



PARISH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION, NORTH WODEN

Monsignor John Woods PP Phone (02) 6281 3999 Email: wodennorth@cg.org.au
Holy Trinity Church, Parish Office and Presbytery, 3 Strangways Street, Curtin
Ss Peter and Paul Church, Boake Place, Garran. <http://cg.org.au/wodennorth>

3-4 February 2024, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH WEEKDAY AND WEEKEND MASSES, LITURGY and RECONCILIATION TIMES:

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Monday | 9.30am Curtin |
| Tuesday | 9.30am Curtin |
| Wednesday | 9.30am Curtin (Lit of Word and H Comm) |
| Thursday | 5.30pm Curtin |
| Friday | 9.30am Curtin (including Anointing on First Friday) |
| Saturday | Reconciliation 5.00-5.30pm; Mass 6.00pm Curtin |
| Sunday | 9.30am and 5.30pm Curtin |

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!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

MAY THE DECEASED REST IN PEACE AND RISE IN EASTER GLORY

Recently Deceased: Ian 'Scotty' Andrea, Alec Cooley, Joan Percy, Paola Barbatano, Angela Lama Marca, Peter Pateman, Gayna Edwards, Rowan Andrews, Marilyn Bennett, Angela Fraser, PNG victims of civil unrest, Matt Hellier, Rathesh Fernando, Denise Gregory, Iranian bomb victims, Japanese earthquake victims, Paul Hickey, Robert De Groot, Rev Rex Davis, Lyn Granlund, victims of war in Ukraine and Gaza, and victims of COVID.

Anniversaries of Death: Laurence Raymond Spargo, Mary Tuxworth, Domingo Espayos, George Pugh, Kevin Wilson, Brian Brown, Frank Williams, Jim Molan, Desmond Lilley, Joanne Binutti, Dave Powers, Christopher Perkins, John Holtzapffel, Sharon Woods, Peter Majer, Peter Marlow, Mary Huang, Adam Ryan, Oreste Trinca, Gaetano & Diomina De Simone, Frank Smith, Josh McKinnon, and victims of COVID.

MAY THE SICK BE COMFORTED BY OUR PRAYERS

Barbara Clacherty, Jeannette Clarke, Elizabeth Pukl, Anthony Watt, Lorraine Davis, Greg Nash, John Warren, Lily Lim, Donald Stott, Genoveffa Ceccarelli, Bruno Sinuelli, John Woodward, Maria Gallo, Maureen Adam, Bill Grant, George Toth, Kathleen Belfanti, Jack Kennelly, Susie Menadue, Ljubica Gotovac, Jose Arquero, Olga Johnson, Patricia Zorzi, Wendy Altimore, Iole Cicolini, Carolyn Wightman, Greg Geering and those afflicted with COVID.

ALL ARE TO BE CHERISHED

I met Gary on Wednesday. Gary is a resident at Dorothy Sales Cottages, Hughes. He is wheelchair-bound and communicates with his mischievous eyes, engaging smile and a few words. Gary was very grateful to receive Holy Communion. I visited Gary with Sr Noelene Quinnane RSJ who works with Marymead-CatholicCare, the service providers at DSC's. In today's Gospel Jesus continues his healing ministry for Peter's mother-in-law and then many others, before taking his healing ministry elsewhere next day. In the Gospels we find "the attribution to demonic possession of many conditions that modern medicine would prefer to ascribe to various kind of psycho-physical pathologies" (Brendan Byrne). Nonetheless, the ministry of Jesus was (and is) "a life-and-death struggle with the powers opposed to God for the freedom and enhancement of human life" (ibid). His ministry restored life. "I have come so that they might have life and have it to the full (Jn 10:10). John J Pilch claims that contemporary medical anthropologists "distinguish between disease as a biomedical malfunction that afflicts an organism, and illness as disvalued human condition in which social networks are ruptured and life's meaning is lost." A cure is not always possible but healing – a new meaning in life no matter the predicament – can be found with communal support. Sadly, most Canberrans, possibly out of fear of the unknown, are said to support VAD (Voluntary Assisted Dying) or poisoning to bring on death in the face of a terminal illness, or even a perceived lack of meaning to life. This is to

be distinguished from palliative care which affords pain relief and meaningful support in the terminal phase of living. A helpful insight from today's Gospel is that because Peter's mother-in-law is living in Peter's house the implication is that *"she may have no living family members [husband or sons] to take care of her. In the Middle Eastern world, this is a fate worse than any sickness, indeed, worse than death. As often happens in Jesus' ministry, the challenge is more than the woman's fever"* (Pilch). **Our needs are more than our affliction. We are not our disease. We are to care for one another in an integral manner.** To reduce our worth to our functionality, and possibly at law in the end to the provision of poison is an affront to our dignity. **Some argue it should be a matter of choice. The naivete of this claim is that the limits of law are always tested, as overseas experience shows. Perhaps there are some things which we should not try to legislate? Gary cannot be cured but he is supported and that affirms his worth and the awareness of those privileged to encounter him. Gary is a gift, not a problem. So too each one of us, whatever our circumstance.**

Fr John

END OF 2023 PARISH FINANCE REPORT is available at the exits.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION: Parents and Carers of baptised children in Year 3 (and above) are invited to enrol them for First Reconciliation by accessing or downloading the QKR! app., tapping on 'North Woden Transfiguration' then 'Parish Payments and Sacraments' and 'Sacraments', fill in the form and make your online payment by Friday 2 February 2024.

BISHOP EUGENE HURLEY: Webinar **"Lay People: Mission and Vocation"**, Wed. 7.30pm, 7 Feb. Presented by Australasian Catholic Coalition for Church Reform (ACCCR). Further information: aci@australiancardijnstitute.org

THE ETHICS OF MODERN WARFARE – SOME OF THE CHALLENGES FOR AUSTRALIA AND ITS ALLIES. Under the auspices of 'Christians for an Ethical Society', Dr Ross Babbage AM will address this topic drawing on four decades of work in defence and security issues with government, at the ANU and in the corporate sector, 7:00pm, Wednesday, 21 February, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Blackall St, Barton.

AN EVENING WITH TIMOTHY RADCLIFFE, OP, former Master of the Dominicans (1992-2001), author and internationally reputed speaker and retreat director, 5.30-7.00pm, Thursday, 14 March, Merici College, Wise Braddon. **Free tickets available at <https://bit.ly/4bISurY>**

SPECIAL MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST TO HOMES AND NURSING HOMES: We have a pressing need for assistance in these most valued and rewarding ministries. Some folk are tentative about a ministry that they do not feel worthy of. To be clear: no one is worthy. However, by virtue of our baptism, we are invited to consider whether this might be a way of serving the Body of Christ locally. There is much to gain and much consolation to offer. If interested please contact the Parish Office or Fr John.

IS SEWING YOUR THING? We are in need of small tunic-like garments for presentation during baptism. Material and instructions provided.

VOCATIONS DINNER AT ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE. 6pm, Thursday 8 February for men interested in discerning a call to the priesthood. Discuss issues over a meal and then share a time of prayer. RSVP Vocations Director Fr Emil emil.milat@cg.org.au / 0414 523 036.

MEDITATION GROUP: 6pm, Wednesdays. All welcome. Contact Vikki, 0437 876 487, mulvaney@netspeed.com.au.

PRAYER CIRCLE SUPPORT: Cathy Harris, 6281 2574.

Readings for next Sunday: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B, Lev 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Cor 10:31-11:1; Mk 1:40-45.

| LITURGICAL ROSTERS NEXT WEEK: 10-11 February 2024 | | | |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| <i>2nd Sun. of the month</i> | Curtin Sat. 6 pm | Curtin Sun. 9.30 am | Curtin Sun. 5.30 pm - |
| Acolyte | Melissa Bray | Anthony De Salis | |
| Reader | Mark Bonato | Jane Hunt | Will Unwin |
| Commentator | Rachel Smith | Alan Grinsell-Jones | |
| Welcomer | Gerard Hogan | Ted and Margaret Frawley | |
| Ministers of Comm. | Alex Eyers | Brendan Ryan | John Welsby |
| Communion to Sick | Warr: John Eyers | FWG: Margaret Ryan | Homes: Jenny & Brendan Ryan |
| Counters | 12 Feb. | John Eyers | |
| Wednesday Liturgy | 14 Feb. | Prayer Leader: Alex Eyers | Eucharistic Minister: Marianne Crane & J O'Connor |