



BURDEKIN GROUP OF PARISHES

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

**15th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A**  
**16th 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](mailto:burdekinparishes@tsv.catholic.org.au)



[www.tsv.catholic.org.au](http://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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Parish Council Chair (Home Hill)

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**Chiara Guy**

**Stephanie Ryder**

Burdekin Youth Coordinators

[cpontarelli1@bchs.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cpontarelli1@bchs.catholic.edu.au)



## The Kingdom will Triumph

The Kingdom is a central theme of Matthew's gospel. Today we begin a series of readings from Ch 13 in that gospel over three Sundays concerning Jesus' teaching, in parables, about the coming of the Kingdom.

In preceding chapters, Matthew has depicted Jesus as a great teacher and miracle worker. But Matthew now portrays the growing tension between Jesus and the leaders of Israel.

Hostility is mounting. People are turning against Jesus. Jesus himself explains, *"they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand."*

The parable of the sower in today's gospel focuses on the sowing of seed, and the very different outcomes depending on where the seed lands, seeds perishing in poor soil but abundantly fruitful when falling on good ground. This serves as an analogy for the flourishing of the Kingdom. As with all of Jesus' parables, the parable turns our expectations upside down! Jesus describes the sowing of seed according to the agricultural method of his day, a method very different from the refined industrial methods of our day. The seed is sown liberally, by hand, over the ground, falling on good soil but also on poor, be it among thorns or bushes or on rocky ground.

Given that many of the seeds land in inhospitable places, many come to nothing. But the seed that falls on good soil is astonishingly, indeed fantastically, fruitful, yielding thirty or sixty or even a hundred-fold.

What then is the message? The seed is the Word, the good news of the coming of the Kingdom. The Word is proclaimed widely and liberally, offered for all to hear. Jesus explains why it doesn't always take root and grow. He teaches that it will not always find receptive ears and responsive hearts in which to flourish and bear fruit. But when it is received and nurtured, it grows and bears fruit superabundantly. In other words, no matter the resistance or hostility, the Kingdom will not fail. God's Word will ultimately prevail.

In this way Jesus encourages us not to lose hope, and not to be discouraged or to lose faith in our mission to spread the Word. Our teaching, preaching, and daily living of the gospel in love of God and neighbor may well encounter opposition, even persecution. The Good News will be received by some and ignored or rejected or reviled by others. But in Jesus the Kingdom has come, its growth is utterly assured. It will not fail; nothing will prevail against it.

Jesus reminds us of the blessing that we have been given: *"Blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear."* Let us pray, as individuals and as a Church as we progress on the synodal journey, to see ever more clearly, to listen ever more humbly, and to grow in our understanding of the Kingdom we are all called to help build.

Anne Hunt / © 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

Isaiah 55: 10 - 11 Romans 8: 18 - 23 Matthew 13: 1 - 23



Isaiah is prophesying prior to the end of the Babylon era. He utilises what people know; rain and its importance for agriculture. He uses it to emphasise the life-giving wisdom of his Word. But his word has to be the basis for living, they can't be passive receivers. How will it "come back to him" like the rain cycle? It will accomplish a mindset of charity, community, love of neighbour and evangelising that will lead to the kingdom. The word is necessary because the way of man is not the way of God.

Paul advocates life in the Spirit as he did last week. Many felt that life should be more fulfilling than it is. He says the way to attain this is to work at it but this inevitably includes suffering. More than the probable persecution, simply living among the 'thorns' (gospel) involves suffering. Only those who accept it and work through it as Jesus did can bring about the kingdom. He doesn't discount the pain that others (and he) suffers; he just dwells more on the ultimate pain Jesus suffered for us. He puts it in perspective. He gives them hope but patience is necessary. This struggle with sin is mentioned earlier (Romans 7: 21 - 25).

Matthew recounts the parable of the sower. The many hurdles to a 'rich harvest' include seeds that fall on the

path for birds to eat (they receive the word but don't understand and evil takes it away). Some fall on rocky ground (they understand initially but can't sustain it without nourishment). Some fall amongst the thorns (they are aware of the word but are overcome by the seduction of earthly priorities). Those that fall on ideal soil produce the harvest. Jesus explains to the Apostles that parables are used to interpret in their terms, what is only fully knowable by God. Herein lies part of our struggles as parishioners. Even the Apostles needed even more clarification. Everyone needs Christianity modelled in the context of today's challenges.

Are the conditions the seed encounters really the state of our hearts? Is it possible for the message to fall on rocky or thorny ground and still eventually find root or outgrow the weeds in time? With the right support (rain from above), can they still survive?

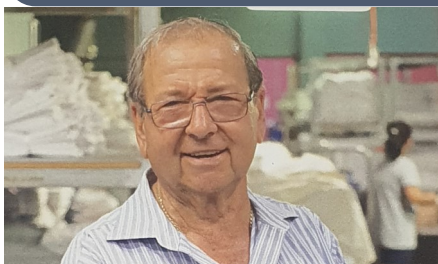
Man being what he is, may interpret slightly different yet helpful spiritual lessons. The farmer might understand but do all have the same access to the message? How would you present this parable to a drug addict or violent abuser? Sometimes the word of Jesus doesn't bear fruit. As we reach out do we review our efforts? Are there other ways of modelling?

*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 Sutor (Stubbs), Kellie Turner and all in the Aged Homes and Dementia ward.

# CONGRATULATIONS



**Charlie Nucifora** celebrating his 80th birthday.



**Robert and Fiona Tomarchio** are celebrating their 35th years wedding anniversary.



**Peter and Andrea Piotto** renewed their marriage Vows when they celebrated their 25th jubilee last Saturday in Ayr.

Congratulations and best wishes to our Eleven parishioners: Daley Caspangello, Taylor Chapman, Phoebe Cordingley, Jack Duncan, Madison Fiamingo, Clainings Mendoza, Archie Sgroi, Bryar Totorica, Ryder Vass, Jorja Vasta and Ben Watkins who are receiving the First Holy Communion and Confirmation this Sunday on the 16th July at 9 am mass in Home Hill. Welcome, Bishop Tim to the Burdekin.

## Upcoming Events

July		
Sat	22	St. Mary Magdalene
Sun	23	Grandparents Day BCHS Youth Mass at 5.30 pm in Ayr
Mon	24	Founders Day BCHS Mass at Marcelline Centre 9.30 am
Tue	25	St. James
Wed	26	Sts. Joachim and Anne
Sat	29	Sts Martha, Mary and Lazarus

## 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	9.00 am			
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	J Moustoukas	C Breen R Parravicini	L Robertson (H) K Duggan (GF) M Arrate (W)	Gloria, Kevin Joyce, Carol	R Diehm	B Smith	A Parravicini
	SUN 9:00am	E Glover	M Pattinson M Kelly	M Castello (H) M Papale (GF) V Muspratt (W)	Josh Lee-Ann, Sue	M O'Shea	DITTO	R Glover
	SUN 5:30pm	M Ferguson	G Tama M Zanella	C Nucifora (H) K Rye (GF) P Sexton (W)	Ann Maria Terry, Ruth	E Montafia M McLaughlin	DITTO	DITTO
Home Hill	SUN 7:00am	G Fiamingo	B McDowell R Boccalatte	E Falco	R Santarossa	NO	S Murer	S Fabbro
	SUN 6:00pm	L McLaughlin	N Woods G Vass	-	-	CLEANING	D Musumeci	S Previtera



**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

### UPCOMING PARISH MEETINGS:

**PFC AYR: THURSDAY, 20TH July at 5.30pm**  
**PPC AYR: Thursday, 27th July, at 5.30 pm**



**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!!

**Next Mass in Clare: Saturday  
22nd July 6pm.**



**Rest in Peace**

**Peter Djodjowu:** Fr Daniel's dad, Peter Djodjowu, died on Monday, 11th July. He was 95 years old and had been unwell for some time. Let us remember Fr. Daniel, his father and his family in our prayers.



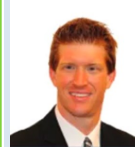
**Home Hill CWL:** We ask for all your generous donations, either essential items or monetary, to be delivered by Wednesday the 26th July to Gloria 0458274426, Brenda 0407630070 or Grace 0427827190 as we want to be able to send these parcels of "HOPE" up to Townsville by the end of July. Thank you for your compassion and care.



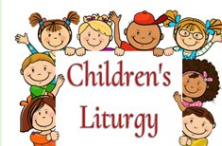
**St. Colman's Parish Feast Day  
Dinner in  
October, 21st and Mass on 22nd.**



**AYR CWL NEWS.** HIGH TEA at BCHS Hospitality Centre Sunday 23rd July. This Fundraiser is organized by CWL to pay for the Hospitality Shirts for the Senior Students and is hosted by the students. Cost is \$30 and numbers are limited to 40 (10 tables of 4). Bookings open on this Tuesday, 11th July at Trybooking.com. Delicious Food, Guest Speaker and Entertainment, Lucky Door and Raffle.



Hearty welcome to the Burdekin  
Parishes Bradley Davies  
and Grant Sutherland.



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.

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

**NEXT YOUTH MASS: July 23<sup>rd</sup> and August 27<sup>th</sup>,  
BCHS/St Francis schools.**

### 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 <sup>st</sup> August, 6.30 – 7.45 pm at Parish Hall
Sessions: Reconciliation 1		30 <sup>th</sup> August, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Reconciliation 2		6 <sup>th</sup> September, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Celebration of Sacrament of Reconciliation		13 <sup>th</sup> September, 6.00 pm in Sacred Heart Church
Confirmation/Eucharist 1		4 <sup>th</sup> October, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Rite of Welcome		7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> of October, at any of the three masses
Confirmation/Eucharist 2		11 <sup>th</sup> October, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Confirmation/Eucharist 3		18 <sup>th</sup> October, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Confirmation/Eucharist 4		25 <sup>th</sup> October, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Confirmation/Eucharist 5		1 <sup>st</sup> November, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Confirmation/Eucharist 6		8 <sup>th</sup> November, 6-7 pm at Parish Hall
Practice Session		Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> November, 09.00 am, S.H Church Ayr.



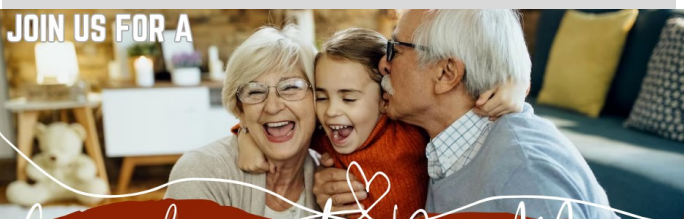
**FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE EMAIL:**

**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.



## Enrol for 2024

Submit your enrolment forms by  
19th July 2023 for your chance to  
win a \$100 uniform voucher!

**St Colman's  
Playgroup**



**Starts next week ...**

**Friday 21st July at 9am - All welcome**



## REMINDER

**PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS**

**Wednesday 19th July**

**Bookings open now - Via Compass**



**Enjoy  
your  
Special  
Day**

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.