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

Jesus was a Jew, as was John, the author of the gospel. It may seem strange, therefore, that John has the “Jews” complaining about Jesus. It is indeed strange, and it has caused many a reader to wonder. John seems to use the designation “Jew” as a code word for the opponents of Jesus. These opponents are almost exclusively Jewish leaders rather than the ordinary people who followed Jesus. The designation does not include all the Jewish leaders of course: Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea stand out as leaders who came to believe in Jesus as the Christ and to take risks on account of their faith.

The complaint of the “Jews” relates to Jesus’ claim, “I am the bread that came down from heaven”. Jesus shares the world view or cosmology of his contemporaries: God is in the heavens above, so that anything or anyone coming from God in that view comes *down from heaven*. The problem for his adversaries is that Jesus is one of them: they know his father Joseph and his grandparents, so how can he be making such a claim? They make the mistake of thinking that is all there is to know about his origins. “Don’t complain” is Jesus’ response to them. He proceeds to tell them that there are dimensions of his being of which they know nothing. Yet they need to know, as do we. It is God who draws us to Jesus. Like the opponents of Jesus, we need to listen and to learn, to be taught by God. We need bread in order to live and we also need the bread of God’s teaching.

Jesus makes a future promise: the bread he offers is different from the bread the Israelites ate in the desert, in that those who eat of it will live forever. Furthermore, the bread that he will give for the life of the world is his flesh. This leads to further misunderstanding and the opportunity for Jesus to teach at another level. The eucharistic overtones in today’s reading are subtle but nonetheless present, as they were in the feeding story.

John is writing some seventy years after the death of Jesus for communities that gathered every week for the breaking of the bread-in memory of him and of all that he enacted. Like the early Christians, we reflect on the meaning of eucharist. We recognise and honour the materiality of the bread and of the flesh that Jesus shares with all living creatures. At the same time we are invited to reflect on the symbolic or metaphorical resonances of both bread and flesh in the context of the claims of the Johannine Jesus. *An excerpt by Sr. Veronica Lawson*



***Immaculate Conception Parish***

P O BOX 600 Tumut

Catholic Community

*An excerpt by Sr. Veronica Lawson*

**‘CLERGY’**

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

**‘PARISH SECRETARY’**

**Anna Quinn**

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**Saturday Vigil: 6.pm**

**Sunday: 10am**

**‘THIS WEEKS MASS TIMES’**

**Tuesday: 6pm in Chapel**

**Wednesday: 10am (School Mass)**

**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)**

**Wednesday: 2.00pm in Chapel**

**‘CONTACTS’**

**Care Group: Anne Huebner 69473406**

**19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**

**August 12th 2018**

***Entrance Antiphon***

**Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O god, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.**

***Gospel Acclamation***

**Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!**

***Responsorial Psalm***

**Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

***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 11th & 12th August | | | |
| Ministry | Saturday Vigil 6pm | Sunday 10am | |
| Acolyte | Tony Butler | Sue Bulger | |
| Reader | Patricia Wilks | Kirsty Beavan | |
| Commentator | Maureen Cook | John Power | |
| Children’s Liturgy | ---------- | Kerrin Henderson | |
| Musicians | Anna Quinn | Patricia & Monica | |
| Altar Servers | Gabbi & Maggi Dalisay | Jude Moreno & Hunter Styles | |
| Church Care  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  LINEN Maria Cobden | --------------------------------------- | | |
| NEXT WEEK Saturday & Sunday 18th & 19th August | | | |
| Ministry | Vigil 6pm | | 10am |
| Acolyte | Trish Matthews | | Mark Hogan |
| Reader | Anne Huebner | | Mary Kelly |
| Commentator | Lana Turner | | Cathy Purcell |
| Children’s Liturgy | ---------- | | Caitlin Larter |
| Musicians | Patricia & Monica | | Anna Quinn |
| Altar Servers | ----------------------- | | ----------------- |
| Church Care | Group 5: Sandra, Maria, Margaret Dean & Jess Smith | | |

Feast Day**Wishing all our**

R O S T E R S

**FEASTS DAYS 14th Aug: Saint Maximilian Mary Kolbe 15th Aug: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Enlightenment is not imaging figures of light but making the darkness conscious *~ Carl Jung ~***

**~PARISHNEWS~ PLAN GIVING ENVELOPES** Please collect your package from the church foyer. If any family or individual would like to join our plan giving please contact Anna at the Presbytery. We sincerely thank all our generous givers for their continued support. **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION** Wednesday 15th August, Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, there will be Mass at10am, **EUCHARIST PARENT/CHILD PREPARATION** the Commitment Mass for this sacrament will be held Saturday 18th August at 6pm. **PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 – LISTEN TO WHAT THE SPIRIT IS SAYING** Pope Francis has approved the Australian Bishops’ decision to hold a Plenary Council in Australia in 2020 and 2021. It is a significant moment for the Church in Australia to make decisions about the future. To prepare the agenda for the Plenary Council, all of God’s people are invited to reflect on the question: ***“What do you think God is asking of us in Austrtalia at this time?”*** Find out more about the Plenary Council 2020 at *www. plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au* **CATHOLIC VOICE** is now available online at *www.catholicvoice.org.au* **SPECIAL THANKS** to our wonderful parishioners who help with offertory, collections andchalice holding.

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

**MASS HAS BEEN REQUESTED FOR:**

Jim Lynch, Paul Kelly, Maria Tran, Andrew Leyden, Sr. Nolan R.S.M. Mick Bristow, Maureen Court, Andrew Sturt., Chris Ballard, Brian Rosetta, Sr. Valerian, Hassel & Joy McGrath, Noel Cook, Rudi & Filomena Comai, Gus & Kath Clout, Ab & Mildred Shanahan, Ina Clout, Pat Malone, Joan Malone, Frank Delany, Ken & Brian Gee, Max Butler, Imelda, Bede & Francis McInerney, Cecilia Haddad, John Hourigan, Russell & Peter Ritchie, Kerry Letts, Eileen Creighton, Muriel Maidwell, Thomas Maidwell, Margaret Anne Reardon, Steph Scott, Peter Bush, Alan Guthrie, Jim McInerney, Kath Stuckey, Iris Stuckey, Minnie Murphy, Alfred & Bridget Claffey, John Marzol, Sean Gordon, Maureen Ashleigh, Tom Sturt, Winifred Whitacker, Edward Mary & Clem Malone, Pat Malone, Hickson & O’Sullivan families, Reg & Mary Madigan, Matt Downing, Wilkinson & Downing families, Frank Stanfield, Peter Heffernan, Tim & Amy Twomey, Tom & Merle Arentz, Harriet & Ruben Arentz, Kevin & Nola Arentz, Natalie Baker, Bert & Teresa Butler, James Kelly, Tom & Dorothy French.

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