

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom

and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mk 7:31-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

09 SEPTEMBER 2018

TOUCHING AND HEALING

Today's Gospel describes a healing miracle that alludes explicitly to Isaiah's description of the blessings of the messianic age contained in the First Reading (Isaiah 35:4-7).

The healing itself is one of the most 'physical' of all Jesus' miracles. In this non-Jewish region of Galilee (the Decapolis) Jesus acts like a pagan wonder-worker, with special gestures and words.

The man's condition, involving both a hearing and speaking disability, places him at great social disadvantage: he can neither *receive* verbal communication nor freely *communicate* his own thoughts, feelings, and reflections to others. His condition is lonely and isolated. What Jesus does for this marginalised person brings him into the hearing and speaking community. Now he can receive interpersonal communication and make known his thoughts and feelings to others.

The very physical aspect of this miracle has rendered it apt for interpretation in a symbolic sense—notably in the Christian liturgy of baptism. The man represents all who enter the community of faith through this sacrament. Before baptism we are 'deaf' to the Word of life spoken to us by the Creator. In the sacrament, in the person of the minister, Christ touches our ears to give us the capacity to hear God's life-giving Word in the Scriptures proclaimed by the Church. Having heard that Word in the context of our own life-experience, we can then turn to praise God and share what we have heard and discovered with our fellow believers. Our ears are opened and our tongues 'loosened' for full participation in the community of faith.

FIRST READING

Isa 35:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened and the tongues of the dumb speak.

Say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;

for water gushes in the desert,
streams in the wasteland,
the scorched earth becomes a lake,
the parched land springs of water.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 145:7-10. R. v. 1

R. Praise the Lord, my soul! (or Alleluia!)

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, / who is just to those who are oppressed. / It is he who gives bread to the hungry, / the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, / who raises up those who are bowed down, / the Lord who loves the just, / the Lord, who protects the stranger. **R.**
3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan, / but thwarts the path of the wicked. / The Lord will reign for ever, / Zion's God, from age to age. **R.**



SECOND READING

James 2:1-5

A reading from the letter of St James.

Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom?

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats;' then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

■ The word of the Lord.



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
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- ▶ Fr Gerald Dullard OSA
- ▶ Fr Percival Severe OSA



ADMINISTRATION

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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 9th September 2018

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS
	TIME	TIME
Sunday 9 th September 23 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	(Saturday- Vigil 6pm) 10.30am Mass YAM	9.00am Mass
Monday 10 th September St Nicholas of Tolentine		
Tuesday 11 th September	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Communion Service
Wednesday 12 th September	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Thursday 13 th September St John Chrysostom	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Communion Service
Friday 14 th September Exaltation of the Cross	10.00am Mass 10.30am Christian Meditation	12.45pm Mass
Saturday 15 th September Our Lady of Sorrows	9.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass	

CHILDRENS' LITURGY Next Sunday 16th 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 16th September 6.30pm in St Joseph's church followed by coffee & cake.
- ▶ Parish Council Meeting: Wed 12th Sept. 7.30pm
- ▶ Comedy Night: Sat 20 Oct 7pm



PRAYER REFLECTION FROM ST AUGUSTINE

"Because we cannot do good to all people around the world, we need to pay special regard to those who, by the events of time, or place, or circumstance, are brought into closer connection with us right now."



Child Protection in South Yarra Parish

In our parish we wish to create an environment in which all our children are safe and can grow to their full human potential. We all have a role to play in protecting children from harm. The little things we do every day can help to create safer environments for children:

- Be kind to children and parents
- Respect young people
- Be a good role model around children
- Get involved in your local community
- If you are concerned or suspect something is wrong in the situation of a child, talk to someone who is knowledgeable about child safety matters
- Always take reports of abuse seriously
- Avoid blame and don't judge; instead, ask yourself what you can do to help
- Listen to the needs of children and spend time with them

During the coming week our parish *Code of Conduct* and *Child Protection Policy* will be published on our parish website: www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au
 Copies of these documents are able to be viewed at the entrance of the church today.



IN LOVING MEMORY

Recently Deceased

- ✦ Debbie Mercovich
- ✦ Lucy Scholastique ✦ Pansy Warner
- ✦ Concetta Golotta

Anniversaries

- ✦ Alfred Missal
- ✦ Philip Miach
- ✦ Joan Wallace
- ✦ Marea Cromb
- ✦ Vita Addamo
- ✦ Alice McNally
- ✦ Sio van der Haring
- ✦ Michael Pitts
- ✦ John Monaghan
- ✦ Gwen Meagher
- ✦ Russell Trenchard
- ✦ Roy & Claire Nelson
- ✦ Lorna Williams
- ✦ Vincent McDermott
- ✦ Kon Tin Chong

ST JOSEPH'S OUTREACH SERVICES

AGM

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

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

June Cochrane, Des White, BeB Larsen, Chael Balcombe, John & Rose Ignace, Ronald Seaman, Aristotle Pamintuan, Therese Phillips, Mito Gloudeans, Socorro Severe, Dolores Hogan, Frank Muratore, Maurice Wallin, Alex Walisz, Margaret Greene, Elaine Dennis, Spiros Layla, Emma Kirk, Chris 'Smith', Jean de Campo, Jacinta Severe, Gus Carter, Socrates Baroutas, Anne Rigg, Tony McNamara, Sergio Fassio, Anthony Alfred, Brendan Taylor, Djohan Gunarta Kurniawan, Mary Gaynor, Joan Heyhoe, Madeleine Anderson, Ronald Blunt.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS 2/09/18

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) \$ 883.10
- 2nd Coll. (Planned Giving Church a/c) \$702.00
- 2nd Coll. (Loose Money Church a/c)..... \$413.05

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 Giving