

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING** Ezek17:22-24 **I have made the small tree great.**

The Lord says this:

'From the top of the cedar,  
from the highest branch I will take a shoot  
and plant it myself on a very high mountain.  
I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel.  
It will sprout branches and bear fruit,  
and become a noble cedar.  
Every kind of bird will live beneath it,  
every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches.  
And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the one  
who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow,  
who withers green trees and makes the withered green.

I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'

**RESPONSORIAL** Ps 91:2-3,13-16: **R. Lord it is good to give thanks to you.**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night. **R.**

The just will flourish like the palm-tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar. **R.**

Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God, still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the Lord is just. In him, my rock, there is no wrong. **R.**

**SECOND READING** 2 Cor 5:6-10 **Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing the Lord.**

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight - we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** Mk4:26-34 **The mustard seed, the smallest of all the seeds, grows into the biggest shrub of all.**

Jesus said to the crowd, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

**HOLY FAMILY PARISH, RUNAWAY BAY  
SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION  
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024**

Parents are invited to enrol their child for First Holy Communion. The child must be aged 9 (Year 4) and have received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

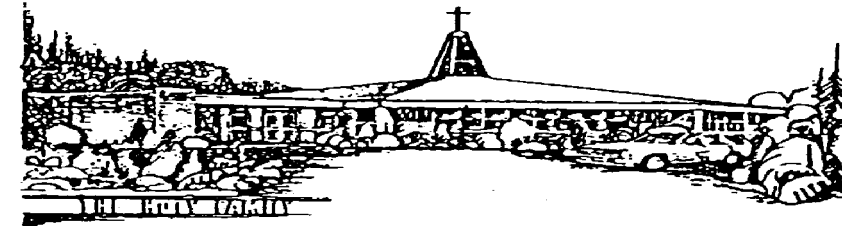
This time of preparation involves families attending the 9am Sunday mass during which the children will participate in focussed sessions each week. Families will also make their way through a family activity book at home. **\*Children who miss out on 2 or more lessons will complete their Sacrament next year\*.**

We begin with a Parent's Information Session held on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024** at 6pm in the Church. You are encouraged to attend as our Sacramental Coordinators Angela and Lorraine will explain more on the program and the celebration of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite of the Sacrament of Penance which is included as part of the preparation for First Holy Communion.

Further information and session dates are available on the Parish website [www.holyfamilyrunawaybay.org.au](http://www.holyfamilyrunawaybay.org.au) or contact the Parish Office at 07 55374320. Print outs are available on the Church back table.

Registrations close on 9th July 2024.

**HOLY FAMILY PARISH, RUNAWAY BAY**



11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B/2

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2024

**PARISH PRIEST**

Monsignor Peter Meneely pp

**PARISH STAFF**

Audrey Ho

*Parish Secretary*

**Email :**

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Jan Levinge

*Marriage Coordinator*

**Parish Office:** 16 Simbai St  
PO Box 125 Runaway Bay  
Q4216

**Website :**

[www.holyfamilyrunawaybay.org.au](http://www.holyfamilyrunawaybay.org.au)

**FOR ALL ENQUIRIES:**

**Tel: 07 5537 4320**

**Emergency : 0434 825 260**

**Facebook :**

[holyfamilycatholicchurchrunawaybay](https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilycatholicchurchrunawaybay)

**Hours:**

8.30am—3.00pm

**Monday—Thursday**

**(closed FRIDAY)**

**Reconciliation:**

Saturdays 3.30pm

**Baptisms**

Every 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Sundays  
after 9am Mass

**Please contact the Parish Office.**

**St Francis Xavier School:**

Principal : Ronan O'Mahony  
Tel: 5537 2633

**St. Vincent De Paul Helpline**

1800 846 643

Nerida Smith

**Minister to the Sick**

Mobile : 0417 606 639

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[nerida.smith@bigpond.com](mailto:nerida.smith@bigpond.com)

**Parish Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR)**

Michael Nicholson

[lsr.rbay@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:lsr.rbay@bne.catholic.net.au)

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

*Mark 4:26-34*

**Context Connection**

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus uses two parables to assist us in the understanding the Kingdom of God. The first image Jesus shares is of a farmer who scatters seeds on the ground. He then goes about the normal routine of life while the seeds sprout and grow. The farmer does not fully comprehend what is happening. Then when the grain is ripe, the farmer harvests it. Jesus presents the growth process of the grain as a mystery to the farmer. Faith is a gift that is planted in us at Baptism, and its growth is a mystery just like the plants that grow from the seeds. Like the seeds, our faith is always developing, growing, and becoming fuller. It takes a whole lifetime for faith to grow and mature. There is no way to rush it, just like there is no way the farmer can rush the process of seeds' spouting, growing, and maturing into ripened grain.

The second parable is about the mustard seed, "the smallest of all the seeds on earth" (4:31), which, when planted, grows into a strong and great shrub that provides a place of shelter and comfort to birds. Jesus shares the image that a very small amount of faith can grow into a strong faith that will be a place of shelter and comfort for others. During our time of growing our faith, Jesus assures us that God will continue to nurture the good within us and never abandon us. It is a process of being on the way, the way to a mature faith. Throughout our lifetime, we live in the tension between faith that has been planted with deep inner-rooted hope of growing into a mature faith and knowing of the fragility of faith and that there are obstacles on the way to a mature faith. We can have hope in the present moment because what is expected is that we are attending to growing our faith. Our faith at the present moment isn't what it was as a child, but it still isn't what it will be ten, twenty, or thirty years from now when it has matured some.

**Wisdom Connection**

Mark wants the Christian community to take to heart, to plant down deeply, Jesus's words of hope in the Kingdom of God. The ultimate hope for a Christian is the coming of the Kingdom of God, but one must take note that that mystery is unfolding and growing in our midst, even while we are going about the routine things in our lives. This Sunday's Gospel gives us hope and encouragement in the process of growing in faith. The words Jesus sows are mysteriously undergoing a growth process that continues to move us toward the fullness of God's Kingdom. The tension that the Christian community has to come to grips with is that we are always living in the in-between time, between the Resurrection of Jesus and his Second Coming. The parables in this Sunday's Gospel place the Christian in a similar time, between the planting and the harvest.

*Text: Youth - Scripture Reflections-11th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B*

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**Weekly Diary : 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024—23<sup>rd</sup> June 2024**

<b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>: 9.30am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
	<b>: 10.00am</b>	<b>Home, Heart &amp; Soul Seminar — Church</b>
<b>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>: 9.30am</b>	<b>Christ Catholic Community Prayer Group-Parish Board Room</b>
<b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>: 9.30am</b>	<b>Mass followed by Rosary</b>
<b>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>: 3.30pm</b>	<b>Confessions</b>
	<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Vigil —12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B/2</b>
	<b>5.30pm</b>	<b>Mass at Banksia Park Hall, 27 Crescent Avenue, Hope Island</b>
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>: 7.00am</b>	<b>Mass—11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B/2</b>
	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Mass—11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B/2</b>
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Baptisms</b>