Our Lady of Perpetual Succour



Catholic Parish Toukley/Lake Munmorah St Mary's Church 458 Main Rd Noraville St Brendan's Mass Centre 29 Carters Rd Lake Munmorah

Vision To be A Vibrant Eucharistic Community



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Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C 23rd January 2022

<u>"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me"</u>

Today's second reading reminds us that "together we are Christ's Body, but each of us is a different part of it." This suggests that, as different parts of Christ's Body, each of us has a share, as instruments in God's hands, in bringing the freeing and saving mission of Christ to our world in our times. In today's Gospel reading we have the description



about the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus. Jesus started His public ministry in the synagogue at Nazareth. There He opened the book of the Prophet Isaiah and read the passage relating to His future ministry: that is to preach the good news to the poor, proclaim release to the captives, sight to the blind and liberty to the oppressed. This message of the Gospel first preached in Galilee has to find its fulfillment in and through us.

Dear friends, let us remember that God's power is necessary for accomplishing the mission of Jesus. He was filled with the Holy Spirit and preached the good news and liberated people from the bondage of sin. At baptism we too received the Spirit of God. Again, at confirmation we were anointed by the power of the Lord. The Spirit of God should empower us to continue this mission of Jesus. Thus Jesus invites each one of us to grow in faith and become effective witnesses of His good news.

Jesus' message of liberation is intended not only to those who are in jail but also those who are prisoners of their own passions and people enslaved by vices, drugs, selfishness, pride and greed. This message of liberation is intended to those who are blind of their responsibility towards God and neighbour, those who cannot distinguish between justice and injustice, good and evil and others. So my dear friends, let us make our small effort to make a difference.

Fr Tomy

Special Notices:

Welcome all parishioners and visitors.

<u>COVID-19:</u> QR code sign-in and face masks are **<u>mandatory</u>**. Thank you.

<u>Please remember in your prayers:</u> <u>Recently Deceased</u>: Fr Manoj Manuel, Mario Azzopardi, John Gilligan, Kerrie Van Tijn, Brian Lane, Nola Mansfield, Geraldine Jackson, Sr Margaret Keane <u>Anniversaries</u>: Eugenia Grimes, Daniel Goonan, Lorna Simms, May Bailey

<u>Remembrances</u>: James Grimes, Carol Brown, Stephen Cappa, Greg Irvine, Moore & Langley families, Valmai Joseph Stark Family

<u>Sick</u>: Eliamma (Fr Baby's mother), Ann Rigney, Margaret Jones, Margaret Moran, Maria Petesic, Patricia Parker, Faye Roberts, Lisa Hart, Elena Mabini, Lucas Campbell, Noel McCool, Nenita Turner

A Memorial Mass for the late Fr

Manoj Manuel will be held at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara at 11am on Fri 28 Jan 2022. All welcome. **<u>Parish Office</u>** is open 9am-2pm Mondays & Fridays only during January.

<u>St John Bosco Mass</u>

Due to Covid-19 restrictions the members of the "Maltese Past Pupils & Friends of Don Bosco Association" are unable to celebrate the feast of their patron saint as they do annually at Horsley Park. Instead Fr Carmelo Sciberras, the association's Spiritual Companion, will offer Mass at St Mary Mackillop's parish church Warnervale on the coming Sat, 29th Jan at 5pm in honour of St John Bosco. This is the normal parish Mass. The Mass will be life streamed so that the members in Sydney and beyond can honour Don Bosco together. All are welcome, especially those who in their childhood had some association with the Salesians.

January Birthdays: John

Van der Kroft, Eduardo Sedicol, Rita Jeffries, Fr Baby.



First Reading

Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10

They read from the book of Law and they understood what was read.

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people - since he stood higher than all the people - Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered, 'Amen! Amen!'; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah - His Excellency - and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep.' For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 18:8-10, 15

R. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul. The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. **R**.

The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart. The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes. R.

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever. The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. R.

May the spoken words of my mouth, the thoughts of my heart, win favour in your sight, O Lord, my rescuer, my rock! R.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27 (shorter form)

Together you are Christ's body, but each of you is a different part of it.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though

many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation cf Luke 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners. *Alleluia!*

Gospel

Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

The scriptures were fulfilled on this day.

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me.

he has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives

and to the blind new sight, to set the down trodden free,

to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Next Sunday - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C First Reading - Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19 Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13 Gospel - Luke 4:21-30

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