



SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B SUNDAY 14 FEBRUARY, 2021

Today's readings focus on leprosy, but they could be about any disease or injustice and the judgement that can accompany the condition. Sometimes an illness is considered socially unacceptable and those afflicted cannot escape the condition that evokes fear, alienation or condemnation.

In Jesus' time, lepers were outcasts. Mandatory separation from nearly everyone was probably worse than the disease itself. It wasn't the lepers' fault; they simply had come in contact with a bacterium many centuries before antibiotics. No doubt some people increased the misery of lepers with taunting and name-calling.

Mark tells us Jesus reacts with compassion from deep within himself. The fear of ritual impurity does not stop him. The barriers and divisions do not hold for Jesus. His touch heals.

Its amazing what people can do for others, even when they mirror dimly the infinite charity of God. People can rekindle hope, bring back the zest for living, inspire plans for the future, restore self respect and pride.



We Acknowledge the traditional owners of this land the Awabakal Peoples. And pay our respects to the elders past and present, and any that may be with us today.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Foundation	Leader	In Office
1. Identity and Community		
2. Worship and Prayer.	Uta France	Mon
3. Formation and Education		
4. Mission and Outreach.		
5. Leadership and Structure.	John France & Juliet Hutchins	Sat & Sun Tues

Email: morparishplt@mn.catholic.org.au

If you have any concerns or questions you can also talk to any member of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) who are: Mal and Pam Melvey, Kerry Lendon, and Rod Hay.

PRIEST SUPERVISOR: Fr Geoff Mulhearn

PRIEST IN RESIDENCE: Fr Kevin Corrigan, Sacramental Priest

Parish Secretary: Mrs Rosanna Suckling Mon— Fri 9am-2pm

OFFICE: 60 Yambo Street, Morisset, PO Box 87,

Office Hours: 9.00 am to 2.00pm—Monday to Friday

Ph: 02 4973.6859, **Fax** 02 4973.2937

Morisset Parish email: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Morisset Parish Web site: www.vianneymorisset.org

Morisset Parish Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>

Morisset Parish Bulletin Items: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Morisset Parish Presbytery: Ph: 02 4973 1537

(Please submit all Bulletin Notice requests to the parish office by 2pm Wednesdays)

If you would like to receive an electronic copy of our Parish bulletin, please call the parish office or send an email request to morparish@mn.catholic.org.au

UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :

Sunday	14th Feb 9.30am
	Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	16th Feb 9.30am
	Mass— Morisset
Wednesday	17th Feb 12pm
Ash Wednesday	Mass— Morisset
Sunday	21st Feb 9.30am
	Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	23rd Feb 9.30am
	Mass— Morisset

BOOKINGS **ESSENTIAL** via the Eventbrite App or Website: <http://vianneymorisset.eventbrite.com> .

If you don't have access to the App or the Internet call the Parish Office on 02 4973 6859 between 9am & 2pm Weekdays.

When you come to Mass please be aware that the NSW Government requires you to check in and asks that those who are able to check in with a QR code do so.

If you need help on how to Check in with a QR code please see Juliet Hutchins.

It is highly recommended that Face Masks should be worn in Places of Worship, on Public Transport, and those Carpooling.

PASTORAL CARE

If you would like to speak with or see a priest please contact Fr Kevin on 02 4973 1537 .

PROJECT COMPASSION BE MORE



Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "Be More".



As Saint Oscar Romero said, "Aspire not to have more, but to be more."

Through your generosity and by aspiring to "Be More", you are assisting some of the world's most vulnerable people build better futures for themselves, their families and their communities.

Thank you for being more!

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

PRINTED BULLETINS

Due to NSW Government COVID-19 restrictions printed bulletins will not be available prior to Mass, as NSW Health considers them a transmission hazard and asks that we send them electronically. If you have the internet either on PC or Smartphone and are not currently receiving the bulletin electronically please contact the parish office to make arrangements, or alternatively you can view it on our Parish Website or Facebook page. If you are unable to receive the bulletin electronically please contact the parish office and we can make arrangements to have the bulletin delivered

ASH WEDNESDAY

This coming Wednesday 17th February is Ash Wednesday, the first day in the Season of Lent.

To help us celebrate this special day, Mass will be held in the Morisset Church at 12 noon.

Bookings are essential book at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/ash-wednesday-mass-17th-feb-2021-mass12pm-morisset-tickets-141228312685>

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER. 2021

The Morisset Uniting Church (Church in the Trees) will host the World Day of Prayer for 2021. It will be held on Friday 5th March at 10.am. The Theme Country is 'Vanuatu' As the Covid Capacity for the Uniting Church is 55 people, each church will be allowed 5 attendees. If you are interested in attending could you please contact Rosanna at the Parish Office by Friday 26th February

REFLECTION DAYS WITH BISHOP BILL

Will be in pastoral regions through out the Diocese and anyone from anywhere across the diocese can attend any of the sessions which will be running from Tuesday 13th April until Tuesday 4th May for information on Days, Times and Locations go to: <https://www.domnsynod.com.au/get-involved/reflection-days-with-bishop-bill/>

ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS PREFERRED

NSW Health deems cash a COVID-19 transmission hazard and we have been asked by the NSW Government to encourage parishioners to contribute to the collections and planned giving electronically online Electronic payments can be made at: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/about/parish-payments/> Alternatively you can directly deposit into our bank account, Account Name: CDF 5004 Morisset Parish BSB: 062815 Account Number: 00328161. If you are a Planned Giver you need to put your giver number in the payment reference.

DOMN LIBRARY

To make help make the resources of The DoMN Library more available, we are excited to be opening the Dilley Library, located within the grounds of St Joseph's College, New England Highway Lochinvar, on the second Saturday of each month; commencing this February 13th.

Each month we will offer a Formation session, Book Club, DoMN Library website training and time for general access and borrowing. The following is a guide:

9am – 10am: Formation session: 13th February: Synod Delegate Training. Please note that this timeslot is for formation attendees only as access to the resource will not be possible during this time. Details of future monthly presentations will be available on the DoMN Library website <https://library.mn.catholic.org.au>

10am – 11am: Book Club (General discussion of your current reading) and General Library access.

11am – 1pm: General library access/borrowing and DoMN Library website training (Please bring your device.)

If you would like to attend, please RSVP by emailing the DoMN Library, indicating your likely hours of attendance.

(domnlibrary@mn.catholic.org.au). Please feel free to email, phone or text (0409 033 449) if you have any queries or questions.

BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD TOGETHER, OUR JOURNEY: DIOCESAN CONTEMPLATIVE DIALOGUE REFLECTION PROGRAM DURING LENT

From Lent until Pentecost the people of the diocese are invited to engage in the process of contemplative dialogue, to discern more fully the framework for considering 'Building the Kingdom of God Together, Our Journey' in our diocese.

The purpose of the diocesan reflections during Lent (17 February – 31 March) is to enable all members of the diocesan community to respond to the papers developed by the Synod Working Party. Synod delegates will be facilitating the Contemplative Dialogue Reflection Program throughout Lent in Parishes, schools and online.

For those wanting to connect with this program online, you are invited to register each week to one of the sessions. It is optional to register at the same time or a different time each week.

To register for each session throughout Lent go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/diocesan-lenten-reflection-groups-registration-136552114049>

To access the program and resources online, go to:

<https://www.domnsynod.com.au/building-the-kingdom/>

Perhaps at some time in our lives many of us have known the pain of being excluded, shut off or cut off from social contacts & have felt the hurt deep inside. As humans, the wish to belong is one of our most powerful human desires---alone we can wither & die , so it's not surprising that "belonging" is a central theme in our Scriptures. It is also a vivid feature in the ministry of Jesus as He is constantly welcoming, inclusive & hospitable.

In the 1st Reading, 2 lengthy chapters from Leviticus are devoted to the issue of skin diseases (generally but misleadingly called "leprosy"). It was regarded as one of the greatest forms of uncleanness & seen as a physical manifestation of God's punishment on the person. Lepers were forced to live outside their village for fear of contamination & they were expected to call out a warning "unclean, unclean" if anyone came near them. Being unable to work, they were forced to beg for food & money so were literally on the very edge of society.

For a person like this to even approach Jesus was a huge risk but also an enormous act of faith! He TRUSTS that Jesus will not reject him as everybody else has done in his life -- his request is almost a demand- it is filled with an utter conviction of Jesus' ability & goodwill as he says " If you want to, you can cure me"! Jesus' reaction is equally emotional as he is moved by this man's plight. By reaching out his hand & touching the man , he breaks every rule of the purity code of Jewish society & so would be considered unclean himself ! Still he is not deterred, but responds with LOVE & heals the leper with word & action -but instructs him to conform to the Jewish rules that will enable him to return to worship & back into everyday life.

Jesus' reaction is a fully HUMAN one of indignation at what this man is forced to endure & is a gut-wrenching response from the very core of his HUMANITY.

There is a story of Francis of Assisi in which he encountered a horribly disfigured leper.

Initially, he was repulsed by the man but remembered that this man, too, was a child of God & overcoming his fears, he ran forward & embraced him.

Rather than seeing the DISEASE, Francis saw the PERSON.

In our present day society of a "winner takes all" culture, everyone loses, especially those we label as "frail" or "an outcast ", like the leper. But eventually, of course, ALL of us become frail & the last thing we want is a society made up of hard-hearted people who resent having to help others - the truth is, however, that our most valuable resource lies in each other. It doesn't cost anything to brighten up someone's day.

So many lessons have been learnt during the past year as we adapted to changes & sought to help others who were struggling with the "new normal" way of life.

Pope John Paul II urged us all in 1995 to be a gift of love & compassion to one another- how are we doing in that regard?

As the Season of Lent approaches , our preparation for Easter, let us ask ourselves these questions---

Who is your leper? Who is the person in your life that you need to embrace , rather than reject?

Who would benefit from you viewing them with different eyes? SOFT eyes! Eyes of COMPASSION!

May we all become apostles of the open table so that ALL might feel WELCOME & INCLUDED. Heather White

It seems only fitting that Bishop Bill formally convoked the Diocesan Synod of Maitland Newcastle on the feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. One of the well-known sayings from Australia's first saint is "Never see a need without doing something about it".

ROSEMARY MCALLISTER PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 09, 2021

We now have an opportunity to explore our diocesan needs through a synod at a time when our nation is conducting a Plenary Council.

It is synchronous that before Mary MacKillop's canonisation, now 11 years ago, Australia recognised August 8 as the feast day of St Dominic de Guzman, the founder of the Dominican order whose motto "Veritas", which means truth.

As we journey towards the second session of synod in May 2021, we can focus on these two concepts – what is our truth, and what are our needs and what can we do about them?

Active and contemplative life for many theologians, religious and lay people has been the subject of debate for centuries. Thomas Aquinas engages in a disputation in his Summa Theologiae on the active life in comparison with the contemplative life and tries to determine which is of greater value. Which of them has greater merit? Does the active life hinder the contemplative life? Does the active life precede the contemplative? Both points of view would concur that active and contemplative forms of encounter with God are equally important and needed.

Before we act, we need to think, reflect and contemplate. Deep listening within ourselves, with others and with our God not only enhances and encourages strong relationships, it reveals truth and uncovers needs.

This year during Lent we are being provided with the opportunity to stop, be still, and listen through contemplative dialogue as we break open the synod's theme of Building the Kingdom of God Together. Each week during Lent, individuals and groups, delegates and observers, will focus on one of our diocesan five foundations of Identity and Community, Worship and Prayer, Formation and Education, Mission and Outreach, and Leadership and Structure.

The resources that form part of the experience engage the Catholic imagination and invite everyone, as Pope Francis states in Evangelii Gaudium, to a "renewed personal encounter with Christ, or an openness to letting God encounter you. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, no one is excluded from the Lord's Joy."

The type of dialogue is a contemplative way of being together; a way of engaging in meaningful conversations that are rooted in deep listening. There are key questions. What resonates with you? What challenges you? What is the invitation to you personally and for your local Church community? These will be contemplated and explored through engagement with the resources and each other.

Contemplative dialogue leads to a shared understanding, as people with unique gifts, points of view and values grow in capacity and willingness to think creatively together. The practice of contemplative dialogue supports building a shared approach that is effective, practical, and better allows us to bring our best selves together and to participate in cultivating a creative common ground.

Read the full story at: <https://mnnews.today/aurora/february-2021/53291-perfect-time-to-seek-our-truth/>

THE SEE JUDGE ACT (SJA) SMALL GROUP

Will gather in the Callinan Centre on Thursday 25th Feb at 9.30am – 11.10am gathering. The focus for our SJA will be the coming Sunday's Gospel, and to consider how that text may

1 speak to, or relate to one's life in some way;

2 to seek to identify how some practical action (or attitudinal change) may be a suitable response to this listening to the Gospel text. Any action would particularly seek to serve the promotion of some form of loving change, or address some need- no matter how simple.

The Gospel text is of the 2nd Sunday of Lent and is the Gospel of Mark Ch 9: 2-10 (the First Reading of the Sunday Liturgy is always chosen to complement the Gospel of the day. Reading this may assist in your reflection upon the Gospel prior to our gathering. ("...where 2 or 3 are gathered in my name, I am there in their midst...")

Any inquiries of interest about the SJA group, please contact Fr Kevin



Each week during this Lenten season, Caritas Australia is holding Virtual Immersion opportunities for parishes via Zoom video conferencing. These digital engagements will allow participants to focus on prayer and reflection, Catholic Social Teaching and an interview and Q&A with Caritas International Program staff.

Sessions will run Tuesdays and Thursdays for one hour across Australia. You can register for a Virtual Immersion by going to lent.caritas.org.au.

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMINITIES

ASH WEDNESDAY— 17TH FEBRUARY

THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER— 22ND FEBRUARY

SAINT PATRICK— 17TH MARCH

SAINT JOSEPH— 19TH MARCH

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD— 25TH MARCH

PALM SUNDAY— 28TH MARCH

THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER— 1ST APRIL

FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD— 2ND APRIL

PASCHAL VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT— 3RD APRIL

Please pray for those who are sick, in hospital or recovering at home:

Fr Geoff Mulhearn, Fr Glen Baker, Colin Aspinall, Fr Paul O'Neill, Helen Martin, Therese Strategos, Bill Eckersley, Bruce Gillett, Joan Gillett, Sophie L. Bird, Robert Jay.

Please pray for those who have been called to eternal life may they always be in our prayers.

Recently Deceased:

Fr Tim Cahill



PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE BULLETIN

If you would like the parish to pray for a **family member who is sick, recently deceased or you would like remembered** please call or email the parish office or complete a prayer card for each person and place in the mail box near the parish office door. Cards are available at the back of the church and at the Parish Office. **All prayer requests require permission from a family member or the person. Due to Australian privacy laws.**

Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>

Don't miss out on anything in your Diocese! Go to mnnews.today to see updates and read stories about what is happening locally.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,

I believe that You

are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment

receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.



WEEKEND ROSTERS

		<u>THIS WEEK</u>	<u>NEXT WEEK</u>
<u>Presiders</u>	9.30	Mass	Mass
<u>PROCLAIMER:</u>	9.30	J Vipan	M Melvey
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	9.30	K Lendon	P Melvey
<u>SERVERS</u>	9.30	V Paulo	V Paulo
<u>AV:</u>	9.30	U France	M Foo
<u>SOUND/VIDEO:</u>	9.30	G Hutchinson L Hutchinson	J France
<u>SIGN IN</u>	9.30	J Hutchins	H White
<u>TEMPERATURE</u>	9.30	M Foo	T Alexander
<u>USHER</u>	9.30	J Douglas	R Hay
<u>CLEANERS</u>	9.30	COVID-19 Safety Team	COVID-19 Safety Team

SYNOD-LENTEN PROGRAM:

Reflective Listening/Sharing:

Our Lenten Program this year is our response to our situation in 2020-21, in our world, our country, our diocese and in our lives.

In 2019 we shared our concerns and fears, asking the big question about *“What is the Spirit asking of us in Australia”* We answered in 3 ways, National, Diocesan and Parish.

All our answers were collated, and the Diocesan ones came back to us and have been collated and refined. Now we will look at these concerns and reflect on them.



Our Lenten Program is a weekly process. We begin by hearing the Sunday's Gospel, listening to the reflection, we look at Our Story presented as a Visual Representation, we look at each Foundational Statement, then, we look at the Concerns and Recommendations being made.

When we come together, we share our insights with each other, we listen to each other respectfully and share our wisdom.

We will be asked:

“In light of our reflections on Scripture, Our Story, Our Statements and Concerns and Recommendations- What spoke to ME/US?”

If we wish we can send our main point through to the Diocese on the Web Site for further processing before the next Synod meeting.

SYNOD -LENTEN PROGRAM:

I Wish to join a Lenten Group	Yes	No
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I would prefer:	Face to face	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Zoom	<input type="checkbox"/>
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I am able to participate at these times:

Weekdays	AM	PM
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Saturday		AM	PM
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NAME:

EMAIL:

PHONE:

[For more information call Uta on 0408 731 848]



Kinder Surprise

Tessa Evans is as excited as every other child starting Kindergarten at St John Vianney, Morisset, but her life experiences aren't those of your average five-year-old.

LIZ BAKER PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 08, 2021

Her mother Cassy Evans recalls the moment that shaped the past three years of the Lake Macquarie family's life.

"I was picking up Tessa's brother and sister from vacation care when I received a call from our doctor who said initial test results weren't looking good and we should go to hospital for more tests," Cassy says.

The call followed Tessa falling ill 10 days before with fevers and severe lethargy. After visits to various GPs, and antibiotics, Tessa was sent for blood tests.

"We found out on a Thursday and I just thought, this is crazy," says Cassy. "Only two weeks ago we had a healthy two-year-old. She started chemo the next day."

Despite the years of leukemia treatment and different life experiences to her 23 peers in Kindergarten, Tessa shares the same emotions as she starts school.

"She is so excited," says Cassy. "I think she might get a bit nervous when it comes to walking in the gate, but she's been wearing her sister's uniform and asking for months when she will start."

Starting school is a significant milestone for any child and their family. This time brings with it hope, excitement, some nervousness, and many new experiences.

It marks the commencement of education, a beginning of new friendships, connections – a community. And the family is aware of the exceptional community that will support her and her daughter at the school.

With her older siblings attending the school over the past three years, Cassy and Tessa's father, Jonathan, have been part of that network as they navigated Tessa's diagnosis and treatment.

"They say it takes a village to raise a child," says Cassy. "We were able to call on a community – many through the school, other friends and just calling on people when I needed it. There were times when I had to phone other parents at the school and ask them to help with my older kids as we had to unexpectedly rush to hospital."

"The school is a close-knit community and I've been lucky to experience that. It's big enough that there are facilities and good extra-curricular activities but small enough that we know each other."

Jonathan says, "The support was outstanding. Even just knowing that you have support in the background and calling on it when needed, that can make all the difference."

When Tessa became sick, the school developed a care roster and different families made meals for the Evans family. This initiative is something the school does regularly for any family going through a difficult time.

"In the end, everyone was so kind and generous I ended up telling them it was OK to stop cooking," says Cassy. "The little things like this have made a huge difference to us."

Late last year, Tessa followed the lead of her older siblings and decided to write a Christmas card to the school principal, Simon Devlin.

Mr Devlin says Tessa has always been positive and happy as part of the wider school community.

"It's an example of resilience and strength in someone so young," he says. "In fact, the whole family has been so supportive of our community. They bring a lot of energy to the school."

Such energy is reciprocated.

"There have been some lovely connections at the school and Tessa already knows her buddies," says Cassy. "The school sent out letters from the buddies and we learnt about them and this really helped in making the kids feel more welcome."

Tessa's connection to her new friends shines through.

"My buddies will play with me at lunchtime," says Tessa. "We can play in the playground. And at orientation, I got to go to my classroom. We made some things out of playdough."

With the companionship of her buddies and a bubbling confidence, Tessa will commence Kindergarten like any other child.

Jonathan agrees she is counting down the days to school, looking forward to what lies ahead. "I just hope that she has fun and she really enjoys the whole journey," he says.

Cassy contemplates this new beginning – what finishing the leukemia treatment last year means for her family, and what 2021 will bring for Tessa.

"It's really just normalcy that I hope for," says Cassy. "It seems like a bizarre thing to say, and we hear about the 'new normal' a lot with Covid, but our family has been using that term for years."

"For Tessa, 2021 is about sharing 'a normal' with everyone else. Starting school, being with her friends and just being able to do things that all the other kids are doing."

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ART COM PETI TION

The Social Justice 2020-2021 Statement, *To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today*, provides the opportunity to better understand mental illness and how as social beings we need the bonds of family, friends and the broader community to celebrate the joys and hopes of life.

These binds help us to face the usual challenges of life, but they are even more important in times of anxiety or despair. Our neighbourhoods, community organisations and clubs, and faith communities can be places of acceptance care and healing, rather than places of rejection, judgment or stigma.

The stigma associated with mental ill-health can be as debilitating as the symptoms of the illness. Negative stereotypes lead to people being avoided, excluded or dismissed. People with mental ill-health can be seen as incompetent and denied opportunities. Stigma undermines self-esteem, the treatment of ill-health, and the process of recovery. We need to reject the stigmatisation of mental ill-health, to challenge negative stereotypes and to eliminate discrimination.

The statement says, "our society tends to draw away from, or to push away, those who confront us with our frailties and limitations". It encourages another way of responding, inviting us to accept that we all have frailties and limitations, and to embrace "those who are sick or who have disabilities, those who are marginalised or despised". People living with mental ill-health are part of "us" and are not some "other" people. It is not a matter of "us" and "them". We all want to share in the fullness of life and live life to the full.

Artists are invited to create a work based on the themes found in the Social Justice Statement. Works can be 2 or 3 dimensional no larger than 1 x 1 metres. Name, title of work, school, parish and phone number clearly labelled on the back. This information plus a 150 word (maximum) artist statement must accompany the work and be emailed through to rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au before June 19.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2020-21

TO LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL

MENTAL HEALTH IN AUSTRALIA TODAY

Entries close Friday 19 June

Delivered to Catholic Schools Office reception,
841 Hunter St, Newcastle West 2302

Exhibition date Saturday July 17

Location The Veritas Centre

San Clemente High School, Mayfield NSW

Time 2pm– 5pm

Categories

Stage 3, Stage 4, Stage 5, Stage 6, Adult

For more information contact

rose.mcallister@mn.catholic.org.au

\$150 PRIZE FOR EACH CATEGORY!

Rite of Election

21 February 2021



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Humans are seekers of purpose and meaning. This search brings many to faith, to Christianity and to the Catholic Church.

As a Church community we welcome these people through the celebration of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). In this process we accompany them as their relationship with Jesus grows and they learn from us how to live as disciples of Jesus.

It is important that the whole Church gathers to support and pray for our catechumens.

We invite you to do this by attending the Rite of Election with them on the first Sunday of Lent. Everyone is welcome!

Time

2.30 PM

Where

Sacred Heart Cathedral
841 Hunter St, Newcastle West

Afternoon tea

with Catechumens, their Sponsors
and families follows the Rite

RSVP

For catering purposes to
E sharon.murphy@mn.catholic.org.au
P 4979 1134



2021 Annual Catechist Mass

“FOLLOW ME”

Bishop Bill invites you to our annual celebration of the wonderful work our catechists achieve. This event is a great opportunity for priests, parishioners, families and friends to celebrate the ministry of Special Religious Education, Sacraments of Initiation, RCIA and Children's Liturgy. Awards will be presented to those who have served as Catechists for over 5 years and to those who have completed SRE training.

RSVPs including dietary requirements are essential for this event.

RSVP by Friday **5 February** to 4979 1193 or natasha.brotherton@mn.catholic.org.au

INVITATION

**Saturday 20
February 2021**

Where:

Sacred Heart Cathedral,
Newcastle West

Time: 2pm

Refreshments will be served in
the Victor Peter Suite following
the Mass.



SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Sunday 14 Feb 2021

The Introductory Rites

Gathering

The Lectionary/Roman Missal or a Bible may be placed on a table together with a candle and a cross.

A short hymn might be sung.

Sign of the Cross

Leader:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All:

Amen.

Greeting

Leader:

Blessed be Jesus who makes us one,
and strengthens us
by the power of his Spirit.

All:

Blessed be God forever.

Introductory Remarks

Leader (in these or similar words):

Friends in Christ,
although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist this day,
we gather in God's name
for when two or more come together
God is always with us.

We worship in union with the whole Church
keeping this day of the Lord holy.

Opening Rite

LITANY OF PRAISE

Leader:

Before listening to the Word of God
let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, you show compassion to those who approach in faith: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you bring the outcast into your kingdom of love: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you fill us with the joy of salvation: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader:

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

All:

Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

God our Father
you gather us together
to hear your holy Word.
Help us to listen with open hearts
so that we will obey your will.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Lv 13:1-2. 44-46

A reading from the book of Leviticus

As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.

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.'

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Ps 31:1-2. 5. 11. R. v.7

(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

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

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.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to Mark.

All:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mk 1:40-45

The leprosy left him and he was cured.

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.

Reader:

The Gospel of the Lord.

All:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All are seated.

Reflection on the Word

A short period of reflection may be observed.

Q. Why was purity and cleanliness so important in Jewish society?

Q. What are the equivalent taboos today?

Q. Who are the 'lepers' of your community? Why?

Q. What can we learn from Jesus' response to the man with leprosy?

Profession of Faith

Leader:

In union with the whole Church
let us profess our faith.

All:

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Faithful

Leader: Brothers and sisters, with grace let us bring our prayers before the Lord.

Reader: That the Holy Church will be a light for all as a community of peace and salvation.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all preparing for their First Reconciliation will discover Christ's healing through confession and repentance.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That scientists and health workers will assist in the eradication of epidemic disease and illness.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That our parish community will support young people considering vocations to religious life.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the sick will find joy and salvation in Christ's healing, especially those listed in the bulletin.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who have died, especially N., will rejoice forever in the Kingdom of God.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for the strength to heal divisions and to restore right relations in our lives as we approach this Lenten season. May we look beyond ourselves to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

(pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving Father, you renew us with healing grace. Hear our prayers and guide us in our Christian lives as we seek true faith and devotion to you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader:

At the Saviour's command
and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:

All:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The Concluding Rite

Blessing

Leader:

May the Lord be with us
and protect us
now and for ever.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All:

Amen.

Dismissal

Leader:

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All:

Thanks be to God.

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