

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

30th July 2017

Entrance Antiphon: God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

First Reading from the first book of the kings 3: 5, 7-12

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, I love your commands.

Second Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 8: 28-30

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: 44-52

Communion Antiphon: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

Saints of the Week

St Ignatius of Loyola (**Mon 31/7**) St Ignatius of Loyola (**Tues 1/8**)
St Eusebius of Vercelli & St Peter Julian Eymard (**Wed 2/8**)
St Dominic (**Thurs 3/8**)
St John Vianney (**Fri 4/8**)

PARISH FETE 16/9/2017

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

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

There is a bin 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: PO Box 389, Moorebank 1875
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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

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday 30th July 2017

The twin parables of today's gospel – the treasure in the field and the pearl of great value – reveal a paradoxical truth about the kingdom of Heaven. Throughout the gospels, Jesus presents the kingdom as 'now but not yet'; as 'present but future'. This paradox is captured in these twin parables. In both cases, the kingdom is likened to something of great value that is discovered but cannot be immediately grasped. In both parables, the finder must go away and sell everything so that they can eventually come to possess the treasure they have discovered.

By comparing this experience with the kingdom of Heaven, Jesus suggests that most of us can only ever catch glimpses of what it means to live in the kingdom. For most of us, only in the future reality of heaven will we ever fully come to understand the kingdom. However, those glimpses that we catch – those moments of inspiration and connection with God and with one another – are like the treasures of the parables. They are enough to inspire us to do what it takes to make sure that we will one day enter into that kingdom reality.

The third parable of this gospel passage reveals yet another truth about the kingdom. The dragnet thrown into the sea is like the message of Jesus – it is flung far and wide and does not discriminate about where it falls or on whom it falls. This parable rounds out the chapter that began with the parable of the sower and the image of casting the net is a neat parallel to the indiscriminate casting of seed. It is not up to the one who casts the net, the seed or the Word. Rather it is up to each individual to determine how they will respond to receiving the Word.

Fr. Greg Sunter



Parish Collections

23/7/2017 **First:** \$945.85 **Second:** \$1,009.05

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.



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

FIRST FRIDAY of the MONTH—Mass and Adoration will be held in the Church on Friday 4th August commencing at 7pm



PRAYER GROUP will be meeting in the Parish Hall next Saturday evening 5th August after the 5.30pm Mass for music and prayer. Parishioners are welcome to attend. For further information please text Jacqueline Michael on 0424 418 749.

NURSING HOME MASS: The next Hammondcare Nursing Home Mass will be this Tuesday 1st August 2017 at 11.00am.

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND (CWF) APPEAL – 06 AUGUST.

Next weekend we will be holding the appeal. Parishes of the Sydney Archdiocese rely on the services provided by the CWF to deliver assistance to families in crisis, development programs for the disadvantaged, equal access for our deaf and hearing impaired, pastoral support from its chaplaincy service, training for our future priests and faith education for our Catholic parish primary school children. Your donation will ensure that the CWF can continue its charitable and pastoral works in your local community, so we ask you to please give generously. Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible.

**St Francis Xavier’s Parish, Lurnea
Holy Land Pilgrimage**

There are limited places still available for the pilgrimage to the Holy Land early next year 2018.

Anyone interested or for more information on this pilgrimage please contact Will on 0404 270 579 or email will.querubin@gmail.com

Mass Intentions

Saturday 29th July 5.30pm.....Jessie Quinon & Santiago Quinon Sr RIP
Sunday 30th July 8.00amParish Intentions
Sunday 30th July 9.30am.....Harry Kat (RIP)
Monday 31st July 9.15am.....For the Sick
Tuesday 1st Aug 9.15am.....Valentine Varmadevan (RIP)
Wednesday 2nd Aug 9.15am.....For the Sick
Thursday 3rd Aug 9.15am.....Souls in Purgatory
Friday 4th Aug **9.00am.....School Hall..... Feast day of St Mary MacKillop**
Saturday 5th Aug.....**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.

Mass for Pregnant Mothers Are you expecting a baby or know someone who is? You are warmly invited to attend the annual Mass for Pregnant Mothers to be celebrated by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP at St Mary’s Cathedral on Sunday 20th August at 10.30am. Morning tea will follow in St Mary’s Cathedral chapter Hall. **RSVP and enquiries** can be directed to LMFevents@sydneycatholic.org or call 9307 8404.

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

Recently deceased: Sheila Sprice & Marie Abi-Khattar

Anniversaries: Jessie Quinon, Santiago Quinon Sr and Valentine Varmadevan



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