

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Cycle B

Sunday 11 February 2024



Readings for
this week: Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46
1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1
Mark 1:40-45



Readings for
next Sunday: Genesis 9:8-15
1 Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:12-15



Liturgical Jottings

Lent - 1

Lent begins next Wednesday. It is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others. In this way the whole church prepares for Easter with those who are to be baptised. Other celebrations in Lent (e.g. Marriage) must take into account of the spirit of penance: musical instruments are only used to sustain singing and floral decorations are very simple.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting binding those who are between 18 and 60. The law of abstinence (from eating meat) binds those who are 14 and over (CCL 97, 1251f).

In Lent the Alleluia is omitted at Mass and Liturgy of the Hours, even in celebrations of solemnities and feast. A homily is recommended on weekdays especially during the Seasons of Advent, Lent and Easter. (Aust & NZ Ordo 2024 pp 37,38)

Looking at the Readings

The Book of Leviticus goes into great detail about identifying, treating, and isolating persons with leprosy and other like complaints. Chapter 13 has 59 verses and in Chapter 14 on purification of lepers has 57 verses. We read a small section today (five verses). Nonetheless lepers suffer physically and socially. The disease in ancient times was also considered a punishment for sins (with religious minded peoples) or retribution for evils committed (with the general populace). We may ask the question today: "Have we shifted our understandings of suffering, adversities and atrocities with wars, pandemics and natural disasters?" When these things happen there are suggestions of divine retribution, lingering accusations and blame upon certain people or social groups.

Early in his ministry Jesus is confronted with people with diseases and the questions: "Whose fault? What sins have brought this on? Is it the sufferers or their parents that caused this?" He responds typically with: It is nobody's fault but the glory of God can be seen in the healing. And in his compassion for the accused, the victim, or the isolated person, Jesus healed them. The healer then gets accused of blasphemy or breaking the Sabbath or receives ridicule or becomes the isolated person. Jesus, our Saviour takes on our sins so that we are saved from them!

Leprosy (Hansen's Disease) today

Leprosy is a chronic bacterial infection. It affects the skin and various nervous systems of the body, particularly the peripheral nerves. Leprosy is more common in tropical and subtropical areas. The disease is curable through multi-drug therapy. (*VicHealth*)

Quote of the Day

The biggest disease today is not leprosy or tuberculosis, but rather the feeling of being unwanted. *Mother Teresa of Calcutta*


Prayer for the Week

We come before you, O God, confident in Christ's victory over sickness and death. Heal us again from sin, which divides us, and from prejudice, which isolates us. Bring us to wholeness of life through the pardon you grant your people. Amen.

On the Lighter Side

When we realise that Lent starts this Wednesday we feel like Christmas was only yesterday. But now we have a better chance to restart those New Year's resolutions we missed out on.



	Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving	Kevin Morley, Frank Bagnato, Domenico Muto (1 Month)
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Josephine Zollo, Vincenzo Casuscelli, Peter Kerrins, Angelo Sera
	Our sick and their carers	Ellie Kleindienst, Jillian Taylor, Marg Normington

Two Week Mass Timetable Week commencing 12 February

Weekday Mass

Mon 12 February	No Mass
Tue 13 February	No Mass
Wed 14 February	9:15 am Ash Wednesday Mass
Thur 15 February	No Mass
Fri 16 February	9:15 Mass & Stations of the Cross

Weekend Mass

Sat 17 February	6:00 pm Mass
Sun 18 February	10:30 am Mass

Weekday Mass

Mon 19 February	No Mass
Tue 20 February	No Mass
Wed 21 February	No Mass
Thur 22 February	No Mass
Fri 23 February	9:15 am Mass & Stations of the Cross

Weekend Mass

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

Rosters

Saturday 17 February – 6:00 PM

Commentator: – Carol Coulston
Reader: – Peter Crombie
Gospel Procession: - Mary Vraca
Gifts: – J Caifa & D Hamilton
Special Minister: – Not Required

Sunday 18 February – 10:30AM

Commentator: – Rob Miller
Reader: – Ross Kelly
Gospel Procession: - Barbara Miller
Gifts: – A Basile & M Sgammotta
Special Minister: – Connie Serra

Sunday 25 February – 10:30AM

Commentator: – Debbie Worm
Reader: – Rob Miller
Gospel Procession: - Barbar Miller
Gifts: – J Caifa & D Hamilton
Special Minister: – Anna Ciavarella

Plate Collection and Envelops

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

\$1,697.40



Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and for all future generations. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction.

Project Compassion 2024 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

Cuppa After Mass

Don't forget we have a Cuppa After Mass in St Mary's Hall for Ryerson as he is getting to start his journey to the priesthood.

Save the Date – 10 March 2024

Bishop Shane Mackinlay will be celebrating Mass with us on Sunday 10 March 2024 at 10:30 am. This will be a Mass of Installation for our new Parish Priest Fr Uday Kumar Marneni. After Mass we will have a Parish Gathering and we ask that everyone brings a plate to share.

A note from
Ryerson

Thankyou everyone for your continued support and prayers through my discernment journey. It has been a great pleasure assisting and altar serving in this parish since 2014 and it has been great to see this Parish grow together as a faith community.

As I continue my discernment and begin my formation for the priesthood, I would like to thank everyone who has supported and prayed for me.

As I begin this journey I ask that we continue to pray for more vocations and also pray for the young men with me who are on the journey to become priests.

Thank you and God Bless
Ryerson De Lai

Prayer for
Vocations

O God, who chose the Apostles to make disciples of all nations, and who by Baptism and Confirmation has called us to build up Your Holy Church, we implore You to choose from among us, Your children, many priests and religious who will love You with their whole hearts and will gladly spend their lives to make You better known and loved by all.
Through Christ Our Lord.
Amen

Prayer for
Seminarians

Jesus, we thank you for the great gift of Your priesthood in the Church.
We pray for all priests and those in formation for the priesthood.
Form their hearts to be more like your own, the Heart of the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for the sheep. Draw them to Your Heart, and bless them with courage and zeal as they serve You and Your people. Give them great joy as they proclaim the Good News of Your resurrection, wisdom and trust as they discern your will.
We ask this with great confidence in you.
Amen
St John Vianney, patron of priests
pray for us

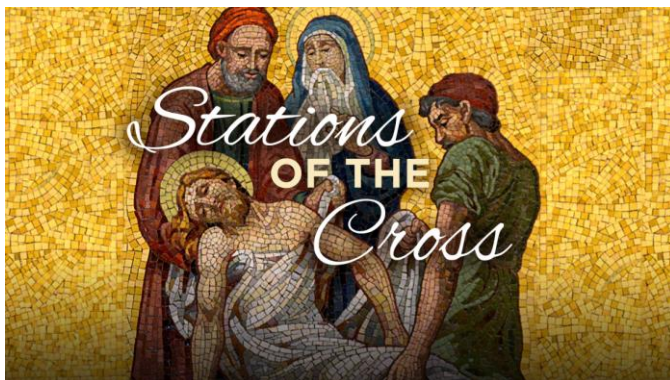
Can you help your parish?

We are looking for people to become part of the Communion to the Sick & Bereavement Team. Please talk to Trish Warnett or Fr Uday for more information.

If you have some time and are willing to help you will need the following:

- A current Working with Children's Check
- A recent National Police Check

You will also need to undertake the Sandhurst Safeguarding Training if you have not already done so.



Every Friday during Lent immediately after Mass we will be doing Stations of the Cross.

Commencing Friday 16th February

LENT 2024 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY, BRUCE DOWNES

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Easter. Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed!
For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful.

This program is FREE and you can sign up here:
<https://BruceDownes.org/Lent>
Go to BruceDownes.org for more information.



Ash Wednesday Mass
Wednesday 14 February 2024
9:15 am

Thoughts for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

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

The readings for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time for Year B (see below) demonstrate the healing power of Jesus and his ability to rid us of what is unclean in our lives. The first reading tells what should be done if someone has leprosy, and how being unclean separates us from others. The Gospel recalls how Jesus healed a leper.

The Mass readings for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B delve into several profound themes that resonate with both the historical context of the Scriptures and the contemporary application of these teachings in our daily lives. The themes include:

Purity and Impurity: Leviticus discusses the laws concerning leprosy, a condition that rendered individuals ritually unclean. This theme explores the notions of purity and impurity, not just in a physical sense but also spiritually and morally, inviting reflection on what constitutes purity in our lives today.

Isolation and Community: The afflicted are required to live apart, signifying not just a physical separation but a profound social and communal isolation. This theme invites us to reflect on the importance of community and the effects of isolation, as well as our responsibility towards those who are marginalized or ostracized.

Compassion and Healing: Jesus' compassionate response to the leper, contrary to the social norms of his time, emphasizes the theme of divine compassion and healing. It challenges us to consider how we extend compassion and healing to those in need, breaking beyond societal barriers.

Obedience and Witness: While Jesus instructs the healed man to follow the Mosaic law and not to publicize the miracle, the man's inability to keep silent highlights the tension between personal experience and communal directives. This theme can lead to discussions on the balance between obedience to religious practices and the natural desire to witness to God's work in our lives.

Holiness in Everyday Actions: Paul's exhortation to do everything for the glory of God, even in

mundane activities like eating and drinking, brings forward the theme of finding and honouring the sacred in everyday life. It prompts us to consider how our daily actions can reflect our faith and contribute to the common good.

Imitation of Christ: Paul's invitation to imitate him as he imitates Christ underscores the theme of discipleship and the call to live in a way that is reflective of Jesus' teachings and example, emphasizing the Christian call to holiness through following Christ.

Reflection Questions for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

- Encountering the Marginalized: In what ways do you encounter "lepers" in your daily life, those marginalized or excluded by society? How can you extend Christ-like compassion to them?
- Breaking Boundaries for Love: Jesus broke societal and religious norms to heal the leper. What boundaries might you be called to cross to show God's love to others?
- The Role of Faith in Healing: The leper's faith was a crucial element in his healing. Reflect on a time when your faith played a key role in overcoming a personal challenge. How did it transform the situation?
- Active Faith: How can you make your faith more dynamic and active, following the example of the leper who approached Jesus with a bold request?
- Community and Healing: Jesus sent the healed man to the priests, emphasizing the importance of community in the healing process. How can you contribute to or seek healing within your community or church?
- Testimony of Healing: Sharing our stories of healing and transformation can inspire and encourage others. What is a testimony you can share that might bring hope to someone in need?
- Holistic Healing: Jesus' healing of the leper restored him physically, socially, and spiritually. How do you understand the holistic nature of healing in your life? Are there areas where you seek such comprehensive healing?
- Trust in God's Timing: The leper trusted Jesus' will and timing for his healing. How can you cultivate a deeper trust in God's timing and plan for your life, especially in areas where you seek change or healing?

Reflecting on these questions for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B can deepen your understanding of the Gospel's message and encourage you to apply its lessons in your life, fostering a more compassionate, faith-filled, and community-oriented approach to following Christ.

Reconciliation

Effective from March Reconciliation on the first Saturday of the Month at 5pm.

Next Reconciliation Saturday 2nd March 5pm

Sacred Heart Parish, Tatura.

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

Office Hours 8:30 am – 1 pm Wednesday & Friday

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 years. We pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside First Nation Australians in truth, justice, and reconciliation.