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| Collection amounts for January 2016 ~PARISH NEWS~  ~ PARISH NEWS ~  **~ GOSPEL REFLECTION ~** |

We all seek to be part of family and community because we are social beings who need to engage with others and with our environment. Some are deprived of choice in this respect, in our times as in ancient times. Repeated name-calling and labelling is an age-old strategy of exclusion. “Illegals” is a label that excludes some of the most vulnerable people in today’s world. “Leper” is a label that is used metaphorically of those who are not welcome, of those deemed to be “infectious”. Today’s gospel about a man with leprosy invites us to reflect on the pain of exclusion.

To be a leper in the world of early Judaism was to have some sort of skin disease that excluded a person from community and in particular from public worship. There were very strict regulations regarding such lepers (see the first reading from Leviticus, dating from several centuries before the time of Jesus). Their condition required ritual cleansing by a priest and an offering that cost money.

In the Markan story, the man with leprosy approaches Jesus who is not one of the priests. This afflicted person thus cuts across the established procedures. Jesus is “moved with compassion”, literally “moved in his gut, or in the depths of his being”. In other words, Jesus empathises deeply with the suffering person. He has a physical reaction in the face of suffering. Some manuscripts have “moved with anger”. A later scribe probably considered that expression too harsh as an emotion for Jesus and softened the text.

Jesus speaks and acts. He declares that he wills the cure of the man. He actually reaches out and touches him, and then sends him back to tell the priests “as a proof to them”. The verb used for “send back” spresupposes that the priests had already been approached without success. Jesus, the Galilean healer, succeeds in mediating the power of the God of Israel and so restores this outcast to life in the community. The widespread report of Jesus’ healing activity incurs the anger of some of the authorities, as we shall see in the readings over the next two weeks.

For our part, as followers of Jesus, we might reflect on the fact that sickness and disability are not only physical phenomena. They also affect people emotionally and socially. Healing enables people to live again, to be with others, to do the things they want to do. Jesus demonstrates that the combination of a compassionate word and a healing touch can work wonders. That was true in the ancient world. It is equally true for us today ***An excerpt by Sr. Veronica Lawson***



***Immaculate Conception Parish***

P O BOX 600 Tumut

Catholic Community

**‘CLERGY’**

* **Fr. Sijo Jose (Parish Priest)**
* **Fr. George Ogah (Assistant Priest)**

**‘PARISH SECRETARY’**

**Anna Quinn**

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-------------------------------------------------------- **‘WEEKEND MASS TIMES’**

**Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm**

**Sunday: 10am (children’s liturgy)**

**Talbingo Sunday: 8.00am**

**‘THIS WEEKS MASS TIMES’**

**Tuesday: 6pm in Chapel**

**Wednesday: 10am**

**Thursday & Friday: 8am in Chapel**

**Saturday: 9am (every fortnight - Thursday: 11am BUPA Liturgy**

**Saturday: 9.40am BLAKENEY LODGE Liturgy)**

**‘ROSARY’ Saturday at 8.45am**

**Exposition at 8.30am (1st Sat of month)**

**‘RECONCILIATION’**

**Saturday at 5.15pm**

**‘LITURGY MEETING’**

**Tuesday: 2.00pm in Chapel**

**‘PRAYER GROUP’**

**(Rosary & Divine Mercy)**

**Wednesday: 2.00pm in Chapel**

**‘CONTACTS’**

**Care Group: Anne Huebner 69473406**

**6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**

**February 11th 2018**

***Gospel Acclamation***

**Alleluia, alleluia! A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. Alleluia!**

***Responsorial Psalm***

**I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.**

***Entrance Antiphon***

**Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.**

***Gospel Acclamation***

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Alleluia, alleluia! Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed; the Saviour of the world will be our king. Alleluia!

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| T THIS WEEK Saturday & Sunday 10th & 11th February | | | |
| Ministry | Saturday Vigil 6pm | Sunday 10am | |
| Acolyte | Tony Butler | Anita Mason | |
| Reader | Cath Purcell | Mary Kelly | |
| Commentator | Claire Cole | John Power | |
| Children’s Liturgy | ---------- | Pat Spannagle | |
| Musicians | Maureen Norman | Patricia & Monica | |
| Altar Servers | To be advised | To be advised | |
| Church Care  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  LINEN Bev Piper | ------------------------------------ | | |
| NEXT WEEK Saturday & Sunday 17th & 18th February | | | |
| Ministry | Vigil 6pm | | 10am |
| Acolyte | Barry Madigan | | Anne Huebner |
| Reader | Patricia Wilks | | Sue Bulger |
| Commentator | Maureen Cook | | Liz Boxall |
| Children’s Liturgy | ---------- | | Kerrin Henderson |
| Musicians | Maureen Norman | | Anna Quinn |
| Altar Servers | To be advised | | To be advised |
| Church Care | Group 2: Anna, Pat & Sophie | | |

Feast Day**Wishing all our wonderful dads a Happy**

R O S T E R S

**FEAST DAY 14TH February: Ash Wednesday**

**The experience of love in families is a perennial source of strength for the life of the Church.**

**(Pope Francis – Amoris Laeitia 88)**

**~PARISH NEWS~**

**ASH WEDNESDAY Time to reflect and share our thanks for this is the time that we remember the greatest sacrifice.** Mass will be celebrated on the 14th February at 10am in the church. **LENTEN MESSAGE** Bishops of Australia request that the first four days of Lent (Ash Wednesday – 14th to 17th February) be offfered as Days of Fasting and Reparation for the healing of child abuse victims and those affected.  **ARCHDIOCESAN LENTEN RESOURCE Good News in Tough times DVD** is availabe to order from the bookshop on 0262399888 or online: www.faithresources.org.au **CHILDREN’S LITURGY** has resumed during the 10am Mass, could the volunteer rostered please be present and let Fr. Sijo or Fr. George know they are available. **CATHOLIC VOICE** please collect your February issue.

**SPECIAL THANKS** this weekend to our faithful volunteer **claire Cole**

**We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith:**

**MASS HAS BEEN REQUESTED FOR:**

Hickson & O’Sullivan families, Colleen Anderson, Reg & Mary Madigan, Matt Downing, Wilkinson & Downing families, Frank Stanfield, Peter Heffernan, Tim & Amy Twomey, Barbara Fuller, Tom & Merle Arentz, Harriet & Ruben Arentz, Kevin & Nola Arentz, Dulcie & Arthur Piper, Marie & Ray Cowan, Kevin Cowan, Kevin Hawthorne, Marie Quinn, Brian Muir, Jack Sunners, Joseph & Maureen Hetherington, Natalie Baker, Ian Barbour, Yvonne Harrison, Fr. Peter Quirk, Con & Ennis Twomey, Mons. John Twomey, Sr. M. Brenda Twomey, Sr. M. Canice O’Sullivan, Sr. M. Celine McCormack, Bert & Teresa Butler, Anne Lawrance, Joan & Bob Liddell, Mary & William Claffey, Margaret Peel, Ruby Harmer,Alan & Angela Guthrie, Hassel & Joy McGrath, Noel Cook, Hargreaves family, Family members & relatives of Tran family, Frederick & Mabel McInerney, Ken Elliott, Jock Roberts, Ralph Klaus, James Kelly, Harry & Muriel Nancarrow, Harry & Pat Nancarrow, Christine Welsh, Allison Brady, Scott Payne, Ben Roddy, Paul & Nick Young, Robert Longford, Julie, Jack & Thelma Cobden, Jamie Nixon, Stan Kenny, Marzol family members, members of Young, Egan, Breward & Van de Brug families, Russell & Peter Ritchie, Hector, Annie & Kevin Turner, Jean Kelly, Margaret McMahon, Veronica Tiernan, Mollie Fuller, Joan Malone, Ken & Brian Gee & family members, Rudi & Filomena Comai, Marallo & Comai families, Celia Mullaly, Jim McInerney, Kath Stuckey, Gus & Kath Clout, Ab & Mildred Shanahan, Ina Clout, Timothy Blakeney, Madelin Fenn, Chris Ballard, Maude Kelly, Lois Shallow, Frank, Eileen & Marie Malone, John Callister, Joan Stockwell, Pauline Shedden, John Hourigan, Tom & Dorothy French.

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