



# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

1 SEPTEMBER 2024

## FIRST READING

Deut 4:1-2, 6-8

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

*You may add nothing to the word which I speak to you – keep the commands of the Lord.*

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 14:2-5. R. v. 1

**R.** The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain? / He who walks without fault; / he who acts with justice / and speaks the truth from his heart. **R.**

2. He who does no wrong to his brother, / who casts no slur on his neighbour, / who holds the godless in disdain, / but honours those who fear the Lord. **R.**

3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may; / who takes no interest on a loan / and accepts no bribes against the innocent. / Such a man will stand firm for ever. **R.**



## SECOND READING

James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

A reading from the letter of St James.

*Be doers of the word.*

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

James 1:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth,  
that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

*You forget the commandments of God to hold on to human tradition.*

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and



# OUR LADY of MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN

## 22nd Sunday Ordinary - 1 September 2024 - Year B

### OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL PARISH HILTON

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### OFFICE HOURS

**Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday:** 9am – 3pm

**Thursday:** 9am – 12.30pm

### MINISTRY TEAM

**Parish Secretary:** Tereza Camacho

**Safeguarding Officer:** Brigette Liddelow 0432 908 980

**Avila Retirement Village Secretary:** Judy Rowlands 0448 205 283

**OLMC Primary School Principal:** Jayson Peacock 9269 2000

**OLMC Primary School RE:** Tracey Marsden

**Seton Catholic College Website:**

<http://www.seton.wa.edu.au/olmc-parish>

**REFLECTION: Life as a Candle.** It is a hard life being a candle. As far as we are aware candles cannot think which is a good thing otherwise, they would be quite nootropic. The dilemma candles face is that they need to be set alight to be what they are meant to be. Without a flame burning them, they are just a lump of wax with a bit of string passing through them and sticking out of the top of them. The flame makes them what they are meant to be, yet at the same time it destroys them. The life of a candle is one of constant tension. How does a candle light up the world without being destroyed in the process? The same dilemma is experienced by Christians. We are called to love in the same way Jesus loved, in other words to love until death. If we truly love our life will be poured out as a gift to the world. Meaning that there won't be much life for me. It is natural for us to recoil in fear in the same way a candle would in the face of this decision. If I really let the light of Christ shine in me then there may be not much of me left. St Paul clearly understood this when he spoke of his life as being poured out as a libation. John the Baptist understood this when he said, "That I must decrease, and He increase". Jesus clearly had this in mind when He said that those who try to save their lives will lose them and those who lose them will save them. So next time you look at a candle stop

and think are you fighting against the flame or are you allowing the light of Christ take over your life no matter what the consequences are?

### PRAYERS and CONGRATULATIONS to the CONFIRMANDI: Following Christ to the Cross.

Is it possible to be a Christian if we are not prepared to die for Christ? This is clearly a very provocative statement and one which will guarantee to stir up an argument if you were to mention it as dinner conversation. In the Western World we run the risk of seeing Christianity as a lifestyle choice, something which makes my life even better than it already is. Yet the reality is that for most Christians around the world this question is a daily reality. A recent report claims that every five (5) minutes a Christian is killed for their faith somewhere in the world. If we go back to the witness of the early Church their answer to this question was very clear. To be a Christian meant to follow Christ to the Cross and to be prepared to die with Him and for Him. One of the great early writers of the church, St Ignatius of Antioch was on his way to Rome to be killed in the Colosseum and as he was writing he wrote to the Church in Rome saying he was happy to die saying "so that I may not only be called a Christian but also to be found to be one". As uncomfortable as this question may be, it is important that we face the reality of

what it means to give all for Jesus. If I have heard the call to follow, am I prepared to follow Him all the way? We joyfully give thanks to God that the fifteen young people from our parish have by asking for the gifts of the Holy Spirit conferred in the Sacrament of Confirmation will faithfully respond to the call of following Christ and to be the salt of the earth, a beacon of light and hope to the world. Prayers and congratulations, Fr Michael and your fellow parishioners.

### CATHOLIC EARTHCARE

**CONVOCATION 2024: Dates:** 12 to 14 September. Join us for the Catholic Earthcare Convocation in 2024 as we come together to 'wonder,' 'weave,' and 'heal' creation. **Thursday 12 & Friday 13 September:** Online sessions with keynote presentations, workshops, and spiritual experiences. **Saturday 14 September:** Join us in person at diocesan hubs across the country to put our learnings into action. The Perth hub will be held at the Catholic Pastoral Centre, 40A Mary Street, Highgate (an online option is also available). Scan the QR code to get your tickets for one, two or all three days. We look forward to your participation in this transformative event!





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### BULLETIN SPONSORS

<p><b>BOWRA &amp; O'DEA FUNERAL DIRECTORS</b>          Because the little things are everything.          312 South Street, Hilton          9239 7744 or <a href="http://www.bowraodea.com.au">www.bowraodea.com.au</a></p>		<p><b>RICH HARVEST</b> Religious Products          Mon to Fri 10.30am – 6pm          Sat 10.30am – 3pm          39 Hulme Court, Myaree          9329 9889 or  <a href="http://www.rich7harvest.com.au">www.rich7harvest.com.au</a></p>
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**MASS TIMES WEEKENDS:** Saturday Vigil 6pm, Sunday 7.30am & 9am.

**MASS TIMES WEEKDAYS:** Tuesday 9am, Wednesday 9am, Thursday 9am, Friday 9am & Saturday 9am.

**RECONCILIATION - Saturday's:** 9.30-10am and 5.15-5.45pm or by appointment.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Wednesday 5.30 – 6.30pm & Friday 9.30 – 10.30am.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday 31 August to Friday 6 September 2024**

**Saturday 31 August**

**NO Mass:** Jubilarian Mass  
**6pm Mass:** Christopher Gibson (1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary)

**Sunday 1 September**

**7.30am Mass:** Charles Colvin (Anniversary)  
**9am Mass:** Toni Kalat (Intentions)

**3-4pm:** Holy Hour

**Tuesday 3 September**

**9am Mass:** Year 3 Class, Rosena Freitas (Intentions)

**Wednesday 4 September**

**9am Mass:** Steven Randall (RIP)

**Thursday 5 September**

**9.15am Funeral Mass:** Maria Ilde De Boni (RIP)

**Friday 6 September**

**9am Anointing Mass:** Bernice Luecke (RIP)

**10.30am Mass:** Hilton Park Aged Care

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS:** Christine Rhow, Veronica-Marie, Maria, Consiglia Ciavatta, Martin-Joseph, Irwin Beachell, Isabella Da Cunha, Damien-Ivan, Norma Elliott, Rudi Tassell, Steven, Davina, Zoe-Anne, Elisabetta Paddon, Edward Fortune, Kiara-Eve, Beatrice Fernandez, Lisa Bubb, Romilda Marinelli, Aaron LoCicero, Jacqueline Paul, Lou Collova, Anne & Justine Tonti, Greenville Paul, Christine Schwarten Henry, Fr Joseph Angelo, Fr Anibal Da Cunha, Peter Scanlan, June McGinnity, John Brackovich, Alison, Sofia, Rebecca, Fr Liam Keating SMA, Fr Francis Sundararajan, Fr Greg Carroll, Fr Wilson Donizzetti, Bill Watkins, Daniel DiMarco, Joshua Oorschot, Fr John Piumatti, Fr Don Kettle, Mila Hogan.

**VOTIVE CANDLES:** Please be aware that Votive Candles are 30 Cents each. Thank you.

**HOLY TRINITY CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP:** Monday night's 7-9pm.

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:** Jesus you are the Good Shepherd who is always mindful of your Church. Watch over those who are Baptised in your name and grant peace and harmony to all families. We ask you to choose from the families of our Parish many priests, deacons, sisters and brothers who will gladly spend their lives making you known and loved.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:** Meet every Monday, except for public holidays, between 7 and 8 pm in the first meeting room to the left of the Church. New members are always welcome. Please contact Ian (President) on 0428 121 152 for further information.

**2025 COLUMBAN CATHOLIC ART CALENDARS:** Are on sale for **\$10 each** from the Parish Office. The Columban Art Calendar is an iconic Catholic Calendar, well-known for its traditional religious paintings and liturgical information and is a major fundraiser for Columban Missionaries. Support missionary work in many countries across the world where people suffer from war, hunger, and desperate living conditions by buying Columban calendars.

**LOST PROPERTY:** Dear Parishioners, please do not leave personal affects unattended during Mass and ensure that you collect all your items before leaving the church building.





they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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# Breaking Open the Word

## 'LISTEN TO ME'

Returning to the Gospel of Mark this week, we have an edited version of a dispute raised by the Pharisees and some of the scribes from Jerusalem about some of Jesus' disciples eating loaves with unwashed hands. Particularly in light of our recent pandemic experiences, we may have some sympathy with them. Yet as the narrative unfolds, we are given further background, that this is but one of the observations of their tradition. The prescriptions about washing do not stem for the Torah, the Law, but are local interpretations by specific groups.

Importantly we can join the extended crowd to hear Jesus say, 'Listen to me.' The same words are used by the prophets to call the people of Israel to listen to the word of God. Here it is a call to pay attention to Jesus' words that 'nothing that goes into a person from outside can defile.' It is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions can grow.

Today let us pick up on Jesus' call to 'listen to me' as we read and pray with the scriptures. Let us also hear Pope Francis reminding us, 'The believer does not turn to the Holy Scriptures to support his or her own philosophical and moral view, but because he or she hopes for an encounter; the believer knows that those words were written in the Holy Spirit, and that therefore in that same Spirit they must be welcomed and understood, so that the encounter can occur.'

*(Pope Francis audience, 27 Jan. 2021)*

Dr Rosemary Canavan