



## OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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**27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 8<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

### **Sunday Reflection – “A good vineyard should produce good fruits” –**

Jesus tells another story in today's Gospel in order to convey a truth that his audience needs to hear. In Isaiah's "Song of the Vineyard", the chosen people is presented as the "Vineyard of the Lord" that was expected to produce good fruits, but instead produced "sour grapes", even though the gardener (the Lord) tilled and cared for the vineyard. Instead it becomes a wasteland. This is a symbol of the chosen people's response to all God has done for them. In the Gospel parable Jesus borrows ideas but changes the imagery. In his story we have wasteful tenants and a good absentee landlord. He rents out the vineyard, having planted a good crop of fruit. He rented his vineyards to tenants and left to go abroad with high expectations of a wonderful crop. Sadly, the tenants squandered all the gifts they had been given, and treated those who came to collect the expected produce with brutality and violence. Matthew obviously uses the parable as a summary of salvation history and has Jesus directing it at the "Chief priests and elders". The servants represent all the good prophets God has sent to his people only to see them rejected and violently treated. The son is a figure of Jesus himself, who will be taken outside Jerusalem and brutally murdered. He is not just another prophet but God's only son. Jesus is God's final challenge to the people to change their ways for the better. Matthew's telling of the story foresees the kingdom of God being passed on to the Gentiles, hoping they will deliver the fruits of the kingdom. God is patient with us all, but justly expects us to produce the fruits of love, mercy, justice and peace. Let us pray that we can fulfill the expectations God has of his people.

**First Holy Communion** – Application form 2017/18 is now available from the Parish office. Please Note: If your child was baptized in this parish, you do not need to enclose a Baptismal Certificate with the application; you only need to indicate the date and year on the application form. If you need to produce a Baptismal Certificate, your Registration will not be accepted unless it is with the Baptismal Certificate. Parish Office is open from Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm (Lunch 1.30pm to 2.30pm).

**Our Call to Stewardship** – Today is the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of our reflection on our stewardship as Disciples of Christ. We have been blessed and enriched by God with many gifts and talents. Even though we have come from God, do we use our talents wisely and constructively for the glory of God and the service of His Kingdom? Could we do better? Let us engage together in these weeks of reflection and renewal and see how all can contribute to the up building of our Church community. Please make sure you take a copy of the Special Newsletter on "Time, Treasure & Talents". This week is 'make your mind up' time! We ask ourselves soul-searching questions "What can I honestly give each week to support the life of our Parish Community? "What amount of time can I give each month in ministry for the wellbeing of our Parish Community. Ask the Lord to help you make a wise and prudent decision in your giving. Thank you for what you do. Everyone has something to offer.

**Care for our Elderly** – Do you have an elderly Relative, Father or Mother at home or nearby who would welcome a visit from one of the Priests in the Parish? Please contact us at the Parish office with the name and address and telephone number of the Relative and we will ensure that one of the Priests will visit the Elderly or house-bound person and share the sacraments with your Relative. Similarly, do inform us about a neighbour or friend in the Parish who would welcome a Pastoral visit. Likewise, if a relative or friend is admitted to Hospital, do inform the Chaplaincy and ask the Catholic Chaplain to visit the patient while in hospital. Together, we can offer pastoral care and support to our Elderly, sick and house-bound relatives, sisters & brothers.

**Funeral Mass:** The Requiem Mass for Mrs. Hamilton Deeley R.I.P. will be celebrated on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 12.00 in our Parish Church. May she now rest in God's Peace.

### **Parish Office Opening Hrs**

Mon – Thur 9am to 5pm

(Lunch Hour 1.30pm – 2.30pm)

### **Mass Times**

Vigil Mass: Sat 6.30pm

Sunday 8.30am

10am

(Spanish) 11.15am

12.15pm

7pm

Mon - Sat 10am

6.30pm

### **Sacrament of Confession**

Mon - Thurs 6.15 – 6.30pm

Saturday 10.45 – 11.15am

6.00 – 6.30pm

### **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Mon – Thur 10.30 am – 11.15am

**Rosary** – Wednesdays 10.30am, followed by Tea/Coffee in the Founders Room.

**Legion of Mary** – Every Tuesday at 7pm in the Library. New members are welcome!

**Charismatic Prayer Group:** Is on Thursdays at 11am in the Founders' Room.

### **Saints Days**

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> – St Denis,

St John Leonardi,

Blessed John Henry Newman

Tues 10<sup>th</sup> – St Paulinus of York

Wed 11<sup>th</sup> – St John XXIII, Pope

Thur 12<sup>th</sup> – St Wilfrid

Fri 13<sup>th</sup> – St Edward the Confessor

Sat 14<sup>th</sup> – St Callistus I, Pope

### **Interested in becoming a Catholic/Returning?**

Applications for this programme are now available from the Parish Office. Contact Sr. Clementina or one of the Priests for more information about our RCIA Programme.