



BURDEKIN GROUP OF PARISHES

WEEKLY BULLETIN

16th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A
23rd July 2023



Est. 1912

AYR
Sacred Heart

98 Edwards Street, Ayr
PO Box 206, Ayr, 4807

Est. 1952

CLARE
St. Joseph's

Nelson Street,
Clare, 4807

Est. 1941

GIRU
St. Joseph's

13 Church Street,
Giru, 4809

Est. 1926

HOME HILL
St. Colman's

62 Tenth Street,
Home Hill, 4806



burdekinparishes@tsv.catholic.org.au



www.tsv.catholic.org.au



St Colman's Parish
Home Hill



Sacred Heart Parish
Ayr

Fr. Manoj Mathew,
C.Ss.R.
Parish Administrator

Fr. Vitalis Oguh
Associate Priest

Arina Rada
Secretary

Office Hours: **9am-12 pm**
Monday to Friday



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God's Good Crop.

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

Dandelion 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 dandelion 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 dandelion. Rather, God allows both wheat and dandelion to grow to the harvest. Each and everyone has the opportunity to return to 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 / © Majellan Media 2023



St Francis
Primary School
Ph: 47832877



St Colman's
Primary School
Ph: 47822030



Burdekin Catholic
High School
Ph: 47832366



St Vincent
de Paul Society
Ph: 47833278

SCRIPTURE SCRUTINY

Wisdom 12: 13, 16 - 19

Romans 8: 26 - 27

Matthew 13: 24 - 43



The parable of the weeds continues the teaching of the Word through parables. All the readings have an understatement that God alone is our judge. Thank goodness he is kind and merciful.

Our first reading steps back from the retribution and violence common in the Old Testament and focuses on God's mercy and protection. Characteristics such as patience, tolerance and leniency are examples for his people and implies they should act with kindness towards others. The paradox of God's strength and power enacted through kindness, gentleness and mercy are not always obvious in our current state of national tensions.

This nature of God is reinforced in Paul's letter about prayer to the Romans and demonstrates how eager God is for their redemption. They are not confident about what prayer is; its format, posture, content (are we?). He tells them that the Spirit intercedes for them in prayer, interpreting their 'heart' to reveal their intentions to God. Under the Spirit's influence and in his presence, they can expect their relationship with God is maturing. This revelation must have been very encouraging.

The parable of the weeds (gospel) attempts to reveal the Word to disciples and anyone who would listen. We might hear, "Why does God allow this to happen?" and parables give us an insight into how God operates. This one pictures the enemy sowing weeds in the wheat in the

dark of night (a euphemism for evil), and highlights the subversive and cunning way it can go unnoticed until its effects are felt or seen. How do we feel about, 'Let them both grow'? We have to deal with this in our life with patience and trust and remember we are all a mixture of dark and light. Can experiencing 'dark' clarify for us what is 'light'?

As with the movement from 'Law' to 'Love', we learn that God judges intention, attitude and our nature. Perhaps warnings from this parable could include not judging others, that acting too soon can affect the 'wheat', and to remember what God deems important. How does this fit with society's problems today? Will God judge us as weeds or wheat?

Do we have difficulty discerning dark and light motivations and influences? Can we learn from experience? Are we aware of the weeds in our life? If we were planted in rich soil (last week), do we have an obligation to produce a harvest?

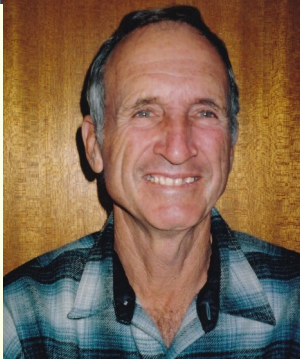
The two other parables simply show what incredible effects can be generated from such a small cause. In the face of persecution and rejection. Jesus wanted the disciples to know that every effort counts and not to give up. If we're to grow our church we're probably at that stage again.

Shane Baxter (This scrutiny is aided by research of Catholic commentary on-line)



Pray for the Sick, Please: Anne Barnett, Andrew Beltrame, Jaiden Booth, Jill Burke, Jeffrey Calligaro, Clare Clark, Kevin Crooks, Tom Devlin, Gert Drain, Sandra Falco, Harry Fewster, John Frasson, Tina Giarusso, Nathan Graham, Josie Lamari, Nardina Laspina, Vince Mahon, Joan McIntosh, Robert Marriott, Patrick Neville, Peter Newland, Mavis Paige, John Pattinson, Irma Pool, Bernadette Raabe, Joe Rigano, Sofia Rol, Thea Sheehan, Yvonne Shemlowski, Belinda Suito (Stubbs), Kellie Turner and all in the Aged Homes and Dementia ward.

CONGRATULATIONS



**Bruno Fabbro turned 79
this month**



**Carol Breen
celebrating her
80th birthday**



**The seminarians with Burdekin Mayor, Lyn
McLaughlin and Bishop Tim after the Confirma-
tion mass in Home Hill last Sunday.**



Bradley Davies and Grant Sutherland visited all three schools.

Thank you to the schools for the warm welcome given to them.

Upcoming Events

July		
Mon	24	Founders Day BCHS Mass at Marcelline Centre 9.30 am
Tue	25	St. James
Wed	26	Sts. Joachim and Anne
Thu	27	Training in Townsville, No Mass, Office Closed
Sat	29	Sts Martha, Mary and Lazarus
Tue	1	St. Alphonsus Liguori

Churches and Services

	Sacred Heart	St. Joseph's	St. Joseph's	St. Colman's
	AYR	CLARE	GIRU	HOME HILL
Monday	7.00 am			
Tuesday	5.30 pm			
Wednesday	9.00 am			6.30 am
Thursday	NO MASS			
Friday	7.00am			6.30 am
Saturday	6.00 pm	2nd&4th 6.00 pm		
Sunday	9.00 am 5.30 pm		7.00 am	7.00 am 6.00 pm

NEXT WEEKEND ROSTER

	Time	Commentator / Prayers of the Faithful	Readers	Ministers of the Eucharist	Music	Cleaners	Counters	Mowers
AYR	SAT 6:00pm	A Loro	M Arrate A Fabbro	G Roncato (H) A Bonato (GF) K Duggan (W)	Gloria, Kevin Joyce, Carol	R Diehm	B Smith	A Parravicini
	SUN 9:00am	L Holmes	M Russo B Edwards	R Rodrigo (H) M Castello (GF) B Edwards (W)	Monica Lee-Ann, Sue	M O'Shea	DITTO	R Glover
	SUN 5:30pm	L Bandiera	J Worlein L Sarri	E Montafia (H) M Zanella (GF) A DalleCorte (W)	Ann Maria Terry, Ruth	E Montafia M McLaughlin	DITTO	DITTO
Home Hill	SUN 7:00am	K Keys	R Santarossa L Jamieson	B McDowell	R Santarossa	G Vass J Zanella	S Murer	L Rigano R Pellizzari
	SUN 6:00pm	N Woods	K Scovazzi Z Scovazzi	-	-	C Rossato L McLaughlin	D Musumeci	R Liessman J Rinela



Legion of Mary (AYR):
Meeting every Monday at 9 am in Ayr



ADORATION IN AYR
ADORATION IN AYR ON TUESDAY 12 PM TO 4.45 PM
ADORATION ON WEDNESDAY AT 9.30—12 PM



PASTORAL CARE IN HOME HILL
A priest is available at St. Colman's parish office every Wednesday from 10 am to 12 pm. All are welcome



Confessions every Saturday at 11 to 11.30 am at the Sacred Heart Church Ayr

BAPTISMS:

AYR: 1st & 3rd Sundays - 10.30 am

HOME HILL: 2nd and 4th Sundays - 10.30 am.

BAPTISM FORMATION: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 9.00 am at the parish office for parents and godparents. Baptism forms available on the Parish website.

RECONCILIATION: **AYR:** Sacred Heart Church every Saturday from 11am-11.30am.

The Sacraments

CLARE: Before and after Sunday mass

GIRU: Before and after Sunday Mass

HOME HILL: Half an hour before or after Sunday mass

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME: Forms available on the Parishes website.

WEDDINGS—by appointment. Six months' notice required.

MESSAGE BOARD FOR ALL PARISHES

please

Please refrain from dipping the Host in the chalice: This has been brought to our attention that quite a few

people in our parishes are taking communion from the chalice by self-intinction, i.e., dipping their own Host into the chalice. This may seem hygienic to some people, but it also risks people's fingers going into the chalice. Therefore, please refrain from this. Ministers who distribute from the chalice are requested to gently place their hand over the cup if someone wants to intinct. Thank you.



UPCOMING PARISH MEETING:
PPC AYR: Thursday, 27th July, at 5.30 pm

THANK YOU FOR VISITING US



Bradley Davies and Grant Sutherland, the two seminarians, returned to their seminary after their seven days pastoral visits to the Burdekin. They visited all our churches, schools, aged homes, Vinnies, hospitals, some families, and restaurants. They had the opportunity of attending some of our meetings and celebrations. We wish them every success in their journey. Thank you, boys, for your presence among us and for sharing your love. Thank you also for telling us and especially our children your inspiring life stories.



Home Hill CWL: We ask for all your generous donations, either essential items or monetary, to be delivered by Wednesday the 26th July to Gloria 0458274426, Brenda 0407630070 or Grace 0427827190 as we want to be able to send these parcels of "HOPE" up to Townsville by the end of July. Thank you for your compassion and care. Next Home Hill CWL meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd August after the 9am School Mass. We invite all members to come early and say the Rosary before Mass. The agenda items include "Hope in a Suitcase" collation and preparing for the combined Ayr/Home Hill AGM to be held in Ayr on Sunday 20th August.



St. Colman's Parish Feast Day
Dinner in
October, 21st and Mass on 22nd.



There will be children's liturgy every Sunday at the 9am mass in Ayr, except during school holidays and on Sundays when we have youth mass in the evening. We highly appreciate the attendance of the children and the efforts of the parents and animators in this ministry. The kids enjoy it well. We encourage more parents to bring you children to this very effective spiritual formation. **NEXT YOUTH MASS: August 27th, BCHS/St Francis schools.**



Diocesan Training Day: Thursday 27th July there will be NO MASS. Parish office closed.

Next Mass in Clare: Saturday 12th August 6pm.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM AYR, 2023

Animators' training	Session 1	Saturday, 15th July, at 9-11 am at the parish office
Animators' training	Session 2	Saturday, 12th August, at 9-11 am at the parish office
Parent Formation/Enrolment Evening		Monday 21 st August, 6.30 – 7.45 pm at Parish Hall
Sessions: Reconciliation 1		30 th August, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Reconciliation 2		6 th September, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Celebration of Sacrament of Reconciliation		13 th September, 6.00 pm in Sacred Heart Church
Confirmation/Eucharist 1		4 th October, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Rite of Welcome		7 th and 8 th of October, at any of the three masses
Confirmation/Eucharist 2		11 th October, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Confirmation/Eucharist 3		18 th October, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Confirmation/Eucharist 4		25 th October, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Confirmation/Eucharist 5		1 st November, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Confirmation/Eucharist 6		8 th November, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Practice Session		<u>Monday</u> 13 th November, 6.00 pm at BCHS, Marcellin Centre.
Celebration of Sacraments		TBC at the Meeting: Weekend of 18-19 November
Thanksgiving Mass and Parish Celebration		26 th November, 09.00 am, S.H Church Ayr.



FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE EMAIL:

burdekinsacramental@tsv.catholic.org.au or call 47832316

Sacramental Team: Maria Johansen, Fiona Cardillo, Sonia Dabelstein, and Corinna Polga

NOTICE BOARD FOR ALL PARISHES

JOIN US FOR A

Grandparents Day Mass

**SAT & SUN
22 & 23 JULY**

All the masses in Ayr, Clare, Giru and Home Hill.

Let's celebrate Grandparents!

Invite your grandparents and great grandparents to receive a special blessing at the mass.



facebook

One way of promoting our parishes' activities among the families of our young people is by posting them on Facebook. Don't forget to 'like' our pages on Facebook to stay up to date on everything happening. The Facebook of Ayr and Home Hill names are available on the front page of our parish bulletin.



FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE YOUTH: Ayr parish is happy to give financial support to two young people and a mentor in the Burdekin in participating in the Youth event, IGNITE, in Brisbane on 21st-24th September, 2023. Please contact one of the priests if you are interested. Ignite Conference is four incredible days of faith, formation and worship, hosted by Ignite Youth it is one of Australia's most powerful Catholic youth conferences. It's a place for habits and collars, ripped jeans and sneakers. Experience four days of real-world formation, explosive rallies, powerful sacraments and inspiring workshops!!



If you or your family members are turning 80 or over or celebrating, their milestone anniversary please let the parish office know and as a parish community, we would like to pray for them and share this news on the parish bulletin. Thank you.

Come and celebrate

JESUS IS LORD

TUESDAY 29 AUGUST

HEALING MASS

5:00PM PRAISE & WORSHIP | 5:30PM MASS
PRAYERS FOR HEALING AFTER MASS

ALL WELCOME

Celebrated by

Fr Steve Fletcher



**SACRED HEART PARISH CHURCH,
98 EDWARD ST., AYR QLD 4807**



The church was packed and overflowing at the confirmation and holy communion mass last Sunday in Home Hill. It was a gathering of people from the whole Burdekin



Bishop Tim with the girls from Samoa in Home Hill. Thank you to the choir for their beautiful singing at the confirmation mass last Sunday.



Pastoral Care: Bishop Tim met and prayed with the older parishioners during his visit to Home Hill last Sunday. He told the seminarians and the priests that he always enjoyed giving pastoral care to the sick and the elderly as a parish priest in the Archdiocese of Brisbane. Thank you, Bishop Tim.

St Colman's School Mini Vinnies Committee: This term St Colman's have joined forces with the local Chapter of St Vincent De Paul and the Burdekin Community Association to offer a Community Pantry Stand filled with donated food items for collection by members of the community who are experiencing hardship during these difficult times. We will be kindly receiving goods from Home Hill Bakery and Coles for distribution each week.

If any members of our local parish community have fruit trees, vegetable gardens or farms we ask for donations to be made at the School office for distribution to the community on Tuesday mornings. Our children will be involved in setting up the stand and wheeling it in and out on collection days.

Please support this much needed community and school initiative where you can.