

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year A

First Reading Is 8:23 – 9:3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light.

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations. The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase, they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 26:1. 4. 13-14. R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; Before whom shall I shrink?

2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long, to live in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life, to savour the sweetness of the Lord, to behold his temple.

3. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living. Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the Lord!

(R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second Reading

1 Cor 1:10-13, 17

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

I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters, make up the differences between you.

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious

differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul? For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 4:12-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled.

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled: Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali! Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, Galilee of the nations! The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death a light has dawned. From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him. Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of

diseases and sickness among the people.

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

The Voice of Jesus

Two sets of two brothers were running successful family businesses. But once Jesus passed by and *called* them, the Gospel says, at *once* they left their boats and followed him. I think because, hearing his voice, they realised that Jesus was the true vocalist of God.

Irish author and mystic, John O'Donohue, once wrote, 'Something in us senses and knows how perfectly the contours of the soul fit the divine embrace.' *

Maybe Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John sensed that, in this Jesus, there was a Soul whose contours perfectly fitted the divine embrace. They were prepared to risk everything for the chance to have *their* souls contoured along the same lines. The call: 'Follow me ...', was not to an isolated individual promising to save his soul, but to two brothers and then another two brothers. Immediately, a community was being formed and its task was to bring others into that Jesus-following community.

We could pause for a moment to hear the brothers beckoning us to follow the call of that voice sounded by Our Lord Jesus Christ.

*John O'Donohue, *Divine Beauty*

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THIRD SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME—YEAR A

Follow me and I will make you fishers of men...

Today's readings offer some interesting points and poses some questions for us:

What are the readings saying?
Are they connected in any way?
How do they apply to us/ our culture centuries on from when they were written?

The reading from Isaiah talks about the people who walked in darkness saw a great light and their general happiness and welfare increased. In Corinthians this same idea is projected into a more modern time as we are beseeched not to disagree among ourselves and be united in our belief and practice. We are reminded to spread the Good News.

The Gospel has Jesus inviting others to join spreading the Good News. The invitation to join Him did not seem to be problematic at that time. It would seem improbable that a simple invitation today would see people drop all and "**follow**" in the same way. In times past many Catholics thought that answering "the call" meant entering the Seminary or joining a Religious Order.

Careful reading may help us find the connecting thread of these readings. The obvious thread is the invitation to follow Jesus. We need to be mindful that the world today is a vastly different place, but careful looking can help us discover the essence of what was written.

Through our Baptism we are called to discipleship. It may mean stepping out of our comfort zone so that our personal participation involves a more careful, active response to the call of faith. Matthew, in his manner of inviting others to join him is touching on theology- exploring, explaining and demonstrating the meaning of discipleship.

What is Jesus inviting/ asking us, His disciples to do? How can we spread the Good News? During this year are we willing/able to show others how to follow Jesus and find the light? Are we willing to pray for and with one another, resolve and accept differences? In doing so are we able to become united in our beliefs and practices?

Jesus, in His walking along the seashore inviting people to join Him in discipleship was fulfilling ancient, scriptural promises in the context of His time.

He is asking us to do the same.

Ken and Carolyn Evenden.



For the celebration of the Word and the Eucharist

Upcoming Events

Choir Practice
Monday @ 1pm
Resumes 2023

Cenacle Prayer
9.30 am Fridays
after Mass, and
1st
Saturday of the
month @ 9.30am

ENJOY THE
GOOD NEWS
Wednesdays
after 9am Mass
Parish Meeting
Room

Craft Group
Thursdays 10am
Resumes 2023

Adoration
Tuesday @ 8am

COFFEE CLUB
Resumes
Thursday 2nd
February



MASSES THIS WEEK Monday 23rd— Sunday 29th January

Monday 16th: NO MASS
Tuesday 17th: Mass 9am
Wednesday 18th: Mass 9am
Thursday 19th: Mass 9am
Friday 20th: Mass 9am
Saturday 21st: Vigil 6pm
Sunday 22nd: Mass 9am

Offertory Procession

will be starting again this weekend.
We welcome families to take up the gifts.

ROSTERS

21/22 JANUARY
Cleaning
23-27 Feb Coffey & Paine

6.00PM MASS
Welcomer: D Robinson
Commentator: M Bridges
Reader: J Mackay
Eucharistic Ministers: A Rogers, M Devine
Computer Screen: K Conway

9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer: M deSmet
Commentator: L Page
Reader: B Basevi.
Eucharistic Ministers: M & C Lowe
Computer Screen: D May.

MORNING TEA:
N Beatty

28/29 JANUARY
Cleaning
30 Jan-w Feb R & K Ison

6.00PM MASS
Welcomer: D Robinson
Commentator: S Ebejer
Reader: P O'Kelly
Eucharistic Ministers: M Weatherall, J Wain
Computer Screen: J O'Sullivan

9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer: C Connell
Commentator: M Lowe
Reader: N Beatty
Eucharistic Ministers: N & L Page
Computer Screen: T Priest.

MORNING TEA:
N Beatty

Sunday, February 5th 2023 marks 50 years since Saint Christopher's consecration as the Cathedral Church of the Archdiocese.

If you are able, and if the tyranny of distance isn't too much of a hurdle, please join:

Sunday, February 5th 2023 – 11:00am
St Christopher's
Anniversary Mass &
A Reception Celebration
Following Mass – Haydon Hall

A year of celebrations and events is organised for the following 12 months, with a 'More Formal' Archdiocesan gathering with Archbishop Christopher on the 17th of March 2023, the Solemnity of Saint Patrick. Details to be published soon.

RECONCILIATION

Beginning on Saturday 4th
February, Reconciliation will be held at 4.30 pm.

Please make a note of this in your diaries

Pastoral Care Gathering Invitation: on Tuesday Feb 14 Patrick [Paddy] McGrath, St Vincent de Paul Director of Community Engagement and Spirituality will facilitate sessions on: **The Wounded Healer – in our Woundedness we become a Source of Life.**

Registration: 9-15am for 9-30am start – 12noon in the Church Meeting Room. Cost Free. BYO shared morning tea.
Booking Essential by Tuesday Feb 7 Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057 or Carolyn Evenden 0400 021 119. **ALL WELCOME**

NAME TAGS As we welcome Fr Loi to our Parish please wear nametags which are next to the Piety Stall in the foyer. If your name is not there could you please write it on the sheet which will be on the bench below. Please return them to the rack at the conclusion of Mass.

Join the Pastoral Care Team going to the residents at the Glen.

We have 7 Catholic Residents at the Glen and 4 at The Manor who look forward to a visit and HC.

We need one person to join our team and to go once a month to the Glen And The Manor Orientation to the Glen and The Manor 1:1 training provided and all resources.



We extend a very warm welcome to those who may be visiting our Parish over the summer.
We hope you enjoy our church and our town.
As you return to your homes please travel safely

ENJOY THE GOOD NEWS

Prayer and Scripture Study Group

meets every Wednesday after the 9am Mass in the Parish Meeting Room. We study the Gospel Reading of the upcoming Sunday Mass.

Facilitator Joe Quigley
0404357744

All are welcome

Remembering the Sick:

Sr Marie McAlister, Peter O'Neill, Barry O'Neill, Beverley Biglia, Fr John Walter, Mara Pranjic, Lola, Fr Kevin Murphy, Allan Rogers, Pam Wilson, Antony and Andrew, Rita Condon, Ben Copland, Femia and Mark, Roberto Alivio, Vince Burns, John Dillon, James Lee, Trish Hamilton, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Dawn Robinson, Allan Odium, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Janet Thornberry, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke, those in hospital and nursing homes.

Death Anniversaries: are listed in the Memorial Book at the front of the Church and names can be added to it if dates are provided.

We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community: Pope Benedict XVI, Cardinal George Pell, Michael Thornton, Barbara Mills, Travis Basevi, Judith Dewick, Flavia Clyburn, Nita Gorzalka, Michael Dove, Wayne Sing, Linda Russell, Ruby Swinton, Anna Backo, Lois White

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND THE WALBUNJA PEOPLE OF THE YUIN NATION. WE PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THEIR ELDERS, PAST, PRESENT AND EMERGING



The Year of Walking Together

The Risen Lord walked together with the disciples on the road to Emmaus, drawing them from anxiety to hope, from confusion to joy.

Jesus, centre of our common Emmaus walk, with You alone to guide us, make Your home in our hearts; as we pour "new wine into fresh wineskins" (Mk 2:22)

Like Mary, imbued by the Holy Spirit, may we give birth to a renewed faith and united pastoral action in this Archdiocese in the years ahead.

St Mary of the Cross, our Great Australian Intercessor, pray for us.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

All Saints of God, who name and sanctify our parishes, pray for us. **Amen**

Pope Francis
Monthly Prayer
Intentions

January

For educators

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

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