

Reflection... by Richard Leonard SJ

In the time of Jesus almost everything they couldn't understand was put down to a demon or an evil spirit. In the Talmud, (a large book dating from around the time of Jesus that contains the collected teachings of the Rabbis), several pages are devoted to the healing of 'fevers'. Even though we have become more advanced in our medical knowledge, it's surprising how this thinking still persists. While most people don't blame evil for their ailments, they can think God has a direct hand in sending an illness or an injury. Such faulty theology cannot be reconciled with the New Testament.

There is not a single instance where Jesus inflicts pain and suffering on others. He regularly tells us we have to carry our cross and bear our burdens, but this is vastly different from personally laying a cross on our shoulders or giving us the burdens in the first place. By contrast, every time that Jesus encounters suffering and pain he works to heal it and restore the person to new life.

The differences between the healing of Peter's mother-in-law and the other healing stories in the first chapter of Mark's Gospel are striking. Rather than in a public space and in front of crowds this personal healing occurs in the privacy of Peter's house. By contrast to the command for the demons to be gone, in his bedside ministry Jesus never mentions a demon and uses no words. Instead he gently takes her by the hand and helps her to her feet. Unlike the others Jesus heals, of whom we never hear about their response, the healing of Peter's mother-inlaw leads her to an act of service. Given all the details Mark give us of this encounter it's a pity he never tells us her name.

Sometimes we can think of Jesus' miracles, then and now, as acts of dazzling power. The problem with this idea is that if we see Jesus as going around 'zapping' people it's hard to figure out why there were times when he could not perform any miracles at all, or that they happened in stages. Whatever else miracles are, they are deeply personal encounters of faith.

As Catholics we believe in the power of miracles and that the source of them is always the grace of God. But we do not have to see them as something done to us from without. Rather, we can see them as unlocking something from within. For some people Jesus' word or touch set free the healing power God had placed in them. For others it came through another person's intercession. The same holds true for us today. *(Cont'd P4)*

- 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year B- February 5, 2012.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! He bore our sickness, And endured our suffering. Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

 1st Reading:
 Lev 13:1-2,44-46

 2nd Reading:
 1Cor 10:31-11:1

 Gospel:
 Mk 1:40-45



PARISH PRAYER:

God our Father, bless this parish so that we may love you more. Help the parents to be a good example to the children and our youth to grow in strength as good Christians.

Encircle our families with your loving care. To the sick grant health, to the aged bring serenity and to those in sorrow, joy. May we grow stronger in faith and may our love for one another become deeper in our daily living. Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:

Heavenly Father, help us to respond to and live out our mission in the Church, and in the world. Help all your people to know their vocation in life and assist them to live it well. For your greater glory and for the service of your people, call many to be priests and religious. Give those whom you call the grace to respond generously and to persevere faithfully. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Pastoral Cluster at Prayer

WEEKEND MASSES:

Holy Family, Bell Park: English... 8am and 9.30am (Sunday)

Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts:

6.00pm Sat 11am - 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

<u>Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:</u> 5.00pm Sat

11am - 2nd and 4th Sundays 9.30am - Italian Mass at St Patrick's 11.30am (2nd Sunday)

Croatian... 11.30am (1,3,4,5th Sunday), 12.30pm (2nd Sunday) - Slovenian...11.30am (2nd Sunday)

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Holy Family:	9.15am Tues, 9.15am Thurs		
Holy Spirit:	9.00am Wed, 11am Fri and 9am Sat. Reconciliation after Satu		aturday Mass
Grace McKellar Centre:	10.15am - 1st, 3rd, 5th Tues;	Maryville Nursing Home:	11am Tues;
Multicultural Centre:	1.30pm - 1st Fri	Vincentian Village:	3.00pm -Mon

COMMUNAL PRAYER:

Mon	Holy Family Women's Prayer Group	
Tues	Meditation Group	
Wed	Prayer of the Church	
Wed	Holy Family Women's Prayer Group	
Thurs	Italian Prayer Group	
Fri	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Fri	Divine Mercy	
Sat	Rosary	

10.00am 5.30pm Before 9am Mass 10.00am 10.00am After 11am Mass 3.00pm After 9am Mass Holy Family Community Centre Holy Family Community Centre Holy Spirit Church Holy Family Community Centre St Patrick's Chapel Holy Spirit Church Holy Spirit Church Holy Spirit Church

OUR LADY'S STATUE:

Feb 6: Hennessy family, 4 Hennessy St;Feb 13: Cawthray family, 66 Drysdale Ave;Feb 20: Sexton family, 31 Hamlyn Ave;Feb 27: Bongiorno family, 49 Calder St;Mar 5: Wilson family, 12 Gladstone Ave.If anyone would like to have our Lady's Statue or if you could spare an hour a month to help Tina Montalto, ph 5278 9314.

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

RECENT DEATHS: Alexsandra Wawrowski, Gavan Coughlan, Mary Smith

- ANNIVERSARIES: Vince Fazio (10th Anniv), Michael Wagy, Maria, Stjepan & Ivan Davutovic, Baden Featherstone, Fred Casey, Angelina DePalma
- BAPTISMS: Sam Faranda, Connor and David Shaw (HS)

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Margaret Dunn, Heidi Maguire, Ljerka Lehpamer, Dympna Murray

Please note: After approx five weeks names will be deleted from the sick list - please phone the office if you wish names reinserted.

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, FEB 12, 2012.

(2nd Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators Lectors Special Ministers Welcomers

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators Lectors Special Ministers Welcomers Projectionist

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators Readers Special Ministers Welcomers Projectionist

8.00AM R Allum F O'Neill I Vanjek, R Allum, J Genova C Marcantonio, P Walsh

<u>6.00PM</u>

M Lacy G Harrison B Murphy, R O'Neill M Brown, P Ryan J Lynch

<u>5.00PM</u>

A Hubbard P Power, P Hubbard P&A Hubbard, P McGlinchy R&K Maddalena

<u>9.30AM</u>

C Simpson D Lunn, A Negro H Verdnik, M Modica, E Glynn, M Baird, J Sheahan V Resciniti, G Cracco

<u>11.00AM</u>

E Strzelecki M Martin L Strzelecki, A&L Fossey, M Sleeman M&H Broekman, D Dougherty, L Fossey T Martin

Recurring Activities in the Cluster:

	Holy Family BBQ -	Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon. BYO meat, salad, drink to share.		
	Holy Family Women's Group -	First Monday evening of each month at the Community Centre 7.00pm		
	St Vincent de Paul -	Holy Family meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at the Community Centre, 7.30pm		
			t 4th Thursday 2pm in the Small Hall	
			nd 3rd Tuesdays 7.00pm in Holy Spirit Hall	
	Baptism Preps -		7.30pm in the Community Centre	
	Children's Liturgy -	Holy Family -	1st and 3rd Sunday at 9.30am Mass (during school term)	
		Holy Spirit -	1st and 3rd Sundays at 11am Mass (during school term)	
		Ss Peter & Paul's-	2nd and 4th Sunday at 11.00am Mass (during school term)	
	Playgroup -	Holy Spirit School -	Monday 9.30am-11.30am. 0-3 years Indoor/outdoor play. Ph 5229 8298	
	Manifold CWL -	Holy Spirit Hall, First T		
	Italian Mass -	First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel		
	Catholic Deanery Solo Group -	Dinner at Desma's eve	ry 1st Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm. Bookings phone 5278 2712.	
	Ss Peter & Paul's Luncheon -	Second Sunday of each month, 12noon in the small Hall.		
	Catholic Diners' Club -	Second Tuesday of each month, 6pm at Dromoland. Dinner & Guest speaker. Ph Terry on 5221 7339		
	If you wish to know more shout these groups, so well as shout our Secremental Program for shidren in non Catholic schools, ou			

If you wish to know more about these groups, as well as about our Sacramental Program for children in non-Catholic schools, our Baptism and Wedding procedures, our Partnership with the Columbans in the Philippines and so on, please visit our webpage:

LITURGY IN THE PASTORAL CLUSTER IN FEBRUARY:

Feb 10 (Fri)	Beginning of Year Mass - Holy Spirit School 11am at Holy Spirit Church
Feb 12 (Sun)	Presentation of Primary School Aged Children for Baptism - 9.30am at Holy Family Church
Feb 12 (Sun)	Children's Liturgy - 11am at Ss Peter & Paul's
Feb 16 (Thurs)	Beginning of Year Mass - Holy Family School 9.15am at Holy Family Church
Feb 18 (Sat)	Welcome to Preps and Teachers of Holy Spirit School - 6pm at Holy Spirit Church
Feb 19 (Sun)	Children's Liturgy - 9.30am at Holy Family, 11am at Holy Spirit

Feb 22 (Wed)...



ASH WEDNESDAY - 9.15am at Holy Spirit Church - school community in attendance 9.15am at Holy Family Church - school community in attendance 12noon at St Patrick's School Chapel - school community in attendance 1.30pm at St Mary's for Clonard College 7.30pm at Ss Peter & Paul's

Welcome to Preps and Teachers - of St Patrick's School 5pm at Holy Family Church (Please Note: NOT at Ss Feb 25 (Sat)... Peter & Paul's Church)

Feb 26 (Sun)... Welcome to Preps and Teachers - of Holy Family School 9.30am at Holy Family Church

Feb 25/26... **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

At the beginning of Lent there will be the distribution of Project Compassion Boxes and also the Lenten Calendar.

LENTEN CALENDAR 2012:

Returned to Ourselves -

In Lent, in Autumn, we have another opportunity to be "Returned to Ourselves". It is a beautiful way of saying what we are about in Lent. The 43 Daily Reflections in the Calendar aim to assist us in this. Each of the Reflections consist of an image, a brief paragraph that concludes with a quote from the Scripture of the Day.

TOWARDS THE LIGHT - Lenten Reflections for Individuals and Groups:

This is a resource for Lent 2012 to enable parishioners to deepen their relationship with Jesus on their Journey to Easter. The book includes prayers, the Sunday Gospels and Gospel reflections. The 'Living Lent' section provides excellent information and background of Lenten practices and rituals such as Ash Wednesday, fasting, almsgiving and prayer. Towards the Light can be read for personal reflection, or used for parish faith education groups. A CD will be available to help those who wish to form groups. In order to have the books available for the first week of Lent, we need to know how many to order by Feb 14. Therefore, please sign the clipboards available in each Church by Sunday Feb 13 if you are interested.

Holy Family:

- ♦ HOLY FAMILY WOMEN'S GROUP will meet this coming Monday, Feb 6, 7pm in the Pastoral Cluster Centre. All welcome!
- FUNERAL NOTICE: Alexsandra Wawrowski who was an active parishioner at Holy Family since 1955 and who in recent times moved to Sydney to be cared for by her daughter, died this week. Her funeral and Rosary will be at St Mary's Basilica Thursday Feb 9, 2pm.

Cluster News:

BAPTISM PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN:

The Pastoral Cluster will offer a Baptism Program for children attending school whose parent(s) are Catholic. The three week program will begin on Feb 12 next year and will finish on Feb 28. It is a mix of evening meetings for children and parents once a week, and a lesson for the children during the first part of the 9.30am Mass at Holy Family on the Sundays of Feb 12, 19 and 26. Enrolments close on Wed Feb 8 2012. Contact Frank Kearney at the Pastoral Cluster on 5278 1343 or email: <u>frank.kearney@cam.org.au</u>

PARISH FIRST RECONCILIATION PROGRAM:

This program is for children Gr 3 or above who attend non-Catholic primary schools but are Catholic. The course will run over four weeks with a mixture of Tuesday evenings for parents and children (7.30-8.30pm) and Sunday mornings (9.30-10.30am) at Holy Family. Enrolments for this course close on WED 22ND FEB 2012. Enrolment on any Monday or Tuesday 9am-5pm at the Cluster Office or on Wednesday 22nd Feb from 7-8pm. Call Frank Kearney on 5278 1343.

RELAY FOR LIFE:

- Fr Mick's Mates Committee Meeting Wednesday 1st February 7.00pm
- Final function before the Relay for Life Event on March 17/18 will be the **Boat Trip on the Bay on Friday Feb 24th.** Contact D Lunn 0408 378 982 60 tickets only available! (Most tickets have been sold).

MEDITATION GROUP: Our Cluster Meditation Group starts up again this **Tues Feb 6** at 5.30pm in the Cluster Office at 147 Separation St Bell Park. We have a core group of 7-10 each week. Any new people are very welcome to come and try. Each session has about 10-15 mins of input followed by a period of 25-30min meditation. For more details contact Fr Gerard or Frank at the Cluster Office on 5278 1343.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS: The Summer edition 2012 is available for free. This edition focuses on the Importance of Being Good. The interesting and readable articles include How to be Good; Living a Better Life; One Decision at a Time; Facing Moral Dilemmas; Harry Potter and the Seven Heavenly Virtues; Learning from St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, etc.

Community News:

- Feb 7... RETIRED OFFICERS KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS: Next meeting at White Eagle 12noon.
- Feb 8... KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS: Monthly meeting 7.30pm at Clairvaux Meeting Rooms Belmont. Members please attend and bring a plate.
- Feb 11... LOURDES DAY MASS at St Mary's Basilica, 10am The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be available and there will be a blessing with Lourdes water at the conclusion of the Mass.
- Feb 18... FESTIVAL OF THE OUTBACK: A fun and friend-raiser for Anam Cara from 11am 8.30pm in the grounds of Anam Cara House in St Mary's Basilica. Stalls, food, amusements and light entertainment throughout the day. If you can assist please phone Anam Cara House on 5222 5831.
 - " **MUSIC UNDER THE STARS:** An outdoor concert version of the Merry Widow 7pm at the Members Lawn, 13th Beach Golf Club, Barwon Heads. (Gates open 6pm) Bookings essential through GPAC ph 5225 1200.
- Feb 21... IF YOU WANT PEACE, WORK FOR JUSTICE: Launch of Project Compassion 12noon in the Cathedral Room, Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert St East Melbourne by Archbishop Denis Hart. Pancake lunch provided. RSVP to <u>Margaret@caritas.org.au</u>

MARYVILLE NURSING HOME: Vacancies are available at Maryville Nursing Home on the Esplanade. For information please contact Cheryl on 5221 5299.

(/Cont'd from P1)

Furthermore, being anointed, celebrating Reconciliation or Eucharist, going to a place of pilgrimage, fasting, being prayed over or meditating can have a similar effect. Looked at in this way we can see why some people are healed and others are not. If a personal encounter with Jesus did not always lead to healing, then why should it surprise us that some other encounters these days do not always unlock God's healing within us.

Small and large-scale miracles are happening everyday. Today's Gospel reminds us that they do not happen for show or for the sake of the crowd. They are realisations of faith. Taking Peter's mother-in-law as our model we are healed and strengthened so that we can witness to God's saving power, serve the Kingdom of God in any way we can, and continue to wait on the Lord.