



# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

8 SEPTEMBER 2024

## FIRST READING

Isa 35:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

*Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened and the tongues of the dumb speak.*

Say to all faint hearts,  
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming,  
vengeance is coming,  
the retribution of God;  
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
the ears of the deaf unsealed,  
then the lame shall leap like a deer  
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;  
for water gushes in the desert,  
streams in the wasteland,  
the scorched earth becomes a lake,  
the parched land springs of water.

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESP PSALM

Ps 145:7-10. R. v. 1

**R.** Praise the Lord, my soul! (or Alleluia!)

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, /  
who is just to those who are oppressed. / It is  
he who gives bread to the hungry, / the Lord,  
who sets prisoners free. **R.**

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, /  
who raises up those who are bowed down, /  
the Lord who loves the just, / the Lord, who  
protects the stranger. **R.**

3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan, /  
but thwarts the path of the wicked. / The Lord  
will reign for ever, / Zion's God, from age  
to age. **R.**



## SECOND READING

James 2:1-5

A reading from the letter of St James.

*Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom?*

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats;' then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

■ The word of the Lord.



## OUR LADY of MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN

### 23rd Sunday Ordinary – 8 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: Christianity.** In the early days there were people who took the whole thing so seriously that they went out into the desert around the Nile and tried to live a life totally devoted to God. Some lived in monasteries, and some lived on their own, they were called the desert Fathers and Mothers. They were a great group and there are still some around today in the various deserts of this world and by that I also mean the great deserts of our cities in our world. There are a number of stories that have come out of their lives and ones that are very applicable to our lives today like this one. Abbe Moses lived on his own but not far from the monastery. One day he got a call from the monastery to come back because one of the brothers had transgressed very seriously and was to be brought before the whole community. Abbe Moses sent back the message he wasn't coming. Well, they sent out another lot to get him. he sent back the same message, "I'm not coming". The third time they sent out he said, "All right, I'll come" And he did. The brothers came out to meet him and what they saw was Abbe Moses carrying a bag of sand on his back. Only that the bag of sand had a hole in it. And the sand wall falling out. They said to him, "Abbe Moses what is this about?" he replied, "Here I am today coming to judge the sins of another and my own are falling behind my back and I don't even see them." The brothers got the message, and they asked for forgiveness and everyone including

the accused went home better for the experience. That is also true of us as well, isn't it? How often have we gone off to judge the transgressions of others no matter how subtly and being in total denial of our own sins and failings? How do we ever get the idea that we are fit and worthy to judge others and yet we do the detriment of the others and ourselves because in judging we are never set free. I've just read recently and you have too about a young adolescent who had been kidnapped and had terrible things done to her in the time of her captivity. After her release she came home to her parents and of course after all the care had been given and she was listened to her mother gave her one piece of advice that actually got her through. She said she knew that she had every reason to hate the man and the woman who abused her but while that is true leave the judgement to God. The young woman had every right to judge and would be blameless in her judging. In not doing so she found healing and peace and is happily married today. Jesus was right when he told us "Judge not and you shall not be judged". Here is the road to peace for you and me today.

**SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2024:** This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and

apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the church be a place that respects the dignity of all children and adults at risk and empowers and listens to all people, especially those who are vulnerable.

**SACRAMENTS OF HEALING: ENTERING INTO COMMUNION WITH GOD AND THE CHURCH: 4 September to 25 September 2024, Wednesdays, 7.30pm to 8.30pm,** Kwinana Parish, 114 Parmelia Avenue, Parmelia. Cost: \$20. Presenter, Dr Carmel Suart and Fr Nino Vinciguerra. For more information or to register, email [cfe@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:cfe@perthcatholic.org.au), or call 08 9278 0261.

**BENEDICTINE - MEN'S RETREAT - THE CHALLENGES OF BEING A CATHOLIC MALE IN THE 21ST CENTURY:** This one-day retreat on **Saturday 21 September 2024** will be an opportunity to explore, share and develop approaches to deal with the many challenges, pressures, trials, and temptations of being a faithful Catholic man in the 21st century. Together, we will discover how our faith offers us a rich font of wisdom, strength and clarity to draw upon. Various Presenters. Please visit New Norcia's webshop to book: <https://shop.newnorcia.com.au>.



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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 7 to Friday 13 September 2024**  
**Saturday 7 September**  
**9am Mass:** Toni Kalat (Intentions)  
**6pm Mass:** Ursa Zuvella (Anniversary)  
**Sunday 8 September**  
**7.30am Mass:** Diane De Olival & Maria Da Silva (RIP)  
**9am Mass:** Angelo Bertone (Anniversary), Nina Bertone (RIP) & Deceased Family  
**Tuesday 10 September**  
**9am Mass:** John Randall (RIP)  
**Wednesday 11 September**  
**NO 9am Mass**  
**10am Funeral Mass:** Giuseppina Cammarano (RIP)  
**Thursday 12 September**  
**9am Mass:** Felix Dias (Anniversary)  
**Friday 13 September**  
**9am Mass:** Mara Ravlich (Intentions)

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** 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.

**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.

**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.

**EVERY THURSDAY - MUSIC AT ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL:** Join us every **Thursday 1.05pm**, St Mary's Cathedral, Perth for a half-hour music recital – a perfect opportunity to escape the busyness of the day for half an hour for some prayerful, reflective music. Admission free, all welcome. For information and further details please contact Jacinta (Director of Music) on [music.cathedral@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:music.cathedral@perthcatholic.org.au) or 08 9223 1377.



**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom

and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**

Mk 7:31-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

*He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.*

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**



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# Breaking Open the Word

## GOD WILL COME AND SAVE YOU

A myriad of images unfold God's restoration in Isaiah: God will come and save you. These images speak of restoration to wholeness both to people with impairments of sight, hearing or speech, and to a natural world ravaged by drought.

This sounds like the Good News of God's salvation in the Gospels. As we hear from Mark, Jesus returns to Galilee, healing a man described as deaf and with an impediment to his speech. It is 'they' who brought the man to Jesus, beseeching him to lay his hand on him. Previously we have seen Jesus reach out his hand to touch and heal a leper and to ask the man with the withered hand to stretch it out to be healed. In this instance, Jesus is reported to take the man aside in private, that is, 'away from the crowd'. We see Jesus touch him, putting his fingers in his ears and on his tongue as well as looking up to heaven in a gesture of prayer to God saying 'Ephphatha' – be opened.

The healing is instantaneous giving an impetus to the whole narrative, moving it forward towards the Passion. The people who witness this are filled with unbounded amazement. Even though urged not to tell anyone, they do so more and more. They acclaim Jesus in words akin to those we heard from Isaiah of the salvation of God. This public acclamation points to recognition of who Jesus is, a question Jesus will pose to the disciples.

**Dr Rosemary Canavan**