

SACRED HEART PARISH - MUNDARING

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WEEKDAY MASS: Times for Tuesday 13th February - Saturday 17th February

Tuesday 8.30am; Ash Wednesday: 9am & 7pm

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)

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and we will have Masses at 9.00am and 7pm.

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School will attend the morning Mass.

Please pass the word to anyone who needs to know!

“PRAYER, FASTING, GOOD DEEDS. This Ash Wednesday we commence the season of Lent, a time of preparation for the great feast of Easter. During Lent, we give special attention to prayer (attending to quality more so than quantity), fasting (emptying ourselves that we may filled with the life and love of Christ) and good deeds (not to win admiration for ourselves but to help others). Though it has a penitential character, Lent is a joyful season as we anticipate the resurrection of the Lord.”

**Taken from the St Paul's Sunday Missal,
for the day of Ash Wednesday page 156**

INTERESTING QUOTES

“Even the darkest moments of the liturgy are filled with joy, and Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten fast, is a day of happiness, a Christian feast.” Fr Thomas Merton

NEWS, HAPPENINGS & CELEBRATIONS

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

**TO BE HELD IN SACRED HEART MUNDARING ON FRIDAY MARCH 1
AT 9.30AM...ALL WELCOME**

The World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative. It is run under the motto “Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action,” and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. The movement aims to bring together women of various races, cultures and traditions in a yearly common Day of Prayer, as well as in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year. An ecumenical group of Palestinian Christian women have prayed and reflected together over the past several years to respond to the invitation to write the 2024 program. Their theme is “I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love,” based on Ephesians 4:1-7. This program calls us to bear with each other in love, despite all difficulties and oppression.

The Worship Service shares stories of three Palestinian Christian women, who witness to the power of bearing together in love. Their stories illuminate the experiences of Palestinian women from three different generations. The symbol of an olive tree is used throughout the worship service. This represents the three generations through the trunk, branches, and leaves of the olive tree. The Palestinian Christian women who wrote this worship service have invited the world to pray for peace, justice and freedom of religion and freedom of movement. Their prayers specifically call us to pray with women, refugees, persons experiencing homelessness, and all who are sick, dying and grieving...

POPE ST JOHN PAUL II ON LENT

“By inviting us through the discipline of Lent to tread the paths of love and hope marked out by Christ, the Church makes us realize that the Christian life involves detachment from superfluous goods, and the acceptance of a poverty which sets us free, and enables us to discover God's presence and to welcome our brothers and sisters with an ever more active solidarity and in an ever wider fellowship.”

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 RCIA process later this month. I have 3 adults who wish to be received into the Catholic Church and one who wants to be confirmed. Some people have approached me about attending the classes to help deepen their understanding of the faith...if you have that desire...you are more than welcome. The course will start on Tuesday evening February 27 and run from 7pm -8pm during school terms. Please contact Fr John if you are interested.

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year B

FIRST READING Lev 13: 1-2, 44-46

A reading from the book of Leviticus.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons. 'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

■The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 31: 1-2, 5, 11. R. v. 5

R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

1. Happy the man whose offence is forgiven, whose sin is remitted. O happy the man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no guile. **R.**
2. But now I have acknowledged my sins; my guilt I did not hide. I said: 'I will confess my offence to the Lord.' And you, Lord, have forgiven the guilt of my sin. **R.**
3. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, exult, you just! O come, ring out your joy, all you upright of heart. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Cor 10: 31-11: 1

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

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone – to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved. Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

■The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Lk 7: 16

Alleluia, alleluia! A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. Alleluia!

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year B

GOSPEL Mk 1: 40-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

■The Gospel of the Lord.

BE AS CHRIST

Today's Gospel brings our focus again to Jesus' healing through a person identified only as "a leper". This person is described without gender (although masculine pronouns follow), without ethnicity, family name, geography or any human connection. The title "a leper" encapsulates the stigma of separation, being unclean and having to live apart (see Lev. 13, first reading). We read that "a leper" came to Jesus pleading on his knees, "If you want to you can make me clean" (v. 40). This phrase indicates that "a leper" recognises Jesus' power and authority. Moved with the deepest gutwrenching compassion, Jesus reaches out his hand and touches him. Simultaneously with his touch, Jesus says "I do choose. Be made clean" (v. 41). Jesus' touch is redeeming in itself. Jesus touches the untouchable. Though warned not to say anything and show himself to the priest, the person "went out and began to proclaim freely and spread the word" (v. 45). We witness "a leper" becoming a proclaimer of the Good News. In our world today there are people with titles like "a leper", as we have "homeless" or "refugee" among us bereft of identity and dignity, untouchable. How can we "touch" like Jesus? Paul's words to the Corinthians invite us to take him as the model as he takes Christ. This invitation together with the healing of one on the margins calls us to be as Christ, open to all and to be agents of healing wounds and separation.

Dr Rosemary Canavan