

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

FIRST READING – Kings 3: 5, 7-12

A reading from the first book of the Kings

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 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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 118: 57, 72, 76-77, 127-130.

R: Lord, I love your commands.

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.

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.

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.

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

SECOND READING – Romans 8: 28-30

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans

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

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom
Alleluia

GOSPEL – Matthew 13: 44-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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.

Let's reflect...

"We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28)

Do you really trust God? Do you really believe that God will provide all that you need? Faith is a challenge for everyone at times. Putting our trust in God, in everything we do, in good times and in bad, means that God's plan for our lives may be quite different than what we planned. When one door closes, another one opens. Trust in God, His plan is always better.

THIS SUNDAY WE PRAY

In Thanksgiving: M Vincentt, Abigayle Taylor, Allen V Sarmiento, Sonia P McCann, Rodrin Buenaventura, Ma Lourdes Garcia, Amelia Buan, Victoria Cruz, Henricus Family

For the sick: Sally-Ann Schreuers (4)

For those who have died recently: Raymond King, Fr. Teresito Suganob

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Regina Vincent, David Martinz, Bella B Muñoz, Imelda Cortezano, Jose Palacios, Maria Vitero, Christina K Miller, Jessica Jeremiah, Jeffrey Bossier

ST. KEVIN'S PARISH HAMPTON PARK

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
(Year A)



25th & 26th July 2020

PARISH CENTRE
120 Hallam Road,
Hampton Park, Vic. 3976
Tel: 9799 2108
Email: HamptonPark@cam.org.au

OFFICE HOURS
Monday to Friday (9.30am – 4:00pm)

PARISH PRIEST : Rev. Fr. Desmond Moloney
ASSISTANT PRIEST : Rev. Fr. Dong Tran
DEACON : Rev. Dr. Graeme Pender
PARISH SECRETARIES: Mrs. Michelle Rimmelzwaan
Mrs. Indrani Guinan
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
ST. KEVIN'S : Jason Micallef – 9709 8600
ST. FRANCIS DE SALES : Christine White – 8773 6700

Parish Website

<https://stkevins.org.au/>

'Support us' page

<https://stkevins.org.au/support-us/>

YouTube Channel

<https://youtu.be/k-gBOvfy-l0>

(st kevins parish hampton park)

You can now follow us on Facebook too!

Sacrament of Penance/ Reconciliation

Until further notice the Saturday morning time for the Sacrament of Penance/ Reconciliation will be suspended. Arrangements can be made privately by contacting one of the priests.

Book a tour

ST FRANCIS DE SALES
LYNBROOK

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A faith community:

- Animated by love
- Inspiring innovation
- Empowering learners

Be who you are and be that perfectly well

A short reflection for 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Our readings today remind us that the greatest of all treasures is the Kingdom of God. In his love, God himself has chosen us, and prepared it for us before time. Our readings also encourage us to pray for wisdom as Solomon did, to enable us discern the true value and mysteries of God's kingdom.

The first reading from the 1st Book of Kings began in a very interesting way. If we were Solomon what would we ask for? I think some of us would ask for more cars, houses, shoes, food, money, power, children and much more. On the contrary, Solomon asked for wisdom for the benefit of both his kingdom and God's kingdom. He begged God to give him understanding: "Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil."

And, the three parables in today's Gospel of Matthew are intended to instruct us to prefer the kingdom of heaven to this world, and to ensure that nothing prevents us from entering into it. Through these parables, Christ reminds us of the excellence and beauty of eternal life. The kingdom of God is indeed a treasure hidden from the wise of this world.

So, let us ask God for understanding and wisdom as Solomon did, so that we may be wise enough to discern what is good for us, and to make God's kingdom our priority.

Fr. Dong Tran

Melbournecatholic.org.au

What is a missionary disciple?

A missionary disciple has been described as someone who has had a transformational encounter with Jesus and has then chosen to surrender and follow. A missionary disciple has encountered Jesus through a personal experience of the love and presence of God. As a result of this encounter, they have chosen to say 'yes' – to surrender to God's love and God's will for their life. They allow their entire life to be transformed by this relationship.

A common misconception and why it matters

'Busyness is fruitfulness'

Many parishes fail to provide a clear and simple path to missionary discipleship. Organise your parish so that people can focus on becoming and making disciples. A parish that prioritises the making of disciples needs constantly to communicate that vision so that everyone in the parish understands the 'more' they are invited to experience. We can unintentionally confuse people with invitations to multiple activities, courses and groups, thereby failing to highlight the 'best thing' in the midst of too many 'good things'. A busy parish does not necessarily effectively grow disciples; faced with so many choices, many people get passionate about their mission, not *the* mission. When you say 'no' to a hundred other missions, you say 'yes' to the most important mission. The clearer and simpler the path towards missionary discipleship is, the more people will travel it.