

GOSPEL MARK 1 21-28

A NEW TEACHING WITH AUTHORITY. HE COMMANDS EVEN THE UNCLEAN SPIRITS AND THEY OBEY HIM."



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 28 January 2024

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL:

A friend of mine became very sick with a heart condition which resulted in his heart not being able to pump enough blood around his body for him to survive. His pericardium (the sack of fluid the heart sits in) had become hardened and the heart could not work to its maximum. He had to have the pericardium removed (peeled like an orange) and he recovered after months of rest and exercise. The psalm today reminds us to not harden our hearts to the Word of God. To be open to the healing presence of God in our lives.

The man with the unclean spirit recognises Jesus as the "Holy One of God". Do we recognise the presence of God in our lives and receive his healing touch? Jesus teaches with authority. We need to say to Jesus "what do you want with us?" Jesus comes to heal, liberate, and strengthen. He truly is the prophet of God in his words and actions. Jesus is faithful to the Father's will, he became man and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory.

I have had the privilege of visiting Capernaum and seen the floor of the excavated site of this Synagogue where this Sunday's Gospel incident took place. In the Catholic Rite of Baptism all those to be baptised are exorcised, they are prayed over and anointed with the oil, on the chest of the Catechumens (those preparing for Baptism), the Holy Spirit is evoked, praying that God would protect and strengthen them against all evil. May God protect and strengthen us all in our prophetic witness as members of the Kingdom of God.

Yours, in the Lord Jesus, Fr Michael



YOU ARE INVITED TO A POTLUCK PARISH GATHERING

Everyone Brings
Something to the Table

Pick your favourite summer dish and join fellow parishioners for a bring and share potluck dinner.

WHEN: Following 5:30pm Mass on 10 February 2024

WHERE: Parish Pastoral Centre (upstairs)

RSVP: (02) 9181 1795 Come along and tell us what dish you will be bringing so our coordinator can make this evening full of a variety of food and laughter.

All Welcome

CATECHISTS SUNDAY 2024 4th February

Catechists who are willing to help in our public schools teach children about God and His love for all.

Jesus always picked those willing to follow his way by "making the willing able".

Our parish is looking for volunteer catechists for 2024 school terms.
Please contact the Parish Office

SUNSHINE CLUB

The CWL ladies invite you to the
Sunshine Club Lunch

When: Tuesday 6 February at 12 noon

Where: The Oxford Hotel
Victoria Rd Drummoyle

All welcome bring a friend and come together for relaxed conversation and laughter.



Holy Mass with Anointing of the Sick Saturday 10 February 2024

12:00 pm Holy Mass

Followed by a light lunch
upstairs in the Parish Centre

Bring a plate to share

All welcome

including carers and family.



Bring back previous Blessed Palms for burning:

Palms are required to burn for
Ash Wednesday ashes.

Please drop off in the Church basket
provided or at the parish office no later than
Sunday 11th February.

If you can assist with Palms for Palm Sunday please
contact the parish office. Thank you.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 105:47

(All) 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.

The Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory.

Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

First Reading

Deuteronomy 18.15-20

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet.

Moses spoke to the people; he said: "The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: 'If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.' Then the Lord replied to me: They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak, that prophet shall die.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 95.1-2, 6-7ab, 7c-9 (R.7c+8a)

(R.) If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

1. O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! **(R.)**

2. O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. **(R.)**

3. O that today you would listen to his voice! Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, when your ancestors tested me, and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 7.17, 32-35++

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

The unmarried are concerned about the affairs of the Lord.

Brothers and sisters, let each of you lead the life that the Lord has assigned, to which God has called you. I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the affairs of the Lord, how to please the Lord; but the married man is anxious about the affairs of the world, how to please his wife, and his interests are divided. The unmarried woman and the virgin are concerned about the affairs of the Lord, so that they may be holy in body and spirit; but the married woman is concerned about the affairs of the world, how to please her husband. I say this for your own benefit, not to put any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and unhindered devotion to the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4.16

Alleluia, alleluia!

A people in darkness have seen a great light; a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death. *Alleluia.*

Gospel

Mark 1.21-28

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

They were all amazed: A new teaching - with authority.

The disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, Jesus entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing the man and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching, with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once Jesus' fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

According to Pope Francis, 'Jesus did not mince words'. Any way you look at it, Christ's proclamation was a turning point in history with phenomenal ramifications. The moment has arrived! The Kingdom of God is close! There is Good News to be heard!

This was Jesus' message about himself. 'He was the salvation,' the Pope notes, who entered human history in a powerfully new way.

When we look at this Gospel, Jesus also had another component of his message: the way of discipleship. Its elements are straightforward: repent, believe, follow. As the Pope elaborates, Jesus 'invites us to recognise ourselves as in need of God and his grace; to have a balanced attitude with regard to earthly goods; to be welcoming and humble toward everyone; to know and fulfil ourselves in the encounter with and service of others.' This is how we can change our lives to follow more closely the one in whom we believe.

And, as the Pope further suggests, each phase of our life 'has its own value, and can be a privileged moment of encounter with the Lord.' Therefore, we should be open to welcoming Jesus again and again in new places and situations. Whether in our parishes, homes or workplaces, our lives are full of encounters that can change us and those we meet. This is the way. © Nick Brodie is an Australian historian and writer who is currently Dean of Academic Studies of Jane Franklin Hall in Hobart. A graduate of the Australian National University, Flinders University, and the University of Tasmania, he is the author of several books on Australian history and numerous essays on historical, political, and religious topics. In 2017 he was awarded the Bruce Mansfield Prize for the best article in the Journal of Religious History. He is currently studying Theology.



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful

Leader: With steadfast hearts let us turn to the Lord, trusting in God's mercy and power.

Reader: Let us pray for all peoples of the world, that the Lord may graciously preserve harmony among them. *(pause)*.

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray for all those considering vocations to the priesthood, that they may follow the will of God for them. *(pause)*.

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray for all in our community that they will come to know Christ more deeply and listen to his voice. *(pause)*.

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray for all children in this new school year that they may experience your presence in their study. *(pause)*.

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray for the elderly who suffer from isolation or sickness, that they may be strengthened by our love of them. *(pause)*.

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray for those who have died, that they may be received into the joy of God's Kingdom. *(pause)*.

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Heavenly Father, you teach us with authority and with the words of eternal life. Hear our prayers and help us to always live by your laws as we seek your mercy. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Communion Antiphon

Cf Psalm 30:17-18

(All) Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

St Mark's Parish Diary



† Wednesday 31 January - Saint John Bosco

He became a priest, and devoted himself to the care of the young, to ensure the continuation of his work, he founded a congregation, which he named after St Francis de Sales (a saint for whom he had great admiration) today the Salesians continue his work worldwide. Mass at 7:30am

† Friday 2 February - Presentation of the Lord - Candlemas

We humbly implore your majesty that, just as your Only Begotten Son was presented on this day in the Temple in the substance of our flesh, so, by your grace, we may be presented to you with minds made pure. Mass at 8:00am

† Friday 2 February - Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life

The Holy See World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life is celebrated on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord which was chosen by Pope John Paul II. Mass at 8:00am

† Sat 3 | Sun 4 February - Word of God Sunday

Celebrated in Australia in February the Pope has chosen the motto taken from the Gospel of St John: "Remain in my Word" (John 8:31). This is also Catechist Sunday.

† Monday 5 February - Saint Agatha

She was martyred at Catania in Sicily, probably during the persecution of Decius (250-253). Devotion to her was widespread in the Church in the earliest times and she is mentioned in the Roman Canon of the Mass. Mass at 8:00am

† Tuesday 6 February - Sunshine Club Luncheon

The CWL ladies invite you to the Sunshine Club Lunch Tuesday 6 February at 12 noon at The Oxford Hotel Victoria Rd Drummoyne. All welcome bring a friend and come together for relaxed conversation and laughter.

† Tuesday 6 February - Saint Paul Miki and Companions

A Jesuit Brother and native of Japan, Saint Paul Miki was crucified, along with 25 other Catholics, for preaching his belief in Jesus. Mass at 9:30am

† Saturday 10 February - Anointing Mass

All who are sick, elderly, facing surgery, or seeking the gift of God's healing are welcome to participate to join us for Mass and prayer and for their families and caregivers. Holy Mass with Anointing of Sick at 12 noon

† Saturday 10 February - Potluck Parish Gathering

Pick your favourite summer dish and join fellow parishioners for a bring and share a potluck dinner. Following 5:30pm Vigil Mass upstairs in the Parish Centre.

† Saturday 10 February - Saint Scholastica

The twin sister of St Benedict. She was dedicated to God from an early age and followed her brother to Cassino, where she died in about 547. Mass at 12 noon

† Sat 10 | Sun 11 February - Lunar New Year

Beginning the Year of the Dragon - the wood Dragon to be precise!

† Sat 10 | Sun 11 February - Project Compassion

Project Compassion Sunday. Lent starts this week with Ash Wednesday. As we prepare to celebrate once again the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter, Project Compassion gives us the chance to act as Jesus did. To reach out to those in some of the most challenging situations.



In your love and concern, please pray for all the sick and vulnerable members of our St Mark's community:

Brian Gallagher, Dante Ferzoco, Egidio Ettorre, Looi Im Heok, Christiane Biady, Anne Johnson, Lucie Betteto, Isobel Bocalatte, Pat Crowe,

Fay O'Halloran, Santa Iacono, Bishop Peter Ingham, Pat Kenna, Wendy Madden, Lina Giannandrea, Patricia Ryan, Patricia Ficarra, Milly Di Blasio, Immaculata Di Palma, Giuseppina Pinto and Rocco Zoccali.

God of all goodness, Look with mercy on all who suffer any kind of infirmity, sickness or injury, that they may be comforted. Let your hand of healing and protection be upon them. When they are afraid, give them strength and courage. ~Amen~



Remembering those who have gone before us.

Agnes Fernandez, Lily Conaghan, Frank Hanvey, Antonio Ziino, Charlie Camilleri, Jim La Gerche, Monica Rincon De Florez, Eddie Conaghan and Jimmy Conaghan.

Recently Deceased. Rodrick McWade, Margurite Anne Turner, Graeme Cooper, Henry Paoloni, Liam Askin, and Gerard Bradley. *May all the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.*

Ministry training and formation:

Being part of the parish life and ministry allows you to meet and share common interests with other like-minded people and is a wonderful way to deepen your Catholic faith and increase your love for the church.

New or existing ministry members are welcome to attend.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Thursday and Wednesday 11th, 18th, 24th April 2024
6:00pm-9:00pm Ryde (3 nights of attendance)

Ministers of the Word (Readers)

Thursday 15th and 22nd February 2024
6:00pm-9:00pm Ryde (2 nights of attendance)
Contact the Parish office to register.

Pray for Students & Teachers

As teachers and students return to school we offer this blessing to them all:

Lord God,

your Spirit of wisdom fills the earth and teachers us your ways.

Look upon these students.

Let them enjoy learning and take delight in new discoveries.

Help them to persevere in their studies and give them the desire to learn all things well.

Look upon these teachers.

Let them strive to share their knowledge with gentle patience and endeavour always to bring the truth to eager minds.

Grant that students and teachers alike may follow Jesus Christ,

The way, the truth, and the life,
for ever and ever

Amen.

St Mark's Drummoyne Masses



Monday & Friday 8:00am
Tuesday & Thursday 9:30am
Wednesday 7:30am



Saturday 12 noon

Saturday Reconciliation 11:30am - 11:55am

Saturday Vigil 5:30pm

Sunday 9:00am & 6:00pm

Scan the QR code to donate to support the Ministry and Mission of our Parish.

You can support YOUR PARISH OF St Mark's financially through...

† Tap and Pray machines at the Church entrance.

† Direct Debit monthly. *Contact the Parish Office to arrange*

† Online donation through the Parish Website.

† Weekly Planned Giving envelopes. *Contact the Parish Office*

† 2nd Collection at Sunday Masses. *After Prayers of the Faithful*

† Leaving a Bequest in your will

Parishes in the Archdiocese are required to be self sustaining and depend upon the generosity of parishioners for their sustainability.

No financial assistance is given directly from the Archdiocese to support parishes.

We welcome into our faith community this Sunday through the Sacrament of Baptism at St. Mark's

Charlotte Ngoc Linh Pham

and we congratulate her parents.

God bless you.



ENROLLING NOW FOR 2024 & 2025



St Mark's
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
DRUMMOYNE

Apply online: stmarkdrummoyne.syd.catholic.edu.au
Email: info@stmarkdrummoyne.catholic.edu.au
Phone: 9181 3042

Enrolments open for 2024 & 2025
Kindergarten - Year 6

St Mark's Catholic Parish

33 Tranmere Street, Drummoyne NSW 2047

Tel: (02) 9181 1795

Email: admin@stmarksdrummoyne.org.au

Parish Website: www.stmarksdrummoyne.org.au



St Mark's Church Hearing Loop installed

Parish Bulletin: we ask that you take home your bulletin, do not put it back for others or leave it on the pew for others to pick up.

Parish Priest: Fr Michael McLean PP EV
Priest in Residence: Fr Denis Minns OP
Pastoral Associate: Sr Antonia Nedu ISR
Chair Parish Pastoral Council: Ms Celine Cheng
School Principal: Mrs Melissa Lentini

Masks are recommended, thank you for social distancing, please respect the sacredness of our church and remember to turn off your phone during the Mass.

St Mark's Parish, Drummoyne acknowledges the Wangal people, one of 29 tribes of the Eora nation and the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand. We pay our respects to them and for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully upon the land.



A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney: Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at **(02) 9390 5810** safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. **Website:** Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding and Child Protection