

## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

# From the Pastor

4 February 2024

Dear brothers and sisters,

## Word of God for the week

"He got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there." (Mk 1:35)

## Q&A: What is God's plan for human beings?

God, infinitely perfect and blessed in himself, in a plan of sheer goodness, freely created man and woman in order for them to share in his own blessed life. In the fullness of time, God the Father sent his Son as the Redeemer and Saviour of humankind, who had fallen into sin, so calling all into his Church and, through the work of the Holy Spirit, making them his adopted children and people who will share in his eternal happiness.

## Opportunity for men and women this Lent

Lent is a time for prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Living it with others helps us be more faithful to what we have desired to live during Lent, and builds fraternity with each other. For those who wish, **two separate groups are available**. Men can join Fr Josh in the Exodus program, and women can join the Dominican Sisters for the Magnify program. **The commitment will only be for the 40 days of Lent** - which reflects the ancient Christian tradition of fasting, and the biblical example of 40 days in the desert, both of God's people and of Jesus himself. The commitment includes meeting as a group once a week, fasting on Wednesdays and Fridays, giving up desserts, alcohol, tv and video games, a daily holy hour, exercise of some kind 3 times a week - and, for the men, cold showers. The point is not to earn salvation, but to help us open up to God's grace, grow in fraternity, and grow in personal freedom. For those with any reason for doubt healthwise we ask you to check with your GP before joining us. More details can be found on <a href="https://exodus90.com/how-it-works/">https://exodus90.com/how-it-works/</a>. Contact the Berala parish secretary with your name, email and phone number to register.

## First Fridays School of Adoration

How do I pray? The best way to learn is to start praying. To help us to begin to pray, and to pray better, the Emmanuel Community will be helping us restart the traditional practice of a holy hour before the Blessed Sacrament on the first Friday evening every month. The structure will be simple: 7.45pm brief talk, 8pm adoration and benediction, 9pm tea & coffee. All are welcome, **especially if you aren't used to it or are non-Christian**. Please book it in your diaries.

## Welcoming the cross for a week

During Lent three parishes - Auburn, Berala and Lidcombe - will be taking turns welcoming a big wooden cross for the week. On Sunday afternoon 10 March whoever wishes will be processing with the cross (including stations of the cross) from Lidcombe to Auburn, then on 17 March from Auburn to Berala, and then 24 March from Berala to Lidcombe. For the week of 17 March Berala will be having special activities based around the cross every day until the cross leaves us to go to Lidcombe. Details coming soon.

Yours in Our Lord,

J+

Parish Administrator Fr Josh Miechels info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au (Office) Joshua.Miechels@sydneycatholic.org T. (02) 9644 7787 Parish Secretary Lea Baldoria info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au Tue to Fri 9am -3pm T. (02) 9644 7787	Parish Diary This Week		
	Mon 5/2	No Mass.	
	Tue 6/2	6.45am Mass 7.15am-7.45am Confession 7.15am-8.45am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
	Wed 7/2	6.45am Mass 7.15am-7.45am Confession 7.15am-8.45am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Sacramental Co-ordinator Sophia Brewty Tue & Wed 10am-3pm sacraments@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au Catechist Co-ordinator Josie Pangilinan	Thu 8/2	6.45am Mass 7.15am-7.45am Confession 7.15am-8.45am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 7.00pm RCIA	
	Fri 9/2	6.45am Mass 7.15am-7.45am Confession 7.15am-8.45am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
<b>Catholic Inquiry—RCIA</b> Andrew Tham rcia.spcberala@gmail.com	Sat 10/2	8.00am Mass 8.30am Rosary, Confession 8.30am-9.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 5.00pm Vigil Mass	
<b>Parish Pastoral Council</b> Karim Kassis (Chair), Robert McGinn (Vice Chair), Renee Salar (Secretary), Julia Babic (Assistant Secretary), Jenny	Sun 11/2	8.00am Mass 10.00am Mass	
	11 FEBRUARY 2024 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME		

11 FEBRUARY 2024		6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME		
Mass	VIGIL		8AM	10AM
ACOLYTE	Charlie SCULLY		Robert MCGINN	Roland JAVIER
MUSIC & SINGING	PARISH CHOIR		Cyril EDWARDS Liva & Solomone FUNAKI & Lavinia FIFITA	SACRED HEART CHOIR
POWER- POINT	Parish Choir		Liva or Lavinia	Sacred Heart Choir
LECTOR/S	Amanda DOWDELL Noeline DONNELLAN		Jenny MICHAEL	SPC & SJW PRIMARY FAMILY MASS
			Maria SIMEONE	
CHURCH SHOP	Anita YIP		Catherine MCGINN	Alan THAM
Cleaners SPC:Maria Perica, AntoinetteAltar & SaTeresa Escobar, Kata JurcicAntoinette		cristy: Group 3 Korina Kinda, Flowers: Diana Zivkovic, Boudaher Marijana Galic		
Saturday 8AM	Λ			10 FEBRUARY
LECTOR FOR MASS		Rosalind EVANS		



Michael Berbari

## **Pilgrim Statue** This week at

"Family that pray together stay together

## Snell & Ilboudo Families

To host the Pilgrim Statue and Rosary prayer please contact Mona on 9709 8701 or 0417 282 603 or Phil Lopez on 9646 1756.

## **Mass Intentions**

Sick: Graham Turner, Giovanni Simeone, Nguyen Thi Hoa, Monica Khi, Fr Vincent Ryan OMI, Richard Langford, Victor Rodrigues, Joyce McDonald

Recently Deceased: Valerie Lepold, Monsignor

Deceased: Nellie Lim, Giuseppe Leonardi

Birthday: Leonardo Martin

Other Intentions: Holy souls in purgatory.

#### C

#### Pa

Ka Cl В Michael (Asst Co-ordinator, Social Committee), Amanda Dowdell, Amanda Gahan, Jennifer Makerry, Michael Kim, Natasha Ellis, Susie Mravunac, Sr Cecilia Joseph

#### **Finance Committee**

Brendon Nazareth (Chair), Joe Moses, Sylvia Jukic, Nader Badra

#### Safeguarding Officer

Robert McGinn

#### **Parish Schools**

St Peter Chanel, Regents Park T. (02) 9644 9083 Principal—Sr Cecilia Joseph Family Educator - Jenny Michael

St Joseph the Worker, Auburn South T. (02) 9646 1434 Principal - Gabi Tobin Family Educator - Natasha Ellis

#### 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 contactthe Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or 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.



## Antiphons & Readings

### Entrance Antiphon (Psalm 94:6-7)

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

### First Reading (Job 7:1-4. 6-7)

#### 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.

#### Responsorial Psalm (Ps 146:1-6. R. v.3)

Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

#### Second Reading (1 Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23)

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 blessings.

## Gospel Acclamation (Matthew 8:17)

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

#### Gospel (Mark 1:29-39)

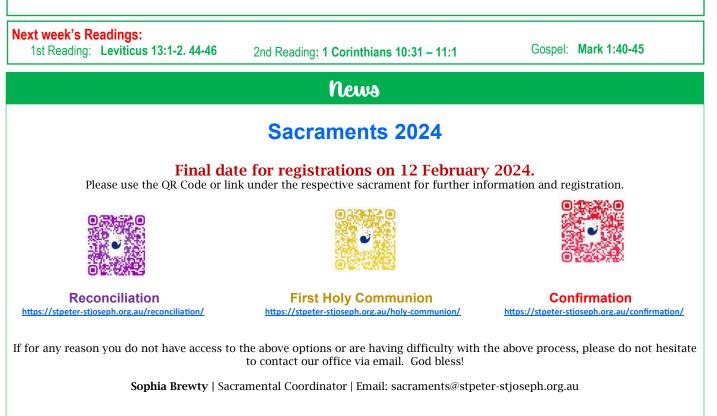
On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

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.

#### Communion Antiphon (Cf Psalm 106:8-9)

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.





Parents can email for assistance at **support@villageoshc.com.au** or call **1300 366 437**.

BOOKINGS 24 HOURS A DAY!

برکم VillageOSHC

Easy and flexible bookings with VillageOSHC.com.au

# CHURCH SHOP

The Church Shop is stocked with new items! Check out some great items perfect for gifting this Christmas!

The Church Shop is open on Saturdays before and after the 5.00pm Vigil mass and on Sundays after the 8.00am & before the 10.00am masses. Drop by our Church shop and grab a gift for that special someone! God's Word 2024 still available for only \$19.95

