



OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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15th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

16th July 2017

Sunday Reflection: “The seed that produces a harvest” Seeds by themselves are fragile and vulnerable. So much depends on the soil in which the seed is sown. When the soil is good and the climate conditions right, then the seed will produce a rich harvest. This illustrates the point made in the parable given in today’s gospel. Words are like seeds, so much depends on the soil on which they fall. So many of our words are worthless because there is a gap between what we say and what we do. In sharp contrast, God’s word is always effective. For God, to speak a word is the same thing as to do; to promise is to fulfil. God’s word is ever creative... “Let there be light... and there was light.” Our first reading today speaks of the power of God’s word. Like the rain that falls,... it succeeds “in what it was sent to do”. Jesus was seen to speak with authority. Thus, the centurion says to him “Say but the Word and my servant will be healed”. When Jesus speaks, something happens. When Jesus speaks God’s creative word to people, he awaits their free response. People who are open and receptive of his word, are changed profoundly by that word. Like the seed, so much depends on the condition of the ground. A variety of responses are possible, but there is only one response that is truly productive. The person who hears the word and understands it, and then takes it to heart and makes it “one’s own” and allows it germinate within, yields a rich harvest. Co-operating with the word, the person enables the word to become a creative and fruitful word. That person is the true disciple. What kind of response do you give to God’s word? If we take time to nourish the word, cooperate with God, then in due course it will yield a rich harvest.

Parish Council Meeting – On Tuesday 18th July 2017 at 7.15pm in the Founders Room. Members are requested to attend. Other Parishioners are welcome.

Eternal Peace to Fr. Ernesto Atanes: We were all shocked to hear of the unexpected death of Fr. Ernesto Atanes. We had heard that he was unwell during his visit to Spain and that he spent some time in hospital, but it came as a huge shock to us all to hear of his death. May he rest in God’s Peace. Fr. Ernesto was a kind, dedicated and generous Priest. He has been presiding at the Spanish Mass here in our Parish at 11.15am every Sunday since about 1975 except for holidays and other necessary absences. As one person said, “he was our brother, our Father, our Friend, our Priest”. He gave faithful and dedicated ministry to the Spanish-speaking members of our Parish and Diocese for many, many years. He ministered to the Pastoral needs of so many people and families. We thank God for his generous and committed Priestly ministry to so many people. We offer our gratitude and sincere sympathy to the Vincentian Order and to his beloved family. Let us remember Fr. Ernesto in our prayers. May he now rest in God’s loving peace.

Victor Retires – The music at the 10am Family Mass has been directed for some years by Victor Voros of our Parish. Victor now feels it is time for a change for the long term development of the Parish Liturgy. We are sorry that Victor is now moving on, but we want to thank him most sincerely for his faithful, loyal and Professional service to the Parish as a Director of Music. He was reliable and committed to his task each Sunday and gave of his best to the Community. Thank you Victor for all you did for our Parish Community and may God Bless you and your family always. Let us remember each other in Prayer.

School Leavers Mass – We will be sorry to say “Goodbye” to the Children of Year 6 in our Parish School as they move on to Secondary Education in September 2017. They are a wonderful class of children and obtained exceptional results in their final exams this year. Hopefully many will continue to attend Sunday Mass here in our Parish. We wish them every blessing and success in their new schools and thank them for their example and achievements and assure them of our prayers. The Mass will be on Wednesday 19th July at 6.30pm. Our thanks also to Teachers and Staff.

Parish Office Opening Hrs

Mon – Thur 9am to 5pm
(Lunch Hour 1.30pm – 2.30pm)

Mass Times

Vigil Mass: Sat 6.30 pm
Sunday 8.30 am
10 am
(Spanish) 11.15 am
12.15 pm
7 pm
Mon - Sat 10 am
6.30pm

Sacrament of Confession

Mon - Thurs 6.15 – 6.30 pm
Saturday 10.45 – 11.15 am
6.00 – 6.30 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mon – Thur 10.30 am – 11.15 am

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 – Every Thursday 11am in the Founders’ Room.

Saints Days

Thur 20th – St Apollinaris
Fri 21st – St Lawrence of Brindisi
Sat 22nd – St Mary Magdalene

Toddler Group: Will be in the Founders Room on Tuesday 18th July from 9.30am. This will be the last gathering before Term Time when they will return on 12th Sept.