



Holy Family Parish Northeast Mallee

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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



30TH JUNE 2024 : 13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"MY DAUGHTER, YOUR FAITH HAS HEALED YOU.. BE FREE OF YOUR AFFLICTION"



In today's Gospel we are told two intertwining stories of faith. Jairus comes to Jesus in desperation; his daughter is dying. As Jesus follows him, a woman who has been suffering from bleeding for 12 years sneaks up on Jesus, convinced that if she can just touch him, she will be healed. Her faith opens her to Christ's healing power, he finds the healing that she was yearning for and she is made well again. In the meantime, some messengers approach. Jairus' daughter is now dead, so 'Why put the Master to any further trouble?'. Jesus ignores them and encourages Jairus, 'Do not be afraid; only have faith.'

How often we hear Jesus say those words; 'Do not be afraid.' When he is with us, we have nothing to fear. Jairus continues to follow Jesus to his home, the naysayers are put outside, and Jesus takes the dead girl's hand and commands her, 'Talitha, kum!', or 'Little girl, get up!'. And the little girl gets up, and is restored to her parents.

So, what can we make of all this? Christ comes to heal us and to raise us up, and our faith is the key that opens us up to his healing. So, faith is certainly central here, but I think it is important to remember that the true power belongs to Christ. Our faith opens us up to his grace, and so that means it should also open us up to his will in our lives and his plan for us. Or in other words, we have faith in a person, not in any particular outcome or result. Why do I stress that? Because at some stage or another, all of us face our own trials or feel the weight of the suffering of those around us. And in facing that, we can fall into the trap of thinking that if our faith is just strong enough, God will make this-or-that happen or take such-and-such away. Or to put that in a negative sense, we can fall for the lie that if we don't find the healing we seek, we must not be believing hard enough, or otherwise God can't help us or doesn't care. But again, our faith is in the person of Christ, not in a particular thing we want him to do for us. And the power is in *him*, not in the strength of our faith. Our faith may open the door to his plan unfolding in our lives, but what that plan looks like we have to leave up to him. Sometimes he may ask us to wait. Why? I can't say for sure. Perhaps we just aren't ready yet. Perhaps he wants to help us grow through the struggle we are facing. Perhaps we need to learn something about ourselves, or about him. Perhaps he is leading us to recognise our deeper need, not just the surface wound. Or perhaps in some mysterious way, that only he can know, he is planning to work through our story to also help bring healing and hope to the people around us.

It may help to go back to the stories we heard today. The woman had been suffering for over a decade. She had to persevere through all of that. She finally finds her healing, and this is witnessed by Jairus, right at the very moment when his faith was to be tested in a way it had never been tested before. Could Jairus have persevered without the long suffering woman's example of faith? We may never know. And in the same way, we may never know just how important our story is to the people around us. Just like the two stories are intertwined in the Gospel, so too are our stories intertwined in the great tapestry of God's loving plan.

Parish Contact Details:

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

Parish Priest

Fr James Kerr

Parish Office:

Glenda Klabbers & Mary Kennedy

Child Protection Officers:

Tony and Joelle Whiting

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+**

Robin Simonelli (Mudgeeraba)

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

John Ugbejie

Noel Storer, Margaret Fitzgerald.

Marcelle Thomson, Lui Agosta, Celie Flanagan

Tony Frazzica, Tim Grant

Doreen O'Halloran, Lyla Moar

Luigi Mase, Klay Stevens

SICK LIST

Pat Croft, Yvonne Richardson, Paul Donohue,

Jayden Williams, Margaret Foott,

Jarrold Crimmins, Michael Bourke, Jack Donohue,

Jude Lewis, Susan, Yvonne Annan,

Bridget Phyland, Carmel Ryan, Peter Amezdroz

**THIS WEEKEND 29TH/30TH JUNE
13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Saturday 6pm Swan Hill

Sunday 10:30am Swan Hill

WEEKDAYS IN SWAN HILL

Tuesday **NO MASS**

(Fr James returning from funerals in Ballarat)

Wednesday: 10am Mass

Thursday: Confessions 5pm, 5.30pm Mass

Friday: 11.30am Mass

Sat: 9.30am Confessions, 10am Mass

Followed by Monthly Rosary

**NEXT WEEKEND 6TH/7TH JULY
14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Sat 6pm Swan Hill

Sunday 8.30am Sea Lake

Sunday 10:30am Swan Hill

NOTICES



BAPTISM WELCOME

We've had a big month for baptisms so far, and it continues this week with four more! On Saturday we will welcome Luca Infantino, son of Martin and Renay. Then on Sunday we will welcome Henley Caccaviello, son of Lucas and Brooklyn; Jimmy Delmenico, son of Bryce and Rebecca, and Angus Maher, son of Hope and Patrick.

We are delighted to share this special day with your families, and thank all our parents and godparents for presenting your children. With Christ's light to guide you, may you be blessed today and always.

Welcome to God's family!

ST MARY'S HOSPITALITY GROUP MEETING

THIS Sunday 30th June there will be a meeting after the 10.30 Mass in Swan Hill to discuss the future of the catering team. As well as hosting the monthly cuppa after Sunday 10:30am Mass, the group has also been available to help cater for funerals and other special events. If you are able to assist by volunteering for funeral catering your help would be greatly appreciated. So please come along and see if this is something you can be part of.



ST PATRICK'S DAY RACES RAFFLE

Thanks to all who participated in the annual Swan Hill St Patrick's Day Races & Raffle. This year \$2000 was raised for Mackillop College and \$2000 for St Mary's Swan Hill. Many thanks and congratulations to our organisers and tireless volunteers.

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



CLOTHING DONATIONS & VOLUNTEERS WANTED

St Vincent de Paul Society, Vinnies Shop located in Curlewis St, opposite the Big Cod, is seeking support from parishioners in donations of clean men's clothing and children's clothing. Donated clothes can be taken to the shop during business hours.

The Vinnies shop is also seeking volunteers. Any parishioner interested are requested to speak to shop manager Katina, Monday – Friday between business hours 9.30am-3pm

HAVE YOU THOUGHT?

What is the impact of 'interrupting' one miracle story with another?

What is the relationship between the two events?

Why was it important that Jesus stopped and spoke to the woman after she had been healed?

Why did Jesus instruct Jairus and his wife to tell no one about a miracle that would be hard to conceal?

What is the message in this gospel passage for a modern audience?

THOUGHTS ON THE GOSPEL READING.

Today's Gospel reports two stories of healing. One story tells us about a father's great love for his dying daughter. The other story tells us about a desperate woman who risks much as she seeks healing from Jesus. In each story, the request for healing is itself a courageous act of faith, and yet very different circumstances are represented by the lives of each suffering person.

Jairus is described as a synagogue official, a man of considerable standing in the Jewish community. Distraught over his daughter's poor health, he approaches Jesus and asks him to heal her. Although Mark doesn't provide many details, we can imagine that his daughter has been ill for some time and that her condition is deteriorating.

As Jesus leaves with Jairus, Mark describes a second person who seeks healing from Jesus, a woman with a haemorrhage. This woman secretly touches Jesus from behind and is immediately cured. In response, Jesus turns and asks who touched him. Jesus' disciples, always a little clueless in Mark's Gospel,

help us envision the scene. The crowds are pushing in on Jesus, and yet he, knowing that power has gone out of him, asks who touched him. The woman could have remained anonymous, yet at Jesus' question she steps forward and acknowledges what she has done. Jesus responds by acknowledging her as a model of faith and sends her away in peace.

At this point, we can imagine Jairus's impatience with Jesus; his daughter is dying, and Jesus hasn't helped him yet. As if to build a sense of urgency, messengers suddenly arrive and confirm Jairus's worst fear: his daughter has died. Jesus curiously ignores their message and reassures Jairus. When they arrive at Jairus's home, they find family and friends mourning the girl's death. Jesus enters the room of the dead girl, takes her by the hand, and instructs her to arise. Jairus's faith in Jesus has not been in vain; his daughter is restored to life.

The contrasts between Jairus and the woman with the haemorrhage are stark and revealing. One is a man; the other is a woman. One is a public official, an important person in the community. The other is a woman who has lost everything to find a cure to a condition that separated her from the community. One approaches Jesus publicly. The other approaches Jesus secretly. Yet in each case, faith leads them to seek out Jesus in their time of need.

The Gospel concludes with Jesus' instructions to remain silent about this miracle. This is typical of Mark's Gospel and is sometimes referred to as the messianic secret. Repeatedly, those who witness Jesus' power and authority are instructed to not speak of what they have witnessed. These instructions appear impossible to obey, and it is difficult to understand the purpose of these instructions. But in each case, they seem to emphasize the fact that each individual, including the reader of Mark's Gospel, must, in the end, make his or her own judgment about Jesus' identity. Each individual must make his or her own act of faith in affirming Jesus as God's Son.

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READINGS NEXT WEEK:

14th Sunday in Ordinary time

First Reading: Ezekiel 2:2-5

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Gospel: Mark 6:1-6

FIRST READING *Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24*

A reading from the book of Wisdom

It was the devil's envy that brought death into the world

Death was not God's doing,
he takes no pleasure in the extinction of the living.
To be – for this he created all;
the world's created things have health in them,
in them no fatal poison can be found,
and Hades holds no power on earth;
for virtue is undying.
Yet God did make man imperishable,
he made him in the image of his own nature;
it was the devil's envy that brought death into the world,
as those who are his partners will discover.
The Word of the Lord. ALL: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 29:2. 4-6. 11-13. R. v.2*

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.
O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,
restored me to life from those who sink into the grave.
Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,
give thanks to his holy name.
His anger lasts but a moment: his favour through life.
At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn.
The Lord listened and had pity.
The Lord came to my help.
For me you have changed my mourning into dancing,
O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever. **(R.)**

SECOND READING *2 Corinthians 8:7. 9. 13-15*

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Your abundance should supply their want.

You always have the most of everything – of faith, of eloquence, of understanding, of keenness for any cause, and the biggest share of our affection – so we expect you to put the most into this work of mercy too. Remember how generous the Lord Jesus was: he was rich, but he became poor for your sake, to make you rich out of his poverty. This does not mean that to give relief to others you ought to make things difficult for yourselves: it is a question of balancing what happens to be your surplus now against their present need, and one day they may have something to spare that will supply your own need. That is how we strike a balance: as scripture says: The man who gathered much had none too much, the man who gathered little did not go short.
The Word of the Lord. ALL: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *2 Timothy 1:10*

Alleluia, alleluia! Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through his gospel. Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Mark 5:21-43*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Young girl, I say to you, arise.

When Jesus had crossed in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered round him and he stayed by the lakeside. Then one of the synagogue officials came up, Jairus by name, and seeing him, fell at his feet and pleaded with him earnestly, saying, 'My little daughter is desperately sick. Do come and lay your hands on her to make her better and save her life.' Jesus went with him and a large crowd followed him; they were pressing all round him.

Now there was a woman who had suffered from a haemorrhage for twelve years; after long and painful treatment under various doctors, she had spent all she had without being any the better for it, in fact, she was getting worse. She had heard about Jesus, and she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his cloak. 'If I can touch even his clothes,' she had told herself 'I will be well again.' And the source of the bleeding dried up instantly, and she felt in herself that she was cured of her complaint. Immediately aware that power had gone out from him, Jesus turned round in the crowd and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' His disciples said to him, 'You see how the crowd is pressing round you and yet you say, "Who touched me?"' But he continued to look all round to see who had done it. Then the woman came forward, frightened and trembling because she knew what had happened to her, and she fell at his feet and told him the whole truth. 'My daughter,' he said 'your faith has restored you to health; go in peace and be free from your complaint.'

While he was still speaking some people arrived from the house of the synagogue official to say, 'Your daughter is dead: why put the Master to any further trouble?' But Jesus had overheard this remark of theirs and he said to the official, 'Do not be afraid; only have faith.' And he allowed no one to go with him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. So they came to the official's house and Jesus noticed all the commotion, with people weeping and wailing unrestrainedly. He went in and said to them, 'Why all this commotion and crying? The child is not dead, but asleep.' But they laughed at him. So he turned them all out and, taking with him the child's father and mother and his own companions, he went into the place where the child lay. And taking the child by the hand he said to her, 'Talitha, kum!' which means, 'little girl, I tell you to get up.' The little girl got up at once and began to walk about, for she was twelve years old. At this they were overcome with astonishment, and he ordered them strictly not to let anyone know about it, and told them to give her something to eat.

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