

22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Social Justice Sunday
29th August 2021

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: *Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8 (JB)*

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

R. The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart. **R.**

He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord. **R.**

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever. **R.**

Second Reading: *James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27*

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

**The Father gave us birth by his message of truth,
that we might be as the first fruit of his creation.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: *Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 (JB)*

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:
This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me.
The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations. You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these things come from within and make a man unclean.'



Welcomę

Parish of Cororooke

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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 4th Sunday
St Joseph's: 10:30am Lay-led /
Mass 1st Sunday

ALTAR & SACRISTY DUTIES:

St Brendan's:

August 29th - 5th Sept: B Newcombe & J Robb

St Joseph's: August: Roache

Sept: Ryan

Counters: 29th August: L Darcy

RECENT DEATHS: Carmel Martin

ANNIVERSARIES: Noel Louby,
Jack Mahoney, Dan Ryan, Len Hickey, Gus Kervin,
Stan Milligan, Ken Turner.

Those seeking our prayers for healing and wellbeing:

*Leah Spokes, Geraldine Finn,
Goldie Elsum, Doug Swanson*



Connecting the Word

to celebrating liturgy

Our own celebration of liturgy cannot get caught up simply in ritual observance but must always lead to right living.

to human experience

It is easier to do 'outside' actions such as cleaning 'jugs and kettles' than it is to do the harder work of cleaning one's heart. But it is as we do the 'inside' work of the

heart that our 'outside' actions become pure.

Understanding the Word

Opposition; purity and table-fellowship:

Everywhere he turns, Jesus seems to encounter opposition. Last week's gospel from John ended with some of Jesus' own disciples abandoning him, and this Sunday's gospel from Mark begins with 'the Pharisees with some scribes' criticising him. We have already been notified in Mark 3:6 that the Pharisees have begun conspiring to put him to death. This Sunday's passage adds that these opponents have come from Jerusalem, signalling, on the one hand, the 'official' objection against Jesus and foreshadowing, on the other hand, the final confrontation that will lead to his death in the capital city. The Pharisees and scribes had earlier confronted Jesus over his 'eating with sinners and tax collectors' (2:16). Their concern in this gospel is also about eating meals (7:2, 3, 4, 5) - this time with 'unclean hands.' The underlying concern in both cases is 'table fellowship.' Mark's brief parenthetical comments in verses 3-4 explaining Jewish purification traditions indicate that he is writing for people who need such explanations, namely, Gentiles. The purity laws, including dietary regulations about clean and unclean foods, posed a major problem as Christianity began to include Gentiles. The issue was this: Did Gentiles who wanted to be Christian have to obey Jewish laws? This incident in Mark responds to these concerns in two ways. First, Jesus is the authoritative interpreter of the Law: by his word, he redefines 'purity' as a moral category (what people do), rather than a ritual category determined by such external rites as washing hands. Jesus properly redirects attention to God's laws rather than human traditions. Second, Mark shows that Jesus does not exclude from table-fellowship those who do not keep the purity laws. Jesus' mission to establish the Kingdom of God was not a parochial concern limited to his fellow Israelites but was the offer of salvation for all peoples, even those traditionally excluded by Jewish law and custom. Thus, when Jesus invites 'sinners and tax collectors' and even the 'unclean' to join him at table here on earth, he is anticipating their inclusion in the banquet of the Messiah in the age to come.

Thomas Carr Mass has been cancelled for this year.

St Brendan's Melbourne Cup visit hopefully be rescheduled. Details in the following weeks.

First Communion and Confirmation will be celebrated on the 24th Oct, Sunday @ 5pm Mass at St Brendan's. Please keep the D'Altera, Bourk and Chant families in your prayers as they continue their sacramental journey.

- **The Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2021-22:**
Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor, affirms that “we human beings need a change of heart, mind, and behaviour”. It draws from Scripture, from the theological tradition, from Catholic Social Teaching and from the wisdom of the world, including the insights of the First Nations. The Statement, liturgy notes and other resources are available from the ACBC Office for Social Justice website
<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2021/06/24/social-justice-statement-2021-22/>.

Bookweek 2021:

Due to remote learning St Brendan's staff put together their version of Alice in Wonderland, to cheer us all up. With our limited 'tech' knowledge, we have emailed the video and hope you are able to access and enjoy it. You may need your Google password to access. Good luck!!