Third Sunday in Ordinary Time  Year C

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me—he has sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

First Reading : Nehemiah 8:2-6.8-10. Do not be saddened this day, for rejoicing in the Lord must be your strength

Psalm 18: Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life

Second Reading: 1Cor 12:12-14;27. You are Christ’s body.

Alleluia Verse: 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 Today these words are fulfilled in your hearing.

Com. Verse: I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.


Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: We know that God is our stronghold and our refuge. Let us pray to our loving Father for all our needs.
Leader: We pray for all teachers and students as they start the new year.
People: May they work together with a deep awareness that God’s Spirit is with them

Celebrant: We pray to the Lord. All. Lord hear our prayer.
Leader: We pray for all who are elected to represent us:
People: May they be strong in their convictions like Jesus.

Celebrant: We pray to the Lord. All: Lord hear our prayer.
Leader: We pray for all of us here present
People: May we not rely just on ourselves, but place our trust and hope in God.

Celebrant: We pray to the Lord. All: Lord hear our prayer.
Leader: We pray for the sick, lonely, the marginalized.
(Pause)
People: May they find in us support, love and compassion.

Celebrant: We pray to the Lord. All: Lord hear our prayer.
Celebrant: Compassionate Father, hear the prayers of your people, gathered in faith at this altar, made one in faith and love. Through Christ Our Lord. All: Amen

OUR POPE SAYS: When we speak of the Church, we shouldn’t just think of the Pope, Bishops, priests, sisters and all the consecrated people. The Church is made up of the many baptized brothers and sisters in the world who believe, hope and love. The Church is us all, us! All baptized persons are the Church, Jesus’ Church. Made up of: all those who follow the Lord Jesus and who, in his name, come close to the least and the suffering, seeking to offer a little relief, comfort and peace: all those who do what the Lord commanded of us are the Church. The Gospel of Luke recounts how Jesus, having returned to Nazareth, where he grew up, entered the synagogue and read, making reference to himself, the passage from the Prophet Isaiah where it is written: “the Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord’s favour” (4:18-19). Behold how Christ used his humanity to proclaim and fulfil the divine plan of redemption and salvation; so too must it be for the Church. Through all that can be seen, the sacraments and witness of all us Christians, the Church is called every day to be close to every human being, to begin with the one who is poor, the one who suffers and the one who is marginalized, in such a way as to make all people feel the compassionate and merciful gaze of Jesus.

Please Pray for Les and Clare Fern, Joe & Rosemary Valle, Josephine and Antonio Di Lembo; Margaret McDonald, Margaret Heagney (Catherine Phillip’s mother) Mona Spain-Pedder, Ardea Tramontin, Viviane Taranto, Gregoria Ocampo. Rhonda Blaser, Antonio Ciarla.
Mass Times:  Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm  Sunday 8.30 am and 6.00 pm.

Syro-Malabar Rite 10.30 am the First Sunday of month. Children’s Mass 8.30 am last Sunday of month.

Monday 5.30 pm. (8.00 am Public Holidays) Tues–Friday. 6.45 am. Anointing Mass First Mondays 5.30 pm

Saturday: 8.00 am. SACRAMENTS: Reconciliation: Ask at least 15 minutes before any Mass and immediately after Saturday Mass.  Baptisms/Marriage By appointment. Book well ahead

Living the Gospel:  You are the Body of Christ

Last week John’s Gospel began the public life of Jesus with the story of the wedding at Cana. Today’s Gospel is Luke’s version of the beginning of Jesus’ public life. It gives the very reason for Jesus’ life. It challenges us to be for our world today all that Jesus was for his world.

We are introduced to Jesus on his coming home to Nazareth for the weekend. He had been in various other synagogues, and his very good reputation had preceded his coming home. So all the people from his village came along to hear what he had to say.

He came into the synagogue and the leaders there gave him the book of Isaiah, the prophet, to read. He found the place he was looking for, the words that gave meaning to his life. The Gospel quotes for us the very passage of Isaiah:

“The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives, and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord’s year of favour.”

That was Jesus Mission Statement! It is a clear statement.

Jesus is saying that all these things are happening NOW. He is making them happen! His whole life is given to making them happen.

We don’t engage with those we pray for. But Jesus says his whole life is given to making them happen NOW, through Him. His flesh and blood is given to making them happen. And as St Paul reminds us, we are now the Body of Christ.

Parish Notices and Coming Events

Weekly Collections: 1st Collection: $1115.30 2nd Collection: $1310.75  Direct Debit $1396.00

January Calendar:

Monday 25th Conversion of St Paul Mass 5.30 pm.
Tuesday 26th Australia Day Mass at 8.00 am.
“Ladies who Lunch”: 12 noon @ Nightcliff Sports Club

Sunday 31st Children’s Mass. Please bring a plate

Sacramental Program 2016 - First Reconciliation Meeting the 4th/or 11th February at 6pm. Actual night of celebration March the 17th at 6pm

First Holy Communion on Corpus Christi Saturday 28th May at 6pm. Confirmation Saturday 17th September at 6pm.

Early Warning: Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 10th February. Consider joining a Lenten Discussion Group on Tuesday at 7pm at the Convent & Wednesday evenings at 7.00 pm at the Presbytery. Why not host a group in your home? We will provide the books and DVDs.

Stations of the Cross every Friday in Lent at 6.00 pm beginning Friday 12th. No Stations of the Cross on Good Friday.

Hours of Grace also begins at the 6.00 pm Mass on Ash Wednesday and concludes with the 6.00 pm Mass celebrated by Bishop Eugene on Sunday 14th February. Also Fr Roy’s 50 years profession as a Missionary of the Sacred Heart.