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|  Collection amounts for January 2016 ~PARISH NEWS~ ~ PARISH NEWS ~ **~ GOSPEL REFLECTION ~** |

 Most of the gospel readings this year will be from Mark’s story of Jesus. As with any short story, it is best to read it from beginning to end at one sitting. A meditative reading takes about two hours. The main character is Jesus and there are other character and character groups. The first part of the story (Mark 1:1-8:26) raises the question, ‘Who is this?’ The central passage (Mark 8:27-30) provides a partial answer: Jesus is the Messiah or God’s Anointed One, the Christos. The second part of the story (Mark 8:31-16:8) is full of surprises: Jesus is not a militaristic messiah, but one who is prepared to suffer death for the sake of God’s empire-God finally triumphs over suffering and death. The invitation to us as readers is to enter into the story, to identify with the characters and character groups, to attend to the material world encoded in the story, and to listen to the teachings of Jesus.

In the passage selected for today, the Markan Jesus announces his program and invites others to reorient their lives and join him on a mission of proclaiming God’s way of being in the world. Jesus’ first word is to announce the advent of God’s *kairos,* God’s ‘time’, signalled by the nearness of God’s reign or empire. This notion of God’s reign would have evoked in its first hearers the prophetic dream for an end to violence and injustice. They are then confronted by an imperative to take stock of their lives, to “repent”. The Greek verb for “repent” literally means to “think beyond”. As we listen across the ages, we hear an invitation to expand our horizons, to consider possibilities beyond our ordinary imaginings and to do this not just once but interminably. A second imperative is added to the first: “believe in the gospel”. Those who truly believe commit themselves to a whole new way of being in the world.

The final sequence depicts the call of four fishermen, Simon, Andrew, James and John. They are invited to “follow” Jesus, to live out in their lives the pattern of his life. One might get the impression that the disciples are all men. We have to go to the end of the gospel to find that there are also women “who came up with him to Jerusalem” from Galilee. The central section of the gospel (Mark 9-10) makes it clear that there are children on the journey as well. So let us imagine a much more extended group around Jesus than today’s gospel reading suggests. Women, men, and children, we are all invited to leave behind whatever gets in the way of making God’s empire a reality and transforming our ravaged planet. Not easy. ***An excerpt by Sr. Veronica Lawson***



***Immaculate Conception Parish***

P O BOX 600 Tumut

Catholic Community

**‘CLERGY’**

* **Fr. Sijo Jose (Parish Priest)**
* **Fr. George Ogah (Assistant Priest)**

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**‘WEEKEND MASS TIMES’**

 **Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm**

 **Sunday: 10am**

 **Talbingo Sunday: 8.00am**

 **‘THIS WEEKS MASS TIMES’**

**Tuesday: 6pm in Chapel**

**Wednesday: 10am**

**Thursday & Friday: 8am in Chapel**

**Saturday: 9am (every fortnight - Thursday: 11am BUPA Liturgy**

**Saturday: 9.40am BLAKENEY LODGE Liturgy)**

 **‘ROSARY’**

**Saturday at 8.45am**

**Exposition at 8.30am (1st Sat of month)**

 **‘RECONCILIATION’**

 **Saturday at 5.15pm**

 **‘LITURGY MEETING’**

 **Tuesday: 2.00pm in Chapel**

 **‘PRAYER GROUP’**

 **(Rosary & Divine Mercy)**

 **In remission until 31st January 2018**

  **‘CONTACTS’**

 **Care Group: Anne Huebner 69473406**

**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**

 **January 21st 2018**

 ***Responsorial Psalm***

**Teach me your ways, O Lord.**

 ***Entrance Antiphon***

**O Sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.**

***Gospel Acclamation***

**Alleluia, alleluia! The kingdom of God is near; believe the Good News. Alleluia!**

 ***Gospel Acclamation***

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Alleluia, alleluia! Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed; the Saviour of the world will be our king. Alleluia!

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| T THIS WEEK Saturday & Sunday 20th & 21st January   |
| Ministry | Saturday Vigil 6pm |  Sunday 10am |
| Acolyte |  Anne Huebner  |  Anita Mason |
| Reader |  Monica Webb |  Mark Hogan |
| Commentator |  Patricia Wilks  |  Howard Young |
| Children’s Liturgy |  ---------- |  ----------- |
| Musicians |  Maureen Norman  |  Anna Quinn |
| Altar Servers |  Jessie Raftery & Dana Parry | Jude Moreno & Hunter Styles |
| Church Care\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_LINEN Jo Little |  Group5: Sandra, Maria & Margaret Dean |
| NEXT WEEK Saturday & Sunday 27th & 28th January  |
| Ministry | Vigil 6pm | 10am |
| Acolyte |  Tony Butler  |  Peter Malone |
| Reader |  Claire Cole |  Liz Boxall |
| Commentator |  Maureen Cook |  Mary Kelly |
| Children’s Liturgy |  ---------- |  ----------- |
| Musicians |  Anna Quinn |  Patricia & Monica  |
| Altar Servers |  Jessica & Emily Kelly |  New Servers |
| Church Care | --------------------------------------- |

 Feast Day**Wishing all our wonderful dads a Happy \**

 R O S T E R S

 **FEAST DAYS**

**24th January: Saint Francis de Sales 25th January: The Conversion of Saint Paul 26th January: Australia Day The family is one of the primary places where the encounter with the love of God and day to day life takes place. (Archbishop Diarmuid Martin)**

 **~PARISH NEWS~**

**NEW ARCHDIOCESAN LENTEN RESOURCE: Good News in Tough Times DVD.** During the six weeks of Lent, Archbishop Christopher Prowse will present a series of reflections on the Gospel readings. This resource is perfect for parish-based groups, families and individuals and presents a great opportunity for all to withdraw from week-in, wee-out busyness. To pre-order call the Bookshop on 0262399888 or online: www.faithresources.org.au **BAPTISMS** we welcome into our community this weekend twins of Mark and Melissa Archie James and Rylan Mark Bradshaw, Nikoeli May Bulger daughter of Jack and Laura and Hamish James Arragon son of Brendan and Gabrielle. We pray for all baptism families. **SAVE THE DATE** Catholic Debutante Ball will be held on Saturday 5th May 2018, young ladies interested in making their debut at this years ball are asked to attend a meeting in Saint Mary’s Hall on Friday 2nd February 2018 at 7pm with their partners , parents/guardian. Debutantes and partners MUST be 16 years of age or over and completed Year 10 before day of the ball. **SPECIAL THANKS** this weekend to our faithful Acolyte **~ Anita Mason ~**

**We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith:**

 **MASS HAS BEEN REQUESTED FOR:**

Colleen Anderson, Frank Stanfield, Peter Heffernan, Tim & Amy Twomey, Barbara Fuller, Tom & Merle Arentz, Harriet & Ruben Arentz, Kevin & Nola Arentz, Dulcie & Arthur Piper, Marie & Ray Cowan, Kevin Cowan, Kevin Hawthorne, Marie Quinn, Brian Muir, Jack Sunners, Joseph & Maureen Hetherington, Natalie Baker, Ian Barbour, Yvonne Harrison, Fr. Peter Quirk, Con & Ennis Twomey, Mons. John Twomey, Sr. M. Brenda Twomey, Sr. M. Canice O’Sullivan, Sr. M. Celine McCormack, Bert & Teresa Butler, Anne Lawrance, Joan & Bob Liddell, Mary & William Claffey, Margaret Peel, Ruby Harmer,Alan & Angela Guthrie, Hassel & Joy McGrath, Noel Cook, Hargreaves family, Family members & relatives of Tran family, Frederick & Mabel McInerney, Ken Elliott, Jock Roberts, Ralph Klaus, James Kelly, Harry & Muriel Nancarrow, Harry & Pat Nancarrow, Christine Welsh, Allison Brady, Scott Payne, Ben Roddy, Paul & Nick Young, Robert Longford, Julie, Jack & Thelma Cobden, Jamie Nixon, Stan Kenny, Marzol family members, members of Young, Egan, Breward & Van de Brug families, Russell & Peter Ritchie, Hector, Annie & Kevin Turner, Jean Kelly, Margaret McMahon, Veronica Tiernan, Mollie Fuller, Joan Malone, Ken & Brian Gee & family members, Rudi & Filomena Comai, Marallo & Comai families, Celia Mullaly, Jim McInerney, Kath Stuckey, Gus & Kath Clout, Ab & Mildred Shanahan, Ina Clout, Timothy Blakeney, Madelin Fenn, Jan Salan, Chris Ballard, Maude Kelly, Norma Leyden, Reg Millgate, Lois Shallow, Helen Corbett, Frank, Eileen & Marie Malone, Edward, Marcy & Clem Malone, John Callister, Joan Stockwell, Pauline Shedden, John Hourigan, Tom & Dorothy French.

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