

OUR *Lady* OF THE *Angels* PARISH

Chermside West Wavell Heights

St Gerard Majella
146 Maundrell Terrace, Chermside West

St Paschal Baylon
30 Warraba Ave, Wavell Heights

SUNDAY 4th February 2024

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

HOMILY by Richard Leonard

In the time of Jesus almost everything they couldn't understand was put down to a demon or an evil spirit. In the Talmud, (a large book dating from around the time of Jesus that contains the collected teachings of the Rabbis), several pages are devoted to the healing of 'fevers'. Even though we have become more advanced in our medical knowledge, it's surprising how this thinking still persists. While most people don't blame evil for their ailments, they can think God has a direct hand in sending an illness or an injury. Such faulty theology cannot be reconciled with the New Testament.

There is not a single instance where Jesus inflicts pain and suffering on others. He regularly tells us we have to carry our cross and bear our burdens, but this is vastly different from personally laying a cross on our shoulders or giving us the burdens in the first place. By contrast, every time that Jesus encounters suffering and pain he works to heal it and restore the person to new life.

The differences between the healing of Peter's mother-in-law and the other healing stories in the first chapter of Mark's Gospel are striking. Rather than in a public space and in front of crowds this personal healing occurs in the privacy of Peter's house. By contrast to the command for the demons to be gone, in his bedside ministry Jesus never mentions a demon and uses no words. Instead he gently takes her by the hand and helps her to her feet. Unlike the others Jesus heals, of whom we never hear about their response, the healing of Peter's mother-in-law leads her to an act of service. Given all the details Mark gives us of this encounter it's a pity he never tells us her name.

Sometimes we can think of Jesus' miracles, then and now, as acts of dazzling power. The problem with this idea is that if we see Jesus as going around 'zapping' people it's hard to figure out why there were times when he could not perform any miracles at all, or that they happened in stages. Whatever else miracles are, they are deeply personal encounters of faith.

As Catholics we believe in the power of miracles and that the source of them is always the grace of God. But we do not have to see them as something done to us from without. Rather, we can see them as unlocking something from within. For some people Jesus' word or touch set free the healing power God had placed in them. For others it came through another person's intercession. The same holds true for us today.

Furthermore, being anointed, celebrating Reconciliation or Eucharist, going



(Contd. P2)

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PARISH SCHOOL

Our Lady of the Angels Primary School

30 Warraba Ave, Wavell Heights Q 4012

Phone: 07 3359 9198

Leadership Team:

Principal: Mr Matthew Beacroft

APA: Mr Paul McGlone

APRE: Mrs Kirsten Karey

PLL: Mrs Liz O'Brien

Email: pwavellheights@bne.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES

St Gerard Majella - 146 Maundrell Tce, Chermside West

Mon: 9.00am FRI: 9.00am

Sat 4:30pm Sun: 8:00am & 5:30pm

St Paschal Baylon - 30 Warraba Ave, Wavell Heights

Wed: 8.45am (During School Term)

Thu: 9.00am Sat: 6:00pm Sun: 9:30am

**RECONCILIATION is available after Parish Mass
Please approach Fr John**

(Contd. from P1.)

to a place of pilgrimage, fasting, being prayed over or meditating can have a similar effect. Looked at in this way we can see why some people are healed and others are not. If a personal encounter with Jesus did not always lead to healing, then why should it surprise us that some other encounters these days do not always unlock God's healing within us.

Small and large-scale miracles are happening every day. Today's Gospel reminds us that they do not happen for show or for the sake of the crowd. They are realisations of faith. Taking Peter's mother-in-law as our model we are healed and strengthened so that we can witness to God's saving power, serve the Kingdom of God in any way we can, and continue to wait on the Lord.

© Richard Leonard SJ

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate The Divine Touch

The mother-in-law of Simon (Peter) was sick in bed with a raging fever. When Jesus learned about her distressed state, he 'took her by the hand and helped her up'. He broke the taboo about physical contact with a woman not his relative because he wanted to holistically heal her dis-ease.

Simon's mother-in-law didn't need an aspirin and a cup of tea. She felt quarantined, isolated, and needed a hand reassuring her of sociable relationships. Jesus overcame her fever and her dis-ease with the world.

At every Mass we exchange a physical gesture at the greeting of Peace. This quite often overcomes being ill-at-ease with a family member or just with the neighbour in the pew. We need to take that symbolic action into the world. For somebody, it may be the most touching thing we ever do.

We could pause for a moment to identify that person who needs us to reach out, to take their hand and help them up.

© Fr Michael Tate

Name Badges

Anyone needing a name badge please place your order at the office. Cost—\$15.00

Weekday Masses

During January and early February 2024, there will only be ONE weekday mass on Fridays at St Gerard's. Normal weekday masses will re-commence on **Monday 12th of February 2024.**

Position Vacant—Administrator

The Holy Spirit Seminary, Banyo is seeking applications for the position of an Administrator. The role of the Administrator is to provide effective and efficient administrative and secretarial support primarily to the Rector and subsequently all others working at the Seminary. This is a permanent—full time position. To apply, please use this link:

<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/careers/?ja-job=832702>

Our Lady of the Angels' Parish

Baptisms are celebrated on Saturday mornings at 10:00am alternately at St Gerards' and St Paschals'.

Bookings to be arranged in person at the Parish Office **Monday - Friday between 9am - 3pm.**

Please check the Parish website for documentation required when making a booking.

Baptism preparation sessions will be held on the 1st Sunday of the month at St Paschal's Church following a Welcome Mass at 9:30 a.m. During mass the family will be presented with their child(ren)'s Baptismal candle to keep for the day of their baptism.



10 FEBRUARY 2024

9:00AM – 3:00PM | MARIAN VALLEY

A VOCATIONAL
DISCERNMENT RETREAT



Discere is a free, one-day retreat for young single Catholic men and women (18–35 years) to intentionally pause and ask the question "where is God calling me?" in a peaceful, supportive and safe environment. Scan the QR code to register for this event!



Christian Meditation Group

There will be NO Meditation Group on Monday 5th February.

Pastoral care to the sick in hospitals (volunteer role).

Centacare, in conjunction with the Institute of Faith Education, will conduct a registered training course in spiritual and pastoral care to the sick in 2024.

Date of the information session:

Wednesday 6 March, 10am – 1pm,

Level 1, Cathedral House 229 Elizabeth St, Bne City.

For further information, or to attend the information morning please email judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au or phone 3324 3193.

Stewardship

"Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed...He told them, 'Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.'"

Mark 1:35, 38

In today's Gospel reading we see a perfect example of stewardship. Jesus gives His time to do all that God wishes - healing the sick and preaching. But before He begins, Jesus takes time to be alone with God in prayer. It is through prayer, spending time with God, that we are given the graces needed to do what He wishes us to do. Praying before acting is a great habit to develop.

(Accessed on January 31, 2024 from www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/bulletin-inserts/weekly-biblereflections)

LENT 2024 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY BRUCE DOWNES

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Easter. Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed!

For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is FREE and you can sign up here:

<https://BruceDownes.org/Lent>

Go to BruceDownes.org for more information.

OLA Youth NEWS

Youth Group resumes

Friday 2nd Feb 6pm-8pm, St Gerard's Church.

Welcoming 12-17yrs to share fun, food, friendship and faith.

Gold coin donation welcome.

Follow us on Instagram & Facebook @OLA Chermside Youth

Youth Mass

Sunday 4th Feb 9:30am, St Paschal's Church.

Youth Volunteers are welcome as Readers, Gift bearers, Altar servers, Musicians...

Please contact Alice and Joe:

yc.chermsidewest@bne.catholic.net.au

CHILDRENS LITURGY Coordinator

The Parish is looking to fill the role of Children's Liturgy Coordinator at St Gerard's. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested in fulfilling this role.

FR RICHARD LEONARD SJ

*Guest Celebrant and Speaker
at Mother of Mercy Parish*

Time: Mass at 5.00pm then 6.00pm talk
(Topic: *Why Bother Praying?*)

Date: Ash Wednesday 14 Feb 2024

Place: OLHC Church, Hendra

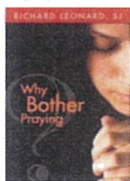


Fr Richard is a wonderful speaker, author and YouTuber and has written many books (eg *Where the Hell is God?*) that are relevant and engaging.

Transport can be provided for those requiring assistance to attend.

Gold Coin Donation.

Open to all, family and friends most welcome!



OLA Altar Servers

For those servers who were unable to attend either Session 1 and/or Session 2 of the training conducted in Nov/Dec 2023 both training sessions will be combined and repeated on **Sunday, 18 February 2024.**

◆ St Paschal's – 10.45am – 12.15pm

◆ St Gerard's – 3.00pm – 4.30pm

All altar servers are welcome to attend if you would like a "refresher" or to go through some of the procedures you may be unsure of.

Julie and Margie

OLA Altar Server Coordinators

LENT 2024

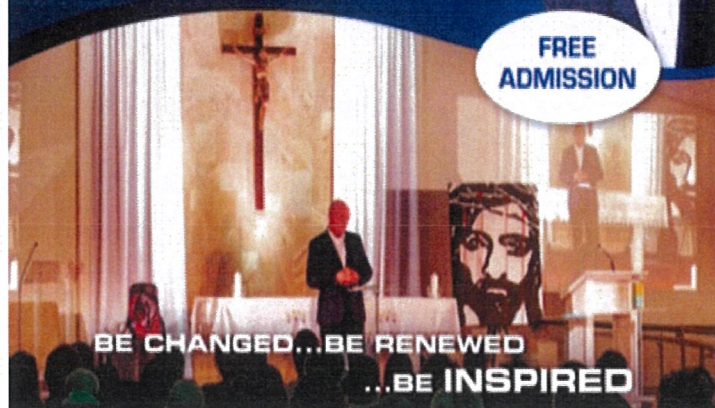
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FRANCE—PARIS AND LOURDES 2024

with Fr Dan Ryan

Would you like to travel to France mid May to mid June with me on a French Saints Pilgrimage, with a possible extension to Rome.

I have organised a pilgrimage with Harvest Journeys to travel through France and visit the Places of Saints.

The trip will include Paris(2nights), Rouen, Liseux(2), Mont-Saint-Michael(2), Chartes, Nevers(1), Taize, Paray le Monial(2), Ars, La Salette(1), Avignon, Lourdes(3), Montserrat(1), and Barcelona (1), Optional Rome Extension(3)

If you would like more information, you can contact Harvest Journeys on 1800 819 156 or harvestjourneys.com/pv2445. If you contact Harvest Journeys mention my name and the pilgrimage is French Saints Pilgrimage. There are a few brochures at the entrance of the church.



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WE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Kathleen Watson, Denise Watson, Raymond Bass

Anniversaries: Please pray for all those whose names appear in our Parish Books of Remembrance.

Sick: Please pray for Amanda Whitfield, Pat O'Shea and all those whose names appear in our Parish Books of the Sick.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

11 February 2024 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

Psalm: Psalm 31:1-2, 5, 11

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31—11:1

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS PARISH

Weekend	1st	2nd	Loose	TOTAL
28/01/24	\$	\$	\$	\$2549.65

All donations are greatly appreciated

Regular Parish Activities

1st Friday: Adoration after 9.00am Mass St Gerards

2nd Friday: Anointing Mass 9.00am St Gerards

Rosary : before Friday Mass (*but not during Lent*)
: after Friday Mass

What's on this Week: 5 — 9 Feb 2024

Thurs 8/02 Ladies Morning Tea St G 10.00am

OP-Shop OPEN

Phone No. **0493 755 642**

Monday to Friday 9:30am to 1:30pm

First Saturday of the Month 8.00am to 12.00 noon

Piety Shop OPEN

Monday to Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm

Shortly before and after weekend masses



STOpline Service 1300 304 550

STOpline receives information about suspected abuse, harm and other serious misconduct by Archdiocesan workers (including priests, religious, employees and volunteers). Information can be shared anonymously.

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Our Lady of the Angels' Parish



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Turrbal Peoples, who have walked this Country in ages past, who walk it now and will walk it in the future. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and acknowledge their profound connection and respect for the land and waterways of this Country. Spirit and Creator God, may you guide us in the traditions of this land as we walk gently and humbly, in kinship with all of creation.



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