

## GOSPEL

Mk 1: 40-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

*The leprosy left him and he was cured.*

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.

### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

11 FEBRUARY 2024

## BE AS CHRIST

Today's Gospel brings our focus again to Jesus' healing through a person identified only as "a leper". This person is described without gender (although masculine pronouns follow), without ethnicity, family name, geography or any human connection. The title "a leper" encapsulates the stigma of separation, being unclean and having to live apart (see Lev. 13, first reading). We read that "a leper" came to Jesus pleading on his knees, "If you want you can make me clean" (v. 40). This phrase indicates that "a leper" recognises Jesus' power and authority. Moved with the deepest gut-wrenching compassion, Jesus reaches out his hand and touches him. Simultaneously with his touch, Jesus says "I do choose. Be made clean" (v. 41). Jesus' touch is redeeming in itself. Jesus touches the untouchable. Though warned not to say anything and show himself to the priest, the person "went out and began to proclaim freely and spread the word" (v. 45). We witness "a leper" becoming a proclaimer of the Good News. In our world today there are people with titles like "a leper", as we have "homeless" or "refugee" among us bereft of identity and dignity, untouchable. How can we "touch" like Jesus?

Paul's words to the Corinthians invite us to take him as the model as he takes Christ. This invitation together with the healing of one on the margins calls us to be as Christ, open to all and to be agents of healing wounds and separation.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

## FIRST READING

Lev 13: 1-2, 44-46

A reading from the book of Leviticus.

*As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.*

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.'

### ■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 31: 1-2, 5, 11. R. v. 5

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

1. 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.**

2. 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.**

3. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,/ exult, you just!/ O come, ring out your joy,/ all you upright of heart. **R.**



## SECOND READING

1 Cor 10: 31-11: 1

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

*Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.*

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.

### ■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 7: 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!



6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (11<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024)  
**St Joseph's Catholic Church, 30 Fitzgerald Street**  
**St Thomas Aquinas' Church, 43 Bromby Street**

**In the Pastoral Care of the AUGUSTINIANS**

- ▶ Fr Luca Park OSA Parish Priest
- ▶ Fr Marydas Arackal OSA Assistant Priest
- ▶ Fr Matteo Cho OSA (Korean Chaplain)
- ▶ Fr Brian Buckley OSA Prior

**ADMINISTRATION**

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH CENTRE  
 Tel: Church & Office 9826 9677  
[secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au](mailto:secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au)  
[www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au](http://www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au)  
**Postal:** Box 21 South Yarra 3141



**OUR PARISH AND THE AUGUSTINIANS**

Commit to creating an environment where the safety of children and vulnerable persons is paramount. All volunteers are required to have a Working With Children Check.

**Pastoral and Administrative Support**

- ▶ Stephy Coosnapa (Parish Pastoral Assistant)
- ▶ Safeguarding: Stephy Coosnapa & I-Lynn Lee
- ▶ Toni Stuart (Parish Secretary, Weddings & SJOS Volunteer Co-ordinator: Tues/Thurs/Fri)
- ▶ Juliet Oei (Business & Facilities Manager: Tues - Fri)
- ▶ Bernadette Dennis (St Joseph's Outreach Services)

**Liturgical Calendar** for the week commencing 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	6.00pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.30am Mass	9.00am Mass
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 6 <sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time		
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> February Bl Christine of Spoleto	10.00am Mass	12.45am Mass
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February Ash Wednesday	10.00am Mass 7.00pm Mass	12.45am Mass
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00am Mass	12.45am Mass
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February Bl Simon of Cascia	10.00am Mass Stations of the Cross	12.45am Mass
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	9.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass	



**World Day of the Sick** is an annual observance on February 11<sup>th</sup> that recognizes and raises awareness about the importance of providing care and support to individuals who are ill, particularly those facing chronic or severe health challenges. This day also acknowledges the vital role of healthcare workers and caregivers in delivering compassionate care to patients.

**EVENTS AND MEETINGS**

- ▶ Stations of the Cross: Fridays in Lent 10.30am SJ
- ▶ Parish Council: Wed 14 Feb 7.30pm
- ▶ Liturgy Committee: Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> Feb
- ▶ RCIA Meeting Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 7pm.
- ▶ Lenten Reflections – see bulletin next week
- ▶ Parish AGM – Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup> (Palm Sunday)

**AUGUSTINE 'DO GOOD WITH GOODS'**



"Be good, all of you who possess goods. Wealth is good; so are gold and silver; so, too, large families and land. All those things are good—but only to do good with. In themselves, they don't make you any better. Therefore, acquire such things as can make you good. You ask what they might be? Thinking straight, exercising judgment and being just. Be open to the lessons they teach you: being immortal, become good amid all those perishable goods." (Sermon 48)

**ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES**



The Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 14<sup>th</sup> and we will celebrate three masses in the parish at **10am and 7pm at St Joseph's and 12.45pm St Thomas Aquinas.**

**PRAYER, FASTING AND ABSTINENCE DURING LENT**

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting and Abstinence from eating meat for Catholics in good health from the age of 14-60. Also during the 40 days of Lent we renew our efforts in daily prayer, limit the amount of food we eat and drink so as to contribute to PROJECT COMPASSION, act more charitably and spend time doing things for others like visiting the sick or elderly, so as to become less self-centred and more focused on living by the values that Christ taught us.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** in St Joseph's church 10.30am on Fridays during Lent.

**PROJECT COMPASSION**

Boxes and envelopes for the annual appeal are available from this weekend at church doors.

**IN LOVING MEMORY Recently Deceased**



- ✦ Tony Macken ✦ Tony O'Meara
- ✦ Reginald Platel

**Anniversaries**

- ✦ Joan Sheedy ✦ Joan Nelson
- ✦ Jorge Vargas ✦ Beb Larsen
- ✦ Paul Chong Sin Nin ✦ John Corby
- ✦ Anne Walshe

**BECOMING A CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN**



Our RCIA program has begun and we ask your prayers for the candidates who are seeking to join our

Catholic community. It is an important part of our faith to reach out to those who are searching for a fuller knowledge of Christ.

**PARISH CHRISTENING**

The parish congratulates the family of Raphael De Mel who is to be baptised in our parish this weekend.



**PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM**

Parents who would like to enrol their children to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation (First Confession) please contact the parish office. 9826 9677.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:**

Brian Young, Margaret Wallin, Mark Ho, June Cochrane, Margaret Lochtenberg, Ronald Seaman, Mitos Gloudemans, Anne Rigg, Ced John Netto, Julie Mahony, Inge Halim, Paul Chong, Larissa Popowski, Mary Ireland, Caroline O'Neil, Isabella Chong, Tony Duarte, Thomas Bedier, Luke Dennis, Sonia Guzman, Damien Ryan, Judith Duncan, Stephen Soh.

**MASS COLLECTIONS 4/02/2024**

<b>Clergy (Augustinian Community)</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> Collection, CDF & bank deposits.	\$ 819.60
<b>Church (Parish Ministries)</b>	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	\$ 373.85
Envelopes	\$ 130.00
Direct Debit/EFT/ CDF Pay/ Cr Cards	\$ 900.00
Tap Point Terminals	\$ 590.00
<i>Thank you for your generosity</i>	