

ST PATRICK'S, ST JOHN VIANNEY'S, STELLA MARIS & ST JOSEPH'S

Partnered Parishes of Mentone-Parkdale and Ricketts Point (Beaumaris & Black Rock)

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 19th July 2026

St Patrick's, 10 Rogers St, Mentone

St John Vianney's, Cnr Warren Rd & Brisbane Tce, Parkdale

Stella Maris, 2 Charlotte Rd, Beaumaris

St Joseph's, 542 Balcombe Rd, Black Rock

SUNDAY MASS

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm (*Mentone*)

Sunday: 8:00am (*Black Rock*)

Sunday: 9:00am (*Parkdale*)

Sunday: 10:30am (*Beaumaris*)

Sunday: 11:00am (*Mentone*)

Sunday: 5:00pm (*Mentone*)

'Let them both grow till the harvest...' (*Mt 13:30*)

In today's Gospel parable, Jesus speaks of the kingdom of heaven as being like a field sown with good wheat by its owner (who, he explains, is the Son of Man - himself). Yet the wheat has been mixed with darnel (weeds) by the enemy (who, he explains, is the devil).

To understand this, we first recall that in Jesus' teaching the 'kingdom of heaven' does not simply mean the perfect eternal kingdom beyond death: that would make the presence of the weeds impossible to explain. Rather, the kingdom is already present *in this world* as a seed; and this 'seed of the kingdom' is, focally, the visible Church on earth. But the Church on earth is made up of human beings with free will - capable of living according to the grace and truth God offers them, but also capable of sin.

Non-believers often raise the objection of the sins of Catholics (hierarchy or faithful), committed across 2000 years of history. However, this is no legitimate objection to the validity of Jesus' teachings, or of his promises to his Church from the beginning. The mixture of good and evil in the Church's members is *exactly as he predicted*, in this parable and elsewhere. (cf. *Mt 13:47-50; Lk 12:42, 45-46, 48*)

We rightly oppose the various sins, which are *contrary* to his holy teachings; but it would be quite irrational to then reject *the holy teachings themselves* in consequence. Neither do the sins undo his promises that the gates of hell would not prevail against his Church built on Peter (*Mt 16:18*) and that the Holy Spirit would forever guide her into complete truth. (cf. *Jn 14:16-17, 26; 16:13; Mt 28:20*) He never promised that individuals would always *live by her*

true teachings; and the very promise of the gates of hell not prevailing, suggests that the forces of evil, although not succeeding, would always *battle very hard to prevail*: the devil sowing the darnel, tempting to sin.

Faced with various scandals that non-believers bring up from Church history, how should we respond? We first need an accurate picture of the real history. Mixed in with valid charges are all sorts of legends and slanders. Often too, perspective is lacking. So, the huge benefits the Church has brought to the world are sidelined. Conversely, it is neglected that the sins of Catholics are often the same sins present, maybe to an even greater degree, in non-Catholics: thus the problem is not with the Catholic Faith as such, but with the fallen human race.

We should also distinguish between sins committed in full knowledge and guilt, and mistakes made in good faith in cases where the implications of the Gospel have not yet fully permeated people's thinking. God works gently and gradually with the whole human race - Catholics included. We should not judge the past totally by current standards.

The Gospel comes to a person, to a society, already influenced in all sorts of ways, positive and negative, by their culture and history, and that impacts how completely they receive the Gospel. It is only step-by-step that Catholics have fully applied Gospel principles to matters like slavery, equality of women, antisemitism and religious liberty. No false teachings on such matters have ever been 'infallibly declared' as dogmas of faith, yet the full truth is not understood and proclaimed all at once either.

When all these matters are cleared away [continued p. 3]

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Justin Ford **Assistant Priest:** Rev Fr Joseph Nguyen

Presbytery: 10 Rogers St, Mentone 3194 **Office:** 3 Mitchell St, Mentone 3194 **Office hours:** 9am-5pm (Mon, Tues and Thurs)

Phone: 9583 2103 **Email:** mentoneparkdaleeast@cam.org.au **Website:** www.sspjv.org

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon 20th July	11:00am (<i>Mentone</i>)
Tue 21st July	9:15am (<i>Mentone</i>)
Wed 22nd July	Feast of St Mary Magdalene 9:15am (<i>Mentone</i>) <i>NO MASS AT BLACK ROCK TODAY</i>
Thu 23rd July	9:15am (<i>Mentone</i>) 9:15am (<i>Beaumaris</i>) (<i>Class Mass</i>)
Fri 24th July	9:15am (<i>Mentone & Black Rock</i>)
Sat 25th July	Feast of St James 9:15am (<i>Mentone & Beaumaris</i>)

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
at St Patrick's Mentone every Friday
following 9:15am Mass until 4:30 Benediction.

Exposition at Stella Maris Beaumaris
every Saturday 9:45-10:15am.

RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION

Wednesdays following 9:15am Mass (*Mentone*),
Saturdays following 9:15am Mass
(*Mentone & Beaumaris*) and at 5:15pm (*Mentone*).

Recently Deceased: Ted Doolan

Anniversaries: Juan Besa, Joscelyn Ford, Cecily Heath

We pray for those who are sick:

Vern Morgan, Ching Price, Nick Bond, Francis Archer,
Jim Lacey, Janis Williams, Alan Laver, Michael Papworth,
Kaye McCall, Mirella Townsend, Aliai Coyle-Madut,
Albert Ricardo, Barry Martin, Dean Bevis

Prayer for the Synod

Adsumus, Sancte Spiritus

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

Our Parishes are committed to the safety, well-being and dignity of all persons. A copy of our Child Safety policy is on the noticeboard in our churches and on our website www.sspjv.org

ROSTERS 25/26 July 2026

St Patrick's - Mentone

6:00pm	Commentator/Reader	J Dillon
	Extraordinary Minister	T Dillon
11:00am	Commentator/Reader	S Tobin
	Extraordinary Minister	S Mathias
5:00pm	Commentator/Reader	J Renden
	Extraordinary Minister	C Giosis

St Joseph's - Black Rock

8:00am	Reader/ Commentator	W Maher
	Extraordinary Minister	T Papworth

St John Vianney's - Parkdale

9:00am	Reader	G Shea
	Commentator	C Beck
	Extraordinary Minister	B John
	Extraordinary Minister to the Sick	B Fitchet
	Flowers	S Stewart
	Pilgrim Statue	G Cracknell

Stella Maris - Beaumaris

10:30am	Commentator/Reader	E Moews
	Extraordinary Minister	D Lynch

Readings next week: 17th Sunday OT - Year A

1 Kings: 3: 5, 7-12

Romans: 8: 28-30

Matthew: 13: 44-52

St Patrick & the Holy Angels 2026 Organ Series

'Music Inspired by Gregorian Chant'

3.30PM SUNDAYS

21ST JUNE:

REUBEN JOHNSON (NEWMAN COLLEGE)

19TH JULY:

RHYS ARVIDSON (ST PETER'S EASTERN HILL)

16TH AUGUST:

DION HENMAN (ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL)

20TH SEPTEMBER:

DR ALAN COOK (DIRECTOR OF MUSIC ST PATRICK'S MENTONE)

FREE ENTRY

(DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED) - NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED

The second of our four **FREE** concerts is **today**,
Sunday 19th July, at St Patrick's Mentone, by organist
RHYS ARVIDSON 3.30pm, donations accepted on entry.

Catechism of the Catholic Church:
God's Church is holy, yet embraces sinners

827 "Christ, holy, innocent, and undefiled, knew nothing of sin, but came only to expiate the sins of the people. The Church, however, clasping sinners to her bosom, at once holy and always in need of purification, follows constantly the path of penance and renewal." (Vatican II, Dogmatic Constitution on the Church *Lumen Gentium* (1964) 8; cf. Decree on Ecumenism *Unitatis Redintegratio* 3; 6; Heb 2:17; 7:26; 2 Cor 5:21)

All members of the Church, including her ministers, must acknowledge that they are sinners. (Cf. 1 Jn 1:8-10) In everyone, the weeds of sin will still be mixed with the good wheat of the Gospel until the end of time. (Cf. Mt 13:24-30) Hence the Church gathers sinners already caught up in Christ's salvation but still on the way to holiness:

The Church is therefore holy, though having sinners in her midst, because she herself has no other life but the life of grace. If they live her life, her members are sanctified; if they move away from her life, they fall into sins and disorders that prevent the radiation of her sanctity. This is why she suffers and does penance for those offenses, of which she has the power to free her children through the blood of Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit. (Pope St Paul VI, *Credo of the People of God* (1968))

[continued from p. 1] ***Wheat and weeds in God's Church***

we can then confront the *real* sinfulness of Catholics. Leaving final judgement of individuals to God himself, we simply say, 'Guilty as charged!' From Christ's promises we believe in the unfailing truth of his Church's teachings and the grace of her Sacraments, but these do not guarantee that we will live accordingly. (Indeed, the Sacraments themselves, received unworthily and sacrilegiously by *unrepentant* sinners, actually dig us deeper into the pit.)

Given free will, any individual from the Pope down can always reject grace and truth, and choose sin (as Judas did). The primary cause of sin is always the free choice of the specific individuals involved. Whether those guilty of various grave sins are few or many, the guilt belongs to them - not to other Catholics who did not so choose, nor to some amorphous collective, 'the Church'.

We judge a medicine, not by those who buy it but then do not take it, but by those who actually do take it: who deeply pray, who follow the Church's teachings, who receive the Sacraments worthily. In this light we receive a vision, not just of the universality of sin, but of 'grace abounding all the more', (cf. Rom 5:20) through which Christ will continue to bring forth saints in his Church, until he returns in glory.

ST PATRICK'S MENTONE

YOUTH GROUP

YEAR 7-12
 4TH SUNDAY MONTHLY
 6:00-7:30 PM
 PARISH CENTRE - 10 ROGERS STREET, MENTONE

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Food
- Formation
- Friendship
- Prayer

ENQUIRE:
 STPATRICKYCG@GMAIL.COM

Parents are required to pickup and drop off their child, to ensure the safeguarding of our youth.

Parents are required to pickup and drop off their child.

A registration form is also required for each child, to ensure the safeguarding of our youth.

NEXT MEETING: NEXT SUNDAY 26TH JULY 6:00-7:30 PM

Under the Mantle of Our Lady of Guadalupe

We invite you to pray for the unborn in the womb
 THURSDAY 23 JULY
 FROM 4PM TO 6PM

We will pray the
 Scriptural Rosary
 (bead by bead)
 And The Flame of Love Rosary

At: St Patrick's Church Mentone

This week only:
No 9:15 Mass
at St Joseph's
Black Rock
this Wednesday
22nd July



Visit us to discover why so many families are choosing Kilbreda.

Open Mornings

- Wednesday 15 July 2026
- Thursday 6 August 2026

Talk & Tour with the Principal

- Thursday 30 July 2026

Register Now



**Strong
 Kind
 Kilbreda**



HYMNS: Mentone 6pm Vigil Saturday

Parkdale 9am Sunday Mentone 5pm

Mass Setting: *Mass of Our Lady, Help of Christians*

Entrance: 588 Praise, My Soul, The King of Heaven

Offertory: organ solo

Communion: 488 For the Fruits of All Creation

Recessional: 616 The Kingdom of God

Mentone 11am Sunday

Mass Setting: *Mass of Our Lady, Help of Christians*

Entrance: 588 Praise, My Soul, The King of Heaven

Offertory: Antiphon: Motet: *Justitiae Domini - F Mendelssohn*

Communion: Antiphon: *Acceptabis sacrificium - chant*

Organ solo: *Acceptabis sacrificium- Peter Sheehan (2010)*

488 For The Fruits of All Creation

Recessional: 616 The Kingdom of God

Black Rock 8am Sunday

Entrance: 802 Seek O Seek The Lord

Offertory: 629 Bring Us Back To You O Lord

Communion: 739 Lord of Creation

Recessional: 722 In Faith And Hope And Love

Beaumaris 10:30am Sunday

Entrance: Glory And Praise To Our God

Offertory: I Will Bless You Lord

Communion: Amazing Grace

Recessional: On Eagle's Wings

Readings this week: 16th Sunday OT - Yr A

Wisdom: 12: 13, 16-19

Romans: 8: 6-27

Matthew: 13: 24-43

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, you are good and forgiving.

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!

SYNOD OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

'TAKE THE WAY OF THE GOSPEL'

CONSULTATION PROCESS

In December 2025, Archbishop Comensoli announced that the Archdiocese of Melbourne would hold a Synod in 2026, to help shape evangelical and missionary priorities for the Archdiocese of Melbourne for the years ahead.

The Synod Assembly itself will be held across the weekend of 4 – 6 December 2026. Opportunities are now available for Catholics of the Archdiocese to take part in the consultation process toward the Synod.

WHAT ARE WE CONSULTING ABOUT?

Consultation will focus on the three synod themes identified by the Archbishop:

- **YOUNG DISCIPLESHIP**
- **MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP**
- **FORMATION AND PARTICIPATION.**

Three theme papers have been prepared to assist in focusing on the themes. These are accessible on the parish website, or in the church porches.

The consultation process is intended to be prayerfully 'Spirit-led', and for each theme we are encouraged to ponder:

- *Where is the Holy Spirit leading our Archdiocese at this time?*
- *Whom are we being called to accompany in faith more intentionally?*
- *How might we reflect the face of Christ more clearly in our local Church and community?*
- *Where do we sense the Holy Spirit speaking?*
- *Where is the Spirit calling us to dream boldly?*

WHEN WILL THE CONSULTATION PROCESS OCCUR?

During the months of July to mid-August 2026, faith communities are invited to enter into a consultation process to provide feedback in response to the themes.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS?

The *suggested* process is called a 'Conversation in the Spirit' or a Spiritual Conversation. It is based in prayer and allows a group to come together to both speak and to listen. A suggested group size is 6—8 people, but can be smaller.

Details of how a 'Conversation in the Spirit' might operate are available on the parish website, and on brochures in the church porches. Different from a discussion, it is an attentive listening process that aims to discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us.

It is recommended that each 'Conversation in the Spirit' focus on **one** of the three themes. You may wish to read the respective theme paper prior to any consultation meeting in which you take part. The purpose of the papers is to provoke thinking and encourage feedback responses.

At the conclusion of each theme paper, there are prompt questions for reflection. Responses to these questions can be uploaded via the QR code which can be found at the end of each paper; alternatively, feedback can be emailed to: Synod2026@cam.org.au - **by 5:00 pm, Friday 21st August.**

Parishioners may, if they wish, form their own groups and meet independently. Also, in these coming weeks the Parish will nominate times and locations where groups can meet. Regardless, all groups send their own submissions to the Synod Office as above - submissions are not being collated or sent by the priests or the parish.

Further information can be accessed at: melbournecatholic.org/synod2026.