



HOLINESS OF HEART

Today's Gospel touches on the sensitive issue of Jesus' attitude to the Jewish law. I say sensitive because it is easy for Christians to separate Jesus from his Jewish heritage and portray him as one of us and not one of them.

Jesus was not critical of the Jewish law as such. What he challenged were customs added to the original revelation that could work against its true purpose. The Pharisees promoted such customs to help the Jewish people live their vocation to be the holy people of God (Lev 20:26) in the mixed society of Palestine in Jesus' day.

In itself this was a laudable endeavour. But it could degenerate into a focus upon external observances to the neglect of the true inner meaning of the law. In particular, it could suggest that uncleanness was something that came from outside and threatened to defile the basic holiness of God's people.

Jesus clearly had a different view. Holiness is where God is. It comes from being in contact with God—something that begins in the heart. So, he insists, since holiness is primarily a matter of the heart, if you want to know whether a person is holy or not, see what comes out of their heart.

The list of vices towards the end is a kind of check-list. We could probably add to it a few more examples relevant for our time. By the same token, on the positive side, we could think of virtues and patterns of living that demonstrate true holiness of heart.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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FIRST READING

Deut 4:1-2, 6-8

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

You may add nothing to the word which I speak to you – keep the commands of the Lord.

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

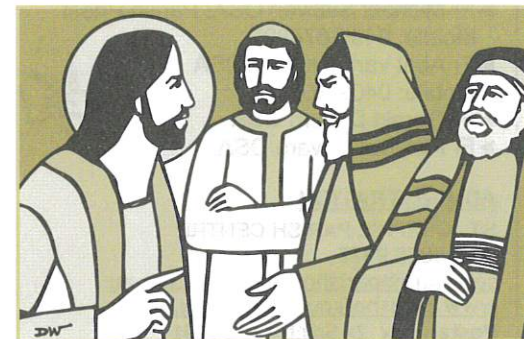
Ps 14:2-5. R. v. 1

R. The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain? / He who walks without fault; / he who acts with justice / and speaks the truth from his heart. **R.**

2. He who does no wrong to his brother, / who casts no slur on his neighbour, / who holds the godless in disdain, / but honours those who fear the Lord. **R.**

3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may; / who takes no interest on a loan / and accepts no bribes against the innocent. / Such a man will stand firm for ever. **R.**



SECOND READING

James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

A reading from the letter of St James.

Be doers of the word.

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

James 1:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

You forget the commandments of God to hold on to human tradition.



St Joseph's Church, 30 Fitzgerald Street
 St Thomas Aquinas' Church, 43 Bromby Street
 est. 1887

Under the Pastoral Care of AUGUSTINIANS

- ▶ Fr Michael Sullivan OSA: Parish Priest
 Mobile: 0434 674822
- ▶ Fr Abel van der Veer OSA
 Mobile: 0409 368449
- ▶ Fr Gerald Dullard OSA
- ▶ Fr Percival Severe OSA



ADMINISTRATION

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH CENTRE
 Tel: 9826 9677
 secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au
 www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au
 Postal: Box 21 South Yarra 3141

CHILDRENS' LITURGY

St. Joseph's • 10.30am Mass
 First & third Sundays of the month
 (except school holidays and long weekends)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Joseph's • Sat: 5.15pm – 5.45pm
 (or by request)

ANointing / HEALING MASS

First Tuesday of the month 10am at
 St Joseph's Church
*(Senior parishioners, those with ongoing
 sickness, those with mental illness, may all
 receive the Sacrament of the Sick)*

Pastoral Associates and Administrative Support

- ▶ Toni Stuart (Secretary & Weddings: Tues/Thurs/Fri)
- ▶ Yvonne Bolland (Weddings: Tues 10am-12noon)
- ▶ Emilie Rousset (Business Manager: Tues/Wed/Thurs)
- ▶ Diane Brebner (Alfred Hospital Liaison)
- ▶ Richard Anderson (Accountant)

Parish Mass Times for the week commencing weekend 2nd September 2018

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Sunday 2 nd September 22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Father's Day	(Saturday- Vigil 6pm) 10.30am Mass	9.00am Mass
Monday 3 rd September St Gregory the Great		
Tuesday 4 th September Mary, Mother of Consolation	10.00am Mass Anointing/Healing Mass	12.45pm Communion Service
Wednesday 5 th September St Teresa of Calcutta	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Thursday 6 th September	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Communion Service
Friday 7 th September Spring Ember Day	10.00am Mass 10.30am Christian Meditation	12.45pm Mass
Saturday 8 th September Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary	9.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass	

CHILDREN'S LITURGY This Sunday 2nd September during the 10.30 am Mass in St. Joseph's Church. All children very welcome!

MEETING OF ALFRED HOSPITAL SPECIAL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

A meeting of all special Eucharistic ministers who take Holy Communion to the sick at the Alfred Hospital will be held in the Parish Centre on **Sunday 23rd September** after the 10.30 am mass.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- ▶ Praise & Worship: Sun 2nd September 6.30pm in St Joseph's church followed by coffee & cake.
- ▶ Anointing/Healing Mass: Tues 4 Sept 10am mass
- ▶ Finance Meeting: Tues 4 Sept 4pm
- ▶ Parish Council Meeting: Wed 11th Sept. 7.30pm
- ▶ Comedy Night: Sat 20 Oct 7pm



PRAYER REFLECTION FROM ST AUGUSTINE

"Love, and do what you will; if the root of love is within you, then nothing can be born from it but good."

**A Happy
 Father's Day to
 all our Fathers**

ANNUAL AUGUSTINIAN TRUST FUND APPEAL

A very sincere thank you for your generous donations to the Augustinian Seminary Trust Fund Appeal last weekend. Tax deductible donations may still be made by cash, cheque, credit card or direct deposit. Envelopes are available in churches.

SJOS AGM

The SJOS Annual General Meeting will be held in the Coffee Room after the 10.30am mass on 9th September. SJOS is an important component of our parish community and we hope many of you will be able to attend.

YAM (YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY)

"Following the 6pm Young Adult Ministry's mass on Saturday 8 September, we are having our next **Pizza and Praise YAM event** - starting with fellowship over pizza in the coffee room, followed by song and praise in the church. Please bring \$5 to cover dinner."

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE

The Archdiocese monthly magazine, Melbourne Catholic, is available in churches this weekend. Cost \$4.

IN LOVING MEMORY



Recently Deceased

- ✱ Philippa Anne D'Monte
- ✱ Aloizij Tomse ✱ John McCain
- ✱ Meldred Liba Lagahit

Anniversaries

- ✱ Colm Johnson
- ✱ Robert Newman
- ✱ Maria Tesoriero
- ✱ Giovanni Addamo
- ✱ Kon Tin Chong
- ✱ Jeanette Herbert
- ✱ Dec'd of Teran & Rozman Families
- ✱ Israel Bock
- ✱ Elfrida Kral
- ✱ Rosa Taranto
- ✱ John Hoban
- ✱ Diosdada Perez
- ✱ Roy Nelson
- ✱ Ted Long
- ✱ Allan Stanton
- ✱ Ivan Paroulek
- ✱ Pat Moriarty
- ✱ Annie Priest
- ✱ Krzysztof Malaczek
- ✱ Michael Duncan
- ✱ Anne Towner
- ✱ Michael Pitts
- ✱ Gregory Sheehan

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

June Cochrane, Des White, Beb Larsen, Chaiel Balcombe, John & Rose Ignace, Ronald Seaman, Aristotle Pamintuan, Therese Phillips, Micos Gloudemans, Meldred Liba Lagahit, Socorro Severe, Dolores Hogan, Frank Muratore, Maurice Wallin, Alex Wallisz, Margaret Greene, Elaine Dennis, Spiros Layia, Emma Kirk, Chris 'Smilt', Jean de Campo, Jacinta Severe, Gus Carter, Socrates Baroutas, Anne Rigg, Tony McNamara, Sergio Fassio, Anthony Alfred, Brendan Taylor, Djohan Gunarta Kurniawan, Mary Gaynor

THANKYOU

A very big thank you to all who attended and helped organise the St Augustine & St Monica feast day mass and the celebrations after the 10.30am mass last Sunday.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS 26/08/18

Thanking you for your continuing support!
 Please contact the parish office if you wish to contribute via Direct Debit or Credit Card

- 1st Collection (Clergy/Priory a/c) \$1133.15
- 2nd Coll. (Planned Giving Church a/c) \$427.00
- 2nd Coll. (Loose Money Church a/c)..... \$404.45

If you are new to our parish and would like to contribute to the Planned Giving Programme (2nd Collection), or have changed your address, please fill in your details and put it on the collection plate or give it to one of the priests.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Email: _____
 Phone: _____

- New
- Address
- Planned