

Listening to God's Word  
Growing in Faith



Reaching out to All

**WEBSITE**

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

**PARISH PRIEST**

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**ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH**

**Lockyer Street ADAMSTOWN**

**ST KEVIN'S CHURCH**

**226 Main Road CARDIFF**

**ST PHILIP'S CHURCH/PRESBYTERY**

**31 Vista Parade KOTARA**

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**Secretaries**

Louise Byron, Anna Bojkowski

**Office Hours**

Monday to Thursday

9.00am-3.00pm

Closed for Lunch 12 – 1pm

**PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

St Columba's Adamstown

St Kevin's Cardiff

St James' Kotara

**PARISH HIGH SCHOOLS**

St Pius X Adamstown

St Paul's Booragul

Links are on our Website



**SUNDAY MASSES**

*Saturday Vigil Kotara 5.30pm; Sunday Adamstown 8.00am;*

*Sunday Cardiff 9.30am*

*Sunday Adoration Kotara 5.30pm (during Winter)*

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

*Wednesday 9.30am Adamstown;*

*Thursday Cardiff 9.30am; Friday 9.15am Kotara;*

*1st Saturday of Month 9.15am Kotara*

## Gospel Reflection

This week's gospel is a wonderful example of the teaching style of Jesus. It even tells us that 'he would not speak to them except in parables'. Jesus used the parable form almost exclusively to share his message. He used imagery that was familiar to his audience; parables about the everyday life of a rural community: seeds, planting, growing, harvesting. The secret of Jesus' parables, when we understand the cultural context, is that there was always a 'twist in the tale' – what is called a 'discombobulating shift' – that turns the expected outcome of the story on its head.

This is nowhere more evident than in the image of the mustard seed. On the surface the parable is about the kingdom of God starting from very small, humble beginnings and growing into something great. However, immediately prior to this kingdom parable, Jesus has reminded us that the community makes a living out of growing grain crops like wheat for bread, etc. His parable about the mustard seed describes a tiny seed that grows into a great shrub 'so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade'. A farming community that was growing grain crops would be greatly alarmed at the thought of actually attracting birds to their fields or even nearby. Jesus' message about the kingdom of God is that it is actually disruptive and invasive. The kingdom brings unrest and disquiet to the predictable. The kingdom of God is unsettling. This is a much more challenging parable than it appears from a literal reading.

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# Parish News

## **SICK/SPECIAL NEEDS:** *We remember in prayer ...*

Leonie Pickett, Veronica Hipwell, Karen Curran, Algi & Geraldine Bajelis, Mick King, Margaret McLellan, Jan Hobson, Lewis Peel (Purcell), Rita Martin, Emma Pacifico, Lorraine Caldwell, Emilinda Peralta, Loris Jackson, Linda McDonald, Dean Hart, Barry Moore, Chris Patsan, Catherine Hobbs, Bernadette Coffey, Dorota Bakowska, Abby Rodwell, Gae Alderton, Ernestina Klein, Alexander Klein, Nance Schreiber, Maria Richardson, Stanislaw Ksiadz, Maria Kanonczuk, Penny Harrison, Rocco Laudadio, Baby Milo, Carmel Allan

**ANNIVERSARIES:** John Little, Brian Nolan, Mick Barrett, Hansjoerg Klein, Francis McCudden, Francizek Stachura, Josef Kowalski, Margaret James, Jon Runchel

**BAPTISMS:** James Chatterton, Eve & Henry Lorenz, Mackenzie Vial, Cleo Langi

<b>13/06/2021</b>	<b>ADAMSTOWN</b>	<b>CARDIFF</b>	<b>KOTARA</b>
<b>Commentator</b>	Dot Reynolds	Mary-Anne Jennings	Christine Sheppard
<b>Reader</b>	Paula O'Neill Barry Bourke	Sr Carmel Moore Majella Maher	Emma South Bella Lukaszewicz
<b>Extraordinary Minister</b>	Albert Erzetich	Len McCullum	Giavanna Angi
<b>Counters</b>	Hamilton Koelmeyer	Len McCullum	John Bourke, Mark Noonan, Val Menzies
<b>20/06/2021</b>	<b>ADAMSTOWN</b>	<b>CARDIFF</b>	<b>KOTARA</b>
<b>Commentator</b>	Vickie Pettett	Margaret Bourke	Peter Cunningham
<b>Reader</b>	Christine Williams Stan Heaney	Mary-Anne Jennings Anne Lamotte	Marilyn Thomson Gerard Mowbray
<b>Extraordinary Minister</b>	Preciosa Winter	Sr Carmel Moore	Marilyn Thomson
<b>Counters</b>	Dot Reynolds, Lynn Johns	N/A	N/A

## **Gospel Focus – The Kingdom of God**

The references to the kingdom of God in the gospels always carry a paradox. It exists in the present, yet is something to be achieved in the future. It is here, but not yet. If we live 'as if' we are living in the kingdom here and now then we hasten its coming. The kingdom of God is not a place but a way in which the world operates. It is a kingdom that is ruled by justice and gives precedence to those who are regarded as nothing in the world. It is a kingdom of promise and hope that inspires and calls all people to more than they currently are.

### **Scriptural context – Kingdom Parables**

Jesus sought to describe the kingdom of God by comparison and analogy – 'The kingdom of God is like ...'; 'To what can we compare the kingdom of God?' He never gave a lecture about the kingdom, rather, he painted a picture in terms that were readily recognised by his audience but forced them to think differently about the image he used. It forced them to think about themselves and their world in a different way. Kingdom parables begin innocently enough with a familiar image but very quickly shift to a challenge about the way we normally perceive things. The kingdom is often portrayed as a contradiction.

### **Living the Gospel – Seed on the land**

The first parable in the gospel passage describes the unerring work of the kingdom. It is like the seed that almost magically transforms into a fully grown plant that may be harvested – apparently without any external forces. Of course, we know that plants need to be fed, watered, weeded and nurtured to ensure their proper growth. However, the kingdom of God works in our lives in a similar way – if we feed and nurture it, the kingdom will produce a great harvest. Even if we don't pay it attention, the kingdom is present and acting in our world.

## Our Parish Notices

**Planned Giving Envelopes and Tax Receipt Request Forms are available for collection from our churches this weekend.**

Many parishioners will find their envelope number has changed. If you have any questions or issues collecting your envelopes, please contact the Parish Office. We have endeavoured to make the envelopes available at the Mass Centre you have attended most regularly in recent months.

**Tax Receipt Requests:** please return your request form for a tax receipt either by email or post to Parish Office or via the collection buckets provided. **All requests for a tax receipt must be lodged with the Parish Office no later than 30 June.**

All parishioners are encouraged to contribute to the 1<sup>st</sup> (Clergy Fund) and 2<sup>nd</sup> (Parish Account) collections either before or after Mass using the collection boxes available in the church. Please **only use the ONE date-stamped envelope** for the 2<sup>nd</sup> collection and remember to social distance as you contribute.

Have you considered payment options for your donations by either Direct Debit or EFT? Further information is available from Fr Joseph or the Parish Office.

**Weekday Mass Changes:** Please note, Masses scheduled for this Tuesday 15th June 9.30am at Adamstown and Wednesday 16th June 7.00am at Kotara have been **cancelled** for this week only.

**Parish Office** will be closed this Monday, 14 June due to the Public Holiday.

**First Anniversary Mass for Adamstown and Kotara Communities:** Our Mass will be celebrated at St Philip's Kotara on Saturday, 3rd July and will be offered for parishioners or close relatives of parishioners who passed away during June & July 2020. Please give names for remembrance to Paula on 0411 813 101 by this Monday 21st June.

**Parish Soup Night - Date and Time Change**  
Further details next week.

**Enrolments for our Catholic Schools 2022**  
Are now being taken. Please contact local school for further details and enrolment forms.

**St James' School Playgroup** meet in the school hall every Friday from 9.00am-11.00am.  
[stjamesplaygroupkotarasouth@hotmail.com](mailto:stjamesplaygroupkotarasouth@hotmail.com)

### **CARDIFF:**

**New Audio Visual and Television** has now been installed in Cardiff Church. Thanks to Meighans Funerals and Cardiff Bereavement Group for their generous donations towards this new equipment.

### **FAMILY GROUPS**

**Greensleeves** are going to the Hunter (Shortland) Wetlands for a walk and/or lunch on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June. For details contact Peter Cunningham on 49422294.

**Rainbow Soup Night** - Saturday, 26 June, 6.30pm in Kotara Church Hall. Contact Helen M 0491 237 283.

### **DIOCESAN / OTHER NOTICES:**

**Marriage Week 12 – 18 September 2021** is an annual celebration, initiated in Australia in 2007, to reinforce and promote the benefits/ importance of marriage and increase awareness and value of pre-marriage and in-marriage education. Our marriages are not private matters ~ Our children, gain emotional security and a myriad of benefits from our marriage, our love and union. Our marriages matter to our extended family. They matter to our employers. They matter to society. They are the fabric that holds families together. So, do something for your marriage in 2021, come to think of it why wait – do it now! Sign up with our Marriage Investment Bank – find out more at <https://marriageweek.org.au/>

#### **National Catholic Men's Gathering 2021**

Will be launched online on Saturday 31st July. Join a diocesan group with your Bishop or with your Men's Ministry/Parish group or individually. Three sessions will be provided online, along with reflection questions for group discussion or individual reflection.

Register: [www.catholicmensgathering.com.au](http://www.catholicmensgathering.com.au)  
See Poster on Noticeboards.

**MN Youth** is a new initiative that aims to offer primary aged children a vibrant and engaging space to meet one afternoon each week where they can learn and explore the concept of 'faith' through friendship, fun and food! If you feel called to explore what contemporary children's ministry might look like, we invite you to attend an information session.

Information Sessions will be on:

Thursday 17 June 5:00-6:00pm at the Function Room: MacKillop Catholic Parish Pastoral Centre, 7 Milson Street, Charlestown

Click on the link to RSVP:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/mn-youth-information-sessions-tickets-156817739079>

## 11th Sunday Ordinary Time — YEAR B

### FIRST READING Ez 17:22-24

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 PSALM

Ps 91:2-3, 13-16. R. see v.2

*Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.*

1. 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.
2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree  
and grow like a Lebanon cedar.
3. 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.

*Lord, it is good to give thanks to you*

### SECOND READING 2 Cor 5:6-10

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 confi-  
dence, 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 Mk 4:26-34

Jesus said to the crowds, ‘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 capa-  
ble of understanding it. He would not speak  
to them except in parables, but he explained  
everything to his disciples when they were  
alone



### GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,  
And on earth peace to people  
of good will  
We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great  
glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
Only begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
Son of the Father  
You take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
You take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer  
You are seated at the right hand of the  
Father, have mercy on us.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
You alone are the Lord,  
You alone are the most high  
Jesus Christ,  
With the Holy Spirit,  
In the glory of God the Father.  
Amen

### APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our  
Lord, who was conceived by the Holy  
Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again  
from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God  
the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the  
living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. Amen.