

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD.

The Sunday of the Word of God, instituted by Pope Francis and to be held every year, reminds us, pastors and faithful alike of the importance and value of Sacred scripture for the Christian life, as well as the relationship between the word of God and the liturgy: "As Christians, we are one people, making our pilgrim way through history, sustained by the Lord, present in our midst, who speaks to us and nourishes us. A day devoted to the Bible should not be seen as a yearly event but rather a year-long event, for we urgently need to grow in our knowledge and love of the Scriptures and of the Risen Lord, who continues to speak his word and to break bread in the community of believers. For this reason, we need to develop and to break bread in the community of believers. For this reason, we need to develop a closer relationship with sacred Scripture; otherwise, our hearts will remain cold and our eyes shut, inflicted as we are by so many forms of blindness.

Through the proclaimed biblical readings in the liturgy, God speaks to his people and Christ himself proclaims his Gospel; Christ is the center and fullness of all Scripture, both the Old and New Testaments. Listening to the Gospel, the high point of the Liturgy of the Word, is characterized by a special veneration, expressed not only by gestures and acclamations, but by the Book of the Gospels itself.

In the homily, beginning with the biblical readings, the mysteries of faith and the norms of the Christian life are explained throughout the liturgical year. "Pastors are primarily responsible for explaining sacred Scripture and helping everyone to understand it. Since it is the people's book, those called to be ministers of the word must feel an urgent need to make it accessible to their community". Bishops, priests and deacons must develop a commitment to carry out this ministry with special dedication, making use of the means proposed by the Church. "God's word, listened to and celebrated, above all in the Eucharist, nourishes and inwardly strengthens Christians, enabling them to offer an authentic witness to the Gospel in daily life".

THE SACRAMENT OF THE WORD can be understood by analogy with the real presence of Christ under the appearances of the consecrated bread and wine. By approaching the altar and partaking in the Eucharistic banquet we truly share in the body and blood of Christ. The proclamation of God's word at the celebration entails an acknowledgment that Christ himself is present, that he speaks to us, and that he wishes to be heard. Saint Jerome speaks of the way we ought to approach both the Eucharist and the word of God: "We are reading the sacred Scriptures. For me, the Gospel is the Body of Christ; for me, the holy Scriptures are his teaching. And when he says: whoever does not eat my flesh and drink my blood (Jn 6:53), even though these words can also be understood of the Eucharist, Christ's body and blood are really the word of Scripture, God's teaching. When we approach the Eucharist, if a crumb falls to the ground we are troubled. Yet when we are listening to the word of God, and God's Word and Christ's flesh and blood are being poured into our ears we pay no heed, what great peril should we not feel?" Christ, truly present under the species of bread and wine, is analogously present in the word proclaimed in the liturgy. Verbum Domini (2010)56



PRAYERS FOR SR MARY HOWARD.

Sr. Mary was the last teaching Good Samaritan Sister to teach at St Mary's. We just received word that she is dying of a brain tumour. She was very much loved by everyone in her time here. She asked for our prayers.

CONGRATULATIONS & HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Mrs Eva Taylor who turned 100 on the 5th February. She is now in Our Lady of Consolation Home in Sydney. She was one of our devoted parishioners until she got sick and moved to Sydney to be near her family. She is holding her card from the Queen. The other photo is with her daughter Mary and son in law Alan.



SACRED HEART PARISH MORUYA



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Web: <http://cg.org.au/Moruya>

Priest: Fr George Azhakath msfs

Secretary: Mrs Pat Anderson

Parish Office hours: Wed. and Fri. 10am—3pm

Mass Times:

Moruya: Sat: Vigil 6.00 pm Sun: 10.00 am

Tue: 5.30 pm. Wed, Thu & Fri: 9.15 am

Sat: Reconciliation: 10—10.30 am

Turoos Mass: Sun. 8am Bodalla: Mass: 2nd Thursday of the month 9.15am. Fifth Sunday of the month 3 pm .

Schools: St Mary's Moruya: 4474 2817

Carroll College Broulee 4471 5600

Caring Group: Turoos Head: 0497 315 534 Moruya: 0431 354 993

Devotions: Daily Rosary before mass. First Friday Adoration & Benediction. 9.45—10.45 am (Incl. 1st Friday)



5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

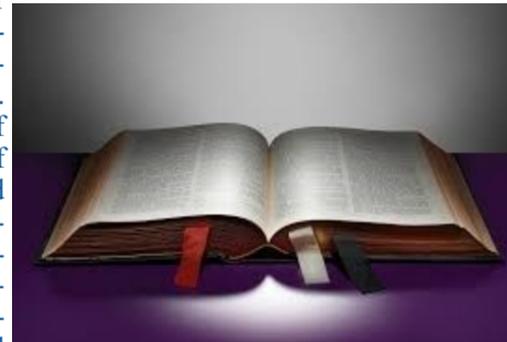
-YEAR B-

FEBRUARY 6 & 7 2021

THE WORD OF GOD SUNDAY

God has revealed his thoughts and ways, his mind and heart, his intentions, purposes and will to us through his revealed WORD

"He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures" (Lk 24:45). This was one of the final acts of the risen Lord before his Ascension. Jesus appeared to the assembled disciples, broke bread



with them and opened their minds to the understanding of the sacred Scriptures. To them, amid their fear and bewilderment, he unveiled the meaning of the paschal mystery: that in accordance with the Father's eternal plan he had to suffer and rise from the dead, in order to bring repentance and the forgiveness of sins (cf. Lk 24:26.46-47). He then promised to send the Holy Spirit, who would give them strength to be witnesses of this saving mystery

The relationship between the Risen Lord, the community of believers and sacred Scripture is essential to our identity as Christians. Without the Lord who opens our minds to them, it is impossible to understand the Scriptures in depth. Yet the contrary is equally true: without the Scriptures, the events of the mission of Jesus and of his Church in this world would remain incomprehensible. Hence, Saint Jerome could rightly claim: "Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ"

It is fitting, then that the life of our people be constantly marked by his decisive relationship with the living word that the Lord never tires of speaking to his Bride, that she may grow in love and faithful witness. In the hearing of God's word the Church is built up and grows, and in the signs of the liturgical celebration God's wonderful, past works in the history of salvation are presented anew as mysterious realities. God in turn makes use of the congregation of the faithful that celebrates among the nations.

Whenever, therefore, the Church, gathered by the Holy Spirit for liturgical celebration, announces and proclaims the word of God, she is aware of being a new people in whom the covenant made in the past is perfected and fulfilled. Baptism and confirmation in the Spirit have made all Christ's faithful into messengers of God's word because of the grace of hearing they have received. They must therefore be the bearers of the same word in the Church and in the world, at least by the witness of their lives.

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God" (Colossians 3:16)

May the Sunday of the Word of God help his people to grow in religious and intimate familiarity with the sacred Scriptures. For as the sacred author taught of old: "This word is very near to you: it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance" (Dt 30:14)

Prayer after Communion: Lord, we thank you for coming into our hearts in Communion. We believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. You are our life and our hope. Draw us more deeply to yourself and transform our hearts through your abiding love. May we come to know Sunday as a special day of faith, the day of our Risen Lord. May our celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday consecrate this day to you. **O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, All Praise and All Thanksgiving be every moment thine.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Jb 7:1-4. 6-7

A reading from the book of Job

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.

This is the Word of the Lord.'

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 146:1-6.

**(R.) Praise the Lord who heals the broken-
hearted.**

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*

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 blessings.

This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Mt 8:17

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



Gospel: Mk 1:29-39

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Mark*

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James
and John straight to the house of Simon and An-
drew. 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 an-
swered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring
country towns, so that I can preach there too, be-
cause that is why I came.' And he went all
through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues
and casting out devils.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for right-
eousness,
for they shall have their fill.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

HE CURED MANY WHO SUFFERED FROM DISEASES OF ONE KIND OR ANOTHER.

The readings today challenge us to go courageously beyond people's expectations by doing good as Jesus did instead of brooding over pain and suffering in the world that we cannot end. They invite us to explore the importance of work in our lives and to learn a lesson in work ethics from Job, Paul and Jesus. While the gospel presents Jesus enthusiastically preparing for his second day's missionary work, the first reading details Job's attitude in striking contrast to Jesus'. In the list of his long suffering, Job spoke of the tedium and futility of life. Job's words describe the miseries of human existence. Eventually, Job arrived at a place in his life where, in trust and in faith, he surrendered himself, his suffering, his work and everything he had had and had lost to the greater wisdom of God (Job 42:1-6).

The second reading, on the other hand, presents Paul as a true and dynamic follower of Jesus, ready to do something extra for his Lord. Paul's conviction about the good news and his commitment to Christ were so intense that preaching the gospel had become a compulsion for him. Knowing that he had been called to do more than just preach the Gospel, he resolved to preach it without recompense.

In the gospel; Pointing out the spontaneous response of Peter's mother-in-law after she had been healed by Jesus—namely, "waiting on them at table" - today's gospel teaches us that true discipleship means getting involved in giving selfless service to others. Jesus finished the first day of his public ministry at Capernaum on a Sabbath day. During the day, he had taken part in the synagogue worship, taught with authority, exorcised a demon and healed Simon's mother-in-law. After all that, in the evening he "cured many who were sick with various diseases and drove out many demons." Thus, Jesus spent himself and most of his time ministering to the needs of others, giving healing, forgiveness and new beginning to many. Yet, he was well aware that even the most important work has to be continually refuelled and evaluated before God his Father. Hence, Jesus rose early the next morning and went off "to a deserted place" to pray in order to assess his work for his Father's glory and to recharge his spiritual batteries. *Fr George Azhakath msfs*

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND HOUSE BOUND.

We continue to pray and extend our support to those who are in near lock down at Banksia Village, IRT Moruya; and the sick members of our Parish: Gail Fenton, John Gerber, Ben Pollock, Catherine Hulse, Kathleen Ebbelaar, Carmel Trenholme, Dale Moore, Gerry Ebbelaar, Kylie Leplaw, Jean Marrion, Monique Driver, Ester and Peter Morgan, Andy McCosker, Paul Croese, Pauline & Peter Morgan, Trish Tarlington, Patricia Behringer and Elizabeth Martin-Yates. Love and prayers to all of them for a speedy recovery.

Please advise the Office if you would like to be added to or taken off the list for prayers.

CASSEROLE BANK: If you know of anyone who would feel uplifted by the gift of food please advise either the Caring Group, a member of the PPC or the Office. Donations of meals, soups or slices of cake appreciated. Containers are available from the presbytery verandah if required.



2021 WORLD DAY OF THE SICK 11th February. Online panel discussion—ACU.

"VACCINES, VIRUSES AND VULNERABILITIES: CATHOLIC HEALTH AND CARE OF THE HUMAN PERSON." On this year's World Day of the Sick, we are bringing together international experts and thought leaders to discuss mental health, public health and the question of solidarity in the face of this global pandemic. Speakers include: Sr Carol Keehan, Co-ord, The Vatican Commission for COVID-19; Dr. Brian M Kane—Sen. Dir. Of Ethics, Catholic Health Association of the United States (CHA); & Dr David Kirchhoffer (moderator) Director, Queensland Bioethics Centre, ACU. **Date:** Thurs. 11th Feb., 12pm (AEDT), **Free** online participation. **Register** by 8th Feb. Information and registration: acu.edu.au/WDOS2021.

LENTEN PREPARATION GROUP. If you would like to attend a Lenten Preparation Group please indicate on the form provided in the foyer of the Church. To be held Tuesdays after 5.30pm Mass. To commence 16th February. We will be using the Brisbane program 'Look to Jesus'.

LENTEN LIVE STREAM - CANBERRA-GOULBURN ARCHDIOCESE. 'Walk in the Spirit'
Walk in the Spirit will be live-streamed for six consecutive Thursdays during Lent from 7.30pm—9.00pm, 18th of February to 25th March 2021. Each session will include talks, sharing, prayer, and discussion opportunities. The sessions will be available for viewing via the Catholic Voice YouTube site and loaded up on the Walk in the Spirit website.

The sessions can be viewed live or after the event has been recorded. Participants will also be provided with a series of formation materials to support them on their Lenten journey. The sessions' recording will enable parishes with established Lenten groups to view at their convenience. For more details and to register go to <https://cgatholic.org.au/walk-in-the-spirit>.

