

SACRED HEART PARISH - MUNDARING

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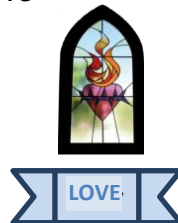
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WEEKDAY MASS: Times for Tuesday 6th February - Saturday 10th February

Tuesday 8.30am ; Wednesday: 9am

Friday 8:30am (followed by Adoration)

Saturday 8:30am (followed by Reconciliation)

WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm (Sacred Heart Mundaring)

Sunday – 7.30am (Our Lady of Good Counsel, Chidlow)

9:30am (Sacred Heart Mundaring)

MANY THANKS TO DEACON PAUL

I would like to express my deepest thanks to Deacon Paul Reid for caring for our parish community throughout my absence in January. I don't know if a permanent Deacon has had to preside over Communion services, as the sole source of Spiritual nourishment for a parish, for as long as a month! I am sure that Dcn Paul will have an opportunity to share his thoughts on this experience with his fellow Deacons. Thank you Dcn Paul...for I knew the Parish was in good hands!

WELCOME FR JOHN BACK AFTER MASSES THIS WEEKEND WITH A CUP OF TEA/COFFEE AFTER EACH MASS.

INTERESTING QUOTES

"Poetry is sane because it floats easily in an infinite sea; reason seeks to cross the infinite sea, and make it finite. The result is mental exhaustion..."

G. K. Chesterton 'Orthodoxy'

"Because I was really white and because a cruel fairy stepmother, who was understandably jealous of my beauty, had turned me into a too-big Negro girl, with nappy black hair, broad feet and a space between her teeth that would hold a number-two pencil."

Maya Angelou 'I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings'

NEWS, HAPPENINGS & CELEBRATIONS

LENT IS NOT FAR AWAY

The liturgical season of Lent is not far away! Often, we can enter into this crucial season with little or no thought at all. Ash Wednesday is on Wednesday February 14...so I thought I would encourage us all to think about Ash Wednesday and what it's all about...in advance!

"Ash Wednesday is arguably the most distinctively Catholic day of the year. On Ash Wednesday, Catholic men and women of all ages and occupations will walk down the street or into a restaurant with a dark smudge on their forehead, as if there were nothing more natural in the world...The people of God know that the drama of salvation is accessible, tangible, like the ashes put on our foreheads or the water of baptism at the Easter Vigil. We know that confessing our belief in a redeemer begs the question: redeemed from what? And we know the answer to that question is sin.

In all our modern sophistication, it still takes only the tiniest bit of honesty to recognize the sins of the world and the sins in our own hearts, sins of the flesh and sins of the spirit, sins of injustice and of indifference and of concupiscence. All sins that require redemption. Sins that require confession. Sins that require atonement. Sackcloth and ashes are not very modern, but there is something in the Christian psyche that knows we have need of them, dare I say that we deserve them.

'Thoroughly wash away my guilt; and from my sin cleanse me,' sings the psalmist.

'For I know my transgressions; My sin is always before me.

All that brings us to church on Ash Wednesday." This is part of an article published by

The National Catholic Reporter from the United States.

If you wish to read the entire article, please go to:

<https://www.ncronline.org/opinion/ncr-voices/why-catholics-need-ash-wednesday>

WELCOME MARK TENNEY

I would like to welcome Mark Tenney, our new principal, to both Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School and Sacred Heart Parish. Mark was the successful applicant in what was a field of outstanding applicants for the job of principal. We pray for Mark and his family as they adjust to life in Mundaring and we look forward to his leadership qualities bearing much fruit in the coming years.

THOSE

ADULTS WISHING TO BECOME CATHOLIC

I would like to invite any adults who are not Catholic, and would like to become Catholic, to join a small group of people entering the process later this month. I have 2 adults who wish to be received into the Catholic Church, and so will be running a course on Tuesday evenings from 7pm -8pm during school terms. The course will start later this month. Please contact Fr John if you are interested.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year B

FIRST READING Job 7: 1-4, 6-7

A reading from the book of Job.

Job began to speak: Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!' Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

■The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 146: 1-6. R. v. 3

R. Praise the Lord who heals the brokenhearted. or Alleluia!

1. Praise the Lord for he is good; sing to our God for he is loving: to him our praise is due. **R.**
2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem / and brings back Israel's exiles, he heals the broken-hearted, he binds up all their wounds. He fixes the number of the stars; he calls each one by its name. **R.**
3. Our Lord is great and almighty; his wisdom can never be measured. The Lord raises the lowly; he humbles the wicked to the dust. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Cor 9: 16-19, 22-23

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

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me. So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessing.

■The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 8: 17

**Alleluia, alleluia! He bore our sickness and endured our suffering.
Alleluia!**

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year B

GOSPEL Mk 1: 29-39

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them. That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was. In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

■The Gospel of the Lord.

CELEBRATING THE WORD OF GOD

Today the Church in Australia celebrates 'Word of God Sunday'. In establishing this day, Pope Francis invited us "to grow in religious and intimate familiarity with the sacred scriptures" (Aperuit Illis. 30 Sep 2019). This celebration brings our attention to how we engage with the Word in the liturgy, and how we take the Word with us and proclaim it in our daily lives. Today let's focus on the Gospel. Mark portrays Jesus discerning his ministry. We accompany Jesus on his journey: having left the synagogue, where he had been teaching and healing, he enters the house of Simon and Andrew, along with James and John, where he finds and heals Simon's mother-in-law. By evening as the sun is setting, the word is already out, and people are bringing the sick and possessed to him. Indeed, "the whole city was gathered at the door" (v. 33), and Jesus ministers to them. In the morning, while it is still dark, Jesus goes to pray. Simon leads a search, and when they find him, Jesus declares, "Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is why I came" (v. 38). What we see in this Gospel passage is the word and deed in action in Jesus, and his discernment through prayer to take his mission out further. Nourished by the Word of God let us pray and discern our mission in our daily lives sharing the Good News beyond our doors.

Dr Rosemary Canavan