

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Dt 4:1-2. 6-8

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.

A reading from the letter of St James

Jas 1-17-18, 21-22, 27

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.

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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: Jas 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 !**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

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

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

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and 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 worship they offer me is worthless,

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.

Communion Antiphon: Ps. 30:20

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

Next week's readings:

First Reading: Is 35: 4-7

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

Second Reading: Jas 2:1-5

Gospel : Mk 7:31-37



Parish of Belgrave

The Catholic Church

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Email: belgrave@cam.org.au

The Parish of St Thomas More and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. May our message be that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention

Our Parish Vision Statement:

We are called to be a welcoming, compassionate community, empowered for our faith journey for active service.....

CHURCH CENTRES		St. Joseph's Church Emerald Cnr. Emerald-Monbulk & Cornish Roads	Sacred Heart Church Gembrook Main Road	St. Thomas More Church Belgrave Reynolds Lane	St. Paul's Church Monbulk 59 Moores Road
MASS TIMES	WEEKEND	Vigil Mass 6.00pm	9.00am	9.00am	9.00am (on zoom)
	WEEKDAY	(on zoom)	(on zoom)	(on zoom)	

Homily for the Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B (Social Justice Sunday) — 29th August, 2021

This Sunday, our lectionary returns to Mark's Gospel after a number of Sundays in which we heard the Bread of Life discourse from the Gospel of John. Recall that we focus on the Gospel of Mark in Lectionary Cycle B, but substitute John's report of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes for Mark's report of this event.

In today's Gospel, Mark provides a significant amount of information about the Jewish observance of ritual-purity laws. Most scholars believe that Mark includes this information because his audience includes Gentile Christians who have no knowledge or experience of these laws. We can infer, therefore, that many in Mark's community were not Jewish Christians.

In this Gospel, Mark addresses the question of which Jewish practices would also be observed in the newly emerging Christian community. This was a significant question for the early Christian Church, especially in communities that included both Jewish and Gentile converts to Christianity. We also hear this question addressed in the letters of Paul with regard to table fellowship. In Gospel passages such as the one today, we see the Gospel evangelists finding justification for a Christian practice distinct from Judaism in the remembrances of Jesus' teaching and the practice of his first disciples.

Jesus first criticizes the Pharisees for putting human tradition above God's Law. Here, Jesus is referring to the tradition of the elders, the teachings of the Pharisees, which extended the ritual-purity laws of Temple worship to everyday Jewish life. Jesus criticizes the Pharisees for making this tradition equal to and as binding as the Law of Moses.

Next, Jesus comments on the meaning behind the Pharisees' language of holiness—clean and unclean. Jesus teaches that a person is not defiled by the food that enters his or her body, but rather by sin that emerges from his or her words and actions. In this teaching, Jesus unmasks a deeper question behind the one posed to him by the Pharisees. The real issue is holiness, which is not found in external acts alone. Holiness comes from within and is evidenced in the actions and attitudes that emerge from a person's life.

If we read today's Gospel carefully, we will see a pattern in Jesus' teaching method that will be repeated in the weeks ahead. Jesus' first teaching is directed to the Pharisees who questioned him. Jesus' words are then directed to the crowd, teaching that a person is defiled by his or her words and actions, not by the food that he or she eats. In verses omitted in today's reading, we learn that Jesus returned home with his disciples, who in turn questioned him about what he had taught. The words we read at the conclusion of today's Gospel are addressed to Jesus' disciples. Mark's narrative shows several audiences for Jesus' teaching: his antagonists, the crowds, and Jesus' disciples. As we see in this reading, the words to the Pharisees are often words of challenge. The teaching to the crowds is often a general, sometimes cryptic, message. With the disciples, who often misunderstand Jesus' words, further explanation is offered about his message and its meaning.

Jesus' words challenge us as well. In our desire to show that we are holy, we might also give too much credence to externals, following rules without thinking about the intention behind them. Jesus reminds us that we do not make ourselves holy by our actions. Rather, we become holy when we allow God's Spirit to transform us. Our actions should be an expression of the conversion of our heart to God and to God's ways.

Source <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/22nd-sunday-of-ordinary-time-b-sunday-connection/>

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Samantha Willis
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WE ARE A CHILD SAFETY PARISH AND WE BELIEVE IN CHILD SAFTY.

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REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

Recent deaths: Edward Clifford Hodapp, husband of Dorothy, father of Tom, Angela and Irene. Many people across the world who have died due to corona virus and natural calamities.

Anniversaries:

Henri Donker, Irene Bryne, Elizabeth Mullan, Lorraine Furness, Dale Furnace, Michael Mulcahy, Howard Banks, Thomas (Frank) Blunden, Jack Maher, Gerrit Donker, Alan Newman, Bartelo Pepi, Anne Baruday, Maureen Sale, Josephine Miller, Hannah Bedford-Lee.

Prayer for the deceased:

Lord open wide the doors of your Mercy to all those who have passed away in the parish of St. Thomas More, Belgrave. In your compassion grant eternal bliss to all of them.

Prayers for the Sick: We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Ewa Wallis, Jane Schellenbach, Deanne Atkinson, Damien Van der Linden, Fiona, Margaret Gilhooly, Daniel, Mason, Hero, Helen Smith, Irene and Kevin Ryan, Debbie Owens, Don Kempster, Pat McCarrick, Joan Newman, Justin, Joy Goodie, Tom Fergus, Leo and Josie Walsh, Father Noel MacKay, B. O'Connor, Linda Bullivant, Maureen & Peter Lyons, Laurie Fitton, Ingyin Collins, David Bourke, Eileen Banyard, Brendan, Martin Fergus, Margaret & Fiona Gilhooly, Maureen, Patricia Gilchrist, Stephen Mc., Cheryl McInnes, Kate Arnott, Julian Neesham, Robert Drake, Helen Hermann, Lyn Blackman, Joan Munday, Fa Perisipi, John Reid, Dieter Farmer, Margaret Sheanon, Dianne Zidek, Mark Pickthall, Terry Schubert, Neil Weatherill, Margaret Herbert, Rob Zwagerman, Joshua McQuade, Jim & Ed Hodapp, Lanie Brereton, Sandra Dowling, Francesca, Neil Holland, Maureen Hughes, Marilyn Ward, Isabelle Henry, Phillis Willoughby.

As of now all the Liturgical Celebrations stand suspended until we receive further information from Archdiocese of Melbourne. Parish office is closed.

Divine Worship on Zoom

Monday –Saturday: 9am Holy Mass, followed by

Holy Rosary

Saturday : 6pm Holy Mass (Vigil Mass)

Sunday : 9am Holy Mass: 5.30 pm Holy Rosary

Join the parish community on zoom in praying together as one family of God for the end the pandemic Covid-19. Zoom Link below

Topic: Father Cruz' Holy Mass and Holy Rosary on Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?](https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?pwd=S0YwS3FiQndpMlZ0STY0TFRRYXJGOT09)

[pwd=S0YwS3FiQndpMlZ0STY0TFRRYXJGOT09](https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?pwd=S0YwS3FiQndpMlZ0STY0TFRRYXJGOT09)

Meeting ID: 750 464 5976..

Passcode: 7mJTww

#45 UPDATE: GENERAL LITURGICAL GUIDELINES

COVID-19 Implications for the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Information Updated:



21 August 2021, 12:00pm

As of 1:00pm Saturday 21 August 2021, the following measures will apply Statewide across Victoria until 11:59pm Thursday 2 September, or otherwise advised.

Face masks must be worn inside and outdoors: everywhere except your own home.

• There will be 5 Reasons to leave home:

- shopping for necessary goods and services (one person per household, once per day, a support person can accompany if required; within 5km);
- caregiving or compassionate reasons;
- authorised work or permitted education, or work interstate (if you can work from home, you must work from home);
- exercise (up to two hour two hours, with one other person or members of your household; within 5km);
- receive a vaccination.

• Private and public gatherings will not be permitted: Single person bubbles will be allowed.

• PRAYER and RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES: No in-person gatherings permitted. Livestreaming and Broadcast is permitted with a total of 5 people present including technicians.

• FUNERALS: (indoor and outdoor): Permitted with no more than 10 people (and those necessary to conduct the funeral). Children under 12 months old are not counted towards this cap.

• WEDDINGS: (indoor and outdoor): Not permitted unless end of life or for deportation reasons. Involves only 5 persons (including the two persons being married, celebrant, two witnesses).

• AGED CARE: No visitors are permitted into aged care or other residential facility settings, except for end-of-life reasons.

• HOSPITALS: No visitors are permitted into health care settings, except for end-of-life reasons, as a support partner for birth, or a parent to accompany a child.

INFORMATION SESSION FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE—CANCELLED



INFORMATION SESSION CANCELLED

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions and the uncertainty when restrictions will be eased, it is impossible to proceed with the planned 4th September Information session. It is regrettably cancelled. The possibility of holding an information session will be considered after any easing of restriction.

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The preferred age limit is being able to be ordained by the 60th year.

For more information:

Watch: Melbourne's Deacons <https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbtTSO>

Watch: Pope Francis' 2020 Prayer Intention for Deacons <https://youtu.be/NuG99HD1LaY>

Read More: [Brochure] <https://www.cam1.org.au/permanent-diaconate>

Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate (Phone) 03 9412 335 (Email) diaconate@cam.org.au

Social Justice Sunday, 29/08/2021

Prayers of the Faithful

(The following intercessions are offered for incorporation in your Prayers of the Faithful.)

Priest Let us bring our prayers to the God of all creation and accompany in prayer all those who most need God's mercy and healing.

Reader: For the church:

That the Body of Christ listens attentively and responds with transformative practical action to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

Let us pray to the Lord:

R. Lord hear our prayer

Reader: For our church and civic leaders:

That all leaders respect, and partner with, the wisdom of First Nations people in actively caring for country and nurturing healthy, integrated communities.

Let us pray to the Lord:

R. Lord hear our prayer

Reader: For environmentally degraded parts of the earth, and for those living in poverty: That government, business, and community policies and practices at the local, national, and international level honour, reflect and protect the sacredness of all places, creatures, and people.

Let us pray to the Lord:

R. Lord hear our prayer

Reader: For all of us here:

That we be trustworthy stewards, active protectors, and reverent carers of our earth and her people through conscious and just living.

Let us pray to the Lord:

R. Lord hear our prayer

Priest:

God of the universe, you are the living Word, planted deep in our hearts. Grant us the wisdom, courage, and commitment, to love and care for your magnificent world of never-ending wonders. Direct our ideas, discernment, and action so that all can fulfil their sacred promise and purpose, according to your law. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen

Humanitarian crises unfolding in Afghanistan and Lebanon

As the situations in **Afghanistan** and **Lebanon** deteriorate, you can help to support families caught up in the crises.



In **Afghanistan**, people have been forced from their homes, with half of the population in urgent need of food, water, shelter and protection.

In **Lebanon**, the country is running out of power, water, fuel, medicine and food. Even hospitals are facing massive fuel shortages and will soon have to turn off the lights.

Please donate to Caritas Australia so that we are able to respond to crises like these and others across the world.

Visit caritas.org.au/lebanon or www.caritas.org.au/afghanistan or call 1800 024 413 toll free to provide much needed support.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

Let us today acknowledge, the many actions taken by our parishioners, to share what we have with others. For the works of our St Vincent de Paul Group; our Social Justice Group; those who support and advocate for Refugees and Seekers of Asylum; the countless individual efforts made regularly by parishioners in support of local and overseas causes, let us give thanks. Let us pray for ongoing grace to "live justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with our God."

