

RESPONSIBILITY, HEALING & HUMILITY IN OCTOBER 2019
27th Sunday Ordinary Time Year C, 6th October 2019

SPECIAL GUEST – FATHER JAYANTHI

Today's homily is shorter, as we have the wonderful opportunity, after the homily, to hear our special guest, Father Jayanthi share with us about Blackall Tambo Parish communities.

Father Jayanthi has come to Brisbane this weekend to share, to meet with parish members and to give thanks.

GOSPEL OF LUKE 17:5-9

The two sections of the Gospel do not initially seem to fit together. Let us read the Gospel together, and then reflect on it.

The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!'

The Lord replied,

*'If you had faith the size of a mustard seed,
you could say to this mulberry tree,
"Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you.*

*Who among you would say to your slave
who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field,
"Come here at once and take your place at the table"?
Would you not rather say to him,
"Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me
while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink"?
Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded?
So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say,
"We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!"*

RESPONSIBILITY FOR OTHERS

Jesus earlier had spoken about the responsibility of caring for 'the little ones' and not to be the cause of their going astray.

Followers of Jesus are not to cause ***'one of these little ones to stumble'***.

Responsibility extends even beyond our **caring for others** and **awareness of their life journeys**, and the **challenges and crisis moments in people's lives**.

Responsibility also includes continual forgiveness.

Jesus said:

*'Be on your guard! If another disciple sins, you must rebuke the offender, and if there is repentance, you must forgive.
And if the same person sins against you seven times a day, and turns back to you seven times and says, "I repent", you must forgive.'*

No wonder the apostles implore Jesus to increase their faith.
To live out **their** mission, **they** needed to grow in their faith.
To love God and neighbour, **they** needed to grow in faith.

To live out **our** mission today, **we** need to grow in our faith.
To love God and neighbour today, **we** need to grow in faith.

Essential to expressing and living out our faith, is **HUMILITY**.

TWO EXAMPLES OF JESUS

In two different ways, Jesus challenges disciples who might brag about their faith.
Jesus challenges any disciple who thinks they are better than another disciple.

1. The first way is by the image of a familiar **mulberry tree**,
with its strong root system and connectedness to the land,
being uprooted and planted in the sea.
None of us can do that.
SO WHY DO WE BRAG?
2. The second way is by a familiar story in society in the time of Jesus.
A slave doing the work outside in the fields,
then coming in to serve the master indoors for the meal.
The slave doesn't brag to the master.

Either way the message is that **we do not brag**
about our level of faith,
or what authority we have,
or what power we have,
or what we do in the mission of God.

[PLENARY COUNCIL 2020](#)

Faith is a gift.

With faith we journeyed together the last two days in the **Archdiocesan Assembly**.
Thank you to **Debbie** and **Tom** from our Parish Pastoral Council,
and from the wider parish community, **David, Wendy, Netta, Cynthia** and **Clint**,
for your participation and humility in the Archdiocesan Assembly
as part of the ongoing Plenary process.

We have had the opportunity to follow it through livestreaming,
We will hear more from the participants during this month.

AMAZON

The Church in the countries of the Amazon region begin their Synod in Rome today.
The ['The Special Assembly of the Synod of Bishops for the Pan-Amazonian Region.'](#)
is from Sunday, October 6 to Sunday, October 27, 2019.

We journey with them through prayer,
and through social media.

We care for creation. We care for our sisters and brothers who live there.
We care for *'the lungs'* of our planet.

HEALING

In the Gospel after today's passage,
we hear of Jesus healing ten people who had leprosy.
Only one person had the humility to come back to Jesus,
to acknowledge his healing, and to give thanks to Jesus.
And that one person was a Samaritan.

As we seek healing in our lives, in our community,
in our nation, and on earth, our common home,
may we humbly work together,
and give thanks to God for the blessings we receive.

BLACKALL TAMBO PARISH

This weekend Father Jayanthi Maddala from Blackall
joins us in the celebration of the three weekend Masses.

We give thanks to the Blackall Tambo Parish communities
for your faith and friendship
and for the opportunities we have
to be sisters and brothers to each other.

We now invite Father Jayanthi to speak.

Fr. Gerry

[Readings: <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/100619.cfm>]

