



understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand,
see and see again, but not perceive.
For the heart of this nation has grown coarse,
their ears are dull of hearing,
and they have shut their eyes,
for fear they should see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their heart,
and be converted
and be healed by me.

‘But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

‘You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.’

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The readings for this Sunday call us to self-examination. The gospel describes various levels of receptivity, the willingness to allow ourselves to receive from another, to be influenced by another, perhaps even to be transformed. The more independent we are, the less likely we will be open to others and, consequently, less receptive to their ideas. By definition disciples are receptive to the one they follow. To be a disciple of Jesus requires receptivity, so it is important that we scrutinise ourselves to discover the extent to which we are open. To what should we be receptive? To the words of Scripture, the words of the liturgy, the words of the sacraments, the living tradition of the community. God’s word is sown in many forms and under many guises. It makes little difference who sows the seed. How will we receive it?

Besides the word of God, the readings speak of the world of God. The people of biblical times were aware of the revelation of God in and through the natural world. Isaiah teaches about the effectiveness of the word of God through the metaphor of rain. The psalmist uses the natural world to describe God’s work of salvation. Paul claims that eschatological fulfilment will include all of creation. Finally, Jesus’ parables are rooted in stories about nature. We cannot afford to close our eyes to the needs of the natural world, or stop our ears to the cries of the earth, or harden our hearts to the world of which we are a part, for the word of God will accomplish the end for which God sent it.

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The Living Word

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

16 July 2023

First Reading Is 55:10-11

The rain makes the earth fruitful.

Thus says the Lord: ‘As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 64:10-14. R. Lk 8:8

(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

1. You care for the earth, give it water,
you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over
to provide its grain. (R.)
2. And thus you provide for the earth;
you drench its furrows,
you level it, soften it with showers,
you bless its growth. (R.)
3. You crown the year with your goodness.
Abundance flows in your steps,
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. (R.)
4. The hills are girded with joy,
the meadows covered with flocks,
the valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:18-23

All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being

freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The seed is the word of God,
Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.
Alleluia!*

Gospel Mt 13:1-23

(or shorter form Mt 13:1-9)

A sower went out to sow.

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, ‘Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!’

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, ‘Why do you talk to them in parables?’ ‘Because’ he replied ‘the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or



Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven Georges Hall

Parish Priest: Rev. Peter Krigovsky
Secretary: Mrs. Zenna Azar (Tuesday 9.30am—5.30pm)
Address: 15 Georges Cres, Georges Hall NSW 2198 **Telephone:** 9727 3759
Website: <http://www.smgh.org.au> **Email:** parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com
Facebook: [fb.me/smgh2](https://www.facebook.com/smgh2) **Streaming:** <https://cutt.ly/StMarys>

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Georges Hall

God and us Together

Principal: Mrs Monica Palmer **Website:** www.stmgeorghall.syd.catholic.edu.au
School Tel: 9727 0000 **School email:** info@stmgeorghall.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES (English):
 Vigil Mass 5 pm (Saturday)
 Sunday 8.00 am & 10.00 am
 Weekdays: Wednesday 6 pm
 Mon. Tue. Thu. Fri. Sat. 9.00 am

VIETNAMESE MASS
 Vigil Mass 6.30 pm (Saturday)
 Sunday 5.30pm

RECONCILIATION
 Saturday 4.30pm-4.55pm
 or anytime on request

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
 Wednesday 5.00pm—6.00pm
 Friday after Mass 9am-10.30am

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK
 Offered to those in need on
 1st Tuesday at 9.00am Mass

Baptisms: Sunday 11.00am
 Bookings are necessary

Children first Sacraments:
 Please contact Elaine Nehme email:
nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au

Parish site maintenance:
 John Impala Phone TBA
 Ivan Leskur Phone TBA

Parish Pastoral Council:
 Bernie Freeburn, Veronica Dening,
 Elaine Nehme, Zenna Azar,
 Paul Abdul Ahad, Natalie Goetz,
 Monica Palmer, Linh Bui,
 Jannette Samawi, Grace Mokdassi

Finance Committee:
 Bernie Freeburn, Michael Anderson,
 Ted Goetz, Veronica Dening, Eileen
 Stevenson

Golden oldies:
 Lorraine Impala

St Vincent de Paul:
 Mary Scott

Scripture:
 Lorraine Corkeron

Music Ministry: TBA

Youth Ministry: TBA



A SOWER WENT OUT TO SOW

Matthew 13:1-23

COVID-19 is still around, Please use sanitiser when you enter the church.

ADDITIONAL NOTICES If you are interested in a diocesan events, please collect a copy of additional bulletin at the back of the church.

NEW ACOLYTE Congratulations to Chaben Azar who has completed his Acolyte training and will begin serving this weekend at 5pm mass. Our parish is blessed with the Acolyte Ministry which we would like to enrich with new members. If you are a practicing member of our community and are interested in this ministry, please see Fr. Peter. All selected candidates will undergo training in an archdiocesan course and installed by a bishop.

PARISH CENTRE BUILDING COMMITTEE has met last week for the first time with Fr. Peter, revising the initial plans. Next meeting will take place on Tuesday involving archdiocesan representative and Leaf Architecture our current architects. The objective of the meeting will be to establish agreement and to set in motion Pro forma contracts for the works

necessary to be completed prior to completion and submission of plans to the council for approval.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - 16 July - 10am Mass

Children's Liturgy will be celebrated at 10am Mass this Sunday. This is a great opportunity for children to hear the Gospel, discuss it at their own level and do a fun activity. All children are welcome.

2023 FIRST RECONCILIATION Lessons begin this week and are being held on Mondays and Tuesdays at 6:30pm, continuing for 4 weeks. All children and at least one parent must attend all four lessons – you don't have to attend the same day each week.

Sacrament Dates:
 Wed 16/8, Thurs 17/8, Fri 18/8
 All enquiries via email:
nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au
 We invite you to keep these children in your prayers as they prepare for this sacrament.

CHOIR PRACTICE There is no choir practice on Thursday 20 July. However, an email will be sent to members with recordings of hymns.

Please attend the 8.00am Mass on Sunday 23 July. New members are always welcome. Contact Maria Rega on 0408 282 559 (Pat Falvy is presently overseas).

YEAR 4 FAMILY MASS Sunday 23 July at 10am – Next Sunday,
 Year 4 and their families and teachers will join us for the 10am Mass. Hospitality will be served after Mass. We welcome you to bring a plate to share.

FAMILY MASSES 2023:

10am Sunday
 10th September - Year 1
 22nd October - Year 2

WORLD YOUTH DAY PARISH FUNDRAISING

One of our very own young parishioners, Jesse Azar, will be making the pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal. commencing in July. We congratulate Jesse on making this important decision in her faith journey. Thank you for your generosity during last weekend's collection to assist Jesse with the cost of the trip. If you have missed out on donation last week, you can still make donation through an envelope marked "WYD23".



'MARY AROSE AND WENT WITH HASTE'
 LUKE 1:39

LAY MINISTRY ROSTER - Thank you to those who have volunteered to serve as Greeters, Readers, Commentators, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Acolytes - the new roster is available.

FEAST OF SAINT MARY MAGDALENE – 22 July - a faithful disciple of Christ, Mary ministered to his needs after having seven devils cast out from her. Witnessed his crucifixion, was present at his burial, and was the first to see the risen Lord. Commissioned by Christ to proclaim the good news of his resurrection to the apostles. Remembered in the East as the "Apostle to the apostles".

ANOINTING OF THE SICK to those in need is offered during the Mass on 1st Tuesday of each month. Please consider to bring your shut-in loved ones to this Mass.

ADORATION AND BENEDICTION is available on Wednesdays from 5-5.55pm prior to the 6pm evening Mass and on Fridays from 9.30-10.30am after the 9am Mass.



Please Remember In Your Prayers Our Sick

Beryl Moran, Paul Tonkli, Daniel Clarke, Warren Clarke, Azelia Donati, Eileen Ellery, Paul Evans, Kerry Gibbons, Kathleen Gibson, Christine Hughes, Sue James, Barbara Kains, Daniel Matesic, Philip Nehme, David Sanders, Mary Strambio, Tony Strambio, Cornelius Van Bardwyk



Rest In Peace

Let us Pray For All Those Who Have Died

Irma (Ziff) Buoro, Anna Nguyen, Anna Maria & Remo Raffin, Wilson & Ursula Barrett, James Barrett, Colin & Eileen Newton, Tom Counihan, Colleen Bush, Tony Corkeron, Noel Baker

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.
 May they rest in peace. Amen.*

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS are available for gluten sensitive persons. If you or your child would like to receive such host, please inform the celebrating priest prior to the commencement of the Mass.

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUP Thursday during school term in the iCentre, meet at 8.45am out the front of the church near Our Lady's statue. Enquiries: natalie.goetz@syd.catholic.edu.au

PARISH WEBSITE - is updated on a weekly basis, if you have any feedback on content please email: gracemokdassi@gmail.com

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE (OSHC) Sydney Catholic Early Childhood Services operate an OSHC facility to provide before, afterschool and vacation care for our primary school children. Please contact the OSHC on 0438 118 864 or email veenita.chand@syd.catholic.edu.au

BURNING CANDLES are the most common cause of church fires. If you light a candle or visit the church and see an unattended burning candle, please blow it off before you leave. Of course electric candles are safe to be left turned on even after you leave. Thank you.

BLESSINGS DURING THE MASS are reserved to the priest. Acolytes or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion are not to give blessing during the Holy Communion. Any parents bringing their child for a blessing or anyone wishing to receive a blessing during the Holy Communion, please approach the priest. Acolytes or extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, if anyone approaches you for a blessing, simply say God loves you or Jesus loves you, without any sign of blessing. Thank you.

SAFEGUARDING OUR PARISH - Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding Office at 93905810 or Email: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. **Our parish** has a folder with Safeguarding information in the church for parishioners to view. Check out the latest safeguarding newsletter. A link to the Archdiocese's Child Safeguarding Policy is available from the homepage of our parish website and on display in the folder. Enquiries: Veronica via email: parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com