If we are honest, many of us are not very good at either listening or speaking, where God is concerned. Some have even stopped hearing. In catechism class they heard all about the 7 sacraments, the 10 commandments of God, the 6 commandments of the Church, the 7 deadly sins and they now feel there is nothing more to learn.

They may not realise it but they have become deaf! And, being deaf, they cannot speak either. They have nothing to say, nothing to share. Alas, it is not infrequent to meet Catholics who are highly qualified in their secular profession but are basically illiterate in their faith. What really is distressing is that, in their ignorance, they are often not slow to pontificate and tell others what Christianity is about.

Others, though, are good at listening. They want to know more about the meaning of Jesus and his Gospel in the changing circumstances of their lives. But they, too, though good at hearing may do very little speaking, very little sharing. Yet, to hear the Word of God and not to proclaim it is, in the mind of the Gospel, a contradiction. As Jesus said once, there is not much point in lighting a lamp and then hiding it away. A light is supposed to share its light.

In the Gospel, really to hear the Word of God is to carry it out. "Hearing" implies: listening, understanding, making the message one's own and living it out in word and action.

Although Jesus tried to restrain the man in today's Gospel, the cured man and all those around proclaimed what had happened everywhere they went. Really the man just had to do it. After all, he was now hearing and he was now able to share with others what he had heard and experienced. If we were really excited about the Good News of Jesus Christ, if we were really excited about the experience of having the Christian vision of life, we would have to do exactly the same.

If we were like the disciples after Pentecost, if our being Christian was truly a deep and liberating experience and not just a set of doctrines to be conformed to, we too could not keep ourselves from letting other people know.

Let us pray today for the gift of hearing, to hear the voice of God calling to us in everything that will happen this day. Let us pray for the gift of speech, that is, to be so filled with the liberating experience of knowing Jesus that we simply cannot refrain from sharing that experience with all those around us.

Sacred Space

OLIVERIAN

ST OLIVER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, PASCOE VALE

PARISH PRIEST Fr James Puppady
Pastoral Associate Marthese Temming
School Principal Delfina Pieri

Presbytery: 1 Landells Road, PO Box 567, Pascoe Vale 3044 Telephone: 7036 9330

email: pascoevale@cam.org.au
website: https://stolivers.org.au/

School: Landells Road, PO Box 667, Pascoe Vale 3044 Telephone: 9354 5130

Parish Office Hours: 9am – 3pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

There are no Weekend or Daily Masses or Parish Activities until COVID19 lockdown restrictions lift.

MASS TIMES

Saturday 5.00 pm (Vigil for Sunday)

Sunday 8.45 am & 10.30 am

Tue, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9.15 am

Confessions Saturday 10 —10.30 am

(In church through both side doors)

Baptisms 2nd Saturday of the month (by appointment)

Marriages By appointment with at least 6 months notice

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Monday Christian Meditation 7 - 8 pm Parish Centre

(contact Chris Rowland 0411 440 746)

Tuesday Italian Ladies Prayer Group 10.00 am Meeting Room
Charismatic Prayer Group 7.30 pm Church

Wednesday Drop-In Centre 1 - 3 pm Church/Parish Centre

Thursday St Vincent de Paul 5.30 pm Meeting Room (last Thursday of the month)

FROM ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

SUNDAY 11AM: Live Streamed and C31 Televised (Channel 44 on Digital TV)

6AM: Channel 10 - "Mass for You at Home"

MONDAY - FRIDAY 1PM : Live Streamed. (*Link below*)

SATURDAY 8.00AM: Live Streamed. (Link below)

http://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass and https://www.youtube.com/user/archmelb

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 4/5 SEPTEMBER 2021

Entrance Antiphon: You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;

treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

Response to the Psalm: Praise the Lord, my soul!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom

and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

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 remember in your prayers the following:

Those who have died: Palma Gandolfo

Anniversaries: Benilde Graser, Sestilio Briganti, Carmen Zammit,

Frank Vescio

Those who are ill: Frances Tamayo, Ocean Goldsmith, Dalmiro Bellio,

Kath Layden, Lamberto Cruz, Monica Wickerson, Pasquale Buonomo, Sofia Ruggiero, Karen Hardy

Father's Day Appeal

Due to the continuing COVID-19 restrictions and Masses not being able to be said at Parishes, donations to **the Father's Day appeal** can be made through the Priests Retirement Foundation website via debit, credit card or Paypal where thedonor's details are loaded and receipts can be issued.

The site is: www.cam.org.au/foundation.

At St Oliver's parish we aim to create a child-safe and child-friendly environment. Privacy: In 2001 the Commonwealth and Victorian governments introduced legislation that deals with the manner in which public and private sector organisations may record, use, store and disclose information, including health information collected from individuals. This Parish is committed to upholding and implementing the Privacy Principles set out in the legislation.

Please continue to support St Oliver's Parish and Fr James. The link:

https://bit.ly/CDFpayPascoeVale

You can also donate directly to the Presbytery Account

BSB: 083-347

ACC: 53102 0158

We are very grateful for your support at this time.



Lockdown Light—week one

A weekly series bringing 'light' to this time of lockdown ...

To help fill the void during lockdown, each week we'll suggest some inspiring content to bring 'light' to this difficult time. Pop on the kettle and check out the recommendations below.

Podcasts for Christian living

Quality podcasts navigating marriage and family life

Parenting as a team

This podcast from the Messy Family Project gives some great practical advice on how couples can be truly in sync with one another and parent together with unity, respect and God's grace. Listen at www.bit.ly/ChristianLiving1

Getting to know your Bible

Resources to help you explore the Bible

How to read the Bible

Getting started: In this short video, Fr Mike Schmitz shares several reasons we should pick up our Bible again, see it with fresh eyes and allow it to transform our lives. Watch at www.bit.ly/BibleGettingStarted1

Going deeper: In this video, Bishop Robert Barron looks at different approaches to understanding Scripture and how we can use them to hear God speaking to us today. View here www.bit.ly/BibleGoingDeeper1