

# OUR LADY OF THE PINES CHURCH

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PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS:

PARISH OFFICE TEMPORARILY CLOSED. STAFF WILL BE WORKING FROM HOME DURING THIS TIME.

YOU CAN STILL CALL US AT ANY TIME ON TEL:

0473873479

PARISH PRIEST: FR JERALD CECIL MARIADAS



Our Lady of the Pines Parish is a welcoming, inclusive community that aims to live our Christian faith by example in our daily lives.

## **16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of July 2020 – Year A**

### **THE PARABLE OF THE WEEDS (Matthew 13: 24–30, 36–43)**

The parable of the weeds is another allegory. In other words, it can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning, everything in the story represents something else.

Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to a person who sows good seed in a field.

While he sleeps, an enemy comes and sows weeds among the wheat. This would have meant that the two grew up together and their roots would have intertwined.

The sower would not have noticed what the enemy had done until the plants began to grow and produce grain. The owner explains to his slaves that an enemy must have planted weeds. He instructs them to do nothing until harvest time, if they did anything before then it would risk uprooting the grain.

The owner says that at harvest time the reapers will collect the weeds first, bind them into bundles and burn them. The wheat will then be gathered and brought into the barn.

In this allegory, the sower is Jesus and the enemy is the Devil.

The good seed represents people who listen to and respond to God's word. These are the people who belong to the Kingdom of God and who will go to Heaven at the end of time.

The weeds represent those people who do not listen to God's word, they are "sons of the evil one" who will go to the fiery furnace of hell at the end of time.

The harvest workers are the angels and harvest time is the end of the age.

This means that on Earth, good and bad people will grow and live together. The Kingdom of God will be present amongst the evil of the world. At the end of time people will be separated into their eternal destiny.

## **AGM Reports**

As we will not be holding our Parish AGM this year, the AGM reports are now available on our website – [www.ourladyofthepineschurch.org](http://www.ourladyofthepineschurch.org). There is also a link on the website where any responses/comments can be left.

## **Message from Fr Jerald**

My fellow parishioners, The latest shutdown has been a great blow for many of us. Just as we could see some light emerging, we have been plunged again into the darkness. Ultimately however, the safety and well being of all of us, especially the vulnerable in our society, has to be first and foremost. Whilst we can't be together again for a few weeks, please know that you are all constantly in my prayers. Please keep me in yours.

I will continue to have our Tues to Sat 9.00am Zoom Masses and our weekend video Masses will still be available.

For the safety and well being of our staff, we will be closing the parish office for the time being. You can still contact us on [donvale@cam.org.au](mailto:donvale@cam.org.au) or on the parish mobile of 0473 873 479.

I wish you all a safe week ahead. For emergencies, please contact the parish office and I will get back to you.

## **Unite in Prayer Every Tues at 8pm**

Come together in prayer every Tuesday at 8pm, for the joint intentions of finding effective solutions to the pandemic, and for public Masses to resume. The Lord said "Whenever two of you on earth agree about anything you pray for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven." [Matt 18: 19]

You are welcome to pray in any of the following ways:

- Join with others in a 30min Zoom online prayer session by clicking on the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82880786051?pwd=c1ppOHRQsXJlWWpTZG55b0czd0JwUT09> or entering Meeting ID: 828 8078 6051 and Password: 3rAVW0
- pray with family members or friend over the phone
- pray on your own

You can use the suggested prayer which is on our website and the link to this prayer will also be included in our Mailchimp mailout at the weekend. Together in prayer and faith, we will overcome this adversity.

## **Support of our Parish**

During the COVID19 period where our congregation cannot celebrate Mass, we would ask you to assist if you are able, towards the financial support of Parish by ensuring your pledged support or your regular weekly contribution is received. You are now able to go to our website, and on the home page is a link to CDF Pay. You will be able to make your weekly/monthly donation this way. Please however remember to put your envelope no. or full name down so that we can trace your donation. Contact the Parish Office for further advice on how.

## **Plenary Council**

Due to COVID-19, the First Assembly of the Plenary Council which was due to be held in October 2020 in Adelaide was postponed. It has now been decided to hold the First Assembly in October 2021, still in Adelaide. That means that the Second Assembly will now be held in April 2022 in Sydney. However, preparation for the Plenary Council continues and the Discernment Papers from the Writing Groups for each of the six Themes have been completed. These papers will form the basis for the agenda for the Plenary Council. The papers can be viewed on the Plenary Council website.

## **COVID19 (and beyond) Support**

A reminder to all parishioners that the St. Vincent de Paul Society (VINNIES) is available to assist parishioners and the community in need. A phone call to 1800 305 330 Monday-Friday, 10am-3pm is all that is required. Confidentiality assured.

## **Parish Raffle**

If you still have any raffle tickets at home, could we ask you to return them immediately to the Parish Office. We would like to return them to the organizers in the event of further lockdowns. Please see below the revised dates :-

**Draw Date:** 26 September 2020 at 7.15 pm - **Publication of Winners Date:** 30 September 2020 . This could change again, depending on the situation. We will keep you informed of this. Thank you.

## **Parish Office**

The Parish office will remain shut until further advice is received and employees will be working from home. We can still be contacted via our Parish Mobile of 0473873479 or on [Donvale@cam.org.au](mailto:Donvale@cam.org.au). Thank you for your patience during this time.

## **Weekly Parish Emails**

We hope that you have all been able to receive our weekly Parish Emails . We are aware that there have been some issues with parishioners not receiving this. These emails are sent out via MailChimp- a popular marketing automation platform.

If you have not been receiving these emails, could we ask if you could check your spam folders or if you could check the setting in your email inbox and "allow" emails from mailchimp and donvale@cam.org.au.

## **We pray for Better Health:**

Brian Sullivan, Kath Potger,  
Alden Ong, Lisa Dallow,  
Josephine Noli, Teresa Talia, Lina  
Borg, Judith Frood, Wendy  
Clohesy, Sharon Rodrigo, John  
Lazzari

## **Anniversary.**

Nellie Cuenca

## ***'Emotions as Guardians of our Soul' – Reflection event via Zoom***

*Saturday 18 July 2020, 10am-1pm. Facilitated by Rev Dr Peter Bentley, this event offers participants the opportunity to explore which emotions are inviting us to pay attention to our authentic self. We will focus on some of the core emotions that regularly arise in everyday life and see how they contribute to alerting us to key areas of transformation. Cost \$25. Bookings and payment via Trybooking at <https://www.trybooking.com/BKJOS> . For more information, contact [holsc@bigpond.com](mailto:holsc@bigpond.com) or tel 9890 1101.*

## A Coronavirus Prayer

Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbours from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders. Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace. Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and for concern for the well being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us.

