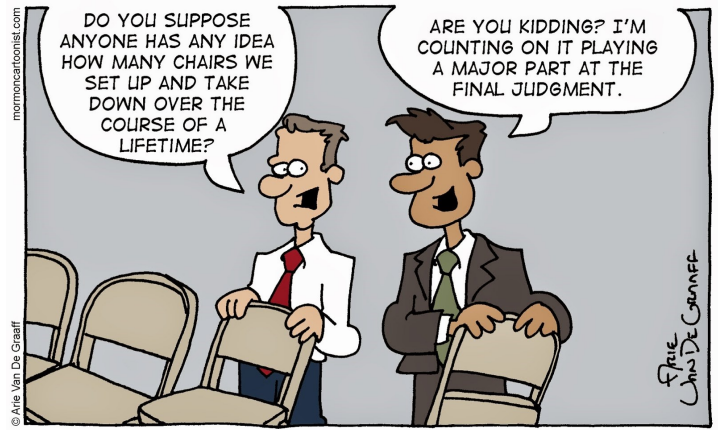
Ministry Rosters! We Need You!!

We are currently preparing our Mass Ministries roster for August. If you would like to sign up to any ministries, please complete the form below or contact the

parish office. We are particularly looking for people who can help at our Sunday 5pm Mass. If you would like to be a reader, Altar server, powerpoint operator, please [sign up here!](#)

Or contact Anne:

officesupport@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au



Chairs Set Up—Help Needed

We have recently lost a couple of members from our chairs team and we now have some vacancies! If you can spare an hour or so on a Saturday morning to help us set up chair, please contact the parish office to sign up.

WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

First Collection (Supporting all priests of the Archdiocese)

1. BSB: 062 786 Acc Number: 00029248 Acc Name: Central Presbytery Fund Ref: Gungahlin and Surname
2. Tap and Go machines or Qkr!

Second Collection (For the upkeep of our parish, staff salaries, parish loans, liturgical needs etc)

1. Click on <https://www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au/donations-payments/secure-online-payments/>
2. Direct Credit: BSB: 062 786 Acc Number: 00010701 Acc Name: Holy Spirit Parish
3. Tap and Go machines or Qkr!



CONNECT WITH US

Parish Priest: Fr Troy Bobbin

Assistant Priest: Fr Eden Langlands

Parish Office and Presbytery

93 Burdekin Ave, Amaroo Ph: 6242 9622

Website: www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Parish Manager: Theivani Evers

E: theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

P: 0472 921 518

Parish Secretary: Magda Baraniecki

E: office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Office Support: Anne Smart

E: officesupport@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Finance Officer/ Planned Giving: Tony Rose

E: gungahlin.finance@cg.org.au

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC): Sean Ryan

E: sean.ryan.cdss@gmail.com

Parish Groups

Craft Group | Beth Forshaw
Mondays 1:00pm Parish Office

St Vincent de Paul | Drazen Roginic President
P: 0401 669 301
E: Drazen.Roginic@vinnies.org.au

Call to Connect | Maureen Hilton
M: 0431 123 465

Holy Spirit Prayer Group | Kathy Torcasio 0401 920 028
Wednesdays at 7:30pm in the church

Social Justice Group | Peter Petersen
E: socialjustice.hsp@gmail.com

Legion of Mary | Grace Magbutay
E: office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Youth Ministry | Matthew Allen
E: youth@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Young Adult Ministry | Fr Eden Langlands
E: office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Care Group | Sonja Vocisano
P: 0438 699 591

Community Garden Group | Parish Office
E: theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Download our parish app: [Pocket Parish from App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).