



THE SAVING WORD

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

26 JULY 2026

FIRST READING

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

A reading from the first book of the Kings

You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this', the Lord said, 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM Ps 118:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130. R. v. 97

R. Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, / is to obey your word. / The law from your mouth means more to me / than silver and gold. **R.**

2. Let your love be ready to console me / by your promise to your servant. / Let your love come to me and I shall live / for your law is my delight. **R.**

3. That is why I love your commands / more than finest gold. / That is why I rule my life by your precepts: / I hate false ways. **R.**

4. Your will is wonderful indeed; / therefore I obey it. / The unfolding of your word gives light / and teaches the simple. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 8:28-30

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Mt 11:25

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

GOSPEL

Mt 13:44-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off

happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Breaking Open the Word

COMMUNION WITH GOD

Today we continue to hear from the central chapter in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus' parable teaching about the kin-dom of God. Over the past Sundays we have been hearing parables concerned with sowed seed (15th Sunday) and the mystery of the darnel sown among the wheat (last Sunday). Today we hear that the kin-dom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, a common banking technique by peasant farmers to protect their most valuable possessions. Someone discovers this treasure; hides it again and then sells every possession to buy the field and claim the treasure. Between the discovery and the purchase, the finder goes off "happy". The overwhelming joy of the discovery leads the merchant to sell everything to buy the field. This is an image of the disciple, of us, in discovering that the true encounter with God, the experience of the kin-dom, is most precious. Nothing can substitute it.

The second parable that concludes today's Gospel is like the first. It is about a merchant's search for valuable pearls and, in finding one, sells everything to have the pearl. In the ancient world, in the time of Jesus and Matthew, the pearl represented purity, beauty, power, wealth, even divinity. The discovery of the pearl by the parable's merchant leads, as in the first parable, to the selling of everything possessed to gain the pearl.

Both parables speak into our desire for ultimate and intimate communion with the God revealed through Jesus. When we experience such communion, we realise how valuable it is; nothing can compare to it. Intimate communion with God cannot be bought nor can anything else in human existence substitute for it. This communion is deepened in every celebration of the Eucharist.

Fr Michael Trainor

SACRED HEART PARISH - MUNDARING

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FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

Sacred Heart Parish Mundaring

"To grow in discipleship of Jesus and go make disciples"

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Weekday Mass Feasts:

Wednesday Memorial of St's Martha, Mary and Lazarus p1884

Friday Memorial of St Ignatius Loyola, Priest p1890

Saturday Memorial of St Alphonus Liguori, C. Bishop p2261

600pm Monday Mass 3rd of August – Mass of St Dominic
Each year around the anniversary of our ordination, myself and those in my ordination cohort available gather to celebrate Vespers and Mass. This year we're having Mass in Mundaring. You're welcome to come and meet the other "Fr Gorddard" and Fr Patrick Toohey and together pray for, and in thanksgiving of vocations.

PARISH ACCOUNT DETAILS:

1st Collection: Priest upkeep

'The Roman Catholic Archbishop'

BSB: 086006

A/C #: 985196641

2nd Collection: Parish upkeep

'The Roman Catholic Archbishop'

BSB: 086006

A/C #: 673418807



SCAN ME

You can head to our website and securely donate online. Simple and easy.



Card facilities at the back of the Church for your convenience.

PRAYER CORNER

Prayer Intentions for the sick

Kevin Bell

Bonnie Brown

Mary Sheehan

Andrew Azzaro

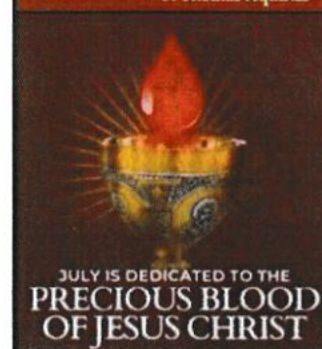
Tess Howden

Trevor Clark

Dennis Denoual

Bill Makely

"One drop of which can save the whole world from every sin."
— St Thomas Aquinas



Ordinary Time

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday Vigil – 6.00pm @ Sacred Heart
Sunday – 7.30am @ Our Lady of Good

Counsel, Chidlow

9.30am @ Sacred Heart Mundaring

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday 8.30am

Wednesday 8.00am

Thursday 8.30am

7.00pm Men's prayer group

1st & 3rd wk of the month

Friday 8.30am

9.00am Adoration, Benediction & Reconciliation

Saturday 8.30am

9.00am Rosary & Cenacle

Reconciliation:

Friday 9.00am (Sacred Heart)

Saturday 9.00am (Sacred Heart)

1st Wednesday of the month 12-1.00pm

(Our Lady of Good Counsel, Chidlow)

Parish Cuppa:

Mundaring: 1st Weekend of the Month

Chidlow: Following each Sunday morning Mass ALL WELCOME!

For information about Baptism or other sacraments please visit our website, email or phone the parish.

NEWS, EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

AFTER SUNDAY 930AM MASS:

How do you answer the question:

"Why bother exploring religion?"

How do you share with someone that belief in the existence of God is actually reasonable?

Did you know that 35-40 craters on the moon are named after Jesuit scientists? That St Albert the Great helped found the western university system? That Fr Leaitre coined "The Big Bang Theory"? Or that Sr Mary Kenneth helped pioneer the first computer coding language for the general public: BASIC? From pioneering astrophysics, microbiology or genetics... Catholics and professed religious show there is no conflict between faith and science.



While perhaps the affiliation to religion may be less prominent in modern times, the belief that there is no higher power or objective morality or meaning to life is a rarely held position. For good reason.

This weekend, we are getting started on a series exploring the beliefs and practices of the Catholic Faith. Whether you are exploring the Catholic faith for the first time or interested in getting a few answers to help a friend, ALL ARE WELCOME to come along as we explore why reason points us to the existence of the Divine.

When: 1045-1130am this Sunday, after Mass

Where: Sacred Heart Church, under the patio

CALLED TO MORE RETREAT

Women's Discernment Retreat day

Saturday August 15 930am-4pm

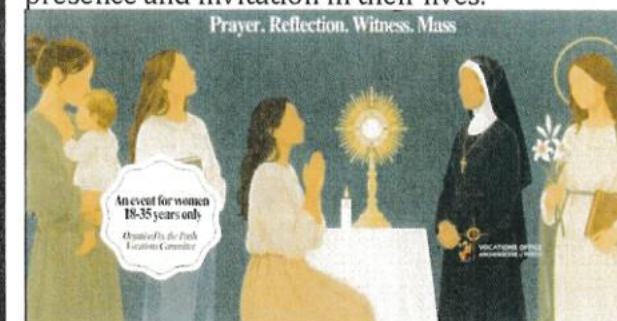
@ Trinity College

An event for women 18-35 years only



(Scan to register)

Come to pray, reflect and join some conversations for women seeking to listen more deeply to God's presence and invitation in their lives.



SACRAMENT PROGRAM FOR NON-PARISH SCHOOLS

Mundaring Christian College, government etc.

In term 3, Sacrament preparations for children not in Catholic primary schools for the sacraments of **Holy Communion** and **Confirmation** are beginning. Please spread the word.

415-5pm Classes:

July 29, Aug 5, Aug 12, Aug 19,

Sep 2 & Sep 9.

Sept 16 Practice and Reconciliation

First Holy Communion and Confirmations

Sept 19th 6pm Vigil Mass together with parish school Confirmations.

National Vocations Awareness Week

Starting Sunday 2nd August to Sunday 9th of August, the Diocese is encouraged to reflect on and pray for vocations within the Church, generously responding to God's call in our life.

VOCATIONS EXPO
Discover the many ways to live your faith.

Conversations that could change your future.



Bible Timeline Course:

How to get a birds eye view of the overall story of the Bible? You're welcome to join a household study group starting 7pm this Tuesday at Kerensa and Justin's home for 8 weeks follows this inspiring study to Unlock the Mystery of the Bible. Flyers in the foyer with further details.

FIRST SUNDAY CUPPA *Next weekend*

Connection is part of the mission and vitality of every parish. All are welcome! Thank you to all who generously bring a plate to share for our community fellowship! ☺

St. Francis de Sales

"Go to regularly meet other devout souls, and together you will learn to love and serve God better."

— Introduction to the Devout Life

