

TODAY'S READINGS Isaiah 35:4-7; James 2:1-5; Mark 7:31-37 NEXT WEEK (24th Sunday of Year B) Isaiah 50:5-9; Psalm114; James 2:14-18; Mark 8:27-35

**Don't ignore the 'unworthy'** It's difficult not to make distinctions. Invariably, we favour some people over others. For example: we choose our friends, we choose a person to be our husband or wife, we choose 'sides' in disputes, we choose to avoid some people, and we choose to forgive some people and condemn others.

In the second reading, St James calls on believers never to make distinctions or show favour on the basis of social class, wealth, position, status or power. Everyone is to be treated equally regardless of their social background, and when it comes to worship, there are to be no seats of honour set aside for VIPs! Everyone ought to feel equally welcome and valued.

St Paul has a similar vision. In his letter to the Galatians (3:28) he declares that in virtue of baptism, "there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."

Jesus doesn't make distinctions based on social class. In fact, the gospels portray him as having particular concern for the poor, the outcast, the voiceless, the afflicted, the vulnerable and the weak. Today's gospel is a classic example. A deaf man with a speech impediment is brought to Jesus by his friends.

In such an oral and aural culture where people were generally illiterate, not to be able to speak or hear properly was a significant disadvantage. Such people were virtually invisible. They couldn't communicate, and they couldn't be communicated with, in any meaningful way. Thankfully, the man in the story is blessed to have caring friends who bring him to Jesus who has a reputation for giving new life.

Jesus gives very personal attention to the man. He takes him away from the crowd, so that they can be alone. Although the man can't hear or speak, he *can* experience the sense of touch, and so Jesus touches his ears, puts his fingers into them, and touches the man's tongue with his own spittle. Jesus also looks up to heaven, in prayer, for it was Jesus' relationship with God that will bring new life to the man.

It's important to remember that the man was not a Jew. The Decapolis ("ten cities) was predominantly Gentile territory. But, there's no distinction here. Jesus is the Messiah for all nations. He saw a brother in need, and in solidarity, lovingly reached out to him.

St James challenges us to 'look around' our faith community. Do we see any unhealthy favouritism? Are there people being forgotten, ignored or made to feel unwelcome? Are there voices not being heard? Are there people being discouraged from sharing their gifts and talents, or from becoming involved? Are people's contributions being devalued? Hopefully, such things are not happening; however, it's important for us all to 'keep our eyes and ears open'. David J Hore CSsR © Majellan Media 2024

# **PARISH NEWS**















**PARISH PANTRY:** Our pantry has been very busy this week with some new faces calling in. Just a little story on someone we have helped this week was when we had a lovely lady who is on her own who had to do some major repairs to her car then found herself without any money to be able to buy any food, she was so grateful for a

simple bag of items. It's very hard in these tough economic times, so we are very very thankful to our parishioners supporting this ministry.

We are often asked what is needed, pictured are some of the items we use. We are almost out of long life milk (popper size and large), muesli bars, Up and Go Brekkie Poppers and any types of meals in a container / can / packet that you can just open and eat. We have been making up some simple toiletry packs

which have also proven to be very popular (pictured right).



### ST JOSEPH'S PARISH (FSG) FILIPINO SUPPORT GROUP

Invite parishioners to celebrate their **23rd Anniversary** and to also sadly, to say farewell to **Ms Fely Hamer** long term coordinator of FSG. Morning tea will be held on **Sunday 29 September** and served following the 9am Mass outside the church. FSG will also introduce their newly elected Coordinator **Miss Jennifer Welk. All welcome to attend.** 

### ST JOSEPH'S PARISH LADIES GROUP

Totaly

The ladies have a fully booked trip departing on Tuesday 17 September to Summerland House.

Bus departure times leaving from Banora Point at 8.45am and Bay Street Tweed Heads at 9am.

**ROSARY FOR THE FIFTH APPA-RITION OF FATIMA:** All parishioners are most welcome to join with members of the Legion of Mary to pray the Fatima Rosary after morning Mass.

On 13th September, 1917 Our Lady urged the children to continue to pray the rosary to obtain the end of the war.



**MARIAN VALLEY:** Please join us at the Marian Valley Church 13 September for Our Lady of Fatima's Feast. The Bus up at 8.15 am sharp, Sacred Heart Church Clear Island Waters. Cost \$25.00 return. To book contact Xavier 0404 843 260, Madeleine on 0405 252 367.

## **PARISH NEWS**

**PASTORAL CORNER:** Next Saturday at 10 am in the church, we will be conducting a renewal for all Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. This is also for those who take communion to the sick and housebound.

It is important we renew our commitment to this beautiful ministry. I look forward to your attendance.

Kathy Twohill Pastoral Associate

## INTER-PARISH COLLABORATION PROJECT

- Trevor Cooper the team coordinator for the inter-parish collaboration team will be speaking at the Masses this weekend about the Inter Parish Collaboration Project.

This project calls on parishes to look beyond their boundary and engage with other parishes to create hubs to work on common initiatives and become a source of encouragement for each other. Find out more about the Lismore Diocesan Renewal Journey

<u>https://www.lismorediocese.org/</u> <u>renewal/</u>

**LIFT TO 9AM SUNDAY MASS:** We have two gentlemen at Winders Lodge Banora Point who are seeking a lift to mass, if you can help please contact the parish office 0755367522



**Family Scripture:** Hear the Scriptures recited and take part in discussion. For all parishioners from teenagers upwards (minors to be accompanied by a parent). *Family Scripture* is an opportunity to discover the master story of the Bible and God's plan for us. The first gathering will take place on Thursday 12 September 7pm-7.45pm in the Pollard Room at the parish centre. Bring a friend. For more information contact Fr Nicolas Maurice.



TAI CHI CLASSES Thursday 3.30pm In the Parish Centre. Donation appreciated.

#### PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

The recently deceased: Elaine Ryland, Amelia Mears Julie Fiona, Kevin Quinn Margaret Huddy, Fr. Brian Rowland, Paul Cutmore, **Anniversaries:** Marcello Pavan, Pat Armstrong, Darcy Cashin, and all those occurring at this time **Also:** for all those whom Masses and prayers have been requested. For those who are sick Fr Anthony Lemon, Pat Trappell, Carmel Williams, Michael Rudd, Violeta O'Brien, Fran McDonald, Henry Vujica, Bruce Wall, Leo Rawlings, Donovan Searle, Diane Paynter, Narelle Martin, Joanne Kirk, Rae Bliss, Leon Darmody

## **LEGION OF MARY**

Meeting Wednesday 10am in the Parish Futcher Room - new members welcome

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Michael Brady - pp@stjosephs.org.au ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr Nicolas Maurice & Fr MX Rego SM PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Kathy Twohill - ktwohill@stjosephs.org.au

> PARISH ADMINISTRATION Phone: 07 5536 7522

tweedadmin@stjosephs.org.au

PO Box 25, Tweed Heads 2485

#### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGIL @6.00 pm SUNDAY @7am @9am

ST CAMILLUS BILAMBIL 9am

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES Monday to Friday 9.10am Saturday 9am

**ROSARY** Before Mass Monday to Friday Commencing at 8.40am Saturday 8.30am

**RECONCILIATION** Saturday 5.00 - 5.45pm and 1st Friday 9.40 – 10am

**BAPTISM** Please contact the parish office with any Baptism enquiries.

SACRAMENTS AND VISITS TO THE SICK Please contact the parish office

#### **NEWSLETTERS**

If you would like to receive the weekly news or any upcoming events and information via email please contact the parish office on 0755367522 Or email tweedadmin@stjosephs.org.au

#### 14/15 SEPTEMBER 2024 TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YR B <u>6PM FR MX REGO SM</u>

Sacristan: Pat Twohill Adult Server: Cathy Cripps Liturgy Coordinators: Carmen Carra Commentator: Nic McTaggart Readers: Jayahna Dransfield & Mandy Barone Communion: Pat Twohill & Carmen Carra

#### 7AM FR MX REGO SM

Sacristan: Diane Paynter Adult Server: Marie Norton Liturgy Coordinators: Iris Nathan Commentator: Patricia Bolster Readers: Jennifer Welk & Paul Bolster Communion: Iris Nathan & Chris Clurey

9AM FR MICHAEL BRADY

Sacristan: Kurian Vaghese Adult Server: Beena Kurian Liturgy Coordinators: George & Joy Cranney Commentator: Pam Sullivan Readers: Colleen Blake & Mick O'Donohue Communion: M Mangelsdorf & M Wilkinson

#### 9AM ST CAMILLUS, BILAMBIL: FR NICOLAS MAURICE

## SAFEGUARDING IN THE DIOCESE

The Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office can be contacted if you have any Safeguarding concerns. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support, and discuss all options available. Contact the Safeguarding Office - Phone: (02) 6621 9444 or Email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au

