

Gospel Mk 1:21-28

This is a new kind of teaching that speaks with authority.

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the Sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

The word 'diabolical' comes from a Greek word referring to something broken in two, shattered. Looking at persons and societies torn apart, it is obvious that the diabolical spirit is powerful. However, it harbours a fear that a more powerful Holy Spirit could reintegrate a personality, could make a community out of divided groups.

'Have you come to destroy us?' indicates that this fear was realised in the coming on to the scene of Jesus Christ. Jesus' answer was a resounding 'Yes', not in words but in action, healing a man torn apart by a diabolical spirit.

Jesus Christ invites and empowers us to join in his healing mission to overcome whatever it is which tears people apart, whether at the individual, community or global levels. We do so in the confidence of His Resurrection which overcame the diabolical tearing apart of His body and soul.

We could pause for a moment to commit ourselves to joining Jesus' mission, so putting the fear of God into the devil!

mtate@bigpond.com

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The Living Word

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

First Reading Dt 18:15-20

I will put my words into the prophet's mouth, and he will tell them all I command.

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers: to him you must listen. This is what you vourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.9

- (R.) If today, you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.
- Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. (*R.*)
- 2. Come in, let us kneel and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. (*R*.)

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3. O that today you would listen to his voice!

'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 7:32-35

The unmarried woman dedicates herself to the things of the Lord, that she might be holy.

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs: all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

- A people in darkness have seen a great light:
- a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.

Alleluia!



HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC PARISH, North Ryde 🥢

191 Cox's Road, North Ryde NSW 2113 Under the care of the Congregation of St. Michael the Archangel (Michaelite Fathers)

Tel: 9888 2569 (28 January 2024)	Fax: 9888 5076 Web: <u>www.holyspiritn</u>	E-mail: parish@holyspiritnorthryde.org.au orthryde.org.au
Michaelite Community:	Fr Stan Kluk CSMA PP	Fr Anthony Casamento CSMA
SUNDAY MASS:	Saturday 5:00pm, Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am & 5:00pm. Spanish Speaking Mass 12:30pm; Filipino Mass monthly 4 th Sunday at 12:15pm	
WEEKDAY MASS:	During January - Mondays - Church open for private prayer Tuesday - Saturday 8:30am	
Reconciliation:	Saturday after morning Mass or b	y appointment.
PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Friday - 9:00am to 3:00pm ST VINCENT DE PAUL REGIONAL HELP CENTRE: 9809 2757		
 Next week 5 th Ordinary: Job 7:1-4, 5-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39.		

Fr Stan writes ...

The people who heard Jesus teach and saw him heal in today's Gospel were said to have been astonished and amazed by the authority of his teaching. So compelling were Jesus' words and actions that the news about him could not be contained; it spread quickly throughout all of Galilee. Jesus' power to heal gives greater credence to his teaching. Jesus impresses the crowds through his words, which are manifested with power in his deeds. Mark's Gospel tells us that because of the authority with which he healed; Jesus' fame spread throughout all of Galilee. Two thousand years later, the news about Jesus continues to spread. We are called to participate in sharing the Good News of Jesus with others in our words and in our deeds.

On **Tuesday, 30th January**, we celebrate the Feast of **Blessed Bronislaw Markiewicz**, Founder of the Congregation of Saint Michael the Archangel (CSMA). I would like to ask you to pray for all Michaelites, especially for us here in the Pacific Region of Australia and Papua New Guinea.

On **Friday**, **2**nd **February**, the Church celebrates the **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**, which occurs forty days after the birth of Jesus and is also known as Candlemas day, since the blessing and procession of candles may be include in the liturgy. If you use candles in your home, bring them along and they will be blessed at the beginning of Mass, which will be at 8:30am and also at 7pm for our First Friday Mass and Devotions.

SUMMER HOLIDAYS WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Throughout January 2024 Monday: Church will be open for private prayer

Tuesday to Saturday Mass 8:30am.

The usual schedule with devotions will resume in February 2024



Flame Gifts reopened on Saturday 27th January.

You are invited to go and check out the great array of religious items as well as many other gift ideas.

All proceeds benefit the parish.

First Friday Devotions to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament as well as the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, followed by Holy Mass with the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, will recommence for 2024 on



Friday, 2nd February at 7:00pm – All welcome!



THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FLAG PRAYER

Almighty God, the Father of creation and the sovereign ruler of the nations, we thank you for your many blessings upon the people of Australia.

Our trust is in your protection and power, as symbolised in the crosses of St. George, St Andrew and St Patrick, the Commonwealth Star representing the states and territories, and the Southern Cross, an emblem of our land.

May our flag continue to enshrine our belief in the importance of democracy, the rule of law, and our friendship with people of other nations.

We pray that this flag of stars and crosses will continue to inspire unity of purpose for all Australians.

Give us grace to work together for the welfare of each other and with compassion to serve those in special need.

Inspire us with a vision for the future, expressing our concern to live in harmony with our families and with people of other cultures.

Enable us to extend our love without prejudice to all people everywhere, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

PRAYERS FOR HEALING: Jenny Scully Callaghan, Andrew Chan, Dean Davids, Joseph Papandrea, Vic & Avonia Moran, Joan Johnston, Michael Maglunog, Baby Addison Jean Oldman, Greg Forrester, Vianney Brown.

PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF: Brother Marian Swierczewski CSMA, Norman Merlino recently deceased.

Also, Giuseppe Petrolo, Frank & Edgar Falzon, Angelo & Carmela & Angelo Scicluna, Albert Khoshaba, George Maiolo, Frank lentile, Maria lentile, John, Annarita, Antonio lentile, Natale & Teresa Papandrea, Tony Bietola, Giovanni & Santina Bietola, John & Robyne Bietola, Sam Tedesco, Papandrea, Ientile, Cessario families, Vincenzo & Caterina Cincotta, the Escalante & Venal families, Frank & Edgar Falzon, Carmela, Angelo, Paul Scicluna, Ignazio (Jim) Torrisi, Charlie & Melina Bietola, Dr Raphael Panetta, Rosina & Michele Panetta, Rosa & Raffaele Fazzolari, Mary & Sam Bietola, Angelo Fazzolari & Fazzolari family, Fortunato & Rosa Galluzzo & Galluzzo family, Mario & Dirce Gualdi, Gianni Gualdi, Antonino, Tindara & Vincenzo Caravello, Alberto Tanzini, Angelina & Antonino Rando, Giuseppe & Maria Caterina Pupo, Baby Cove Rose Pupo, Fr Kevin O'Grady, Stefano Zappia, Papandrea, Catherine & Fred Assender, Carolina Nayales Cadampog, Elena Laput, Eleno Etor, Raffaelina Albace Squillace, Jim Patterson and the deceased members of the Biviano, Carabetta, Mule', Marcellino families.

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, you can contact the Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office 9390 5810/ safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police

