



Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish, Stafford

A Parish of the Brisbane North West Deanery

Vision: "To follow the example of Jesus by serving others."

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B 23rd/24th Jan 2021

Reflection on the readings

Jonah is a delightful novella best read in its entirety. It speaks of God's compassionate response to the penitent, but with sinful foreigners as the role models of repentance the story is also a rebuke against the obstinacy of the people of Jerusalem and Israel who do not listen to the prophets. Due to its length, though not very long, reading the whole needs to be done outside the liturgy, but it is beneficial to encourage people to read and reflect upon it in order to prepare for this Sunday. The excerpts we read today stress the swiftness of the Ninevites' reaction: Jonah does not have good news for them but proclaims simply, in effect, "You will be destroyed"; they believe him, and they repent in fasting and in sackcloth. Then we hear the oft-repeated statement (but more often forgotten by critics of the Old Testament's so-called angry God): God relented and did not do what he had threatened.



In today's gospel (Mark 1:14-20) the public ministry of Jesus begins, but there are significant contrasts with Jonah: Jesus proclaims good news, saying "The kingdom of God has come", inviting the people to repent, to change their minds or ways. But will they? Unlike the Ninevites, and too much like the Jerusalemites whom the book of Jonah was apparently written against, we know that at Jerusalem he will, like prophets of old, be rejected and killed—but of course not by all. Later in the novella Jonah, with a disregard for the lives of the Ninevites and an overinflated regard for his own reputation as a truth-teller, takes umbrage at God's relenting ways; taking himself to the shade of a shrub, he cares more about it than the innocents in the city. Contrariwise, Jesus rejoices in the message he proclaims, that God is near and compassion has arrived; he delights more over repentant sinners than in the righteous who feel no need to repent; he takes no offence when sinners change, but will himself become the protective shade to those who seek shelter in his cross. Jesus, rather than flee his mission as Jonah in his story had attempted to do, embraces his work with vigour, and immediately he begins recruiting others to assist so that even more may be sent to the great work. Thus, rather than following the usual pattern of the first reading directly supporting the day's gospel, Jonah is employed as a contradictory parallel.

The Lectionary's second readings more often than not have little directly in common thematically with either the gospel or first reading. Today, however, there is some convergence as the second reading (1 Cor 7:29-31) opens in effect with the

message, "The end is nigh". But rather than being alarmed, Paul's hearers are to look forward to it. Others fearing the end of the world experience distress, whereas the Christian message means more completion than destruction. There had sometimes been misunderstanding over these ideas, however, and it took some years before they realised that they had perhaps confused the advent of the Kingdom with the end of time. This reading discloses something of an expectation that the world will end soon, especially in the advice to live as if unmarried, in effect to cease propagating the species. The other advice about not being engrossed in or snagged by the ways of the world that will end, by which is meant human rule, is more easily interpreted in the other understanding, that is, that the world of waywardness will end; God's will will rule.

Text: Homily Help - Rev Dr Barry Craig - 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

Image: Unsplash.com Image: Unsplash.com

As this newsletter is published on Thursday, I am hopeful that the restrictions are relaxed and we can put our masks away. Debra



COVID Update for Parishes as at Monday 11th January 2020

The **occupancy of Churches has been reduced** to 1 person per 4 square metres during this time. Churches may open for Masses but **face masks must be worn** by everyone in attendance.

The presider is required to wear a mask upon entering and exiting the Church. You may remove the mask as you begin Mass.

It is recommended that parishes have a supply of masks available for parishioners who may arrive without one. Parishioners who refuse to wear a mask are not allowed to enter unless they are a child under 12 years old or a person affected by a medical condition or disability. **(We will have a supply of masks here for anyone that arrives unprepared for the current restrictions)**

The Body of Christ should continue to be administered only in the hand and the chalice should be received by the celebrant alone. Avoid direct physical contact where possible and limit contact to hands.

Funerals and weddings may have a maximum of 100 attendees.

No visitors are permitted to aged care facilities, disability accommodation services, correctional facilities, or hospitals (with the exception of an end of life visit for a patient) through 22 January.

In the parish office, masks only need to be worn in the office when a distance of 1.5 metres cannot be maintained.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

2nd Reading: Corinthians 7:32-35

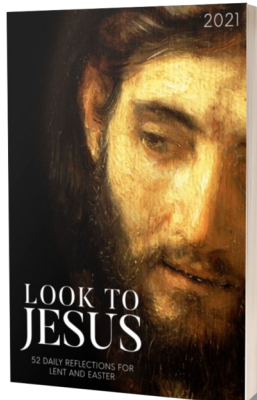
Gospel: Mark 1:121-28



Lenten Program 2021 - 52 Daily Reflections for Lent and Easter. *Lent begins on 17th February, so start thinking about how you will journey through Lent and Easter Season in 2021.*

Look to Jesus will nourish and nurture parishioner's prayer, spirituality and discipleship each day during Lent and into the first week of Easter.

The daily reflections, written by Shane Dwyer, will invite the reader to contemplate a verse from the Scripture reading of the day. This reflection will be followed by a quote from Pope Francis and a simple prayer.

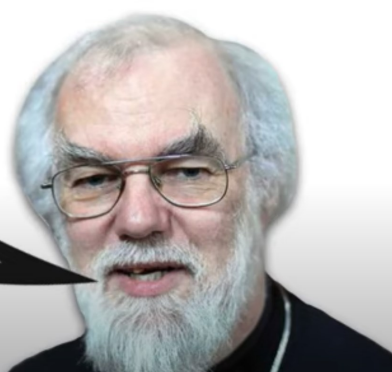


The daily reflections will only require 5-10 minutes for a person to read, reflect and pray. This Lenten practice will lead the reader into a deeper questioning and examination of their daily life. As they 'look to Jesus' – in their families, workplaces and the community – they will walk as 'missionary disciples' on the path to Easter, and beyond.

The resource:

- a small book that is easy to carry, and read, while commuting or sitting at home (Cost is \$4)
- daily reflections for Ash Wednesday to Good Friday, Easter Monday to the Second Sunday of Easter
- for each day there is a double page spread with: the date; the day (eg Thursday of 2nd Week of Lent); a Scripture verse; a short reflection written by Shane Dwyer; a quote from Pope Francis; and a short prayer
- introduction and 'how to use this book'
- at the back of the book there are suggestions for group use and questions for reflection and sharing

**A euangelion,
a 'gospel', a good
message, is a message
about something
that alters the climate
in which people live,
changing the politics
and the possibilities;
it transforms the
landscape of
social life.**



SPEND TIME WITH GOD EVERY MORNING

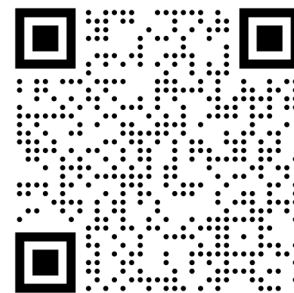
Sign up to receive the Daily Gospel Reflection. These reflections are mailed to your inbox at 6am each day (Monday to Friday) and are just a three minute read that could be done over breakfast, intended to invite you into prayer.

Written by Catholic lay people (men and women from the team at Evangelisation Brisbane), for Catholic lay people about the gospel of the day to help you start your day with God.

Subscribe via the Evangelisation Brisbane website

**[https://
evangelisationbris-
bane.org.au/daily-
reflections/](https://evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/daily-reflections/) or**

simply scan the QR code.



Rowan Williams

Lease Your Legacy. Are you wondering how you can make a lasting gift to Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish? Naming the parish in your Will, after taking care of your loved ones, can make a meaningful and profound gift to our parish. Gifts can be made to the parish or designated to our perpetual endowment fund. By learning more about these and many other giving options, you can create a legacy of giving to your parish community. To learn more please contact the Catholic Foundation at 3324 3200 or call the parish office.



The Australia Day gazetted holiday is Tuesday 26th January, the parish office will be closed.

"Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." - Mark 1:17



Jesus' call to "Follow me" is a call to all Christians! The call is in the here and now, in our present circumstances, not when we think we are "ready" or have everything in order. Good stewardship of our God-given gifts means that things aren't always going to go according to our schedule and that God has a much better plan in store for each of us.

Stewardship
a way of life

Car park update - The car parks have been completed. However the surface is still a bit fresh, so be careful with shoes and tyres please. There is still some line marking to do on the curved driveway. This will be completed when the weather settles again.



**Holy Cross
FUNERALS**

The caring staff at Holy Cross Funerals assist families at the death of their loved ones, to ensure that the Funeral Services are conducted with dignity and compassion.

For however you choose to say goodbye.

*Burials *Cremations *Repatriations

*Pre-Arrangements *Funeral Bonds

Find us on

www.holycrossfunerals.com

Phone: 07 3293 0555

Email: info@holycrossfunerals.com

An Outreach of the Catholic Church

Funerals with Faith

Tennis Courts for Hire
with lights

CHEAP RATES!

Bookings available through the office Monday to Thursday



"The parish is not an outdated institution; precisely because it possesses great flexibility it assumes quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and the community" *Evangelii Gaudium* n. 28

Consider nominating yourself for our Parish Pastoral Council or Finance Council for 2021. It can be a very rewarding experience. I'm speaking from my own time spent on my parish Pastoral council. Debra

A **Pastoral Council** consists of the Pastor together with a group of parishioners chosen by the parish community. The Pastoral Council's role is to promote the Church's mission to live and communicate the love and values of Christ in our world. The Pastoral Council shares in the responsibility for the ongoing life and development of the faith community, working together with parishioners to provide support for their efforts to live as followers of Christ.

A group with a special role to play in Church life is the **Parish Finance Council**. Its purpose is to assist the Pastor in the administration of parish financial resources in order to carry out the mission of the parish. Members of the Parish Finance Council are appointed by the Pastor on the basis of their expertise in finance-related matters. The Parish Finance Council operates according to the guidelines set down by the diocese. It is a separate and distinct body from the Parish Pastoral Council as required by Canon 537.



I'm sure both parents and children will be delighted to have the calendar move to school term time! All the best for the new students and returning students at our parish school this week.

What's on this week at Stafford

Mon 25th	8.30am	Mass
Tues 26th	8.30am	Australia Day
Wed 27th		
Thurs 28th	8.30am	Mass
Fri 29th	9.00am	Mass
Sat 30th	5.00pm	Mass
Sun 31st	9.00am	Mass with Livestream Zoom—see page 4 for details.

Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish Office

Address: 70 Appleby Road, Stafford
Parish email: stafford@bne.catholic.net.au
Parish WEBSITE: www.staffordcatholicparish.org.au
Parish Administrator: Fr Denis Scanlan
Fr Denis' E-mail: pp.stafford@bne.catholic.net.au
Parish Pastoral Council: ppcstafford@gmail.com
Parish Secretary: Debra Visser
Office Hours: Mon/Tues 9 - 3.30pm Thurs 9-1
Office Telephone: 3356 7155

Parish Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Representative:

Cath D'Hage
STOpline Service: 1300 304 550 or
AOB@stopline.com.au or
www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com

Queen of Apostles School Contacts

Address: 10 Thuruna Street, Stafford
School email: pstafford@bne.catholic.edu.au
School Principal: Nigel Bird
APA: Leanne Murray
APRE: Ben Campbell
School Office Hours: 8.00am - 4.00pm (Mon-Fri)
Phone (Thuruna St:) 3352 9200
Phone (Chuter St:) 3326 0400

AN OINTING OF THE SICK

If you are **going to hospital unexpectedly** for an op, let Fr Denis know and we can celebrate this Sacrament beforehand.

You may add a **sick person's name to the list by phoning the Parish Office** (3356 7155). **To keep the list 'fresh'** the last names will be removed. If their illness continues, let us know and we'll add them to the start of the list.



BAPTISMS in this Parish occur at 10.30am on the Third Sunday of each Month (**except** during Lent and OCTOBER).



For BAPTISM BOOKINGS please contact the Parish Office.

We pray for those who are unwell

Chloe dunn, Caitlyn Lengkeek, Rupert Officer Jnr, Brian Officer, Mary Axisa, Beryl Cowie nee Officer, Sonia & Fernando(snr) Palmer, Peter O'Donnell, Paul Glynn, Tom Tartan, Sonia Officer and Pam and Norm Ward

Sick & Shut-in



The Catholic Leader newspaper has been challenged by the pandemic! They rose to the challenge and promoted their online publication which was made available for all to view free of charge! We were very fortunate that they did a print run for Christmas which was also a complimentary copy. As we enter 2021, they are reinventing themselves as a monthly newspaper beginning in February. The weekly newspaper was \$2, the new monthly newspaper will be \$4 per month. They will be offering a subscription for readers -more information will be available about this soon. The subscription will take away the issue of payment for your copy each month. At the moment The Catholic Leader website catholicleader.com.au will continue to publish daily news stories for its readers.

THE CATHOLIC LEADER

This is the link to our mass bookings.



This is the instructions to join us for Live Mass via Zoom

Topic: Live Stream Mass via Zoom

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81808532313>

Meeting ID: 818 0853 2313

Passcode: eucharist

One tap mobile

+61731853730,,81808532313#,,,,*698241838# Australia

+61861193900,,81808532313#,,,,*698241838# Australia

Dial by your location

+61 7 3185 3730 Australia

+61 8 6119 3900 Australia

Meeting ID: 818 0853 2313

Passcode: 698241838



We remember those whose anniversary of death occur about this time including

Aludia Tolentino
and all
deceased
Parishioners, their
families and friends,
and all our brothers
and sisters in Christ
maimed, killed or
dispossessed because
of their faith.



We pray for those recently deceased including:

Maria Vieira
Irene Johnson
Bruce Oxenham,
Jo T'Erheegde
Jose Elmer Torib
Colin Kenny
Mr E Blackman
Maria Nohora Pataquiva
Gemma Debattista
Kerri Lanfranchi
Yvonne Graham

