

FIRST READING *Leviticus 13:1-2. 44-46*

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

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

SALMO RESPONSORIALE

Tu sei il mio rifugio, mi liberi dall'angoscia.

SECOND READING *Corinthians 10:31-11:1*

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. **Alleluia.**

CANTO AL VANGELO

Alleluia, alleluia!

Cristo ha preso le nostre infermita' e si e' caricato delle nostre malattie. **Alleluia.**

GOSPEL *Mark 1:40-45*

The Leprosy left him and he was cured.

THANKS TO THOSE WHO GAVE LAST WEEK

1 st Collection	- Thanksgiving Offering.....	\$792.00
	- Loose Money.....	\$488.00
2 nd Collection	- Presbytery/Priests.....	\$365.00

LECTORS - THIS WEEK 15/02/09

6.00pm (SAT) – L & M Dal Santo
 9.00am (SUN) – A DeCata & L Catena
 10.30am (SUN) – T Fitzsimmons & J Vincitorio

SPECIAL MINISTERS

E Saliba
 F Pascuzzi, G Tempone & C Alberti
 U Strangis, M Sernia & J Broadbent

LECTORS - NEXT WEEK 22/02/09

6.00pm (SAT) – G Canavan & B Nadenbousch
 9.00am (SUN) – R Mercuri & R DiGuglielmo
 10.30am (SUN) - G Silvio & J Iaria

SPECIAL MINISTERS

N Ziino
 P Sparano, R Pino & T Mirigliano
 M Mizzi, Sr Doreen & D Lucato

CHURCH CLEANERS

21/02/09 A DiRico, M Pascuzzi & L Pennacchia

MONEY COUNTERS

16/02/09 P Cherubin, A Sinopoli & L Cavedon
 23/02/09 E Claridge, F Carabott & G Canavan

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING

RECENTLY DECEASED

Giuseppe TERZINO, Liberato FATTORE

ANNIVERSARIES

Antonio NAPOLETANO, Antonio VITULLI, Gaspare SONZA, Luigia GARINO,
 Bruno, Antonio, Mariarosca, Nicola & Domenico ARENA,
 Michelangelo, Maria & Giovanni BUTERA, Angelina VILLELLA
 Costanza, Antonino & Giuseppe CARNOVALE

ST JOSEPH THE WORKER

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SUNDAY MASS TIMES:

Sat 6.00pm - English
 Sun. 9.00am - Italian
 Sun. 10.30am - English

Fr Emmanuel Bonello–Parish Priest

Sr Doreen Bentley-Pastoral Associate

Mr Peter Chowne -School Principal

Mrs Liz Pistoni – Parish Secretary

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Mon. 9.10am Comm. Service

Tue. 10.00am Italian

Wed. 9.10am - English

Thur. 9.10am - English

Fri. 9.10am - English

Sat. 8.30am - English

Maltese Mass

1st Saturday of the Month 6.00pm

Baptisms – Sunday 12.00pm

Marriages - By Appointment



Reconciliation: Sat. 10.30am

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

15 February 2009

Know Jesus the Man



Our gospel episode today confronts us with uncomfortable questions about the ways in which we relate to Jesus. Can we connect with him fully, sharing with him our humanness and our human experiences? Many of us are very familiar with Jesus as the resurrected, kingly, glorious, and divine One. Jesus is someone to be worshipped and adored. We kneel before him and reverence his presence in the Blessed Sacrament. This is the Jesus portrayed in many icons and holy images. Yet such holy images of Jesus may in fact make it more difficult for us to connect with him as God in a deeply human way. We may believe sincerely that Jesus loves and cares for us but regard him, in the lyrics of Bette Midler's song, as "watching us from a distance". As an antidote to this, it is crucial that we meet the man Jesus in Mark's gospel. Mark presents Jesus in his raw humanity. Today's gospel shows Jesus feeling deeply for the leper in his suffering and his isolation. Because of his disease, the poor man would have been a social outcast. After healing him, Jesus warned him sternly – one could imagine the tone-not to broadcast it. In fact the man announced it loudly. We can imagine Jesus' deep disappointment with this because he could no longer walk around freely for fear of being misunderstood as a mere wonder worker, which was not his mission. He felt this pressure to live up to people's expectations, and so had to be on the run, often to lonely places, to rest and to find solitude. Mark shows the full range of Jesus' humanity. Jesus felt deep disappointments and exasperation with his close circle of disciples for being slow to understand and to grasp what he was about. He felt the sharp sting of being sold out by one of his own. Even his family and relatives thought he was beside himself. Often he felt really alone and experienced deep sorrow. He showed anger at the hardness of heart and the hypocrisy of the self-righteous. He could feel deeply the hurt by the hatred and malice directed against him. He felt keenly being abandoned by his own followers. He even felt abandoned by his heavenly Father. Mark portrays Jesus as also being capable of great delight in being with people, whether as host or as guest. He enjoyed good meals, telling stories, and being with children. He was clearly a fascinating man, attracting others and enjoying their company. Let us come close to the man Jesus if we want to come close to God. Both Saints Alphonsus Liguori and Teresa of Avila taught us that to know and come close to God, we need to keep meditating on Jesus' humanity. In knowing Jesus the man, we will know in our hearts that God does not watch us from a distance, but is far more intimately present to us than we could have imagined. To know Jesus the man is to know God humanly in our midst.

Archbishop's Charitable Fund Bushfire Appeal



We have been shocked at the bushfire tragedy in Victoria that has taken away the lives of many people. We offer our prayers to those who have lost their lives, our condolences to their family and friends. Our thoughts and prayers go also to all the victims: those who were injured, those who lost their houses and properties. This tragedy brought to us a great sense of fear and loss. The loss of lives, houses and properties will never be forgotten. In the midst of this sense of fear and loss we are also aware of the great sense of community, the community who cares and is concerned for others. We admire the courage and dedication of those who worked so hard to save lives and to protect the community. We admire the great response, support and help provided by so many people in Australia and around the world.

Our Archbishop Denis Hart has launched a special bushfire appeal called:

“The Catholic Archbishop’s Charitable Fund – Bushfire Appeal”

Anyone who wishes to send his or her contribution direct to the Fund by cheque or credit card, please make the cheque payable to the Catholic Archbishop’s Charitable Fund-Bushfire Appeal and send to P.O. Box 146 East Melbourne Vic 8002.

At every mass this weekend we will have a special leaving collection for the Bushfire appeal. Special envelopes for contributions are provided in the church.

BAPTISM

Congratulations to **Adele Kalenjuk**, child of David and Louisa who will be baptised this weekend. We welcome her into our parish community and assure the family of our prayerful best wishes on this happy occasion.

WEDDING

We congratulate Melissa Salvi and Rocky Vitacca who were married here at St. Joseph the Worker this weekend. We ask God’s blessing on them and their families on this special occasion.

FUNERAL

The funeral for Liberato Fattore will be celebrated on Monday 16 February at 10.30am
The Rosary will be recited on Sunday 15 February 7.00pm at Abbey Funerals Chapel, 238 Settlement Road Thomastonwn.

ITALIAN LADIES

Riunione del comitato femminile in cappella Martedì 17 Febbraio all'ore 9.00am. Seguita dalla Santa Messa ore 10.00am.

PRAYER FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY THE BUSHFIRES

God of love, our hearts bleed with empathy as we witness the suffering of individuals and communities brought about by the devastating impact of bushfires.

We pray that our compassion may give birth to action as we struggle to respond to this crisis. Through financial donations, practical assistance and prayer may we offer support to those whose lives and livelihoods have been affected.

Gentle God, be with the medical teams as they endeavour to heal the scorched bodies and minds of those injured by the flames. Give strength and perseverance to the firefighters, military personnel and volunteers who continue to battle the blaze. Guide the police, forensic experts and other agencies who must deal with the aftermath of this catastrophe.

We know that new life will one day sprout from the blackened remnants of the bush. We believe also that out of the smoldering ashes of suffering and death there will be resurrection and eternal life. Yet, our hope may be of little help to those preoccupied with pain and overwhelmed by grief.

Merciful God, we ask you to bring comfort and relief to the people affected by the fires: may they feel the embrace of your compassion through our love and concern for their well-being. We make our prayer in the name of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, whose death and resurrection offer eternal life to those who have died and hope to those who have survived.

Amen

Peter Waters
Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation
February 2009

LENT AND HOLY WEEK SEMINAR

An evening seminar during Lent will be held on Thursday 5 March 2009,
7.30pm - 9.15pm at St Damien's Church 5 Settlement Road Bundoora.
(Melway 9J12)

The guest speaker will be the Scripture Scholar Fr Brendan Byrne SJ
and the title of his talk will be:

PAUL THE APOSTLE

his personal story, mission and meaning for the Church today.

If anyone wish to join the Liturgy Team to attend at this Seminar
Please leave your name with Fr Manny or Mrs Liz Pistoni at the Parish Office
before Wednesday 25 February.