

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

23rd July 2017

Entrance Antiphon: See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

First Reading from the book of Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Second Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 8: 26-27

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia

GOSPEL: According to Matthew 13: 24-43

Communion Antiphon: The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of his wonders; he gives food to those who fear him.

Saints of the Week

St Sharbel Makhlūf, priest (**Mon 24/7**) St James, apostle (**Tues 25/7**)
St Joachim and Anne, parents of Blessed Virgin Mary
St Martha (**Sat 29/7**)

PARISH FETE 16/9/2017

Plans for the next fete are well underway and I would like to give a brief outline of the help we will need from the Parish Community for the fete to be a success.

This week we are asking for quality items for our **Trash and Treasure stall**. As the saying goes "one man's trash is another man's treasure."

There will be bins in the church foyer from this weekend where items can be left. If you are donating larger items please contact Helen Carter 0418403842.

Over the coming weeks we will be asking for donations for the following:

- * Craft & jam stall
- * Plants
- * Donations of gifts/vouchers suitable for prizes on the chocolate wheel
- * Books
- * Board games
- * CD's, and DVD's (no VCR tapes thank you)
- * Laptops
- * Donations of cakes for the cake stall— we will be handing out a cardboard cake trays a few weeks prior to the event, and we are asking parishioners to fill the tray with yummy cakes/biscuits/slices to sell on the day.



St Christopher's Parish Holsworthy

We are a community striving for growth, unity, equality, love and commitment

Administrator:	Rev. Andrew James
Assistant Priest:	Rev Thomas Alukka Varghese
Assistant Priest:	Rev Nicholas Rynne
Permanent Deacon:	Rev. Mr. Al Salu
Secretary:	Mrs. Anne Bennell
Parish Office Hours	Mon 10.00am—3.30pm Thurs, Fri 10.00am—3.30pm
Address:	195 Heathcote Rd Holsworthy 2173
All correspondence to:	<u>PO Box 389, Moorebank 1875</u>
Website:	www.stchristophers.org.au
Email:	stchris@tpg.com.au
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St Christopher's Catholic School—*Through faith and love we serve*

Principal:	Mr. Tony Boyd
School Tel:	(02) 9825 3251
School Mail:	205 Heathcote Rd Holsworthy 2173

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Today's reading features three parables about the kingdom: the weeds in the field; the mustard seed; and yeast in the flour. They are three fascinating parables about something undesirable or unwanted being mixed in with something that is apparently good – and Jesus presents them as descriptions of what the kingdom of heaven is like. Let's look at the imagery of these parables. Darnel is a weed that looks exactly like wheat while it is growing. Only once the ears have formed can it be distinguished from the wheat. It is a malicious prank to sow darnel among wheat.

The mustard seed grows into such a large tree that birds come and nest in it. Why would any farmer want to deliberately plant a tree in the middle of his fields that attracts birds that will destroy his crops?

Three measures of flour is an enormous amount of flour; enough to make 50 or 60 loaves of bread! Yeast begins to ferment the dough mixture and if not baked the dough goes mouldy and goes bad. To leaven that much dough at one time is somewhat foolish. The Hebrew word used for leavening in scripture is *Chametz*, it literally means 'sour'. It is that essence by which things decay. Leavening is a fermentation process – a process of breaking down or corruption.

To describe the kingdom of God in these ways may seem a bit odd. Can the kingdom of God be a 'corrupting' or 'souring' or 'irritating' influence? The kingdom message of Jesus can be seen as a corrupting force in that it set about corrupting and destroying what was a flawed system. The parables also demonstrate that it only takes a tiny amount of this 'corrupting' influence to have a dramatic effect.

Fr. Greg Sunter

Parish Collections

16/7/2017 **First:** \$835.05 **Second:** \$1,303.95

Parish News:

Sacrament of Baptism are held on the 2nd & 3rd Sunday of the Month following the 9.30am Mass. Godparents are examples of faith to the child. They must be confirmed and practicing Catholics, at least sixteen years old. There must be at least one Catholic Godparent, a non-Catholic may act as a Christian witness. Parents must attend a pre-baptismal instruction, which is held on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month at 11.00am in the Parish Hall. Please contact the parish office 9825 1679 regarding the Baptismal form.



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION A reminder to parents who have enrolled their child in the Confirmation program there is a **compulsory meeting** that a parent only must attend on Sunday 30th July at 4pm in the church.

PARISH PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2017/2018 the New Financial Year Envelopes for 2017/2018 are in the church foyer for collection. It is important for the ongoing future of the parish that Planned Giving donations continue in parishes. The regular giving of parishioners in this format is a way to be able to budget for the ongoing expenses of the parish. Planned Giving envelopes tax deduction is only for the period 1/7/2016 – 31/12/2016. We thank everyone who contributed this financial year. Should any parishioner wish to contribute to the 2017/2018 Planned Giving envelopes, the parish offers envelopes, direct credit to bank account and Monthly Credit Card deductions. There are forms to completed in the church foyer, should you wish to contribute by any of these payments.



CAKE STALL The parish cake ladies are holding a Cake stall next weekend 29/30 July after the Masses. As usual to make this a success we need donations of S/R & Plain Flour, Sugar (brown & white), butter, eggs, dates, walnuts, copha, bananas, carrots, crushed pineapple and Philadelphia cream cheese. All donations can be left in the church foyer no later than Monday 24th July 2017. Any ingredients that need refrigeration please call past the parish office on Monday 24th July to drop them off.



Our Mother of Perpetual Help we will be having a monthly Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help commencing on Wednesday 2nd of August and every first Wednesday of the month thereafter in the church from 6:30pm to 7:00pm

MASS & ADORATION
First Friday of the month
Friday 4th August 2017 7.00pm



Mass Intentions

Saturday 22nd July 5.30pm.....Shayne Kolster RIP
Sunday 23rd July 8.00amParish Intentions
Sunday 23rd July 9.30am.....Ivan Rubesa (RIP)
Monday 24th July 9.15am.....Marie-Anne Sayegh (RIP)
Tuesday 25th July 9.15am.....Georges Haddad & Claire Sayegh (RIP)
Wednesday 26th July 9.15am.....For the Sick
Thursday 27th July 9.15am.....Souls in Purgatory
Friday 28th July **9.00am.....School Mass—School Hall**
Saturday 29th July.....**Reconciliation : 4:30 PM // Vigil Mass :5:30PM**

Syro-Malabar Liturgies:

Wednesday Mass at 7.00pm
Thursday Mass at 7.00pm followed by Adoration (in English)
Friday Mass at 7.00pm **except on the First Friday of the Month**
Saturday Mass at 9.30am
Every Sunday Mass at 11.30am **on the Third Sunday of the Month** this will be conducted in the School Hall.

The Samoan Community celebrates a **Sunday Mass** in the Church on the **Third Sunday of the Month at 11.30am.**

SYDNEY ARCHDIOCESE NEWS:

Australian Catholic Youth Festival Update

Sydney is getting ready to host this large gathering from 7 – 9 December this year. Already there are over 12,000 registrations in groups. This will be the largest gathering of young people since World Youth Day in 2008. Our local Deanery would like to ensure that we have a group of young people attending the Festival and being part of the Year of Youth celebrations during 2018.

To find out more about this Festival please go to www.acyf.org.au

At this stage our parish does not have a Parish Youth coordinator—should any parishioner be interested in being our Youth coordinator, please speak with a priest after Mass.

CATHOLICCARE..... We provide training and support for those interested in a career helping older people remain independent in their own homes. To find out more call 13 18 19 or email connect@catholiccare.org or visit our website at www.catholiccare.org. CatholicCare Sydney: Helping families live and thrive.

We Pray For The Sick : Cyril Ferriere, Arthur Aguilar, Mark Cronin and Kerry Stark

Recently deceased: Marie Abi-Khattar

Anniversaries: Shayne Kolster, Ivan Rubesa, Marie-Anne Sayegh, Georges Haddad & Claire Sayegh

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

