

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

Sunday 31 January 2021



*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

The Sign of Peace

[After the Fraction] follows the Rite of Peace, by which the Church entreates peace and unity for herself and for the whole human family, and the faithful express to each other their ecclesial communion and mutual charity before receiving in the Sacrament. The local Conference of Bishops in accordance with the culture and customs of the peoples establish the manner for the actual sign of peace to be given. However, it is appropriate that each person, in a sober manner, offer the sign of peace to those who are nearest, cf *GIRM 82*.

COVID regulations call for a non-tactile gesture. The Indian form of namaste (palms joined together with a simple bow) has proved feasible popular and reverent.

Looking at the Readings

Discipleship requires a change in us. We want to change because in so many ways we are being strangled to death by demons. We are caught in dysfunction and sin; we live in the midst of the battle between good and evil, the struggle of human finitude and failure. We are plunged into the throes of human suffering and pain, and there seems to be no escape.

The demonic seduces us in more ways than we can count and we are often caught in its web before we recognise what has happened. There have always been many and varied voices that claim to have the remedy for our ills. Preachers and politicians have stirred up crowds and ignited their emotions. Promises have been made and predictions advanced, yet the conflict goes on, the demons continue to hold sway. The demon recognised the authority in the voice of Jesus. Do we recognise it?

When we are released by Jesus from the demons that possess us, we are freed from the stranglehold of evil and liberated to live far less encumbered and divided lives. No Earthly reality will possess us, neither relationships nor obligations nor even religious practices. Rather, we will be possessed by Christ who liberates us for the reign of God. Therefore, whether married or unmarried, whether in the midst of the community or at its margins, we will be able to heed the voice of God in our hearts and to recognise Jesus in our midst. © *Dianne Bergant CSA*.

Word of God Sunday

Moreover, before becoming a written text, the word of God was handed down orally and kept alive by the faith of a people who, in the midst of many others, acknowledged it as their own history and the source of their identity. Biblical faith, then, is based on the living word, not on a book. *Parag 11. Apostolic Letter of Pope Francis 30/9/2019 Instituting The Sunday of the Word of God*

Feast days during the Week

Tuesday 2 Feb: Presentation of the Lord (Blessing of Candles)

Also World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life

Wednesday 3 Feb: St Blaise (Blessing of Throats)

Friday 5 February: St Agatha, Roman virgin and martyr

Saturday 6 Feb St Paul Mike and companions, Japanese martyrs

Sunday 7 February also Word of God Sunday

On the Lighter Side: more one-liners

Without geometry, life is pointless.

When you dream in colour, it's a pigment of your imagination.

Reading while sunbathing makes you well-red.



	Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving	
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Bob & Peter Warnett
	Our sick and their carers	Dorothy Bock, Sue MacDonald, Teresa Muto

Continuing the Journey of Discernment to the Plenary Council

The 3rd of 6 Diocesan wide Zoom Discernment Sessions will take place on Thursday 4th February at 7:30pm.

All are invited to take part in this process of discernment focusing on the Thematic Paper "How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church in Australia that is open to Conversion, renewal and reform?"

Email plenary@sandhurst.catholic.org.au to register and receive the Zoom details.

To access the thematic paper head to the Plenary Council Website:

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/themes/renewal/

Ladies Chat Wednesday 3 February 2021

Our Parish Ladies are getting together to catch up and chat on Wednesday 3 February at 2 pm in St Mary's Hall. Everyone is welcome to come along. Please bring your own afternoon tea.

Word of God Sunday

The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February – February 7 in 2021. Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to "the celebration, study and dissemination" of the Word of God.

Visit www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodsonday to access resources to help commemorate the day and for suggestions on how to better engage with Sacred Scripture in various ways and settings.

Next Reconciliation Saturday 13 February 2021

Please note there will be no reconciliation on Saturday 6th February 2021.

The next reconciliation will be held on Saturday 13th February at 11:30 am until 12:00 noon

Mass Timetable Week commencing 1st February

Weekday Mass

Monday 1 st February	No Mass
Tuesday 2 nd February	No Mass
Wednesday 3 rd February	9:15 am Liturgy
Thursday 4 th February	No Mass
Friday 5 th February	9:15 am Liturgy

Weekend Mass

Saturday 6 th February	5:30 pm
Sunday 7 th February	9:30 am

No Reconciliation (in the Nuns Chapel)
Saturday 6th February



Welcome back our teachers and students for the start of the new school year.

We wish all our year 6 students a fantastic final year at Sacred Heart and we welcome our little Foundations and wish them well for the start of their schooling.

Also a big welcome all the other new students and our new teachers who have joined Sacred Heart and hope you enjoy being part of the Sacred Heart family.

Parishioners we asked that you please be aware of children in the church grounds, on the crossing and in the carpark.



Baptism

Congratulations to Jack Anthony Basile who is both being baptised this Sunday. We welcome him into our faith family.