

Catholic *of* Parishes

North Mackay & Farleigh

St Joseph's, St Brigid's, St Brendan's, St Helen's, Star of the Sea

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
28th January 2024

Gospel teaching

Jesus is seen as offering something new, something different to the scribes.

Just as the Gospel writers do not tell us what Jesus looked like, neither does Mark actually tell us what Jesus taught at this time. In the opening chapters of Mark's Gospel, the only teaching is: "The time has come and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News." In keeping with the style of these initial chapters, where Mark moves quickly from place to place, it is short and to the point. Jesus is like a commander issuing instructions; the commands must be clear and brief so that they are understood and received — and that is what gives him authority.



Jesus' authority seems therefore to be based on the brevity of what he says — and on the meaning being clear. The people recognise him as a prophet who, as Moses says in the first reading, speaks the words of God.

That we are still listening to Paul's letters today tells us that the people of Corinth also recognised that Paul taught with authority and wished to pass on that teaching. Unlike the succinctness of Jesus in Mark's account, Paul has more to say — developing his argument over longer sections. The danger is that we can miss the essence of what Paul is saying by being caught up in the way he is saying it. To contemporary ears, Paul may be presenting a series of stereotypes of men and women, but this may miss his main point. As it was true in 1st century Corinth so it is today that people lead busy lives and yes, we need to make time to listen to the Lord, but not so that we neglect the needs of others. Be holy but also be real.

Returning to the Gospel, in Mark's account words are not enough. What gives Jesus' teaching true authority is not only what he says but also what he does. When Jesus speaks to the possessed man, he is direct and to the point: "Be quiet! Come out of him!"

The possessed man responds to his command and is healed. This action causes the people to repeat that Jesus' teaching has authority.

(The Living Word)



The worshipping communities of North Mackay and Farleigh acknowledge the Yuwibara people, the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather and pay respect to their elders: past, present, and emerging. For we too are one in land, one in spirit, one in faith, united in God's love.

Parish Team

Parish Priest

Fr Andrew Hogan

Parochial Vicar

Fr Raju Mandothparambil

Parish Manager

Mr Ken Kelly

Parish Secretary

Mrs Chris Haines

Finance Secretary

Mrs Kerry Dempsey

Contact Details

Parish Office

Tuesday - Friday

9am - 12pm

21 Grendon St Nth Mackay

PO Box 3388

North Mackay Qld 4740

Phone

4957 4855

Email

stjomky@rok.catholic.net.au

Emergency Pager

Anointing In Danger of
Death

0400 874 807

Parish Donation Point



1. Scan the QR Code with your phone camera
2. Tap on the link that appears
3. Make your donation

Please Pray For:

The newly baptised:

Adele Rakiwskyj, Layla Hinchey, Harvey Rose McClelland, Grace Johnson, Jasmine Johnson.

The sick:

Jenny Dickson, Joy Gray, Violet Reid, Elizabeth Overden, Sr Lila Galvin.

The recently deceased:

Charley Chook Deguara, Joseph Abela, Margaret Landers, Francis Perez, Barry Rebetzki, Charlie (Chook) Deguara, Michael Doolan,

Anniversaries that occur at this time:

Charlie Del Simone, Tommy Prince, Shaun Kelly, Trevor Lamb, Charlie Caruana, Angie Caruana, John Caruana, Bruce Heath, Christopher Gerard Ryan, Luke Phimister, Arthur Noonan, Frances Grech.

Permission must be sought from the person for their name to be added to the sick list.

Names of recently deceased family members and names for anniversaries will only remain in the bulletin for 30 days.

There is no correlation between offering Mass Stipends and names of the sick or deceased being added to the bulletin.

Forms for adding names to the bulletin are available at the back of the church.

The Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton abides by the principles of the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards and is committed to safeguarding, with a specific focus on protecting Children and **Adults at Risk**.

For further information or support please contact the

Diocesan Professional Standards and Safeguarding Office:

Response Line: 1800 830 113

Email: pssoadmin@rok.catholic.net.au

Diocesan Website www.rok.catholic.net.au/our-diocese/safeguarding/

**Diocesan Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults
commitment statement and Policy:**

www.rok.catholic.net.au/safeguarding-policies.html

Queensland Professional Standards Office: www.psoqld.catholic.net.au/

This Weeks Response & Acclamation

℟ If today, you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Alleluia, alleluia! A people in darkness have seen a great light: a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death. **Alleluia!**



"He gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him." Mark 1:27



**Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.**

**Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil.**

Parish Events & News

Prayer Meeting

The Association of the Stars of the Heart of Jesus, Francis of Assisi Home Chapel Thursday 1st February 2024 at 9:30am. Come and join us for some time of prayer, adoration and reflection.

Farleigh CWL Meeting - 20th February, 2.00pm.

The Catholic Men's Dinner Club

Will meet on Monday 29th January 6 30 pm for a 7 pm start at the Boomerang Hotel, Nebo Rd. The guest Speaker is Vanessa Ramswarup, Diocesan Community Engagement Manager. Ladies are invited. Visitors/New members are always welcome, RSVP to Peter Sheedy, by text or mobile at 0418 186 691.

With praise and thanksgiving to God

Most Reverend Michael McCarthy Bishop of Rockhampton invites the people of the Diocese of Rockhampton to the Presbyteral Ordination of **Rev Peter Duncan Doherty, 10.00am, Thursday 22nd February 2024 St Joseph's Cathedral.** For those unable to join in person, the event can be watched online at; <https://www.youtube.com/user/StJosephsCathRton>

St Joseph's Craft Group

First term for St Joseph's Craft Group will commence on **Thursday 8th February 2024 from 9.00am to 11.15am.** Term is for 7 weeks, so final date for term one (1) is 21st March. Fees are \$15.00 per term of 7 weeks.

Morning Tea provided. All welcome to join this happy group of crafters to either learn a new craft from our talented teachers or finish items already started.

Contacts - Gwen Watt 49422054 or Therese Sturgeon 0499998842

Parish Sacramental Program

Preparation for the Sacraments of Penance, Confirmation and Eucharist will begin with a Parent Information and Registration Evening on Thursday 8th February 5.30pm for 6.00pm start, held at St Joseph's Church 21 - 23 Grendon Street, North Mackay. For further information please phone Chris Haines at St Joseph's Parish Office Tuesday to Friday 9am - 12noon 49574855.

St Joseph's Church Pious Good Store

Check out the Pious Good Store's range of assorted Cards; Candles; Holy Pictures; Bibles; Missals; God's Word 2024; Rosary Beads, come in and browse. The shop is open before and after Saturday 6pm Mass and Sunday 9am Mass.

Date Claimer - Safeguarding Level 1 Training

Will be delivered in our Parish. Below is the date and times available. Please note that all Clergy, Religious, Parish Staff and Church Volunteers are mandated to attend this training every 5year. The Professional Standards and Safeguarding Office team look forward to seeing you at the training.

Parishes of North Mackay and Farleigh

Wednesday 1st May, 10.30am & 5.30pm at St Joseph's Parish Centre. To Register contact Parish Office 49574855 Tuesday to Friday or email stjomky@rok.catholic.net.au.

Liturgies

Monday

Tuesday

6.30am St Joseph's

Wednesday

St John Bosco, priest

9.30am St Joseph's

Thursday

8.00am HSC / Emmanuel Chapel

9.30am Mater Hospital Chapel

Friday

The Presentation of the Lord

6.30am St Joseph's

Saturday

6.00pm St Brigid's

6.00pm St Joseph's

Sunday

7.00am St Brendan's

9.00am St Joseph's

9.00am Star of the Sea

9.00am St Helen's LWC

Brigid, you were a woman of peace. You brought harmony where there was conflict.

You brought light to the darkness. You brought hope to the downcast.

**May the mantle of your peace cover those who are troubled and anxious,
and may peace be firmly rooted in our hearts and in our world.**

Inspire us to act justly and to reverence all God has made.

Brigid you were a voice for the wounded and the weary.

Strengthen what is weak within us. Calm us into a quietness that heals and listens.

May we grow each day into greater wholeness in mind, body and spirit.



Next Week's Scripture

First Reading

Job 7:1-4. 6-7

I am filled with sorrow all day long.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 146:1-6. R. v.3

*Praise the Lord who heals
the broken-hearted.*

Second Reading

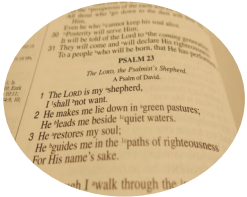
1 Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23

*Punishment will come to me if I do not
preach the Gospel.*

Gospel

Mark 1:29-39

*He cured many who suffered
from diseases of one kind or another.*



Gospel Reflection

Although this week's gospel is a relatively short passage, there's a lot going on within it. Firstly, we are presented with Jesus going to the synagogue in Capernaum and teaching there. This immediately indicates that Jesus must have been quite well educated – he was obviously able to read from the Torah in Hebrew and then teach about it with an impressive level of authority. In fact at the end of the passage, the people seem more impressed with his teaching than with the act of casting out the unclean spirit! Secondly, in the interaction with the unclean spirit, it knows Jesus and identifies him as the 'Holy One of God'. Jesus sharply tells the spirit to 'Be quiet!' Jesus almost appears to want to silence the spirit before it says any more about who he really is. This is a feature of the gospel of Mark in which the identity of Jesus as the Messiah is kept under wraps but breaks out in unlikely places – known as the Messianic secret.

Whenever an exorcism miracle occurs in the gospels the emphasis is on the reaction to the miracle much more than the action itself. Here, the casting out of the unclean spirit appears to confirm for the people the authority that they sensed in the teaching of Jesus. Liberating the possessed man from the unclean spirit is an illustration of the way in which the people themselves were liberated by Jesus' teaching. It is the message, the teaching, of Jesus that frees people. It is in this way that his understanding of Messiah is revealed. Jesus wants people to come to that knowledge through understanding his message, rather than being impressed by miraculous actions.

© Greg Sunter

Greg Sunter has worked in Catholic Education (Brisbane) for many years, most recently as a member of the Religious Education team and Mission and Formation team. He has extensive experience of praying with young people and forming others to lead prayer with young people. He is the author of books on adolescent faith, is a regular speaker at youth and evangelisation conferences, and is a retreat and reflection facilitator and presenter. His areas of interest include religious education, theology, scripture, spirituality, Catholic ethos, prayer, and ministry with young people.

Parish Churches

Called by baptism, strengthened by the sacraments and nourished by the Word of God,
we are committed to witness Christ's mission in the world.

St Joseph's

21 Grendon St
North Mackay

St Brigid's

961 Bruce Hwy Farleigh

St Brendan's

799 Mackay Bucasia Rd
Rural View

Star of the Sea

2241 Yakapari-Seaforth Rd
Seaforth

St Helen's

71 McIntyre St, Calen

Catholic Schools

Holy Spirit College



P 07 4994 8600
E admin@hsc.qld.edu.au
W www.hsc.qld.edu.au

Emmanuel Catholic Primary School



P 07 4994 8255
E enm@rok.catholic.edu.au
W www.ecps.qld.edu.au

Mackillop Catholic Primary School



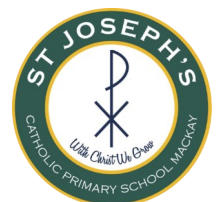
P 07 4994 8260
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St Brendan's Catholic Primary School



P 07 4969 5022
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St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



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