

The only thing that counts is faith working through love. (Galatians 5:6)

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
12th Jul 2026



FROM THE TREASURY OF THE CHURCH

Jesus himself has given a divine explanation to the parable of the Sower. In the treasury of Church Tradition, we have many church fathers giving beautiful explanation of the parable of the Sower. Let us just check out a few of them.

St. Thomas Aquinas: what's required for the word to bear fruit



Aquinas draws attention to what must be present within the hearer so the word can take hold. He describes three interior necessities:

- Memory of the word (keeping it, not losing it)
- Rooting through love/charity (the word is cherished)
- Concern/effort (pursuing justice, godliness, faith, charity, patience, etc.)

And he explains how these are harmed:

- memory can be lost through vanity,
- love can be blocked by hardness,
- and effort can be defeated by the sprouting up of vices.

Parish Priest:
Fr. Joby George VC

Priest-In Residence:
Fr Sebastian
Mappilaparambil VC

Parish secretary:
Caroline Allen

Parish Manager:
Gerard Antony

Principal:
Paul Sharp

Child Safety Officer:
Florida Nugara

Catechist:
Christina D'Couto

Sunday Masses:
Saturday Vigil …. 6.30pm
Sunday…..... 9.15am
…… 11.00am
Healing Mass …. 7.00pm

Spanish Mass:
Saturday 4.00pm

Weekday Masses:
Monday to Saturday 9.15am
Wednesday 7.00pm

Reconciliation:
Tuesday 9.45am - 10.15am
Saturday 9.45am - 10.15am

Novena to Our Lady:
Saturday 9.00am
Wednesday 7.00pm

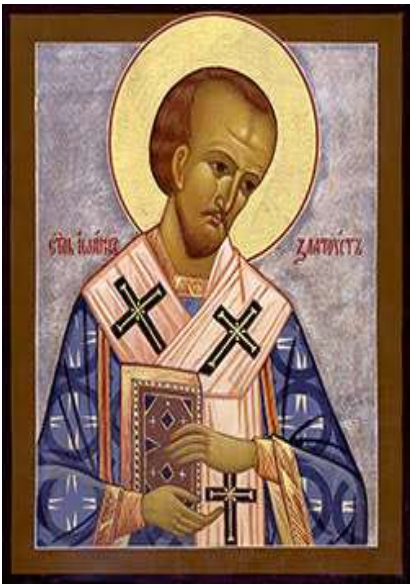
Baptisms: Second Sunday

Divine Kids Bible Class:
Sunday 10.15am

Parish Prayer Group:
Tuesday 7.00pm-8.00pm

Parish Halls Hire:
Contact Parish Office

St. John Chrysostom: the Sower is impartial – fruit depends on the soil



Chrysostom emphasizes that the Sower "makes no distinction" in the ground: the Word is offered to all. The tragedy is that the **loss comes because of the heart's condition** ("Not through the Sower, but through the ground that received it"). He also notes that Christ does not harshly label everyone in a way that would push them into despair – rather, the warning is left to the hearer's conscience.

The Church's practical spiritual takeaway: don't just "hear" – learn to receive

The Catechism connects this parable directly to prayer and spiritual practice: Christians should develop the desire to **meditate regularly**, lest they resemble the "three first kinds of soil" that fail to let the Word take root. It also adds that a method is only a guide—the essential thing is to advance with the Holy Spirit along the way of Christ.

CHILD SAFETY

Holy Family Parish is committed to upholding the wellbeing, safety and dignity of each child and young person and ensuring that they are able to grow and develop in a caring and supportive environment in our Church.

READINGS

SUNDAY
Isaiah 55:10-11
Psalm 65:10-14
Romans 8:18-23
Matthew 13:1-23

MONDAY
Isaiah 1:10-17
Psalm 50:8-9,16-17,21,23
Matthew 10:34-11:1

TUESDAY
Isaiah 7:1-9
Psalm 48:2-8
Matthew 11:20-24

WEDNESDAY
Saint Bonaventure, Bishop, Doctor
Isaiah 10:5-7,13-16
Psalm 94:5-10,14-15
Matthew 11:25-27

THURSDAY
Isaiah 26:7-9,12,16-19
Psalm 102:13-21
Matthew 11:28-30

FRIDAY
Isaiah 38:1-6,21-22,7-8
Isaiah 38:10-12,16
Matthew 12:1-8

SATURDAY
Micah 2:1-5
Psalm 10:1-4,7-8,14
Matthew 12:14-21

"So, what should I do with this parable?"

A faithful Catholic approach is to ask, honestly:

1. **Do I understand the Word I hear?** (If not, seek clarity – read the Gospel, ask, learn.)
2. **Am I persevering when it costs me?** (Do I abandon the faith when difficulty comes?)
3. **What thorns are choking me?** (Cares, habits, attachments, "deceitfulness of riches.")
4. **Am I making room for the Word to take root?** (Memory, love, and real effort – prayer, repentance, concrete virtue.)

In short: the parable teaches that **Christ sows generously, but the fruit depends on how the heart receives and perseveres** – leading either to growth or to loss.

God bless us all. Fr Joby George

PRAYER INTENTION FOR THE WEEK

For all suffering with PTSD and related issues

We will be praying for them in every Holy Mass for this week. Please keep them in your personal Rosary and prayers.

POSITIONS VACANT

CAM Positions

+ Formation Specialist, Content Development and Delivery, East Melbourne

+ Executive Support Officer – Mission Directorate, East Melbourne

+ Formation Facilitator – The Bethany Way, East Melbourne

Further details of the above positions can be found on the Archdiocese website at: (https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies)



Saint of the Week



Saint Bonaventure
15 Jul

Christ is both the way and the door. Christ is the staircase and the vehicle, like the "throne of mercy over the Ark of the Covenant," and "the mystery hidden from the ages." A man should turn his full attention to this throne of mercy, and should gaze at him hanging on the cross, full of faith, hope, and charity, devoted, full of wonder and joy, marked by gratitude, and open to praise and jubilation. Then such a man will make with Christ a "pasch," that is, a passing-over. Through the branches of the cross he will pass over the Red Sea, leaving Egypt and entering the desert. There he will taste the hidden manna, and rest with Christ in the sepulcher, as if he were dead to things outside. He will experience, as much as is possible for one who is still living, what was promised to the thief who hung beside Christ: "Today you will be with me in paradise."

~ Journey of the Mind to God, by Saint Bonaventure

Parish Office Opening Hours Tuesday to Friday 9.30am to 1.30pm	Presbytery T: (03) 97924317 | School T: (03) 97911853 Parish W: holyfamilydoveton.org.au Parish E: doveton@cam.org.au Parish Manager E: hfparishmanager@gmail.com Child Safety E: holyfamilycso@cam.org.au