

SACRED MOMENTS TO WAIT ON JESUS & TO GROW IN FAITH
27th SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME – 2 OCTOBER 2022



THANK YOU

Thank you to Father Gary Walker for your leadership in the community during the month of September.

Thank you to Margaret for your parish coordination during September.

It is lovely to be back.

The first three weeks of September were dedicated to study in the area of social justice.

The first of my reflections on the study is at this link – [Social Justice Reflections: Introduction](#)

In the fourth week, I was on a clergy retreat at [Santa Teresa at Ormiston](#).

WE REMEMBER & WE PRAY

As we gather together today, we remember the recent entry into the fullness of eternal life of

- **Sister Donna**, a Holy Spirit Sister who came to Saturday 6pm Masses over the years. We remember her stories about her missionary health work in western Africa.

- **Fr Joe Sardie**, a priest of Brisbane Archdiocese and former Meteorologist. We remember his ministry in the Archdiocese.

- **Bishop Hilton Deakin** from Melbourne Archdiocese, aged 89. We remember his advocacy for the rights of people, including his advocacy for First Nations Peoples and for the people of Timor Leste during the war years. He was one of the organisers of the 1973 national gathering of Catholic First Nations Peoples in Melbourne for the Eucharistic Congress.

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them,
May they rest in peace. Amen*

SEASON OF CREATION

We gather on the last weekend of the Season of Creation (September 1- October 4). Our major papal teaching on creation is [Laudato Si', On Care for Our Common Home](#), published in 2015.

Our Archdiocese of Brisbane has a [Laudato Si' Action Plan](#) for the period JUNE 2022 – MAY 2023.

It includes

- *Laudato Si' Action Platform Reflection*
- *The Archdiocese of Brisbane Laudato Si' Action Plan*
- *Goal 1 - Response to the Cry of the Earth*
- *Goal 2 - Response to the Cry of the Poor*
- *Goal 3 - Ecological Economics*
- *Goal 4 - Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles*
- *Goal 5 - Ecological Education*
- *Goal 6 - Ecological Spirituality*
- *Goal 7 - Community Resilience and Empowerment*

Archbishop Mark Coleridge reminds us in the document that

"... In recent years the truth of what he wrote has been evident to all of us. Bushfires and floods have ravaged South-East Queensland and other parts of Australia. Torres Strait Islanders and the peoples across the Pacific are pleading for urgent action to save them from the impacts of climate change including the threat of their homes, gardens and cemeteries being inundated. Aboriginal people in different parts of this country are expressing concern and even outrage at the threat to their traditional lands and culture resulting from mining activity. Pacific island nations voice similar concerns about the effects of mining operations on their lands and in the sea itself. COVID-19 has also left its own trail of devastation here and across the planet. The situation is critical and the Church has a unique role to play in turning things around. This Laudato Si Action Plan, which is aligned to the Holy See's Laudato Si Action Platform, seeks to identify what that means. I encourage every family, parish, community, school, agency and institution in the Archdiocese to embrace this Laudato Si Action Plan. Much is being done already, but we all need to go further in responding to the Holy Father's invitation to take the path of ecological conversion. This plan will help us all change the way we see the world around us and the way we act."

GOSPEL OF LUKE 17:5-9

We read the Gospel together.

***"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!”*

The apostles implored Jesus to increase their faith.
They were familiar with mulberry trees,
with their strong root system and connectedness to the land.

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.

On the prayer retreat last week, we reflected on our faith.
Humbly we knew that our faith was not as big enough as a mustard seed,
so we couldn't say to a mulberry tree or a gum tree
‘“Be uprooted and planted in the sea”, and it would obey you.’
Our faith needs to grow continually.

We were led in faith during the week by our retreat master, a Benedictine monk, who is
both a scriptural scholar/lecturer and a spiritual director.

On Sunday evening, he invited us to begin with a reflection on two images.

- A surfer who has gone out beyond the break and is waiting for the appropriate wave.
- A sailor who has prepared the boat and is waiting for the wind.

Our prayer retreat was a sacred time of waiting on God.

The Gospel today speaks of the slave waiting on the Master.
During our prayer times this week, may we **wait** on Jesus.
Then we trust the Holy Spirit to provide the wave or wind to **move** us in the Spirit's
direction.

Let us pray.

Father Gerry

Readings: <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/100222.cfm>