

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

22nd February 2009

THEME: Mark 2: 1-12

In today's readings, Isaiah proclaims that God is doing something new, and Jesus heals a paralysed man.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, heal my soul,
for I have sinned against you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor, and freedom to prisoners
Alleluia!

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday 23rd February Polycarp, bishop, martyr

Wednesday 25th February **ASH WEDNESDAY**

Mass Times: 7.30am
10.30am
12.00noon
6.00pm

BURDENS SHARED, BURDENS EASED

In all the burdens we may be called to bear in life, the lesson of today's Gospel applies. Every load, however great or small, is made lighter and more supportable when it is shared with others. Every load, however great or small, is also to be brought to the Lord, who, as is illustrated in today's Gospel, will welcome the heavy-laden and care for their needs. Borne into Jesus' presence by friends, the paralytic was healed physically and spiritually.

Whom might you carry into God's saving and forgiving presence today? For whom might you go that extra step in order to ease their burden? As we consider hoisting someone else's load upon our shoulders, the words of the ballad continue to inspire us: "If I'm laden at all, I'm laden with sadness, that everyone's heart isn't filled with gladness and love for one another. It's a long, long road from which there is no return. While we're on the way there, why not share? and the load doesn't weigh me down at all. **He ain't heavy, he's my brother.**"

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Grant spiritual comfort and healing to the sick, especially:

Maureen Burke, Kath Robinson, Mitchell Wallace (baby), Gary McLinden, Paul Trottman, Mary Hamilton, Lillian Roberts, Michael Rooney, Norm McLaurin, Kevin Hynes, Mihovil Katalinic, Vin Griffiths, Juanita Jervois, Norina Spinelli, Bishop Brennan, Nancy Gibson, John Hunt, Rob Deller, Mary McNamara, Ria Stumpe, James Williams, Mary Cooper, Monette Fealy, Annette Hoffman, Lionel Jansen, John McManus, Peter Cairns, Allan Dedrauth, Melda McDonald, Kristi Cassandra, Luke Heffernan, Rosel Free, Reece Valta, Yela Jankovic, Karl Grlica, Alvin Horn, Kate Cox, Patricia Hamill, Zoltan Tar, Catherine Mead, Charles Francis, Will Carland, Maureen Fields, Patricia Barber, Ian Walters, Des O'Meara, Ben Harper, Bess

Harris, Gregory Cummins, Patricia Bourke, Nicholas Hetherington, Joseph Doran, Effie Ray, Sandra Varrasso, Bob Woods and Marie Cook.

Grant eternal life to:

John Corbett (Ireland), Joan Sullivan, Barry Pigram, Les Webb, Judy, Greg & May Mclver, Robert Paring and all our dear ones deceased.

Anniversaries:

George & Rosa Grlica, Veronika Zovin, Cecilia Grlica, Ana & Nikola Zivic, Eileen Ahern, Noel Cain, Kevin Cain and all our loved ones whose anniversaries occur now.

And Also:

Leo McCormack, Lorraine Hill and all our dear ones deceased.

LORD HEAR US

BAPTISMS

Recently we welcomed into God's Church the following newly baptised:

CONOR WARCHOW

JACOB BARTHOLOMEW

FOR YOUR DIARY

BISHOP'S VISITATION

Bishop Hanna will make his two-yearly parish visitation to St Patrick's Parish commencing this Thursday 26th February until Masses on Sunday 1st March. He is available for personal appointments during these days. Bookings can be made on the parish number (02) 6041 2588.

ASH WEDNESDAY - 25th February

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent, the season of prayer and penance in preparation for Holy Week and Easter. Project Compassion boxes and envelopes are available at the church doors. Please see over page for Mass times.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be held in St Patrick's Church at 7.30pm each Friday evening during Lent.

LENTEN HOME GROUPS

Please see the notice at the back of the church. If you are interested in joining a Lenten Home Discussion Group, please put your name and telephone number on list provided.

YOUNG ADULTS - ASH WEDNESDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Everyone is welcome to join with the young adults group this coming Wednesday night for Stations of the Cross beginning at 7.00pm in St Patrick's Church. Also during Lent, 16-18yr olds are invited to join with the young adults for a Lenten study.

LENTEN STUDY GROUP FOR 16-35YRS

A Lenten study group for 16-35yr olds will commence on Wednesday 4th March. The group will meet weekly on Wednesday night at 7pm in the upper room of St Patrick's Hall. For more information, please contact Miriam Kirley on 0400 419 981 or email mizmim@gmail.com John Burton 0400 574 958 or Marcus Shaw 0418 463 952.

YOUTH GROUP (12-17YRS)

St Patrick's Youth Group will meet next Sunday 1st March after the 10.30am Mass.

Contact Fr Brendan Lee: 6041 2588 or Miriam: 0400 419 981.

PATRICIANS GATHERING

Free Devonshire Tea on Sunday 1st March at 3.30pm in the meeting room at Holy Spirit Church, Lavington. Open to everyone. Discussion topic - "Why am I a Catholic?"

ST PATRICK'S DAY CONCERT

This year our St Patrick's Day Concert will be held on Saturday 14th March at 7.30pm in St Patrick's hall. "Sing Australia Choir" are to appear on the program, also our own St Patrick's School Choir. A Filipino Traditional Dance will also be performed. Further updates next week.

BHUTANESE FAMILIES ARRIVING IN ALBURY IN MARCH 2009

In March, 5 Bhutanese families will be arriving in Albury. These people are very easy to settle and are truly delightful. If you are looking for an enjoyable challenge and have some spare time, we would love you to come and join our volunteer program. If you have a family group or a group of friends that may be interested in supporting a family,

please contact Deidre Moulden from St Vincent de Paul on (02) 6971 7175 or 0431 975 215. Deidre is based in Wagga Wagga but travels regularly to Albury.

ABORTION

Lead by Television, radio and press, many Australians have lost their moral compass and replaced it with a sexual revolution causing massive widespread marriage breakdown. Never before has there been such abusive criticism directed towards those who believe God's teaching that life begins at conception. ProLife Holy Hour 5.30-6.30pm on the first Wednesday of each month in St Patrick's church. This is the battle of our time. Good versus evil.

SNIPPET

What about the man who trusts in God and is committed to His will and purposes?

He is the man who is rich indeed. Even amid the circumstances of poverty, the wealth and blessings of God are within his reach. (Leslie F Brandt)