



OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 19th July 2020

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Sunday Reflection – “Weeds among the Wheat” – That sounds like a good description of the human heart. We all like to categorize people into “goodies” and “baddies”, “saints” and “sinners”. We then know where we stand and in which group we stand! In this regard, today’s gospel is most apt. The parable originally addressed the problem of sinners in the Kingdom of God. What do you do with them? Weed them out and expel them? At the time of Jesus, the Pharisees, the “separated ones” had an easy solution – just ruthlessly weed them out; get rid of them! Jesus, on the other hand was much more careful and tolerant. He opposed the ruthless approach of the Pharisees, indeed, throughout his ministry, he associated with all sorts of people, talking to and sharing table – fellowship with prostitutes, tax collectors, priests, scribes, children, politicians, shepherds, widows, the poor, the rich, sinners. Jesus did not advocate religious separatism. He always wanted to seek out and save what was lost. He knew too well that all communities are made up of “the good” and “the bad”. This parable can also be applied to the issue of sinners in the church today. The Church too is a mixed bag of all sorts. It should not engage in purges and witch hunts. It can of course teach the truth and advice and counsel, but the last judgement has always to be left to God to exercise. God is patient and allows time for each one to repent and change. The final judgement is always God’s and not ours. In the meantime, there is always the good hope that there will be a change before judgement day. All Christians should follow the advice of St Paul, who had done his own share of “weeding out” before he met Jesus, and then he too changed for the better: “There must be no passing of premature judgement. Leave that until the Lord comes”. (1 Cor 4:5)

Resumption of Public Masses – The public celebration of Holy Mass and other functions has resumed in our Church. We are very happy to welcome you back! Owing to the continued possibility of infection during the Coronavirus epidemic, various precautions will remain in place for the time being. These are aimed at ensuring maximum safety and peace of mind among those who worship and pray at our Servite Church. We ask that you sanitise your hands on entering and leaving the Church and that you complete a slip, this is for tracing purposes which is required. Our Stewards will guide you.

Volunteers Needed – We are running reduced Masses at this time and Church opening times are limited. This is due to a lack of Volunteers. If you have some time to steward in our Church, please call the Parish Office or email to advise. Thank you

The Rite of Baptism: Can now take place. To have your child baptised, you Must be a practicing Catholic in our Church. To arrange a Baptism, please email the Parish Office.

Weddings: Maximum number permitted to attend is 30.

Funerals: A simple requiem Mass may be celebrated.

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Vigil Mass: Sat 6.30pm
Sunday 9.30am
11.30am
Mon, Wed & Fri 10am

Sacrament of Confession

By Appointment

If you would like Confession, please email, or call the Parish Office.

Parish Office Opening Hrs

Mon – Fri 9am to 1pm

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Rosary

Legion of Mary

Contemplative Prayer Group:

Due to Covid 19, the above Groups

Saints Days

Mon 20th - St Apollinaris

Tue 21st - St Lawrence of
Brindisi

Wed 22nd - St Mary Magdalene

Thu 23rd - St Bridget of
Sweden

Fri 24th - St Sharbel Makhluf

Sat 25th - St James

First Holy Communion & Confirmation Programme 2019/2020 – Re the completion of these programmes, once it has been decided how/when to complete them, Candidates and Families will be contacted.

Lately Dead:

David & Avelina Edwards

Adelaide Abigale Nora James