

## **6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME**

14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **FIRST READING:** Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected.

The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

### **Responsorial Psalm**

R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Happy the man whose offence is forgiven,  
whose sin is remitted.

O happy the man to whom the Lord  
imputes no guilt,  
in whose spirit is no guile. R.

But now I have acknowledged my sins;  
my guilt I did not hide.

I said: 'I will confess  
my offence to the Lord.'

And you, Lord, have forgiven  
the guilt of my sin. R.

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,  
exult, you just!

O come, ring out your joy,  
all you upright of heart. R.

### **SECOND READING:** 1 Corinthians 10:31 - 11:1

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink,  
whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of  
God. Never do anything offensive to anyone - to  
Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I

try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us;  
God has visited his people. Alleluia!

### **Gospel:** Mark 1:40-45

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees:  
'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.'

Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

### **From Bishop Paul.....**

For the coming five days, we will not be able to gather in our churches for Masses or other ceremonies. However, we will still be able to pray at home and there are resources available to help us in this.

I note in particular the page on our diocesan website that provides a list of links to Masses online and links to Scripture and prayer resources. There are also links to sites with ideas for family activities during lockdown. The page on our diocesan website is

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/coronavirus-the-churchs-information-and-advice-2/>

# Welcome to the Parish of Cororooke

727 Corangamite Lake Road  
Coragulac, VIC 3249

Email: [cororooke@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:cororooke@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

Moderator: Maureen Finn 0428329231  
Supervising Priest: Fr Michael O'Toole  
School Principal: Leanne Eastman  
Parish Sec: Gracesyn Perrett 52331464  
Child Safety Officer: Leanne Eastman  
St Brendan's: 9.30am Sunday/ 5pm 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
St Joseph's: 10:30am Lay-led/Mass 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday

## ST BRENDAN'S: 21<sup>st</sup> February 9:30AM

Commentator: O'Dowd Family

Reader: John Miller

Leaders: B Allatt / C Grist

Communion Minister: L McGuane

## ST JOSEPH'S: 21<sup>st</sup> February 10:30 am

Family: Mulheron

Minster: P Mulheron

Leaders: P & K Roache

## ALTAR & SACRISTY DUTIES:

*St Brendan's: 14-28 Feb : A McCarthy/D Howard*

*St.Joseph's: Feb: Hickman*

Counters: 14<sup>th</sup> Feb: A McCarthy

## RECENT DEATHS: Gary Carmody

ANNIVERSARIES: Paul Ferguson, Barbara & Kevin Mehan, Clifford Olney, Michelle Gooden, Kevin Hickey, Frank Page Snr

SICK: *Nathan De Lorenzo, Helen Hunt, Leah Spokes, Geraldine Finn, Ross Suares, Goldie Elsum, Josie Paatsch,*

## **Dates:**

**Ash Wednesday Mass- Cancelled!**

## **Parish Leadership Team Meeting...**

**25<sup>th</sup> Feb at 5.00pm**

**26<sup>th</sup> Feb – Thomas Carr has invited us to attend Mass in the convent chapel at 11.00am. All welcome**

**28<sup>th</sup> Feb – Opening school Mass 5.00pm Followed by BBQ. All welcome.**

## Baptism...

May God continue to bless Daphne Ursula O'Shea and her family as she is baptised 13<sup>th</sup> Feb in Canberra.

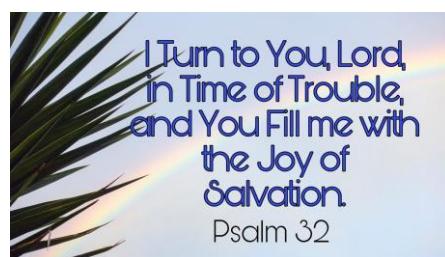
## Year of St Joseph.

Pope Francis on December 8, 2020 published an Apostolic Letter *Patris corde* (With a Father's Heart), commemorating the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of St Joseph", running from December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021. A number of resources have been developed by the ACBC to encourage and support the celebration of the Year of St Joseph. The resources are available from the ACBC website <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>.

## Praying with Pope Francis

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network. This video, published to Facebook and YouTube, includes a personal message from the Pope as he asks us to pray for each monthly intention. You can find it at [www.thepopevideo.org](http://www.thepopevideo.org). Pope's intention for February:

**February Universal intention - Violence against women:** We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.



## HOMILY:

Mk 1:40-45

A young man figured in a car accident, and he woke up at the hospital with his left arm gone. He was so depressed that he decided to commit suicide. He went up the rooftop of the hospital. He was about to jump to his death when he saw on the ground a man dancing wildly. He noticed that the man had no arms.

This sight brought him back to his right senses. He went down the building and talked to the man. "I am ashamed of myself," he said. "I lost one arm, and I was already thinking of committing suicide. But here you are. You have lost both arms, and you are still happy." The man replied, "What made you think I am happy?" "Well," the first guy said, "I saw you dancing." "But I was not dancing," the armless man said. "My back is itchy and I have no way of scratching it."

Leprosy is not only itchy. It is a dreaded disease, which, at the time of Jesus had no known cure. The leper was the most miserable outcast in Jewish society. He had to live away from the community. He had to wear a bell and cry out, "Unclean, unclean!" Worse still, he was also cut off from the worshipping community.

Anyone who touched him would also be unclean. Hence, still alive, he was practically considered dead. This socio-religious custom, though, was based in Sacred Scriptures. The first reading this Sunday, from the Book of Leviticus, spelled out the prescriptions on how to deal with lepers.

In the Gospel today, Jesus once again showed his compassion and power as the Divine Healer. He said to the leper, "I do will it. Be made clean." And he was healed. But before saying those words, Jesus did something unusual and even

unthinkable: "Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand (and) touched him" (Mk 1:41). In the sight of the Jewish leaders, it was such a horrible thing to do. Jesus could be declared unclean, and more importantly, he could be accused of violating the Law. But he did not mind. He was more concerned with obedience to the true spirit of the law.

His action imparts several important lessons for us. First, this was an expression of his overwhelming desire to reach out to people, especially those who are in need, the sick, the sinners and the outcasts. "Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners." (Mk 2:17). That has always been his mission in accordance with the Mystery of the Incarnation. God became man so that He can touch us and be one with us, especially in our miseries and sufferings. With this touch of Jesus, the leper was healed and can now go back to his family and community – not anymore an outcast, a living dead. The healing touch of Jesus gave him new life.

Second, Jesus touched the leper to impart healing in a personal way. God deals with each of us on a person-to-person basis. There is nothing impersonal with God. That is why Jesus taught us to call God "Abba", Father. By touching the leper, Jesus risked being contaminated, "to fulfill what had been said by Isaiah the prophet: "He took away our infirmities and bore our diseases." (Mt. 8:17). Jesus did this because, behind the horrible disfigurement of leprosy, he saw the priceless value of every human person.