

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wednesday Golf Group meet @ 7am
Parish Council meeting @ 7pm
Thursday Service at Woodlake @ 11am
Revd Josie at church @ 12 pm

BAPTISM - today we welcome Charlotte to the body of Christ, along with her parents Damien & Sara and godparents Craig & Karyn.

KITCHEN CUPBOARDS - thank you to Fran Johnson and Kristina Macpherson who are going to help with cupboards on Monday.

PROGRESSIVE LUNCH - will be held on Sunday July 19th. We will start off with soup at the church @ 11am then proceed to Scott's 7 Flannan Place, Warwick for the main course and then onto Noeleen's 4 Elfreda Ave, Sorrento for dessert. We will charge \$5 a head to cover costs and BYO drinks. There is a notice on the board for you to put your name/s down if you wish to participate.

VISIT TO ARALUEN - will be held on Saturday 29th August. If we get enough interested people, we will hire a minibus which holds up to 12 people especially for those who are reluctant to drive there. The cost would be \$10 a head. There is a notice on the board for interested people to put their name on and your preference of the bus or to drive there yourself.

SOCIAL GROUPS - Patchwork Group will meet on Monday 20th July @ 12.30pm. Friendship Group will meet on Tuesday 21st July @ 10am. GFS Women's Group will meet on Wednesday 22nd July @ 7.30pm



*Happy birthday to Geoff Dawson on 14th
Hazel Bonjour on 18th*

Wardens -	Noeleen Stewart	Phone: 0414 505 064
	Judith Smith	Phone: 9246 3745
Parish Priest –	the Reverend Josie Steytler	Phone: 0421 115 438

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Welcome to Worship



Pentecost 6

12th July 2020

We are a warm-hearted community who are delighted to have you worshipping with us today ...

Our Mission is to

- Know God personally
- Love and respect one another deeply
- Disciple and serve those around us

Sentence: The words you have spoken are spirit and life, O Lord; you have the words of eternal life.

John 6:63, 68

Collect of the Day

Bountiful God,
we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word: by your Holy Spirit, help us to receive it with joy, and to live according to it, that we may grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Today's readings:

Genesis 25:19-34
Psalm 119:105-112
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13:1-23

Next Week:

Genesis 28:10-19a
Psalm 139:1-11,
23-24
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-43



Pentecost 6 – Matthew 13:1-23

The parable of the sower: “Blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear . . . “The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.”

Chapter 13 of Matthew’s Gospel is the evangelist’s collection of Jesus’ parables. The word “parable” comes from the Greek word *parabole*, which means putting two things side by side in order to confront or compare them. And that is exactly how Jesus uses parables: He places a simile from life or nature against the abstract idea of the reign of God. The comparison challenges the hearer to consider ideas and possibilities greater and larger than those to which they might be accustomed.

Jesus’ hearers expected God’s kingdom to be the restoration of Israel to great political and economic power; the Messiah would be a great warrior-king who would lead Israel to this triumph. Jesus’ parables subtly and delicately led people, without crushing or disillusioning them, to rethink their concept of God’s kingdom.

In Palestine, sowing was done before the ploughing. Seed was not carefully or precisely placed in the ground. The farmer scattered the seed in all directions,

knowing that, even though much will be wasted, enough will be sown in good earth to ensure a harvest nonetheless. The parable of the sower (which appears in all three synoptic gospels) teaches that the seed’s fruitfulness (God’s word) depends on the soil’s openness (the willingness of the human heart to embrace it).

The parable of the sower challenges us to see how deeply the word of God has taken root in our lives, how central God is to the very fabric of our day-to-day existence.

Christ invites his followers to embrace the faith of the sower: to trust and believe that our simplest acts of kindness and forgiveness, our humblest offer of help to anyone in need, our giving of only a few minutes to listen to the plight of another soul may be the seeds that fall “on good soil” and yields an abundant harvest.

Jesus challenges us in the parable of the sower to be both sower and seed: to sow seeds of encouragement, joy and reconciliation regardless of the “ground” on which it is scattered, and to imitate the seed’s total giving of self that becomes the harvest of Gospel justice and mercy.

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Soils	Description	Growth	Hindrances	Results
Along the Path	Hard ground, seeds stay on the surface	None	Does not (want to) understand it	Satan immediately snatches
Rocky Places	Receives it enthusiastically but has no roots	Lasts only a short time	Persecution because of the word	Quickly falls away
Among Thorns	Ground has other things growing in it, taking away from seeds	None-no fruit	Worries of this life; holding onto both the world and spiritual things	It is choked, making it unfruitful
Good Soil	Fertile and rich	A hundred, sixty or thirty times over	None mentioned	Not every believer is equally fruitful

Please pray for: Paul; Colleen & Ted; Marge; Lynne; Frances; Isla; Brad; Peter; Lois; Albert, Ivan; Suzie; Jan; Dan; Jean; Jennifer; Serena; Colin; Stuart; Dennis; Peggy; Merle; Jodi; Jack, Sara

