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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YR B**

**6TH & 7TH FEBRUARY, 2021**

### **WEARING OF MASKS FOR MASS**

In accordance with government regulations the wearing of a face mask is mandatory for everyone entering the Church except for children under 12 years.

Thank you for your understanding and anticipated co-operation.

### **WEEKEND MASSES**

You are now invited to attend Mass every week at the time you were allocated by Fr Chris.

THERE IS A CAP OF 100 PEOPLE AT ALL RELIGIOUS SERVICES HELD AT PLACES OF WORSHIP.

Online Masses are still available so if you are feeling unwell you are advised not to attend Mass.

### **WEEKDAY MASSES**

TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS AT 6PM (NO ADORATION)

THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS AT 9.10AM

You are welcome to attend any of these Masses without a phone call or email invitation.

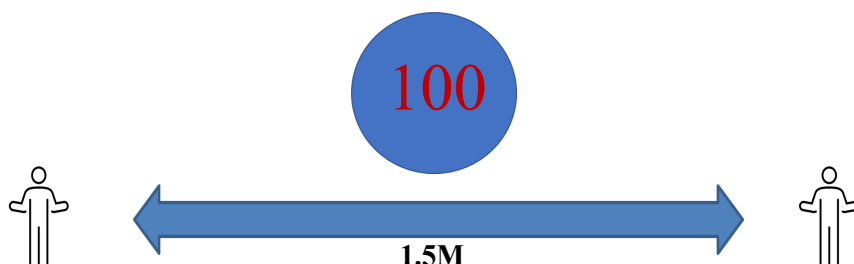
Fr Chris will record attendance at these Masses as per government guidelines.

### **RECONCILIATION BY APPOINTMENT**

Please contact Fr Chris on his mobile 0415 505 594 to make an appointment.

**DUE TO COVID-19, THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARISHIONERS PER MASS IN OUR PARISH CHURCH IS**

**PLEASE PRACTISE SOCIAL DISTANCING BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS.**



As per government regulations, please observe the 4 square metre rule.

Please note that hand sanitiser is available at the Church entrances for use upon entering and exiting the Church.

**BE COVIDSAFE**



### **CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH**

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Presbytery: 4730 6258

Office Hours: 9am - 3.30pm (Tues-Fri)

#### **PARISH TEAM:**

Fr Christopher Antwi-Boasiako -  
Parish Priest

[Christopher.Antwi-Boasiako@parracatholic.org](mailto:Christopher.Antwi-Boasiako@parracatholic.org)

Mobile: 0415 505 594

Deacon Owen Rogers  
- [owen.rogers7@bigpond.com](mailto:owen.rogers7@bigpond.com)

Mrs Marie Cottee - Parish Secretary  
- [mc@corpuschristi.org.au](mailto:mc@corpuschristi.org.au)

Mrs Sue Weekes - Office Support  
- [sw@corpuschristi.org.au](mailto:sw@corpuschristi.org.au)

Mrs Joanne Hocking - Sacrament  
Support

#### **SCHOOLS OF THE PARISH:**

Corpus Christi Primary - ph 4726 2200  
(Principal - Mrs Sarah O'Rourke)

Xavier College - ph 4777 0900  
(Principal - Mr Michael Pate)

### Children & Sacraments for 2021

#### Penance (*Reconciliation*)



Children in Year 4 at school are invited to register for the Parish Sacramental Program, commencing with the Sacrament of Penance.

Parents wanting their child to participate in this program are required to pick up Penance Information Packs and register their child on

**WEDNESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY, 2021**

**BETWEEN 6.30PM & 7.30PM**

**IN THE CHURCH.**



#### Let us Offer Gifts of Prayer:

##### Recently Deceased:

Mary Pilley (*Michael Lyons's sister*)

##### Mass Intentions:

Maria Aquilina, Josephine Portelli, Margaret & James Vella

##### And for those who are sick:

Leonard Ash, Pauline Rugg, Joan Schneider

✠ If any parishioner would like Fr Chris to offer Mass for someone who is recently deceased, a loved one's anniversary or if someone is sick, please email the Parish Office. We can also include the person in The Net so everyone can pray for them.

#### How's Kevin ???

Kevin O'Connor, our parish icon, is doing well and is still at Gilroy Village. The nursing home has been in lockdown since December.

He is on the move to a new nursing home, St Dominic's Blacktown and is looking forward to the change of nursing homes.

He sends his best wishes and prayers to Fr Chris and all the parishioners of Corpus Christi.

Please keep Kevin and his wife Mary in your prayers.

#### RCIA: Exploring the Scrutinies Workshop:

The Office For Worship will be running an RCIA workshop on the Scrutinies for RCIA coordinators and teams early next year Wednesday evening 10th February at the Institute For Mission, Blacktown (IFM). If you are interested or would like more information please contact the Office for Worship on (02) 8838 3456 or [anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org](mailto:anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org)

#### Office For Worship 2021 Liturgical Ministry Formation Course

The Office for Worship's Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will be held again in 2021 in early February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving in the Liturgical Ministries of Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar at your parish. If you are interested or would like more information please contact the Office for Worship on (02) 8838 3456 or [anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org](mailto:anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org).

#### Institute for Mission Formation Programs

Interested or already involved in your parish community initiatives? Looking to explore key themes of the Catholic tradition? Express your interest today in the Institute for Mission's Reflective Ministry and Themes of Faith programs for your life and faith enrichment. They are 100% free and begin in early March in an online format. For more information, contact Sr Grace on 9296 6369 or [grace.roclawska@ifm.org.au](mailto:grace.roclawska@ifm.org.au) or Donnie on 0432042140 or [donnie.velasco@ifm.org.au](mailto:donnie.velasco@ifm.org.au)

#### Positions Vacant

Parish Secretary - St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish, Upper Blue Mountains and Sacred Heart Parish, Blackheath - **Applications close 12 February 2021.**

More details at: [parracatholic.org/employment](http://parracatholic.org/employment)

#### Welcome to The Well

The Diocese of Parramatta proudly announces its latest initiative - *The Well*. In what can be described as 'Netflix for Catholics', *The Well* is a new online platform that provides free, 'on-demand' inspiration for families, children, young people and faith communities. Explore fresh offerings every week on topical issues that inform, entertain and challenge. Check it out at [www.thewell.org.au](http://www.thewell.org.au)

#### Glenbrook Parish Lenten Biblical Studies

Parish Priest Fr Joseph Lam will be running Lenten Biblical studies on the Passion of Jesus Christ in the Gospel of Mark at St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook. The sessions will be held on:

- The Trial of Jesus - 23 February at 7.30pm;
- The Death of Jesus - 9 March at 7.30pm;
- The Resurrection of Jesus - 23 March at 7.30pm

Due to COVID restrictions, places are limited. To register, please contact [secretary@stfinbars.org.au](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org.au) or call the parish office on (02) 4739 8928.

# The Living Word

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7th February 2021

## First Reading

Jb 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.

## Responsorial Psalm

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

**(R.) Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.**

Praise the Lord for he is good; sing to our God for he is loving: to him our praise is due. **(R.)**

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.)**

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 blessings.

## Gospel Acclamation

Mt 8:17

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

## Gospel

Mk 1:29-39

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. Si-

mon 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.



## Have you thought? Simon's Wife?

In this week's reading, it is Simon's mother-in-law who is healed. This obviously means that Simon is married. However, there is no mention whatsoever about his wife. Is she alive or dead? Do they have children? We have no indication. It is not until the writings of Paul (1 Cor 9:5) that we learn Simon Peter was indeed married and that his wife accompanied him on his travels. Perhaps this visit to his family home was to announce to his wife and family that he had decided to follow Jesus and give up fishing.

## Living the Gospel – Prayer

In the midst of an extremely hectic 24 hours where Jesus effectively launches his public ministry, Jesus takes time to go aside to a lonely place and pray. The passage tells us that it was 'long before dawn' that he did this. It may have been his usual practice to pray early in the morning or he may have been restless after the events of the previous day and the thought of what lay ahead. Nevertheless, Jesus provides us with a model of using prayer to reflect on events and to prepare ourselves for the day ahead.

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## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

### The Divine Touch

The mother-in-law of Simon (Peter) was sick in bed with a raging fever. When Jesus learned about her distressed state, he 'took her by the hand and helped her up'. He broke the taboo about physical contact with a woman not his relative because he wanted to holistically heal her disease.

Simon's mother-in-law didn't need an aspirin and a cup of tea. She felt quarantined, isolated, and needed a hand reassuring her of sociable relationships. Jesus overcame her fever and her dis-ease with the world.

At every Mass we exchange a physical gesture at the greeting of Peace. This quite often overcomes being ill-at-ease with a family member or just with the neighbour in the pew. We need to take that symbolic action into the world. For somebody, it may be the most touching thing we ever do.

We could pause for a moment to identify that person who needs us to reach out, to take their hand and help them up.



## REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we see three snapshots from the photo album of life.

Suffering comes to everyone. It can take such a hold of us that the happiness of the past is swallowed up, the beauty of better days is forgotten, and the hope of a brighter future is imperilled. Life ceases to be an adventure and takes on the guise of drudgery. At such times suffering appears to be our permanent fate, and life seems too short for suffering to run its course. If we become identified with our distress, we will be tormented.

Jesus knew the harshness of life, because he was one of us. He saw it in the lives of those he loved, and he was touched by their torment. He came to release people from the demons that possess them, from the illness that undermined their lives. He came to bring the reign of God, the reign of peace and fulfilment. He came to heal the brokenhearted, to bind up their wounds.

Paul was a messenger of this gospel of salvation and fulfilment. He was so committed to his mission that he empathised with all those who heard his preaching – the slaves, the weak, the brokenhearted, all those who knew well the harshness of life. Now it is our turn. We are the disciples who must bring the good news to the brokenhearted, to those who are enslaved, to those who are weak. We are the ones who will then share in the blessings of this good news.

## Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for February



### *Universal intention - Violence against women*

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.



## REFLECTION FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS

### Questions for Adolescents

- \* Why might healing have been such an important part of Jesus' ministry?
- \* Why might the gospel writer have portrayed so much happening in such a short time?
- \* Why did Jesus leave Capernaum when his disciples told him that everyone was looking for him?
- \* Why did Jesus go away by himself to pray?
- \* What message does this passage hold for us today?

### Questions for Adults

- \* What is the significance of Jesus healing by touch alone?
- \* Why might people like Simon's mother-in-law recognise Jesus as the Messiah when the disciples don't?
- \* Why was illness so often attributed to possession?
- \* Where and when do you find prayer most powerful?
- \* How can you better follow Jesus' example of using prayer in the busy times?



***This is an opportunity for parents to discuss today's Gospel with your children. The following questions and worksheet are a beginning point to assist with the discussion.***

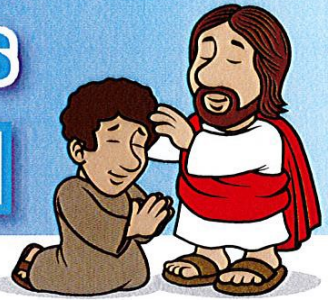
- \* Who has a friend who was once sick?
- \* How did your friend get better?
- \* What could you do when someone you know is sick?
- \* In today's gospel what did Jesus do when sick people were brought to him?
- \* Jesus showed compassion to those who were in need. What does 'compassion' mean?
- \* Who should we show compassion to?





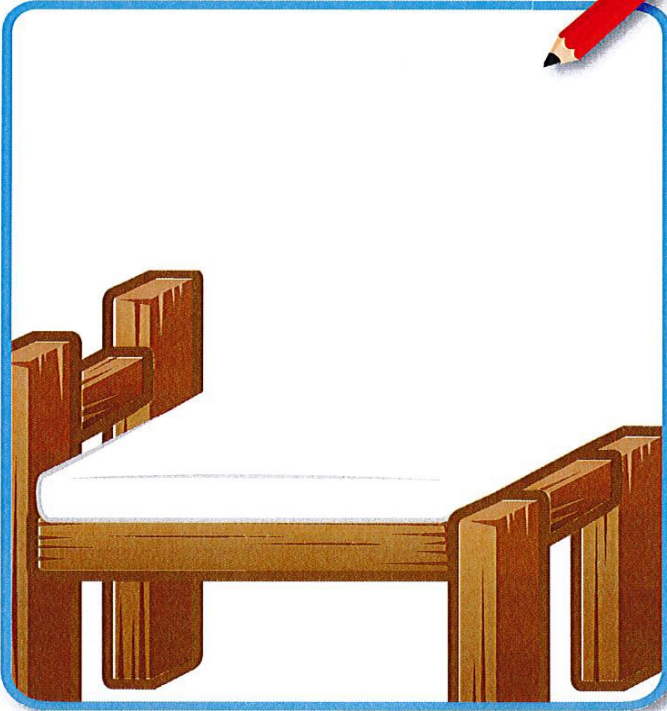


# Jesus is the Good News



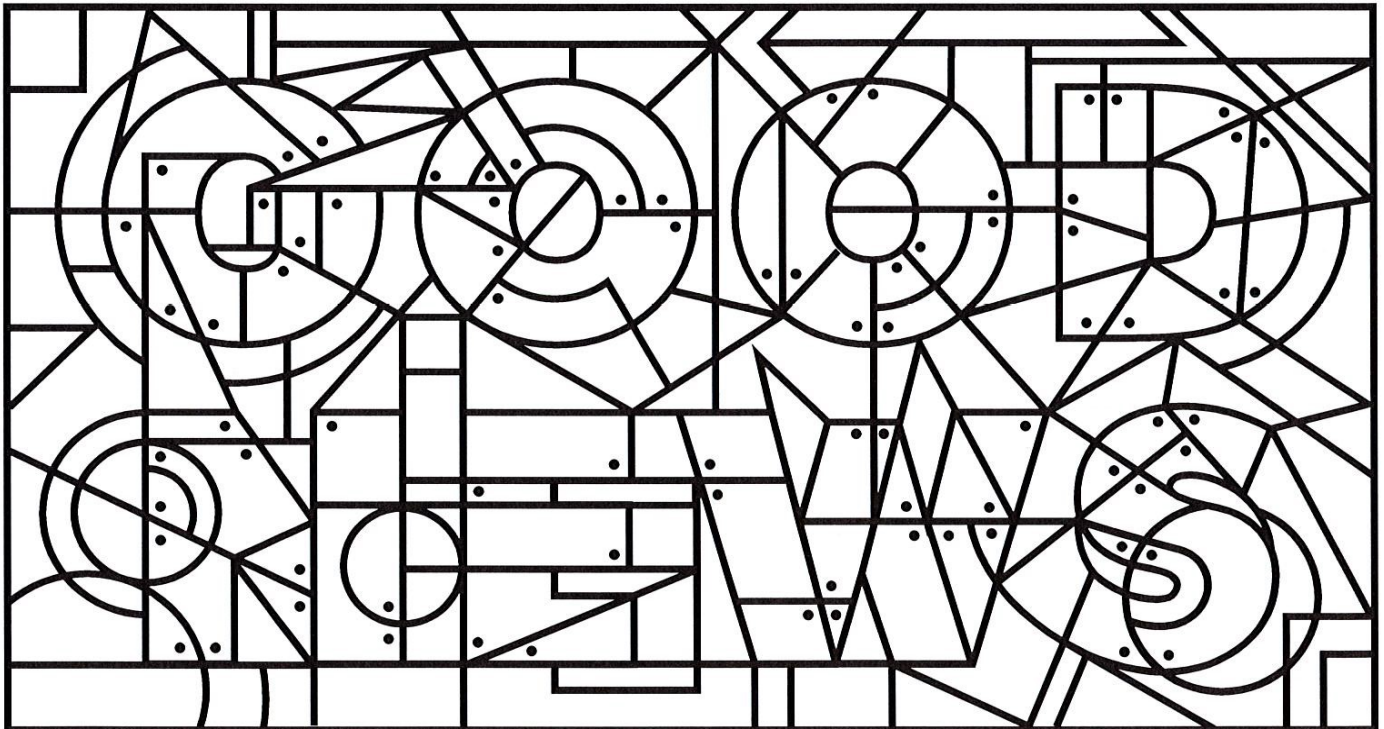
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Draw Jesus healing Simon's sick mother-in-law



Jesus went away to be alone and pray.  
Where are some places that you pray?

Colour in all the shapes that contain dots to reveal what Jesus wants everyone to know.




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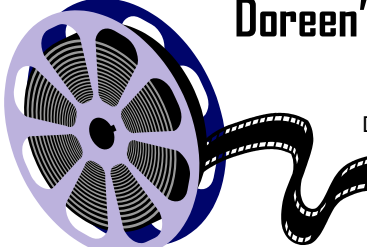
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# Solutions

**5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

*Colour in all the shapes that contain dots to reveal what Jesus wants everyone to know.*

