

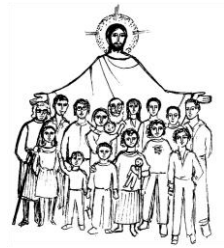


Holy Family Parish Northeast Mallee

northeastmallee@ballarat.catholic.org.au 03 50324144

Website: northeastmallee.org.au

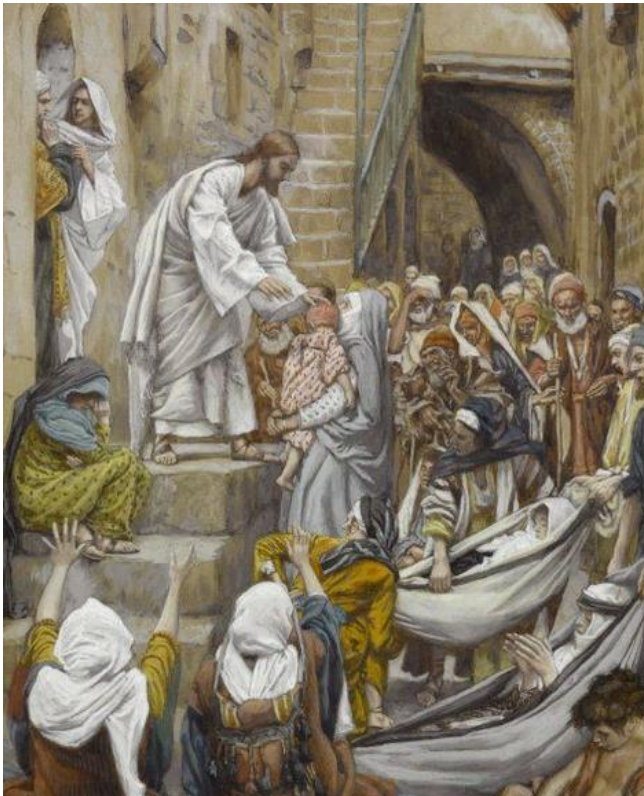
Incorporating the Communities of St Mary's Sea Lake, Sacred Heart Culgoa, St Joseph's Nandaly, S's Peter & Paul Quambatook & St Mary's Swan Hill as well as the Lake Boga Families & Faith Group



9TH JUNE 2024

10TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"WHOEVER DOES THE WILL OF GOD IS MY BROTHER AND SISTER AND MOTHER."



A lot going on in the readings this week, and you have heard a lot from me lately, so I will keep it simple.

Jesus comes to establish a new family. Up until now, God's Covenant had been limited to a single people, the People of Israel. You were either born into that family, or you weren't. It was a question of blood.

Of course, simple kinship itself didn't guarantee the blessings of the Covenant, you also had to keep faith with God and follow his ways. But up until now, God's Covenant had been reserved to the members of the elected nation of Israel. *Jesus is now throwing the gates wide open.* It no longer matters which family you are born into, or who your mother or father is. From now on, all that matters is your response to God's invitation. Faith is the key. If you believe in God's Word and do his Will, you are in the family. And where do we find the new family Jesus established? It is his Church of course. As imperfect as we may be, we are his family.

FIRST COMMUNIONS: THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN!

Mary and I would once again just like to thank you for your prayers and support with our First Holy Communions last weekend. For all our welcomers and special helpers, for the great hospitality and beautiful music- thank you. And for everyone for entering that spirit of welcome and embrace- thank you.

As you know, we planned a little party to cap off the celebrations. One of the mums was explaining this to her son, and his response was, 'That's right, I celebrate with my Church family first, then my family family.'

His little brother didn't take much convincing either; "YES! Two parties! Two cakes!" Thank you for all those who made this special celebration possible. It will be a treasured memory for those children. We can *tell* them that they are part of God's family, but to *know* that truth deep down in their heart, they need to *experience* the warm embrace of their Church family. That is how they learn that they belong.

Parish Contact Details:

Po Box 71 Swan Hill, Vic 3585

Phone: 03 5032 4144

northeastmallee@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Website: northeastmallee.org.au

Office Hrs: Tues, Thurs and Fri 10:30 -2:30

Parish Priest

Fr James Kerr

Parish Office:

Glenda Klabbers & Mary Kennedy

Child Protection Officers:

Damian and Karen Kelly

Child Safe Church

Here in the Parish of Holy Family North East Mallee we follow the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government and we also implement procedures and standards as directed by the Ballarat Diocesan Office.



**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS
RECENT DEATHS+**
Des Hall

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

Marjorie Jager, Margaret Lucy, Pasquale Trinci
Margaret Sury, Mary Morris, Mollie McLean
Catherine Curran, Laurie Scala, Bill Hinton
Nathan Mangiameli, Rosario Pizzo, Anastacia Neiman
Ann Maher, Irene Cattran, Patricia Wheeler
John McEwan, Maud Mary Rogers,
Edna Ryan, Bob Shirley

SICK LIST

Pat Croft, Yvonne Richardson, Paul Donohue,
Jayden Williams, Margaret Foott,
Jarrod Crimmins, Michael Bourke, Jack Donohue,
Jude Lewis, Susan, Yvonne Annan,
Bridget Phyland, Carmel Ryan, Peter Amezdroz

**THIS WEEKEND 8TH/9TH JUNE
10TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Saturday 6pm Swan Hill
Sunday 8.30am Quambatook
Sunday 10:30am Swan Hill
Sunday 5pm Nandaly

WEEKDAYS IN SWAN HILL

Tuesday 5.30pm
Wednesday: 10am Mass
Thursday: Confessions 5pm, 5.30pm Mass, Adoration
Friday: 11.30am Mass

**NEXT WEEKEND 15TH/16TH JUNE
11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Sat 6pm Swan Hill
Sunday 8.30am Culgoa
Sunday 10:30am Swan Hill

NOTICES



**SAVE WITH CDF COMMUNITY FUND
– IT'S IN EVERYONE'S BEST INTEREST.**

By opening a savings account or Term Investment, not only will you receive a competitive financial return, your savings will also help build parishes, classrooms, hospital wings, aged care homes and social service facilities. With competitive interest rates available across a range of savings accounts, including 5.35% p.a.* on a 12-month Term Investment or 5.05% p.a. on a 6 Month Term, it's a way to save while doing good.

To find out more, visit www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer, scan the QR code, or speak to us on 1800 134 135.



**Interest rates subject to change. View current rates on the CDF website.*

SCRIPTURE READINGS IN VIETNAMESE

Hôm ấy, Đức Giêsu và các môn đệ trở về nhà, và đám đông lại kéo đến, thành thử Người và các môn đệ không sao ăn uống được. Thân nhân của Người hay tin ấy, liền đi bắt Người, vì họ nói rằng Người đã mất trí. Còn các kinh sư từ Giê-ru-sa-lem xuống thì lại nói rằng: Người bị quỷ vương Bê-en-dê-bun ám, và Người dựa thể quỷ vương mà trừ quỷ. Đức Giêsu liền gọi họ đến, dùng dụ ngôn mà nói với họ: "Satan làm sao trừ Satan được? Nước nào tự chia rẽ, nước ấy không thể bền; nhà nào tự chia rẽ, nhà ấy không thể vững. Vậy Satan mà chống Satan, satan mà tự chia rẽ, thì không thể tồn tại, nhưng đã tận số. Không ai có thể vào nhà kẻ mạnh mà cướp của được, nếu không trói kẻ mạnh ấy trước đã, rồi mới cướp sạch nhà nó. Tôi bảo thật các ông: mọi tội lỗi và lời phạm thượng, dù mỗi phạm

Our Parish Schools

St Mary's Primary School Sea Lake

Principal: Kate Nunn
47 Hannon Street, Sea Lake
Ph: 03 5070 1272

Principal@smsealake.catholic.edu.au

St Mary's Primary School Swan Hill

Principal: Kate Quin
2 Murlong St Swan Hill
Ph. 03 5033 2541

principal@smswanhill.catholic.edu.au

St Mary MacKillop College

Principal: Michelle Haeusler
53 McCrae Street, Swan Hill
Ph: 5032 9771

Principal@mackillopsh.vic.edu.au

thượng nhiều đến mấy đi nữa, thì cũng sẽ được tha cho con cái loài người. Nhưng ai nói phạm đến Thánh Thần, thì chẳng đời nào được tha, mà còn mắc tội muôn đời. Đó là vì họ đã nói: “Ông ấy bị thần ô uế ám”. Mẹ và anh em Đức Giêsu đến, đứng ở ngoài, cho gọi Người ra. Lúc ấy, đám đông đang ngồi chung quanh Người. Có kẻ nói với Người rằng: “Thưa Thầy, có Mẹ và anh em chị em Thầy ở ngoài kia đang tìm Thầy!” Nhưng Người đáp lại: “Ai là Mẹ Tôi? Ai là anh em Tôi?” Rồi Người rảo mắt nhìn những kẻ ngồi chung quanh và nói: “Đây là Mẹ Tôi, đây là anh em Tôi. Ai thi hành ý muốn của Thiên Chúa, người ấy là anh em chị em Tôi, là Mẹ Tôi”.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT?

Why might it have been an ‘unforgivable’ blasphemy to associate Jesus’ healing with evil rather than the Holy Spirit?

Why do you think Jesus’ family thought he’d gone ‘out of his mind’?

What does Jesus mean by describing those who do the will of God as his brother and sister and mother?

In what way can you bring about the will of God today and act as a brother or sister of Jesus?

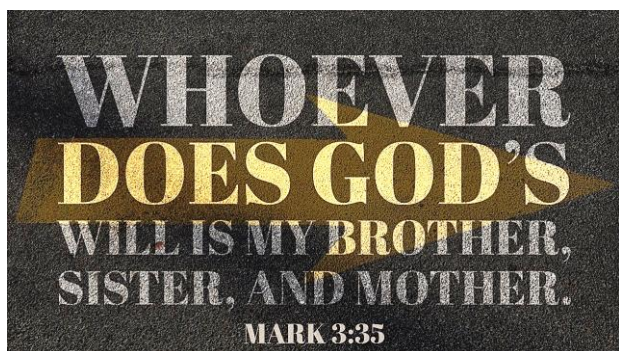
READINGS NEXT WEEK:

11th Sunday in Ordinary time

First Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34



GOSPEL REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

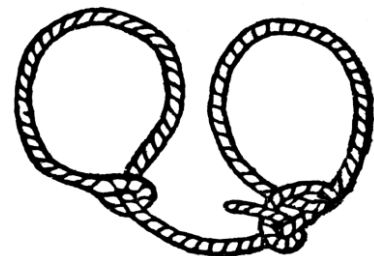
Family members are often the last ones to allow us to change from who we have been to who we want to become. Unintentionally, family will sometimes continue to treat us as the child we were growing up in the family environment, despite our various accomplishments and changes in direction.

Sometimes it’s easier to continue to treat someone we love as we have always treated them, rather than learning to adjust and accommodate a new way of relating. When you’re the one seeking to establish a new life or a new way of operating, family can appear to be ‘keeping you in a box’.

In a style typical of the Gospel of Mark, the two incidents with Jesus’ family ‘sandwich’ and focus attention on the interaction with the Scribes who accuse Jesus of being under the influence of Satan. Like the family of Jesus who don’t want to see him for who he really is becoming, or has become, the Scribes misunderstand Jesus’ fight against evil. Jesus dismisses their claims through his use of the image of binding the strong man before entering the strong man’s house. Jesus has ‘bound’ Satan – the strong man – proving himself the stronger and has set about undoing the work of evil in the world.

Today’s gospel paints a picture of Jesus’ family wanting him to play safe and remain the person they’ve known him to be, rather than growing into his ministry and preaching his challenging message.

They can see that his actions are causing the authorities to pay attention and their reaction is to try to get Jesus to stay under the radar; to live small.



Gospel Focus – Binding the strong man

The incarnation of Jesus in the world – God becoming fully human and physically present in the world – was an act of supreme love for the world.

The image of binding the strong man echoes this act of love. The image is reminiscent of a bully or tyrant who is wreaking havoc and terrorising a community.

Before justice can be restored and the victims/survivors lifted up, the ‘strong man’ must be restrained and subdued. To bring about the loving act of God in the world, the power of evil must be resisted and bound up.

Living the Gospel – Who is my mother or brother?

At the end of the today’s gospel passage, Jesus states, ‘Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.’ Family bonds were critically important in First Century Palestine. Jesus does not deny his family kinship, but expands it to include anyone who does the will of God.

All those who work to bring about the Kingdom or Reign of God share a bond with Jesus, they share a familial link with him. Whenever we act to bring about God’s dream for this world, we join our efforts with those of our brother, Jesus.

© Greg Sunter

FIRST READING Genesis 3:9-15

A reading from the book of Genesis

I will make you enemies of each other: your offspring and her offspring.

The Lord God called to the man after he had eaten of the tree. 'Where are you?' he asked. 'I heard the sound of you in the garden;' he replied 'I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.' 'Who told you that you were naked?' he asked. 'Have you been eating of the tree I forbade you to eat?' The man replied, 'It was the woman you put with me; she gave me the fruit, and I ate it.' Then the Lord God asked the woman, 'What is this you have done?' The woman replied, 'The serpent tempted me and I ate.'

Then the Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this,

'Be accursed beyond all cattle,
all wild beasts.

You shall crawl on your belly and eat dust
every day of your life.

I will make you enemies of each other:

you and the woman,
your offspring and her offspring.

It will crush your head
and you will strike its heel.'

The Word of the Lord. ALL: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 129. R. v. 7

**(R.) With the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption.**

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!

O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?

But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.

My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.

Because with the Lord there is mercy,
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity. **(R.)**

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

*A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
We believe, and therefore we speak.*

As we have the same spirit of faith that is mentioned in scripture – I believed, therefore I spoke - we too believe and therefore we too speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus to life will raise us with Jesus in our turn,

and put us by his side and you with us. You see, all this is for your benefit, so that the more grace is multiplied among people, the more thanksgiving there will be, to the glory of God.

That is why there is no weakening on our part, and instead, though this outer man of ours may be falling into decay, the inner man is renewed day by day. Yes, the troubles which are soon over, though they weigh little, train us for the carrying of a weight of eternal glory which is out of all proportion to them. And so we have no eyes for things that are visible, but only for things that are invisible; for visible things last only for a time, and the invisible things are eternal.

For we know that when the tent that we live in on earth is folded up, there is a house built by God for us, an everlasting home not made by human hands, in the heavens.

The Word of the Lord. ALL: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION John 12:31. 32

Alleluia, alleluia!

The prince of this world will now be cast out,
and when I am lifted up from the earth

I will draw all to myself, says the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mark 3:20-35

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
It is the end of Satan.*

Jesus went home with his disciples, and such a crowd collected that they could not even have a meal. When his relatives heard of this, they set out to take charge of him, convinced he was out of his mind.

The scribes who had come down from Jerusalem were saying, 'Beelzebul is in him,' and, 'It is through the prince of devils that he casts devils out.' So he called them to him and spoke to them in parables, 'How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot last. And if a household is divided against itself, that household can never stand. Now if Satan has rebelled against himself and is divided, he cannot stand either – it is the end of him. But no one can make his way into a strong man's house and burgle his property unless he has tied up the strong man first. Only then can he burgle his house.

'I tell you solemnly, all men's sins will be forgiven, and all their blasphemies; but let anyone blaspheme against the Holy Spirit and he will never have forgiveness: he is guilty of an eternal sin.' This was because they were saying, 'An unclean spirit is in him.'

His mother and brothers now arrived and, standing outside, sent in a message asking for him. A crowd was sitting round him at the time the message was passed to him, 'Your mother and brothers and sisters are outside asking for you.' He replied, 'Who are my mother and my brothers?' And looking round at those sitting in a circle about him, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers. Anyone who does the will of God, that person is my brother and sister and mother.'

The Gospel of the Lord. ALL: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.