

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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Parish Support - *If you need help with anything, please phone one of our members:*

Gail Hall: 0412 311 586 Bernadette Franc: 0427 678 830

SUNDAY – February 4th

THE Fifth SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - B

The readings for the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time focus on evangelization and service. The first reading tells us that when we care for those in need, the darkness in our lives will turn to light. The second reading helps us remember that we do not rely on our own wisdom when we speak and act, but on God. And the gospel tells us that we should boldly spread the Light of Christ throughout the world.

RECENT DEATHS

Wilma Tiley, Antanene Wise (Ena's sister-in-law)

ANNIVERSARIES

Flora Biggs, Jack Flemming, June Lofts, Stuart Johnston, Peter Cushing, Jim Armstrong, Ted Sullivan, George Mulcahy, Francis Gallagher, Michael Pearce, Jean Slater, Manual Fernandes, Janice Russell, Mary Slater

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Pat Byrne, Blake Dridan, Shelagh Mulcahy, Fr Adrian McInerney, Graeme Trethowan, Tony Collins, and Jim Mahony
and all those in need of prayer.

ROSTER

Introduction & Reading

Today: Genevieve Johnston

Feb 11th: Angela Gerrard

Prayers of the Faithful

Today: Clarrie Johnston

Feb 11th: Carita Clancy

Assembly Leaders

Feb 4th: Angela Gerrard & Carita Clancy

Feb 18th: Genevieve & Clarrie Johnston

Special Minister

Feb 4th & 18th: Gail Hall

Music: Sue Mahony

Church Cleaning, Linen, Flowers

Feb 4th & 11th: Chandler Family

Feb 18th & 25th: Judy Franc & Carmel Milenkovic

Church Grounds

Feb 4th & 11th: Chandler Family

Feb 18th & 25th: Charlie Franc & Peter Milenkovic

Newsletter

February: Carmel Milenkovic 0407 320 759

MASS TIMES

Feb 11th **Mass 8.30 am**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

World Day of Prayer is on

March 1st for Beaufort Faith Communities

To be held in Uniting Church – more info to follow

UPCOMING DATES for 2024

March 1st

World Day of Prayer – Uniting Church

(Preparations have begun)

AN URGENT PRAYER FOR PEACE

by Michael McGirr

God of compassion, we turn to you with heavy hearts, as we consider the needs of your family. Israelis and Palestinians, we are all your people, each of us loved by You and called to live in peace and justice.

We lament the dreadful loss of life, destruction of property and loss of human dignity.

We are pained by so much suffering.

We beg you to bring healing to this ancient place.

Help your people find a way forward.

Enable everyone to look each other in the eye, and embrace each other as sisters and brothers, as they find Your image in every face

We ask that courage and grace will help create a wiser and more gentle future, where everyone has a home.

God of wisdom, come to our aid. Amen.

A NEW YEAR

“What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.” –

Jane Goodall

In the new year, priorities simplicity and family bonds. Every day is a blank slate, a chance to reset and move forward.

Embrace any change you may face with a practical mindset and remember that progress often comes in small steps.

Look ahead with confidence, focus on what you can control and tackle challenges with resilience. Avoid stressing about

the little things. Dedicate time to strengthen family ties, as those quality moments count. Reconnect with friends you

may not have seen for some time. Remember, a simple, kind act, no matter how small, has the power to transform

someone else's world. Cherish those moments with family and friends, for in those shared experiences, we find life's

true joy. **“Dear God, grant me the Serenity to accept**

the things I cannot change, the Courage to change
the things I can,

and the Wisdom to know the difference.”

Amen

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

CELEBRATING THE WORD OF GOD

Today the Church in Australia celebrates 'Word of God Sunday'. In establishing this day, Pope Francis invited us "to grow in religious and intimate familiarity with the sacred scriptures" (*Aperuit Illis*. 30 Sep 2019). This celebration brings our attention to how we engage with the Word in the liturgy, and how we take the Word with us and proclaim it in our daily lives. Today let's focus on the Gospel.

Mark portrays Jesus discerning his ministry. We accompany Jesus on his journey: having left the synagogue, where he had been teaching and healing, he enters the house of Simon and Andrew, along with James and John, where he finds and heals Simon's mother-in-law. By evening as the sun is setting, the word is already out, and people are bringing the sick and possessed to him. Indeed, "the whole city was gathered at the door" (v. 33), and Jesus ministers to them. In the morning, while it is still dark, Jesus goes to pray. Simon leads a search, and when they find him, Jesus declares, "Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is why I came" (v. 38). What we see in this Gospel passage is the word and deed in action in Jesus, and his discernment through prayer to take his mission out further.

Nourished by the Word of God let us pray and discern our mission in our daily lives sharing the Good News beyond our doors.

Dr Rosemary Canavan



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

4 FEBRUARY 2024

FIRST READING

Job 7: 1-4, 6-7

A reading from the book of Job.

I am filled with sorrow all day long.

Job began to speak:

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service,
his time no better than hired drudgery?
Like the slave, sighing for the shade,
or the workman with no thought but his wages,
months of delusion I have assigned to me,
nothing for my own but nights of grief.
Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?'

Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!'
Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.
Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days
have passed,
and vanished, leaving no hope behind.
Remember that my life is but a breath,
and that my eyes will never again see joy.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 146: 1-6. R. v. 3

R. Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted. or Alleluia!

1. Praise the Lord for he is good; / sing to our God for he is loving: / to him our praise is due. **R.**
2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem / and brings back Israel's exiles, / he heals the broken-hearted, / he binds up all their wounds. / He fixes the number of the stars; / he calls each one by its name. **R.**
3. Our Lord is great and almighty; / his wisdom can never be measured. / The Lord raises the lowly; / he humbles the wicked to the dust. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 9: 16-19, 22-23

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel.

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessing.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 8: 17

Alleluia, alleluia!

He bore our sickness,
and endured our suffering.
Alleluia!