The Living Word

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

4 February 2024

First Reading Jb 7:1-4, 6-7

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

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.

or

(R.) Alleluia!

- 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

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

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. Simon 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.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

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 dis-ease.

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 disease 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.

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Entrance Antiphon Psalm 94:6-7

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

GOULBURN MISSION

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MINISTRY

Ministry Volunteers are needed within the whole Parish. If you would like to Volunteer, please contact the parish office on 0403 631 797 or email us at goulburn@cg.org.au. We would love to hear from you. Below are some of our existing ministries.

*Acolyte *Bereavement team *Altar servers

*Children's Liturgy

*Baptism Team *Cemetery mowing

*Cleaning *Collection *Counters

*Communion for the housebound

*Extraordinary Eucharist ministry

*Gardening

*Flowers *Hospitality

*Music

*Prayers of the Faithful *Readers

*Sacramental Team

*Tours

Baptism: We wish to invite those school students, as yet unbaptised, but interested in sacramental Catholic program information evening Wednesday: February 7th, 7.30pm, 36 Verner St. Please rsvp to the office at goulburn@cg.org.au.

LENTEN program

Prayer group will begin at 36 Verner Street on 22 February at 6.30 pm

Vigil Mass Times

The special survey is on for Taralga and Goulburn Parishes. Please return the survey slip before Friday 15 February to contribute to the decision.

Communion Antiphon: Matthew 5:5-6

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be consoled. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall have their fill.

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DATES FOR THE DIARY

Feb 4: Children's liturgy and Morning tea.

FEB 7: Wednesday 7.30pm Student Baptism Info eve

FEB 10: Men's Breakfast 7.30-9am Tatts

FEB 12: Crookwell Morning Tea 10.30 am

FEB 11: Sr Rosemary Farewell - Crookwell.

FEB 14: Crookwell sacramental program enrolment

FEB 15 Goulburn sacramental program enrolment

FEB 23: Steel City Strings 6.30pm Cello quartet SPP

FEB 29: Chamber Philharmonia Cologne 7pm in SPP

MAR 1: World Day Of Prayer

MAR 16: ST Joseph's Motor pilgrimage 4pm -6pm

MISSION NOTICES

SACRAMENTAL ENROLMENT DATES 2024 **Reconciliation and First Holy Communion**

Crookwell enrolment:

14th February, 6pm

Goulburn enrolment: OLOF 15th February, 6pm

Crookwell Morning Tea

The Crookwell Morning Tea returns this year at a fresh new time. 10.30 am on the 2nd MONDAY of the month, starting February the 12th, at St Mary's Presbytery, Crookwell. All welcome!

Congratulations!

Sr Marie Kearns celebrated 60 years in her Religious Profession, the Diamond Jubilee on the 22nd of January

ST JOSEPH MOTOR PILGRIMAGE

Save the date for this special Men's only pilgrimage, from the 15th to the 17th of March. Ready your ride for a spiritual journey to the heart. QR codes available on your church bulletin boards, or from the office.

CROOKWELL AND TARALGA

Dear Parishioners,

The request for more volunteers for various ministries has been on the bulletin for a few weeks. In this Year of the Holy Spirit and the Year of Prayer I encourage you to support the various parish ministries, to make our parish more active and sustainable.

For those parishioners who are interested in in Parish pastoral Council or Parish Finance committee, please contact me by 12 February: joshy.kurien@cg.org.au

Recently Deceased: Gloria Orton, Joan Percy, Stanley Edington, Alf Yeardon, Kevin Neville, Betty Lindner, Beryl Reid, Raymon Finnegan, Kevin King, Rose Liardet, Anthony Smith, Leslie Reko.

Anniversaries: Ignacio Juaniza, Gordon Boyd, Noel elliott, Marlene Elliott, Russell Croker, Mary Maloney, Ian Maloney, Lesley Croker, Pat Thistleton, Gerard Thistleton, Dan Corry, Jack McGann, John McDonald, Elsie McLaughlin, Rudolf Froncek, Robert Taylor Phillip Anable, Theresia Craciun, Deceased members of the Coffey, Anable and Cracium families, Sandra Collins, Pat Miller, Pat Larcombe, Ellen Writer, Lorna Lyons, Nita Price, Ruby Thorn, Jean Crawford, John Yeadon,

Prayers: Wilma Hewitt, Bruce and Lyn Pincott, Gerard Conroy, Paul Hollands, Ruth Kirsten Read, Sr. Marie Kearns, A. Taylor Jr, Ojwang Family,