

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Cycle B

Sunday 28 January 2024



Readings for this week:
Deuteronomy 18:15-20
1 Corinthians 7:32-35
Mark 1:21-28



Readings for next Sunday:
Job 7:1-4,6-7
1 Cor 9: 16-19,22-23
Mark 1:29-39



Liturgical Jottings

Liturgy and Christian Life 3

Life and the Kingdom of God

The seven sacraments are related to critical needs and moments in Christian living and dying. The word of scripture carries its saving power and significance as part of every complete liturgy. In seeking an integrating vision for the celebration of liturgy and the challenges and achievements of life, Christians are bound to look to the Kingdom of God preached and inaugurated by Jesus. God's Kingdom remains the most comprehensive and fertile symbol for the new pattern of worship and living established by God for humanity through Jesus Christ.

This Kingdom in its "already" stage is to be discerned and celebrated. In its "not-yet" stage it is to be prayed for, striven for and received. Christians celebrate their past, present and future in the liturgy and find fulfilment in the power and love of God. NDCW.

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Looking at the Readings

Twice we hear in the gospel today that Jesus taught them with authority. First it was said after he was teaching his disciples in the synagogue and secondly after he healed a man possessed by an unclean spirit. Perhaps two issues prompted those claims. He resembled Moses in many ways and from the first reading today we hear that Moses prophesied that a great prophet would emerge among them. Secondly the fact that his word and actions were in harmony. A better word we may use is that Jesus taught with "Authenticity". The other teachers did not have the compassion that Jesus showed; they were not up to the mark in practising what they were preaching, their word did not ring true in their ears. The crowd and the disciples listened to Jesus' words and were moved by them. More came to believe in him and to follow him. Their hearts were stirred, their faith inspired, their hopes were beginning to be realised. They found his words were wonderful to hear and witness.

As we delve more into Mark's Gospel we see the challenges of being a disciple of Jesus, we cannot just look on from the sidelines. We have to make choices and make commitments. We, today, just as the listeners in the synagogue were at the time, are drawn into the controversies of religion and then invited to accompany Jesus wherever he may go. We meet Jesus in the liturgy, in service to others, in personal prayer and in the Love of God.

Word of God Sunday – 4 February

The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February. Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to "the celebration, study and dissemination" of the Word of God. Let us embrace Sunday of the Word of God to help us launch our new year with a deeper and richer encounter with the Risen Lord. Visit www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday to access resources to help commemorate the day.


Pope Francis: Three Attitudes on Discipleship 2

The second attitude which disciples are called to adopt is renewal. The Church doesn't renew herself on "her own whim," but firm in the faith and following the hope of the Gospel. This requires sacrifice and courage, "not so that we can consider ourselves superior or flawless, but rather to respond better to the Lord's call" (*Medellin 9/7/2016*)

On the Lighter Side

Teacher: Why are you late for school? Student: Because of the road sign. Teacher: What does the sign have to do with you being late? Student: It read, "School Ahead, Go Slow!"



	Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving	
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Nella Gallo, Jack Woodman
	Our sick and their carers	Jillian Taylor, Marg Normington

Two Week Mass Timetable Week commencing 29 January

Weekday Mass

Mon 29 January No Mass
 Tue 30 January No Mass
 Wed 31 January 9:15 am Mass
 Thur 1st February No Mass
 Fri 2nd February 9:15 Mass

Weekend Mass

Sat 3rd February 6:00 pm Mass
 Sun 4th February 10:30 am Mass

Weekday Mass

Mon 5th February No Mass
 Tue 6th February No Mass
 Wed 7th February 9:15 am Mass
 Thur 8th February No Mass
 Fri 9th February 9:15 am Mass

Weekend Mass

Sat 10th February No Mass
 Sun 11th February 10:30 am Mass

Reconciliation: Saturday 3rd February 11:30 am

Plate Collection and Envelops

Thank you so much for your generosity and support of our Parish. May God bless you always.

\$1,005.00

The Way of the Cross - Bendigo:

REGISTER NOW for the 2024 Way of the Cross production! Registrations end on January 29th with auditions on January 31st, 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm. This is for anyone wanting to be involved in any capacity, whether it is for cast, crew, costuming, staging, props or more. Further details. <https://www.thewayofthecross-bendigo.com/register-for-auditions>

The Way of the Cross - Bendigo is a theatrical, live performance, re-telling the true story of the last few days, Trial, Death and Resurrections of Jesus Christ as part of the 2024 Bendigo Easter Festivities, all welcome to take part, please register your interest.

Rosters

Saturday 3 February– 6:00 PM

Commentator: – Carol Coulston
 Reader: – Domelina Phelan
 Gospel Procession: - Shelia Gregg
 Gifts: – J Caifa & D Hamilton
 Special Minister: – Not Required

Sunday 4 February– 10:30AM

Commentator: – Debbie Worm
 Reader: – Dean Filgate
 Gospel Procession: - Steve De Lai
 Gifts: – A Basile & M Sgammotta
 Special Minister: – Ross Kelly

Sunday 11 February – 10:30AM

Commentator: – Rob Miller
 Reader: – Ann Marie Nihill
 Gospel Procession: - Domelina Phelan
 Gifts: – P Morone & D Corrigan
 Special Minister: – Steve De Lai

Dear Parishioners,

On Sunday the 11th of February we will celebrate a farewell Mass at 10:30am for Ryerson De Lai before he enters the Seminary. Following the Mass everyone is invited for morning tea in St Mary's Hall. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

God Bless,
The De Lai Family

Sacred Heart Parish, Tatura.
 PO Box 110 Tatura VIC 3616, 03 5824 1049,
 e: tatura@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Thoughts for the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

<https://young-catholics.com/>

The readings for the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B (see below) invite us to recognize Jesus and grant him authority in our lives. In the first reading, Moses foretells the coming of a mighty prophet. The Gospel tells how the people were amazed by the way Jesus taught with authority. The readings for the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B, encompass several interwoven themes that are central to Christian theology and spiritual life:

Prophetic Authority and Divine Truth: The first reading from Deuteronomy speaks of a prophet like Moses, emphasizing the importance of heeding true prophetic voices that convey God's will and truth. This theme of authoritative teaching is echoed in the Gospel, where Jesus' teachings are contrasted with those of the scribes.

Divine Guidance and Obedience: Psalm 95 calls for joyful praise and worship of God, recognizing Him as our creator and guide. It emphasizes listening to God's voice and avoiding the hard-heartedness of our ancestors, underscoring the importance of obedience to divine guidance.

Undistracted Devotion to God: The second reading from 1 Corinthians discusses the states of married and unmarried life, highlighting how the unmarried can focus more directly on pleasing the Lord. This theme of undistracted devotion is relevant to understanding different vocations and the ways they can lead to holiness.

The Authority of Jesus: The Gospel reading vividly demonstrates Jesus' divine authority, not just in teaching but also in his power over unclean spirits. His authority impresses and amazes the people, revealing him as a figure of divine power and wisdom.

Recognition of Christ's Power: The reaction of the congregation in the Gospel to Jesus' exorcism and teaching underlines the theme of recognizing and responding to Christ's power and authority. This response of amazement and the spread of Jesus' fame throughout Galilee are central to understanding the impact of Jesus' ministry.

Reflection Questions for the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

- How do I discern the true prophetic voices in my life, and how do they align with the teachings of Christ and the Church?
- In what ways can I embrace and respond to the prophetic voice to bring about transformation in my personal and community life?
- Reflecting on Jesus' teaching style, how can I make my own faith sharing more relatable and grounded in real-life experiences?

- How do differences between Jesus' and the scribes' approaches to teaching challenge my understanding of authority and humility in spiritual leadership?
- In what ways can I incorporate Jesus' method of simple and clear communication of the truth into my daily interactions?
- How does my current state of life (married, unmarried, religious, etc.) influence my devotion to God, and what steps can I take to focus more on pleasing Him?
- What are the distractions or concerns in my life that may be hindering my undistracted devotion to God, and how can I address them?
- In what practical ways can I balance my responsibilities to others while keeping God at the center of my life?
- How can reflecting on Jesus' authority and teachings in the Gospel transform the way I see myself, my community, and my role in the Kingdom of God?
- What are the "real-life" examples and experiences that I can share with others to bring the message of the Gospel alive in today's world?

Caritas Justice Representative

Does your parish have a Caritas/Justice Representative/s?

Sacred Heart does not currently have a representative – CAN YOU HELP?

As a representative you will attend the meetings in our Deanery, help prepare displays, promote materials, work with your liturgists & preparers of bulletins, show films & powerpoints, photocopy materials, prepare handouts, identify ways of raising the profile of Campaigns and various issues....?

The start of this new year would be a good time to speak with someone who may have an interest in justice issues. These meetings in each deanery are a great starting point for new Parish Reps. Project Compassion materials will be distributed and workshopped, followed by discussion of the year's Social Justice agenda including Earthcare Parishes.

GOULBURN VALLEY Deanery Meeting

Wednesday 31st Jan at Shepparton 5.00 pm

St Brendan's Meeting Room, behind church, Knight St Shepparton Cuppa at 5.00pm Meeting begins 5.15pm & concludes 7.00pm

Please speak to Trish if you are interested and to get a copy of the agenda.

Acknowledgement to Country

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of year. We pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside First Nation Australians in truth, justice, and reconciliation.