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

Today’s gospel brings us the first episode in a section of Mark’s gospel that focusses on a typical day in the ministry of Jesus as authoritative teacher and prophetic healer (1:21-38). The setting is the Capernaum synagogue on the Sabbath, a thoroughly Jewish setting. The verbal forms in the first sentence indicate that teaching in the synagogue was part of Jesus’ customary activity. Jesus is thus located firmly within Israel’s prophetic tradition of teaching and healing.

In the first reading from Deuteronomy (18:15-20), the term “prophet” appears eight times. Moses tells the people that God will respond to their request at Sinai (Horeb) and raise up from among them a prophet like himself, a mediator between God and God’s people, one who will speak God’s word. Prophets do not appoint or authorise themselves: God calls and authorises the prophets to speak God’s word. Failure to heed the prophets carries its own consequences as does the attempt to assume a prophetic role without God’s authorisation. Just as the prophets of old speak the authentic word of God only when they are authorised by the God of Israel, so Jesus of Nazareth, later to identify himself in this gospel as God’s prophet (6:4), speaks and acts “with authority”. In other words, he speaks with the authority of the God of Israel.

In this story, Jesus is approached by a man “with an unclean spirit”. The man’s loud scream sets up a confrontation between the power of God, mediated through Jesus, and the forces of destruction that often take hold of human lives. Jesus silences and expels these destructive forces and thus renders a seriously troubled person whole. Confounding the unclean spirit(s) brings social and communal benefits to the troubled person as well as physical and emotional healing.

God’s reign or empire is made real through a healing action that is perceived as “a new teaching”. No word of Jesus’ teaching is reported, only his actions. Those actions are presented as “teaching”. We teach by who we are and what we do. For Jesus, as for his disciples, congruence between words and actions is integral to authentic gospel proclamation and teaching.

This week marks fifty years since Biblical Studies was introduced into Victorian secondary schools. I was not to know in February 1965 what a grace-filled path was to open up for me when I tentatively volunteered to teach a biblical studies class. I give thanks for the students and readers, the mentors and colleagues who have been part of my five decade exploration into the Word of God. ***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)**

**‘PARISH SECRETARY’**

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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)**

**Wednesday: 2.00pm in Chapel**

**‘CONTACTS’**

**Care Group: Anne Huebner 69473406**

***Gospel Acclamation***

**Alleluia, alleluia! The people in darkness have seen a great light; a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death. Alleluia!**

***Responsorial Psalm***

**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

***Entrance Antiphon***

**Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.**

**4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**

**January 28th 2018**

***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 27th & 28th January | | | |
| Ministry | Saturday Vigil 6pm | Sunday 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  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  LINEN Maria Cobden | ------------------------------------ | | |
| NEXT WEEK Saturday & Sunday 3rd & 4th February | | | |
| Ministry | Vigil 6pm | | 10am |
| Acolyte | Trish Matthews | | Dave Shedden |
| Reader | Anita Mason | | Howard Young |
| Commentator | Shirley Kenny | | Anne Huebner |
| Children’s Liturgy | ---------- | | Caitlin Larter |
| Musicians | Patricia & Monica | | Maureen Norman |
| Altar Servers | Annabelle Sturgess & Genevieve Mason-Elliott | | Xavier Henderson & Riley Hotham |
| Church Care | Group 1: Claire, Anne Hickson, Maureen & Bev | | |

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

R O S T E R S

**FEAST DAYS**

**31st January: Saint John Bosco 2nd February: The Presentation of the Lord**

**To form a family is to be a part of God’s dream, to join him in building a world where no one will feel alone. (Pope Francis)**

**~PARISH NEWS~**

**MCAULEY TEACHERS MASS**  Monday 29th January at 8.45am in the church. Welcome back to McAuley students and teachers, we wish everyone a happy and productive 2018. **PRAYER GROUP** will resume on Wednesday 31st January at 2pm in Chapel. **CHILDREN’S LITURGY** will also resume next Sunday during the 10am Mass, could the volunteer rostered please be present and let Fr. Sijo or Fr. George know they areavailable. **BAPTISM** we welcome into our community this weekend Evie Carmel Sutton daughter of Ryan and Chloe. 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. **MANY THANKS** this weekend to our faithful Commentator **Mary Kelly**

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

**MASS HAS BEEN REQUESTED FOR:**

Colleen Anderson, Reg & Mary Madigan, Matt Downing, Wilkinson & Downing families, 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, Chris Ballard, Maude Kelly, Lois Shallow, Frank, Eileen & Marie Malone, John Callister, Joan Stockwell, Pauline Shedden, John Hourigan, Tom & Dorothy French.

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