



# St John Vianney's Catholic Parish

embracing the worshipping communities of  
Manly & Gumdale



## Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A 26<sup>th</sup> July 2020

### IN SEARCH OF TREASURE....

There is a story from the Desert Fathers about a young monk who asked one of the old monks why it was that so many people came out to the desert to seek God and yet most of them gave up after a short time and returned to their lives in the city. The old monk told him, "Last evening my dog saw a rabbit running for cover among the bushes of the desert and he began to chase the rabbit, barking loudly. Soon other dogs joined in the chase, barking and running. They ran a great distance and alerted many other dogs. Soon the wilderness was echoing the sounds of their pursuit but the chase went on into the night. After a little while, many of the dogs grew tired and dropped out. A few chased the rabbit until the night was nearly spent. By morning, only my dog continued the hunt. "Do you understand what I have told you?" the old man said. "No," replied the young monk. "It is simple," said the old monk, "my dog saw the rabbit."

In this weekend's Gospel Jesus tells a parable about a man who, one day in the market place, saw the pearl of great price. The merchant understood at once the value of the commodity before him and he sacrificed everything to obtain it. For much of the time, we are searching for false treasures, mainly money, status and pleasure. For much of the time we are locked into a past full of nostalgia or regrets, or focused on future desires, fears or anxieties. Meanwhile the present passes us by and the treasure is still not discovered and the really valuable pearl is never found.

Jesus wants us to know that the Kingdom of God is worth sacrificing all we have. He offers us God's Kingdom, a unique pearl of the greatest price. The "treasures" and "pearls" of everlasting value are the things of God. In order to attain such treasure, we must set aside our own interests, ambitions and agendas and thus free ourselves to embrace the lasting values of compassion, love and mercy of God which reconciles us to Himself. This parable also reminds us that the most precious things in life are to know God and to live according to the Gospel.

What the parables really teach us is that, when one discovers Jesus and His vision of life, everything else becomes secondary. That is what St. Paul meant when he said: "I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as refuse, in order that I may gain Christ" (Phil 3:8), and again "For me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Phil 2:21). To have a personal experience of Christ and personal relationship with Him – in other words, to have made Christ's view of life our own – is the most precious thing in the world.

Blessings,

*Fr. Dantus Thottathil.*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK:** Karen Booker, Michael Gibbings, Mary Schmidt, Joyce Starkey, Pat Wilson, Sandra Wilson, Maddie Bell, Sr Teresa Geraghty, Mary Forrester, Krystyna Kelly, Sheila Petersen, Richard Pook, Violet Maureen Phillips, Ash Dean, Dennis Patterson, Carmen Phairs, Irene Gavrila, Rosa Maria Santos, Dawn O'Sullivan, Leon and Roz Thomas, Maura Poots, Angela Geraghty, Hugo Callan, Joan Francis, Angela de Weger, Terry Coles, Margaret Brennan, Ted Chapman, Leslee O'Connell, Katherine Pickering, Stacie Stonier, Val Steeden, Mitchell Sweet

**For a name to be included in the 'Prayer for our Sick' list, the Privacy Act now requires the personal permission of the nominee or a close relative.**

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Albert Blackwood, Leonard Bourke, Frank & Eugene Clair, Raymond Connor, Oswald Copley, Isabella Devlin, James Dwan, Nancy Gleeson, Anne Henderson, Mervyn Iselin, Anne Keegan, Elizabeth Kinley, Sr Rose Lanigan, Rita Lloyd-Jones, Maureen Malone, Lesley McGregor, Mildred (Matie) Mattinson, Irene Milsom, Terry Morrison, Harold Nelson, John O'Donnell, Br Hilary (Chris) Peterson, John Ryan, Shirley Sibley, Merle Skinner, Baby Darcy Smith, Joseph Sorpassa, Monica Southern, Vittorio Stangherlin, Jack Still, Valma Tranter, Margaret Turpin, Mary Weis.

### Quote of the Day:

The best things in life are mostly beyond your eyesight. They're most often felt from the heart.

### PASTOR: Fr Dantus Thottathil MCBS

(email: [thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au))

### ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Fr Prem Rethnamony

Parish Secretary: Martina Latimer

Parish Office: Cnr Ernest and Kooralgin Sts, Manly, 4179

Postal Address: PO Box 5174 Manly QLD 4179

Office hours: 8:30am – 2:00pm Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri

Office Ph.: 3131 2610 (Birkdale 3822-2139) Presbytery Ph.: 3396 0742

[manly@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:manly@bne.catholic.net.au) [www.manlycatholicparish.org.au](http://www.manlycatholicparish.org.au)

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Les Sellwood (Chair), Joshua Walsh (Sec.), Bruce Corrie, Helen McNamara, Paola Nunez, Maria Jones, Pam Chapman, Julia McLean

**Archdiocesan Safeguarding Officer** for Manly is:

Les Sellwood: 0401 235 739

**STOPLINE Contact:** [A0B@stpline.com.au](mailto:A0B@stpline.com.au)

**This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws. A copy of the Child Safety and Protection of Vulnerable Adults policy is situated in the foyer of the church.**

### Mass Times

**Wednesday 9:00am** Rosary and Mass at St. John Vianney's Manly (no bookings necessary)

**Saturday 5:00pm** Vigil Mass at St. John Vianney's Manly

**Sunday 7:00am** Mass at St. Jude's in Gumdale

**Sunday 9:30am** Mass at St. John Vianney's Manly

**First Reading:** Kings 3:5, 7-12  
*You have asked for wisdom.*

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

Response: Lord, I love your commands.

**Second Reading:** Romans 8:28-30

*He predestined us to become true images of his Son.*

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

**Gospel:** Matthew 13:44-52

*He sells everything he owns and buys the field.*

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.'

Again, kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of times: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

Have you understood all this? They said: Yes. And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'



**Announcements**

**Planned giving Envelopes:**

The envelopes are available at the church entrance hall. Please find your name on the list next to the envelope boxes together with the respective envelop number.

**Columban Art Calendar:**

Please contact the Parish office if you are interested in the 2021 Columban Art Calendar. The calendar costs between \$8.18 and \$6.70, that will depend on the amount we order in.

**Support Our Parish:**

Account Name: Manly Parish BSB: 064786 Account Number: 006716002.

**Thank for you.**

**COVID-19 restrictions**

As outlined at the church notice board and in the sign in forms folder.

**Mass celebrations at St. John Vianney's:** Mass bookings can be made for the month of August.

To book please visit <https://www.trybooking.com/eventlist/sjv?embed=1>.

If you require assistance for bookings, please contact the parish office on 3131 2610 or email us at [manly@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:manly@bne.catholic.net.au)

**Mass Celebrations at St. Jude's:**

We are currently able to celebrate with **20** people in attendance with social distancing in place.

To book please contact: Helen McNamara via phone 0403 193 625 or e-mail: [Imac11@optusnet.com.au](mailto:Imac11@optusnet.com.au)

**STEWARDSHIP INSERTS**

**July 26, 2020**

**17th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*"We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his pur-pose."*  
(Romans 8:28)

Do you really trust God? Do you really believe that God will provide all that you need? Faith is a challenge for everyone at times. Putting our trust in God, in everything we do, in good times and in bad, means that God's plan for our lives may be quite different than what we planned. When one door closes, another one opens. Trust in God, His plan is always better.