

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

CELEBRATING THE WORD OF GOD

Today the Church in Australia celebrates 'Word of God Sunday'. In establishing this day, Pope Francis invited us "to grow in religious and intimate familiarity with the sacred scriptures" (*Aperuit Illis*. 30 Sep 2019). This celebration brings our attention to how we engage with the Word in the liturgy, and how we take the Word with us and proclaim it in our daily lives. Today let's focus on the Gospel.

Mark portrays Jesus discerning his ministry. We accompany Jesus on his journey: having left the synagogue, where he had been teaching and healing, he enters the house of Simon and Andrew, along with James and John, where he finds and heals Simon's mother-in-law. By evening as the sun is setting, the word is already out, and people are bringing the sick and possessed to him. Indeed, "the whole city was gathered at the door" (v. 33), and Jesus ministers to them. In the morning, while it is still dark, Jesus goes to pray. Simon leads a search, and when they find him, Jesus declares, "Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is why I came" (v. 38). What we see in this Gospel passage is the word and deed in action in Jesus, and his discernment through prayer to take his mission out further. Nourished by the Word of God let us pray and discern our mission in our daily lives sharing the Good News beyond our doors.

Dr Rosemarv Canavan



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

4 FEBRUARY 2024

FIRST READING

Job 7: 1-4, 6-7

A reading from the book of Job.

I am filled with sorrow all day long.

Job began to speak:

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service,
his time no better than hired drudgery?
Like the slave, sighing for the shade,
or the workman with no thought but his wages,
months of delusion I have assigned to me,
nothing for my own but nights of grief.
Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?'

Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!'

Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.

Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days
have passed,

and vanished, leaving no hope behind.

Remember that my life is but a breath,
and that my eyes will never again see joy.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 146: 1-6. R. v. 3

R. Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted. or Alleluia!

1. Praise the Lord for he is good; / sing to our God for he is loving; / to him our praise is due. **R.**

2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem / and brings back Israel's exiles, / he heals the broken-hearted, / he binds up all their wounds. / He fixes the number of the stars; / he calls each one by its name. **R.**

3. Our Lord is great and almighty; / his wisdom can never be measured. / The Lord raises the lowly; / he humbles the wicked to the dust. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 9: 16-19, 22-23

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel.

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessing.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 8: 17

Alleluia, alleluia!

He bore our sickness,
and endured our suffering.
Alleluia!



Catholic Parish of St Kevin Eastwood

Parish Administrator: Fr Pawel Kopczynski CSMA

Email: pawel.kopczynski@sydneycatholic.org

Assistant Priest: Fr Tomasz Lepek CSMA

Email: tomasz.lepek@sydneycatholic.org

Deacon: Eddie Ho

Parish Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 10:00am-3:00pm

36 Hillview Rd Eastwood NSW 2122

PO Box 437 West Ryde NSW 1685

Ph: (02) 9874 2533

Email: parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au

Website: www.stkevinseastwood.org.au

www.youtube.com/c/StKevinsParishEastwood

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

SCAN OUR
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FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME/Year B

4 Feb 2024

PRAYER REQUESTS:



Recently Deceased: Noelene Wilkinson, Marcella Wockner, Luther Uy, Teresa Gorka

Death Anniversary: Margaret Dunne, Patricia Dunne, Cyril Joseph Smith, Peter McNamara, Pansy Gan, Keith Colley

Deceased: Stefania Kierdal, John Davidson, Lucy Ng, Cecilia Tan, Danilo Dolorfino, Cecilia Quizon, Selwyn Jackson; 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:

St Agatha 5th Feb, Saints Paul Miki & Companions 6th Feb, St Scholastica 10th Feb

PARISH NEWS:

- Our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of long-time parishioner and volunteer, Noelene Wilkinson. Noelene was involved in different ministries in our parish and was a Life Member of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) in recognition of her 30 years of service as Catechist. **Requiem Mass will be on Thu, 8th Feb, 10:30am, here at St Kevin's. Mass will be livestreamed, contact the family or the parish office to receive the link to watch online.** Following the private burial, family & friends are invited to come and celebrate the life of Noelene from 1:30pm at the family's residence.
- This weekend is Catechist Sunday.** We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Catechists in our parish for their dedication to this ministry. We also congratulate Steve Dick and John Chung for their 10 years of faithful service as parish Catechist. Later this year, Connie Campagna (20years) and Alison Khalil (25years), will be receiving their service awards at St Mary's Cathedral. What an achievement! Congratulations to you all!
- Children's Liturgy to recommence this Sunday 4th Feb at the 9:30am Mass. CHILDREN'S LITURGY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** No experience required, just a love for sharing Scripture

with children. Training provided. See poster for details or contact Therese on 0409 595 566.

- Fr Martin would like to thank the wonderful parishioners of St Kevin's** for their outstanding support for the 'Cuppa Time Reflections.' Book sales reached almost \$4,500 ! Proceeds will go towards renovating the Nursery at Pere Achte Primary School in Uganda.
- We welcome into the family of God, Zoe Kang! Congratulations on your baptism!**
- SAVE THE DATE: On Mon 19th 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 the spiritual director of English-Speaking Divine Mercy pilgrimages to Krakow, Warsaw, Vilnius, Rome, including the Shrine of St Michael the Archangel in Mont Sant Angelo, Italy. Don't miss this opportunity to join Fr Peter in our parish! ALL WELCOME!
- FOSK will serve morning tea outside the Church after the Sun 9:30am Mass.** Please join us!
- LITURGICAL ROSTERS WILL BE UPDATED SOON.** Contact the parish office for any changes.
- Men's Midweek Gospel Reflection - Tuesdays 7pm in the Holy Family Chapel in the Church.**
- Know what's happening in & around the archdiocese, get a copy of **THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY \$2.**

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)**



- Our Parish Lenten Group will start on Thu, 15th Feb at 6pm in the Church.** Parishioners are welcome to join or form their own groups. Resource available in the foyer: Lenten Companion 2024 - Repent & Believe, Be Filled with the Love of God.

- Stations of the Cross will start on Friday 16th Feb after the 5pm Mass.**

- Next week is Project Compassion Sunday. Take home a Project Compassion Box** or a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help vulnerable families around the world. See posters on how you can help.



CATECHIST SUNDAY 2024:



Become a Catechist in 2024! Half of Catholic children in Sydney are in public schools. Share with them the hope and joy that Jesus brings and become a Catechist! Starting off as a class helper, you will be supported by an experienced Catechist. St Kevin's Catechists are assigned to Eastwood, Carlingford and Ngarala Public School. Scripture classes run for 30/40mins each week either Wed/Thu/Fri. Take a brochure to find out more. Interested? Contact the parish office 9874 2533 or visit <https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org/>

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. Cash only! Thank you for supporting our parish!



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 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.