

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
FIRST READING <i>Ez 17:22-24</i>	GOSPEL <i>Mk 4:26-34</i>
<i>A reading from the prophet Ezekiel</i>	<i>A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark</i>
The Lord says this: 'From the top of the cedar, from the highest branch I will take a shoot and plant it myself on a very high mountain. I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel. It will sprout branches and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Every kind of bird will live beneath it, every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches. And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the one who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow, who withers green trees and makes the withered green. I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'	Jesus said to the crowds, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.' He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.' Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.
The word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.	The Gospel of the Lord All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ
RESPONSORIAL PSALM <i>Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. see v.2</i>	
<i>(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.</i> 1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night. <i>(R.)</i> 2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar. <i>(R.)</i> 3. Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God, still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the Lord is just. In him, my rock, there is no wrong. <i>(R.)</i>	
SECOND READING <i>2 Cor 5:6-10</i>	
<i>A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians</i> We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.	
The word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.	
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	
<i>Alleluia, alleluia!</i> The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. <i>Alleluia!</i>	<div>Next Week: The NATIVITY of ST JOHN THE BAPTIST: Is 49:1-6; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80</div>
<small>The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass ©1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.</small>	

Church Cleaners
Monday 18th Jane's Group

Parish Collections Week- Ending 10/6/2018

1st Collection \$1,152.85 goes to Fr. Jarek & Fr Wojtek as well as the upkeep of their Order of St Paul the First Hermit.

2nd Collection: Envelopes and/or Credit Card payments: \$1,660.00 and \$1,022.30 Loose Money.

Thank you for your generous support & May God Bless you all!



**Congratulations to
Fr Joseph Maria Buckley OSPPE
who was Ordained to the priesthood on
Saturday 9th June 2018 in Canungra
Queensland**



** A donation basket will be available at all Masses on the weekend of 16/17 June for any Parishioners who may wish to contribute towards a gift for Fr Joseph Maria OSPPE for his Ordination to Priesthood.*

All Parishioners are invited to join with:

*Fr Joseph Maria OSPPE
as he celebrates each Mass on the
Weekend of 23/24 June.
His official Celebration will be at the
10:30am Mass on Sunday 24 June
St Benedict's Shrine
Followed by Parish BBQ in the
Montefano Hall
Please bring a plate to share.
Looking forward to celebrating his Ordination together in
our Parish!*

Pauline Vocations Day

July 20th at St. Gertrude's Smithfield
The Order of St. Paul the First Hermit is organizing a vocations day for young men discerning a vocation to religious life, as an opportunity to reflect upon what God is calling them to.
RSVP: vocations@paulinefathers.org.au

Sunday 24th June ~ Solemnity
The Nativity of St John the Baptist

The Confirmation Retreat was held for all candidates on Tuesday 12th June. We would like to thank the children for their respect and reverence, your behavior and participation throughout the day is to be commended. We would also like to extend our thanks to the Principal of St Gertrude's Primary School, Mrs O'Regan; to the R.E.C. Ms Maria Panuccio; Alida Bila, the Family Educator; Mrs Scollard one of the Yr. 6 teachers, the Canteen ladies and Office Staff, who contributed so much to the success of the day.

A team of Catechists also supported the children on the day. A big thank you to Kasia, Barbara, Michelle, Felicia R, & Maria Z for all your help and support – your willingness to jump in a do whatever was needed was much appreciated.

We thank Fr Jarek for saying Mass for the candidates to start our day and Br Zachary for leading the candidates in the Divine Mercy Chaplet after Mass.

To the Confirmation Candidates, we pray that the power of the Holy Spirit may continue to strengthen you all through life's journey.

CONFIRMATION 2018

This weekend, over 70 candidates from our Parish Community will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. Congratulations to you all. We pray that you will continue your faith journey through life with heightened awareness of the power of the Holy Spirit within you. We ask the Parish Community to please pray for the newly confirmed.

A big thank you to the Candidate's parents, group leaders (David, Denise, Maria, Royola, Kasia, Barbara & Felysha N), Fr Jarek, Fr Wojtek, Fr Joseph Maria, Br Zachary, the school, teachers and catechists, and all who helped in any way with the Sacramental Preparation, Retreat and Ceremony. We are most grateful.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Children in Year 3 and above who have received the Sacraments of Baptism and First Reconciliation, are eligible to enroll in the First Holy Communion Programme. Enrolment will be accepted when PARENTS AND CHILDREN participate in the **ENROLMENT CEREMONY** during the Vigil or Sunday liturgies on the weekends of 23/24 June and 30 June/1 July.

Enrolment forms will be distributed through the schools, available in the church and on the Parish Website.

Enquiries Helena - 9725 4317 (Tuesday or Friday).

CHANGES TO SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Due to the restructuring of the Sacramental programs in St Gertrude's Parish, the following changes will be taking place:

From 2019, the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will now be taking place together in the first half of the year. Children who have been Baptised and are in Year 3 and above will be eligible to enrol. **Accordingly, there will be NO First Reconciliation sacramental program (for Year 2) at St Gertrude's Parish in 2018, to allow for this change.**

Enrolments for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion 2019 (for current Year 2 students) will take place in November 2018.

From 2019, the Sacrament of Confirmation will take place in the second half of the year.

Families with Baptised children in Year 3 and above who have not made their first Reconciliation, will need to make an appointment with the Sacramental Office before the end of July, to discuss options for 2018/2019.

First Holy Communion 2018 enrolments for children in Year 3 and above, who have made their First Reconciliation, will take place 23/24 June and 30 June/1 July. Enrolment forms will be distributed early next month.

For information please contact Sacramental Office
Tuesday/Friday on 9725 4317 / sacraments@stgertrude.org.au.

Safeguarding news:

It is now expected that ALL PARISH VOLUNTEERS have attended Safeguarding training and/or read & signed a Code of Conduct.

If you are a volunteer, who has not signed the Code of Conduct, please make an appointment ASAP.

ANY VOLUNTEER WHO HAS NOT READ AND SIGNED THE CODE OF CONDUCT ARE REQUIRED TO CEASE THEIR MINISTRY IMMEDIATELY UNTIL THIS MATTER HAS BEEN RESOLVED.

Please speak to Fr Jarek, Maria, Helena or Parish Office if you have any questions or concerns – 9604 1199 or PSSO@stgertrude.org.au.

An individual is considered a Parish Volunteer if they do any of the following jobs: Acolyte, Extra-Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Reader, Counter, Offertory Procession, Parish Pastoral Council, Finance Committee, help prepare for the Parish BBQ, Youth Group, Children's Liturgy, Maintenance, choir, cleaning, assist with the Collections, Mass Coordinators, operate the PowerPoint projector, Welcomer, usher, decorator, and if you help in any way within the Parish.

The purpose of the Code of Conduct is in the best interest of the entire parish community. It brings our attention to the expectations placed on all volunteers within the Archdiocese of Sydney, and how we can work together to ensure the safety of children, teenagers, vulnerable young people and all within the community. Thank you for your cooperation.

ALTAR SERVERS MEETING

Tuesday 19 June 4.30 – 5.15pm St Benedict's Church

Smithfield YOUTH MASS

Held on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of the Month at the 6pm evening Mass

Next Mass: Sunday 17 June at 6pm

Youth Program is held on the 3rd Sunday of the month .
7pm - 8pm in the Montefano Hall.
All Youth Welcome!

Next YOUTH PROGRAM: 17 June 2018

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office

If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on ph 02 9390 5812.



**Mark Malone J.P.
Director**

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