

The West Wagga Wag

Issue 199

October 2019

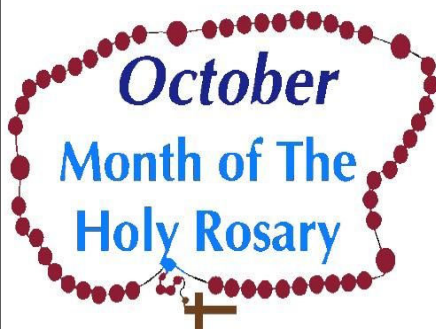
Coming Events

Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament, Holy Trinity

- 6 to 7am daily;
- overnight from 9pm Friday
through to 7am Saturdays

Monthly Cuppa, after 9am Mass
on last Sunday of the month.

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Our Lady of the Rosary | Mon 7 |
| St Teresa of Ávila | Tue 15 |
| St Ignatius of Antioch | Thu 17 |
| St Luke, Evangelist | Fri 18 |
| St Pope John Paul II | Tue 22 |
| Sts Simon and Jude, Apostles | Mon 28 |
| All Saints Solemnity | Nov Fri 1 |
| All Souls | Nov Sat 2 |



Inside this issue:

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Finders, Minders and Grinders | 2 |
| Totally stumped by a cell | 4 |
| Dad reflects on The Lion King | 6 |
| A Prayer for Rain | 7 |

Wag Contacts

Email:

westwaggaparish@hotmail.com

Web Page: westwaggaparish.com

Phone: 6931 3601

The date for submissions for the next
Wag is: **Wednesday October 30th.**

Confession, Communion and Marriage



On August 28, children
from Holy Trinity Primary
School received their first
Confession.



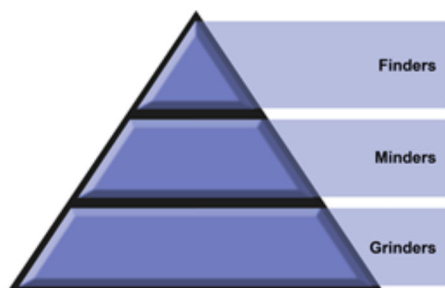
And September 7 was First
Holy Communion day.

We pray that their faith and love for Jesus whom they have met in these
Sacraments May grow more and more.



Congratulations to Diana and
Sherwin, married at Holy Trinity on
September 28

PASTOR'S PAGE - FINDERS, MINDERS AND GRINDERS



A businessman once told me and others at a meeting that there are usually three kinds of roles in a business: the "Finders", the "Minders" and the "Grinders". All are important and all deserve our gratitude, but one of these groups is often forgotten.

The "Finders" are those men and women in the front line, being the face of the organisation to people outside. This group would include the media spokesperson, the sales rep, and, in the Church, the evangelizers. Catholic speakers who give Missions can inspire us, and sometimes make the weekly sermons seem a bit dull in comparison. Well, the travelling preacher can give his polished presentation a hundred-and-fifty times, full of energy and enthusiasm, showing the wonder of the Faith, its importance and its rewards. People like this can sing, "I was the one with all the glory... you were the wind beneath my wings." On receiving their awards, the athlete, actor or astronaut usually thank all those members of the team without whom they would never have done anything.

Now, without this role, the one who

preaches the "kerygma", we would be in trouble, we would not grow. More importantly, Our Lord has sent us out to "make disciples of all nations", to proclaim the Good News, so we all need to have some of the "Finder" in us. But what happens once a person has been attracted to enter the doors of the Church? That is where the next role comes in, that of the "Minder".

In every business, and no less in the Church, there are the people who have the less glamorous job but maybe a more satisfying one, of actually doing what the business is all about. So in the Church, we have the families, the priests in the parishes, the catechists, and many besides. In sports they would be the coaches and trainers, in education the classroom teachers, in the army those on the front lines; you get the idea. They more than the passing personalities share the journey of those they help, in good times and in bad. They are called to "never grow tired of doing what is right", to "fight the good fight and run the race". They are called "to bear much fruit, fruit that will last". Maybe most of us are in this category.

But all of us would be lost without the "grinders", people who are really behind the scenes. Like plumbers, they keep things flowing, unnoticed until things go wrong, and then we realize how essential they are. These people keep the home fires burning.

Even in the Church, there are tasks

like record keeping, trouble-shooting, peace-making. One of my sisters, Sr Bridgid, is a Missionary of Charity and while stationed in Calcutta had to look after the accounting, seemingly a far cry from the work with the poor usual for the Missionaries of Charity. Yet it was no less serving God and serving the poor, no less able to be offered as an act of love.

Remember Our Lord's message about those who boast of their good deeds, "They have already had their reward." Maybe because the "grinder's" work is less noticeable, and less praised in this world, those who generously do this work will have the greater reward.

In our Diocese, there are many who serve in hidden ways. We should not forget to thank them. One of these is particularly busy at this time while we wait for the appointment of a new Bishop. Many will remember how busy Mgr Mick Burgess was before the appointment of Bishop Hanna, and to be given that responsibility when you are not young is a big deal. Now Fr O'Reilly is in this position, for longer than expected.

On behalf of our parish we thank him and those who assist him for all their often unnoticed work. I encourage everyone when you see him to say thank you, and to do the same for all who serve in so many ways.

Fr Thomas Casanova
ecs

WHAT SHE SAW ON ULTRASOUND CHANGED EVERYTHING
UNPLANNED

UNPLANNED.COM • <https://youtu.be/ttXoXMBfZ8Q>



Recommended
for mature
audiences

WED 9TH OCTOBER, 6:30 PM, FORUM 6 CINEMA

Purchase tickets online only, at: fan-force.com/screenings/unplanned-forum-6-cinema-wagga-wagga/

WEDNESDAY 9TH OCTOBER, 6:30 PM, FORUM 6 CINEMA Invite a friend!

Still some tickets left at: fan-force.com/screenings/unplanned-forum-6-cinema-wagga-wagga/

For more info or help with transport or getting ticket phone 6931 3601.

October Jokes



This arrogant young guy has recently started work at a construction site and ever since he started he's been bragging that he could outdo anyone based on his superior strength. He's been making fun of one of the older workmen in particular.

Eventually, an older worker has had enough and says, "Tell you what - why don't you put your money where your mouth is? I'll bet you a week's wages that I can take something over to that other building in this wheelbarrow and you won't be able to wheel it back." The young guy laughs confidently, "You're on, old man. Let's see what you've got."

So the old guy grabs the wheelbarrow by the handles. Then he nods to the young man as he says with a smile, "Alright. Get in."

What nails do carpenters hate hammering? Fingernails

An plumber finishes repairing some troublesome pipes in a solicitor's home and hands him the bill.

'Four hundred dollars! For an hour's work?' shouts the solicitor. 'That's ridiculous! I'm an attorney and even I don't charge that much.'

The plumber replies, 'Funny, when I was an solicitor I didn't either!'

This contractor guy dies in a tragic accident on his 40th birthday. He ascends to heaven where he's greeted at the Pearly Gates by a brass band and Saint Peter. Saint Peter shakes the guys hand warmly, and says "Congratulations!" The contractor is a little confused. "Congratulations for what?" he asks.

"Congratulations for what!?" says Saint Peter. "We're celebrating the fact you lived to the grand old age of 160."

The contractor says, "But that's not right - I only lived to be 40." "That's impossible," says Saint Peter. "We added up your time sheets!"

I watched a documentary about how they fix steelwork together last night. Riveting!

My friend told me how electricity is measured and I was like Watt!

I finally managed to get rid of that nasty electrical charge I've been carrying. I'm ex-static!

My electrician friend accidentally blew the power to the ice making factory. Now they've gone into liquidation.



What would a barefoot man get if he stepped on an electric fence? A pair of shocks.

My neighbour doesn't want to pay for an electrician to re-wire his house so he's going to try and do it himself. "How hard can it be?" he said. I think he's in for a shock.

This electrician arrives home late. His wife asks him, "Wire you insulate?" He replies, "Watt's it to you? I'm Ohm, aren't I?"

A superconductor walks into a bar. The bartender says, "Get out! We don't serve your kind here." The superconductor left without resistance.

What is an electrician's favorite flavor of ice cream? Shock-a-lot.

I went to my boss at work and said, "I need a raise. Three other companies are after me." He said, "Really? Which other companies are after you?" I said, "The electric company, the gas company and the phone company."

I had to call an electrician out today after getting my finger stuck in the socket while trying to plug in my phone. I can't believe how much I was charged.

Never trust an electrician with no eyebrows.

What do you call a Russian electrician? Switchitonanov.

What is the tallest building in the world? The library! It has the most stories!

Did you hear the joke about the roof? Never mind, it's over your head!

What did one wall say to the other wall? Meet you at the corner.

What starts with a P, ends with an E, and has a million letters in it? Post Office

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
|  | |
| \$100 / HR | STANDARD |
| \$150 / HR | IF YOU WATCH |
| \$175 / HR | IF YOU HELP |
| \$200 / HR | IF YOU WORKED ON IT FIRST |

Researcher: Smartest Engineers Would Be “Totally Stumped” By A Cell



[From an article about Greg Johnson, a computer vision and machine learning researcher at the Allen Institute for Cell Science, on seeing inside living cells]

Understanding what cells look like on the inside — much less the myriad interactions among their parts — is hard even in the 21st century. “Think of a cell as a sophisticated machine like a car — except every 24 hours, you’ll have two cars in your driveway, and then four cars in your driveway,” said Greg Johnson, a computer vision and machine learning researcher at the Allen Institute for Cell Science. “If you found the smartest engineers in the world and said, ‘Make me a machine that does that,’ they would be totally stumped. That’s what I think of when I think of how little we know about how cells work.”

One of the people who replied commented about the car analogy:

“Think of a cell as a sophisticated machine like a car — except every 24 hours, you’ll have two cars in your driveway ...,”

Even that metaphor fails to capture the complexity of the cell. Michael Denton’s [1985] metaphor of a factory is a lot closer to the reality of the situation:

To grasp the reality of life as it has been revealed by molecular biology, we must magnify a cell a thousand million times until it is twenty kilometres in diameter and resembles a giant airship large enough to cover a great city like London or New York. What we would then see would be an object of unparalleled complexity and adaptive design.

On the surface of the cell we would see millions of openings, like the portholes of a vast space ship, opening and closing to allow a continual stream of materials to flow in and out. If we were to enter one of these openings with find ourselves in a world of supreme technology and bewildering complexity.

We would see endless highly organized corridors and conduits branching in every direction away from the perimeter of the cell, some leading to the central memory bank in the nucleus and others to assembly plants and processing units. The nucleus of itself would be a vast spherical chamber more than a kilometre in diameter, resembling a geodesic dome inside of which we would see, all neatly stacked together in ordered arrays, the miles of coiled chains of the DNA molecules.

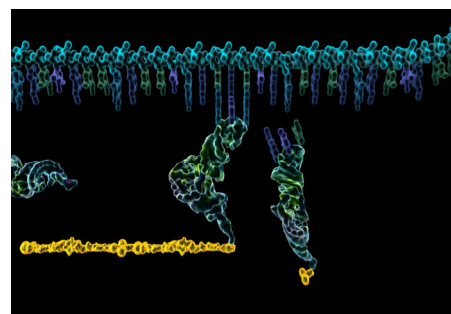
A huge range of products and raw materials would shuttle along all the manifold conduits in a highly ordered fashion to and from all the various assembly plants in the outer regions of the cell. We would wonder at the level of control implicit in the movement of so many objects down so many seemingly endless conduits, all in perfect unison.

We would see all around us, in every direction we looked, all sorts of robot-like machines. We would notice that the simplest of the functional components of the cell, the protein molecules, were astonishingly, complex pieces of molecular machinery, each one consisting of about three thousand atoms arranged in highly organized 3-D spatial conformation. We would wonder even more as we watched the strangely purposeful activities of these weird molecular machines, particularly when we realized that, despite all our accumulated knowledge of physics and chemistry, the task of designing one such molecular machine — that is one single functional protein

molecule — would be completely beyond our capacity at present and will probably not be achieved until at least the beginning of the next century. Yet the life of the cell depends on the integrated activities of thousands, certainly tens, and probably hundreds of thousands of different protein molecules.

We would see that nearly every feature of our own advanced machines had its analogue in the cell: artificial languages and their decoding systems, memory banks for information storage and retrieval, elegant control systems regulating the automated assembly of parts and components, error fail-safe and proof-reading devices utilized for quality control, assembly processes involving the principle of prefabrication and modular construction. In fact, so deep would be the feeling of *deja-vu*, so persuasive the analogy, that much of the terminology we would use to describe this fascinating molecular reality would be borrowed from the world of late twentieth-century technology.

What we would be witnessing would be an object resembling an immense automated factory, a factory larger than a city and carrying out almost as many unique functions as all the manufacturing activities of man on earth. However, it would be a factory which would have one capacity not equalled in any of our own most advanced machines, for it would be capable of replicating its entire structure within a matter of a few hours. To witness such an act at a magnification of one thousand million times would be an awe-inspiring spectacle.”



When Joseph Stalin's Daughter Became Catholic



"The Eucharist has given me life," she said. *By Matthew Archbold*

Svetlana Stalin, the daughter of the murderous dictator Joseph Stalin, renounced materialism and converted to Catholicism. Joseph would not have approved. In fact, Svetlana once reportedly told an editor of *National Review* that "my father would have shot me for what I have done."

While in power, Stalin did everything he could to crush Christianity, closing down thousands of churches and violently torturing, killing, and imprisoning Christians. This is the man who was reputed to have said, "One death is a tragedy; one million is a statistic".

His daughter Svetlana once wrote of her father, "Many people today find it easier to think of [Stalin] as a coarse physical monster. Actually, he was a moral and spiritual monster. This is far more terrifying. But it's the truth."

Stalin established as the goal of the 'five-year plans of atheism' directed by the League of the Militant Godless eliminating all religious expression in the country. Reportedly, during just the purges of 1937 and 1938, well over 168,300 Russian Orthodox clergy were arrested, a majority of whom were shot.

[However] Stalin adored Svetlana and was playful and affectionate with her. And she reciprocated.

In March 1953, Stalin died. "My father died a difficult and terrible death," wrote Svetlana. She was there at his bedside for days, as doctors applied leeches.

"The death agony was terrible," Svetlana wrote. "At what seemed the very last moment he suddenly opened his eyes and cast a glance over everyone in the room. Then he suddenly lifted his left hand. The gesture was incomprehensible and full of menace."

A few years after her father's death, Svetlana changed her name to her mother's maiden name. She said the name Stalin "lacerated" her ears. She was now Svetlana Alliluyeva. Joseph Stalin had changed his last name to make it sound strong. "Stalin" means steel. The name "Alliluyeva" was a form of "Allelujah" which fit Svetlana better at that time because in 1962, she was baptized in the Orthodox Church. Svetlana rejected the materialism and violence of her father. Of her decision, she wrote, "The sacrament of baptism consists in rejecting evil, the lie. I believed in 'Thou shalt not kill,' I believed in truth without violence and bloodshed. I believed that the Supreme Mind, not vain man, governed the world. I believed that the Spirit of Truth was stronger than material values. And when all of this had entered my heart, the shreds of Marxism-Leninism taught me since childhood vanished like smoke."

Svetlana was officially out of favour with the Kremlin. Then, while on a trip to India in 1966, Svetlana stunned the world when she walked into the U.S. embassy and requested asylum. A stunned American on duty reportedly said to her, "So you say your father was Stalin? The Stalin?"

From there, she was flown to Rome and then on to Switzerland.

In April of 1967, Svetlana Alliluyeva landed at Kennedy Airport in New York carrying a manuscript that never would have been published in the USSR. It was titled "Twenty Letters to a Friend" which was about her life in the Soviet Union. It was a bestseller.

She was famous but her personal life was still a wreck, switching from religion to religion and again marrying, having a child, divorcing, and moving often.

I don't know the exact year that Svetlana met Father Giovanni Garbolino, who lived in the United States but had done missionary work in Russia, but their relationship would change her life. Svetlana received a letter from Fr. Garbolino inviting her to make a pilgrimage to Fátima. Later, he visited her in Princeton, New Jersey. The two were in frequent contact. Fr. Garbolino also gave Svetlana a cross that had been given to him by a Russian student whom he met during his missionary travels.

Svetlana, with the guidance of Fr. Garbolino, read books by Catholic authors and on Dec. 13, 1982, she converted to the Catholic faith. Svetlana wrote about her conversion: "Only now I understand the wonderful grace that the Sacraments of Penance and the Holy Eucharist produce, no matter what day of the year, and even on a daily basis. Before, I was unwilling to forgive and repent, and I was never able to love my enemies. But I feel very different from before, since I attend Mass every day."

She added, "The Eucharist has given me life. The Sacrament of Penance with God whom... we abandon and betray each day, the sense of guilt and sadness that invades us then, all this makes it necessary to receive it frequently."

This woman, who grew up essentially motherless, wrote, "I was taken into the arms of the Blessed Virgin Mary... Who else could be my advocate but the Mother of Jesus? She suddenly drew me close to her."

In the end, she did not die raising her first in anger at the world as her father had done but peacefully in a Wisconsin nursing home in 2011.

A Catholic Dad Reflects on 'The Lion King'



The Disney movie provides fodder for reflection on the spiritual life and my role in the family as a father.

Matt D'Antuono

I had the chance today to see the new Lion King movie with my children (sitting between my oldest and youngest children... and under my 3-year-old for part of the movie), and there were many aspects of the movie and lines from the characters that gave me fodder for reflection on the spiritual life and my role in the family as a father. What follows is not a movie review or critique of any kind, but the thoughts that came to the mind of a Catholic father of eight (one of whom is still "in the oven").

Vocation

First of all, it is clear that Simba is made for something. One character even says to him that he cannot escape his destiny. He must become the king that he was meant to be. While in the wilderness of Timon and Pumbaa, the idea is presented that Simba is living the dream life, doing whatever he wants, without rules, care or responsibility. Life is meaningless, and Simba is invited to become whatever and whoever he wants to be. Apparently, even meerkats and warthogs can be existentialists. "No worries" is the motto of the carefree trio, but that philosophy simply does not hold up. The most catchy tune of the movie, Hakuna Matata, espouses a philosophy that is selfish and false. Rafiki, the wise old baboon, exhorts Simba that the real question is, "Who are you?" "You must remember who you are," he says.

God has a vision for each of us. We all have a calling. If we have been given freedom of the will, it is not for us to decide our own destiny, make up the meaning of our own lives, or do whatever it is we feel like doing. We are free so that we can fully realize ourselves by giving ourselves away (*Gaudium et Spes*, 24). We are responsible for one another. We have a duty to become fully alive and recognize, just as Simba had to realize that Mufasa lives in him, that God lives in and through us. It is not freedom to shirk the fundamental human vocation of love, but slavery to something less. We, too, must remember who we are: sons and daughters of the King of Kings. As Rafiki says, everyone is a someone — even a no one.

Natural Law

Mufasa explains to Simba that there is a delicate balance in the Pridelands among all living things. There is a circle of life that must be observed, respected and maintained. The movie portrays what happens when the natural order is not respected. Simba ignores his part in that circle. He buys into the philosophy that there is no circle, just a line, and what we do doesn't really matter. The entire Prideland suffers. Scar and the hyenas pay no attention to the delicate balance of life, and they turn the Pridelands into a wasteland. The hyena's belly is never full, and the rest of creation pays the price. But Simba can't shake the idea that there is more, that the stars are not "nothing but" fireflies or spheres of burning gas. The fact is that there is order and meaning built into the cosmos.

When we ignore the nature of our body and soul, we turn our interior into a wasteland. Spiritual desolation and isolation engulfs the soul of him who turns against the order of the cosmos, spiritual or physical. The deadliest wound occurs in the soul of him who commits the deed. And there is no such thing as a private sin. When we are less than we were made to be, we commit an injustice against those to whom we owe our best selves.

The Roles of a Father and a Priest

Mufasa explains to Simba that, in accord with the circle of life, a real king does not think about what he can take, but about what he can give. Scar, on the other hand, is only concerned with what he can take. These themes, of course, are all interconnected. The real power of a king is his compassion, says Simba's mother.

My role of authority in the family is not for my own sake; it is for the sake of my wife and children. Those who are in authority are given that responsibility in order to serve and protect, whether that is in the family, the local parish, the diocese, or even on the level of local or national politics. If I take selfish advantage of my role as head of the family, the home becomes a wasteland. If I shirk my duty to my family, they become prey to the hyenas whose bellies are never full. When pastors prey on their parishioners or ignore their duty to spiritually protect their churches, our population turns into a spiritual wasteland. Mufasa is absolutely fierce against the enemies when it comes to defending his son. I as a father and our priests must take a similar attitude with respect to the spiritual development and protection of our families and parishes. When the rightful king does not take his place on the throne, someone or something else will, but the delicate balance will be overthrown.

I realize that we can fall into despair at this time in the Church when we look out and see what looks like a barren landscape. But, no matter how bleak, barren, and desolate the landscape may be, be of good courage; the Rightful King who once was dead is alive again, and



Reflection on 'The Lion King' continued ...

from the ashes He will raise up a new kingdom of beauty and harmony.

Two More Things

There is a wonderful moment when Simba's mother sees him again, grown up and glorious, after thinking he was dead. It reminded me of what it must have been like for Our Lady to see Jesus, the Son-King, who once was dead but is now alive again.

The iconic moments at the beginning and end of the movie when Simba and then his own son are held up by Rafiki, the priest figure, on Pride Rock for the kingdom to recognize and honor reminded me of Adoration and the Mass, when Christ is suspended above the altar for the whole congregation to worship. "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." He is the true king, the Lion of Judah, Who held nothing back for us. He is the Great



King who cares for us who were just a bunch of outcasts.

Priest Reveals How One Powerful Photo Changed His Life Forever: "Don't Be Afraid of Confession"

ChurchPOP Editor - Sep 9, 2019

This is so amazing!

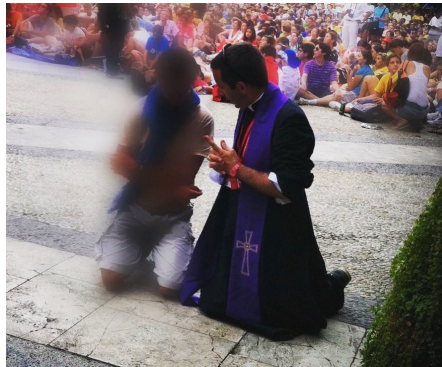
Archdiocese of Los Angeles priest Fr. Goyo Hidalgo recently revealed the moment he knew he "really wanted to be a priest."

He said he took the picture in the tweet below during 2011's World Youth Day in Madrid. He was a first-year seminarian at the time.

Fr. Goyo's full tweet reads,

"I took this picture in 2011, during World Youth Day in Madrid. I was a 1st year seminarian. Seeing a priest kneeling hearing confessions impacted me tremendously. I knew right then that I really wanted to be a priest.

"Forgiveness changed my life. Don't be afraid of confession."



Fr. Goyo posted this tweet alongside a photo of a priest hearing confession. The photo is simple, but presents an amazing statement about the power of confession!

Here's what some users said below:

@carlinef13, Twitter

"Confession can be life changing. I remember almost twenty years ago,

when Christ was calling me to be closer to Him, and I made my first confession, after not having gone in years before that. I felt so good afterwards: freed, loved, renewed, felt the love of God."

Another user responded,

"Thank you. I need to see this. It's been too long."

@beloved1one, Twitter

This user added,

"Thank you for answering God's call. We need Priests who wish to serve God and us."

@metsgiants64, Twitter

Thank you, Fr. Goyo, for responding to your call!

May God bless our priests!

A Prayer for Rain on the ABC Emergency Facebook page

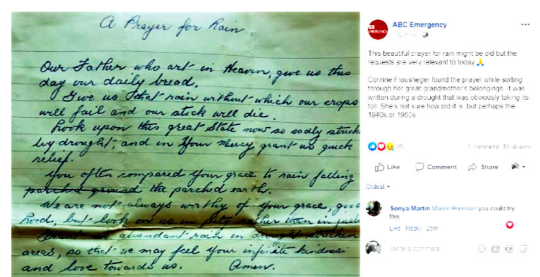
This beautiful prayer for rain might be old but the requests are very relevant to today.

Corinne Frousheger found the prayer while sorting through her great-grandmother's belongings. It was written during a drought that was obviously taking its toll. She's not sure how old it is, but perhaps the 1940s or 1950s.

Our Father Who art in Heaven, give us this day our daily bread. Give us that rain without which our crops will fail and our stock will die. Look upon this great State now so sadly struck by drought, and in Your Mercy grant us quick relief.

You often compared Your grace to rain falling on the parched earth. We are not always worthy of Your grace, good Lord, but look on us in pity rather than in justice.

Grant us abundant rain in drought stricken areas, so that we may feel Your infinite kindness and love towards us. Amen.



The West Wagga Wag

West Wagga Parish



Serving: Ashmont,
Collingullie,
Glenfield, Lloyd,
and San Isidore



**Find the words below
hidden in the 225 letters
to the right.**

| | |
|----------|-------|
| MULBERRY | SMALL |
| UPROOTED | DRINK |
| APOSTLES | FAITH |
| INCREASE | DUTY |
| MUSTARD | LORD |
| PLANTED | SEED |
| SERVANT | TREE |
| PREPARE | OBEY |
| REPLIED | SEA |
| SUPPER | EAT |

A Mustard Seed Faith

He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you." Luke 17:6 (NIV)



| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| H | G | T | P | M | P | W | O | K | U | Y | P | T | U | B |
| M | G | E | Q | K | U | W | L | P | D | I | P | A | S | S |
| W | U | W | I | X | Y | S | R | F | R | U | T | E | U | E |
| B | P | L | O | P | Z | W | T | G | I | E | T | E | P | E |
| U | P | V | B | B | L | S | E | A | C | K | P | Y | P | D |
| I | G | B | E | E | F | A | I | T | R | E | E | V | E | F |
| A | N | J | Y | I | R | P | N | B | O | D | S | W | R | G |
| P | U | C | G | A | T | R | X | T | S | P | H | Z | I | R |
| O | P | P | R | A | H | O | Y | R | E | P | L | I | E | D |
| S | R | R | E | E | A | S | K | U | A | D | I | D | B | F |
| T | O | E | B | E | A | N | M | F | I | L | O | R | D | M |
| L | O | P | T | P | X | S | K | A | A | E | X | O | C | O |
| E | T | A | R | W | T | B | E | Y | L | I | W | L | J | F |
| S | E | R | S | E | R | V | A | N | T | L | T | O | A | O |
| X | D | E | Z | S | A | K | D | R | I | N | K | H | D | K |