

## GOSPEL

Mk 1: 40-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

*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.

### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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# Breaking Open the Word

## BE AS CHRIST

Today's Gospel brings our focus again to Jesus' healing through a person identified only as "a leper". This person is described without gender (although masculine pronouns follow), without ethnicity, family name, geography or any human connection. The title "a leper" encapsulates the stigma of separation, being unclean and having to live apart (see Lev. 13, first reading). We read that "a leper" came to Jesus pleading on his knees, "If you want to you can make me clean" (v. 40). This phrase indicates that "a leper" recognises Jesus' power and authority. Moved with the deepest gut-wrenching compassion, Jesus reaches out his hand and touches him. Simultaneously with his touch, Jesus says "I do choose. Be made clean" (v. 41). Jesus' touch is redeeming in itself. Jesus touches the untouchable. Though warned not to say anything and show himself to the priest, the person "went out and began to proclaim freely and spread the word" (v. 45). We witness "a leper" becoming a proclaimer of the Good News. In our world today there are people with titles like "a leper", as we have "homeless" or "refugee" among us bereft of identity and dignity, untouchable. How can we "touch" like Jesus?

Paul's words to the Corinthians invite us to take him as the model as he takes Christ. This invitation together with the healing of one on the margins calls us to be as Christ, open to all and to be agents of healing wounds and separation.

Dr Rosemarv Canavan



# THE SAVING WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

11 FEBRUARY 2024

## FIRST READING

Lev 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 leprosy: 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.'

### ■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 31: 1-2, 5, 11. R. v. 5

**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.

### ■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 7: 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

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



## Catholic Parish of St Kevin Eastwood

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[www.youtube.com/c/StKevinsParishEastwood](https://www.youtube.com/c/StKevinsParishEastwood)

[www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic](https://www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic)

### MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION AND DEVOTION

**Weekday Mass:** Monday - 7:30am (Communion Service, except on Feast Days);

Tuesday to Thursday - 7:30am (followed by Holy Rosary); Friday - 5pm

**Weekend Mass:** Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm (livestreamed); Sunday - 8am, 9:30am, 6pm

**CCC Mass:** Sunday at 12noon (English/Cantonese)

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Friday 4pm-5pm

**First Friday Devotion:** Monthly at 4pm

**First Saturday Mass and Devotion:** Monthly at 9am

**Exposition and Benediction:** First weekend of the month at all Masses

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Friday 4pm-4:45pm and Saturday 4:30pm-5:15pm

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## SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME/Year B

11 Feb 2024

### PRAYER REQUESTS:



**Recently Deceased:** Ann Court, Noelene Wilkinson, Teresa Gorka

**Death Anniversary:** Mavis Field, Margaret & Patricia Dunne, Cyril Joseph Smith,

**Deceased:** Matt Williams, Ben Isaacs, Stefania Kierdal, John Davidson, Lucy Ng, Cecilia Tan, Cecilia Quizon, Selwyn Jackson, Peter McNamara, Milly Farrell, Francis Murray, Marie Cummins; Casey, Landon, O'Connor, Pigott & Stewart families; Geoff and Patricia Clarke; Ron & Jan Brayan.

**Sick:** Ling Sin Fong, Xiao Yi Chen, Sheriden Nemecek, Paul Celler, Dave Isaacs, Terence Cahill, Barbara Hall, Elizabeth Uy Tan, Graham Rumble, Sam Wong, Robert Lauw, June Phelan, Anne McIntyre, Adhy Guna S., Daisy Gouw, Nur Gouw

### UPCOMING FEAST DAYS, SOLEMNITIES AND MEMORIALS:

11<sup>th</sup> Feb Our Lady of Lourdes; 14<sup>th</sup> Feb ASH WEDNESDAY (Mass Times: 7:30am, 9:30am, 7pm)

### PARISH NEWS:

- **The Holy Father has declared Feb 11 as World Day of Payer for the Sick. This is the Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes—Lourdes is renowned as a place of holiness and healing.**
- **Our condolences to the family & friends of long time parishioner, Ann Court.** Requiem Mass will be on Tues 13th Feb at 11am, here at St Kevin's. Please include Ann in your prayers.
- **Rosters are underway. We can no longer accommodate any changes.** If you are rostered on a certain date and you're not available, please swap with other volunteers. Thank you.
- **The Liturgy Office of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney has released their upcoming Parish Courses for Liturgical Ministers.** Open to all Acolytes/Senior Servers/Readers/Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion/Sacristans. **HURRY! SOME COURSES TO START NEXT WEEK.** VISIT: [HTTPS://LITURGY.SYDNEYCATHOLIC.ORG/MINISTRY-TRAINING-FORMATION/](https://liturgy.sydneycatholic.org/ministry-training-formation/) OR SEE POSTER FOR DETAILS. Registration forms available in the church foyer.
- **SAVE THE DATE: On Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Feb at 7PM, Fr Peter Prusakiewicz CSMA will once again visit our parish to celebrate Holy Mass with Eucharistic Healing Service and devotions.** Fr Peter is a well-travelled international speaker for over twenty years and has spoken at many

conferences, retreats and parish missions all over the world. Don't miss this opportunity to join Fr Peter in our parish! ALL WELCOME!

- **SAVE THE DATE: November 22-24, 2024 - Eastwood Community Family Camp:** Book a campsite or a cabin at Del Rio Riverside Resort, Riverside Dr, Webbs Creek NSW (02) 4566 -4330 or visit: <https://delrioresort.com.au/>. See poster in the noticeboard for details.
- **CHILDREN'S LITURGY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** No experience required, just a love for sharing Scripture with children. Training provided. For info contact: **Therese 0409 595 566.**
- **Men's Midweek Gospel Reflection-Tuesdays 7pm in the Holy Family Chapel in the Church.**
- **Italian Prayer Group-Wednesdays 12:30pm-2:30pm in the church. All welcome.**

### ATTENTION ST KEVIN'S PARISHIONERS!

**Our parish will have a BAKE SALE on Sun 25th Feb after the 9:30am Mass!!!**

**Proceeds from the sale will go towards future parish improvement projects and events.** Thank you for supporting our parish!



### SEASON OF LENT 2024:

- **Ash Wednesday will be on Feb 14. This marks the beginning of Lent. Ash Wednesday Masses will be at 7:30am, 9:30am\* (with St Kevin's PS) and 7pm. (\*updated time)**
- **Stations of the Cross will start on Friday 16th Feb after the 5pm Mass.**
- **Our Parish Lenten Group will start on Thu, Feb 15 at 6pm in the Church.** Parishioners are welcome to join or form their own groups. 'Lenten Companion 2024 - Repent & Believe, Be Filled with the Love of God' now available in the church foyer.
- **FEB 11 is PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY 2024:** Take home a Project Compassion Box or a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season. By donating to Project Compassion, Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for Int'l Aid & Development, can work with local communities around the world to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Visit: [www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion)
- **A Resurrected Life, Daily Reflections for Lent' book is now available in our sacristy for only \$6.** This pocket-sized companion is easy to carry, and read, at home or while commuting. Contemplations inspired by a short text of Scripture from the day's Gospel reading, followed by reflections on how to put the Word into practice, to guide you through 5-10 minutes of daily prayer during the six weeks of Lent.
- **Lenten Retreat Day with the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia:** Sat 16 Mar, 10am-4pm, at St Mary's Cathedral Hall. Cost \$20. Morning tea & lunch included. See poster for details.



### OTHER NEWS:

- **POSITION VACANT—Cook for the Vincentian Community in Marsfield.** See poster for details.
- **Mount St Benedict College OPEN DAY Sun 3rd Mar 10am-2pm.** NB: Families with daughters in Yr5 should apply now for Yr7, 2026. Expression of Interest forms must be lodged end of Yr4.

### A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY:

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, contact Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office E: [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org) or (02) 9390 5810. You may also speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support & guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to police.



### PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL:



St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.