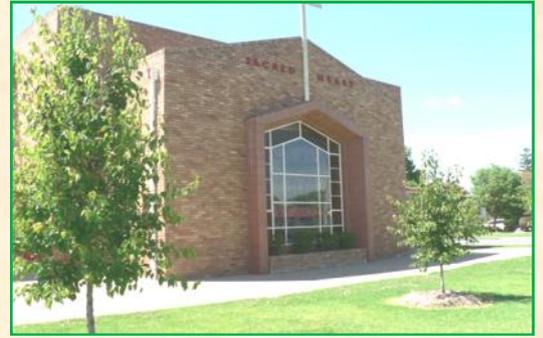


Sacred Heart Parish

North Albury



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

20th / 21st January 2018

Parish Clergy

Fr Gabriel Murray

Parish Office

Fran Kernaghan

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

9.00 am – 2.00 pm

Phone: 60251516

Email: sacredheartna@gmail.com

Web: <http://sacredheartnorthalbury.com/>

Mass Times

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm

SUNDAY: 9.30 am

WEEKDAYS: 9.30 am

Monday– Saturday (Church)

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM

BAPTISMS—By appointment.

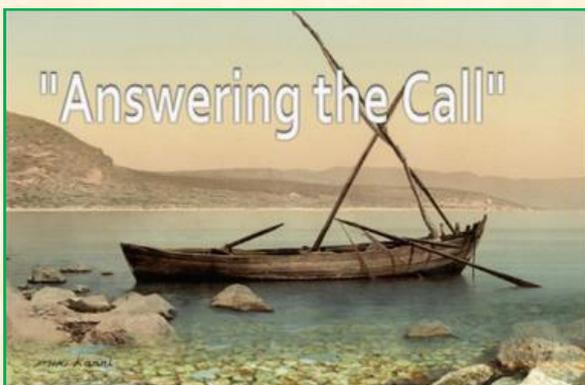
Preparation Course: 0411 883 661



Today we reflect on the first and most important responsibility of discipleship, namely, evangelisation, the goal of which is the proclamation of the reign of God. God seems to choose the most unlikely people to preach to others. It does not matter who *brings* the good news, but who *receives* it. Jonah the prophet was sent to outsiders, even enemies. The disciples were fishermen who spoke to the people of their own country. God's salvation is intended for all, and it seems to make little difference who brings this good news.

Today's readings call for repentance. The grace of God requires a new way of living, a life of faith and commitment. The gospel invites us into the age of fulfilment, a salvific reign of truth, compassion and kindness. It is a way of life that leads to justice.

There is an urgency in these readings. This world in its present form is passing away, and God's call demands a total response. Like the disciples, we must leave the familiarity of our former ways and follow the call that we have heard in the depths of our hearts. We are called first to enter the reign of God and then to spread it. As ambassadors of God, we bring the good news of salvation wherever we are and in whatever we do. Called by God, we now begin to live in a totally different way, guided by the values of the reign of God rather than those of the world that is passing away. (Dianne Bergant CSS)



Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED:

ANNIVERSARIES: Edna Hudson, Jim Berkley, Ian Miller, Norman Gray, Gus Mitsch, Norman Lane, Gilford Hailstone, Rosemary Cossor, Hilda Brewster, Alma Hancock, Zachary Peters, Brian Lane, Garth Clifford, Jack Whitty, Kevin Houlihan, John Briggs, Ada Pertile, Paul I'anson,.

Gather our loved ones into your arms. Quiet our doubt and anger and send us your healing grace. Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer for the Sick

We pray for all those who are sick. May they draw strength and healing from God's presence with them and from our prayers and thoughts for them.

May they have peace in their hearts and know they are greatly loved by all.

We offer our prayers believing that God's presence and power can do more than we can ever know. Amen

ROSTERS

Sat / Sun: 20th / 21st January		
Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Anthony Foley	Sr Carina Morton
Lector 1	Michael Byrnes	Michael Stephenson
Lector 2	Karen Purtle	Kathy Nynan
Eucharistic Ministers	Jim & Kaye Deanshaw	MACE Sisters Volunteers
Cantor	John Van Lint	Judy Lindsay
Musicians	Mary Hunt	Catherine Cutler
Counters: Carmel & Brian Butts Cleaning Group: Group 2		

Sat /Sun: 27th / 28th January		
Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Virginia Mitsch	Rosalie Martin
Lector 1	Pat Hickman	Jane Murtagh
Lector 2	Barbara Godde	Gavin Dykes
Eucharistic Ministers	Pat Hopkins Geoff Jervois	Kevin Kennedy John & Helen O'Keeffe
Cantor	John Van Lint	Catherine Cutler/Judy Lindsay
Musicians	Judy Foley	Val Hayes
Counters: Michael Byrnes Cleaning Group: Group 3		

Prayer for our Country Australia

Lord God, your Spirit has moved over the face of Australia, and formed from its dust a rolling brown land.

Your Spirit has moved over its warm tropical waters and created a rich diversity of life.

Your Spirit has moved in the lives of men, and women, and children, and given them, from the dreamtime, an affinity with their lands and waters. Your Spirit has moved in pilgrim people and brought them to a place of freedom and plenty.

Your Spirit moves still today in sprawling, high rise cities, in the vast distances of the outback, and in the ethnic diversity of the Australian people.

Lord God, in the midst of this varied huddle of humanity you have set your church.

Give us, the people you have so richly blessed, a commitment to justice and peace for all nations; and a vision of righteousness and equality for all people in our own country.

A Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

'Being a disciple means being constantly ready to bring the love of Jesus to others, and this can happen unexpectedly and in any place: on the street, in a city square, during work, on a journey. '

Parish News

Men Alive - Men's Weekend

"God is glorified when men are fully alive"

(St Ireneaus)

*"This weekend is an opportunity for men to explore what makes them feel fully alive. During the weekend, the **menAlive team** will share about their lives, the challenges they face and the hope they have discovered in seeking to walk this journey with God.*

*Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Thurgoona will be hosting this on the weekend of **24th - 25th February, 2018**. Contacts: thurgoonacatholicparish@hotmail.com or phone 02 6043 2222. If you are interested or know of someone who may like to come please find registration brochures at entrances to Church.*

Lenten Program

As Lent is only a month away we are asking if there is anyone interested in forming small groups for the Lenten season. Contact Fran at the office on 6025 1516.

Divine Will Talk

Come and renew your relationship with God! Renowned speaker Tony Hickey is visiting St Patrick's Parish Albury to talk to us about Luisa Piccarreta and the Diving Will Spirituality. 24th Jan 6.30pm - 8.30pm and 25th Jan 10.30am - 12.30pm in the Church Hall.

Feast Days during the Week

Wednesday 24th January—St Francis de Sales

Thursday 25th January—Conversion of St Paul

Friday 26th January—Australia Day

Saturday 27th January—Sts Timothy and Titus
St Angela Merici

Farewell for Fr Gabriel

A Morning Tea to farewell Fr Gabriel and thank him for his kindness and willingness to look after our Parish, will be held after the 9.30am Mass this Sunday in the hall.

Prayer for Our Sacred Heart Parish

God of Love,

*Source of all hope and good things;
You call us in love, to share in the work
and ongoing life of our Sacred Heart
Parish.*

*Bless this parish of ours and lead us to be
confident and joyful in serving those
around us, so that through us, the world
may catch a glimpse of the love you have
for each one of us.*

*Make us instruments of your love to
everyone that we encounter in our parish
community, at home, at work and in our
neighbourhood.*

*Help us to grow in gratitude so that we
can recognise and thank you for all the
good things you have given us.*

*Each day may we come to know you more
clearly, love you more dearly and follow
you more nearly.*

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors

Please collect your rosters from the side table at front of Church, Swan Street side.

*If you are interested in **succulent plants** there are boxes full of them around the back of the church. Please take what you want.*

Liturgy of the Word

Third Sunday of the Year—Year B

Readings: Jonah 3: 1-5, 10; 1 Cor 7: 29-31 ; Mk 1: 14-20

Responsorial Psalm:



Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Alleluia Verse:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is near;
believe the Good News.

Alleluia!

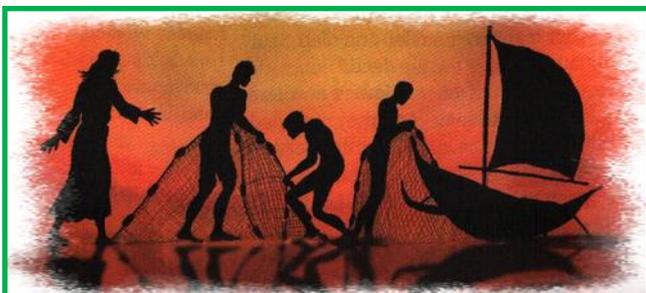


Reflection on the Readings

This week's Gospel shows us clearly that those Jesus chose to follow him closely were the most ordinary of people. Anyone today wanting to enter into some sort of public life would gather around them a team of advisers, an image stylist, a public relations expert, a market analyst and probably a guard or two. Who did Jesus choose to be 'entourage'? A few fishermen, some friends of friends and even a tax collector – one the most despised occupations of his time. The very ordinariness of these disciples was a deliberate action on the part of Jesus. It was a clear statement that his message was not for the learned scholars and interpreters of the Torah but rather for the everyday person. Throughout the gospels we see that the vast majority of encounters and interactions that Jesus has are with common, everyday people. When he encounters the officials of the Jewish faith – the scribes and Pharisees – it is inevitably in a conflict situation. Those to whom he directs his ministry are the common people – those who have felt the brunt of Roman oppression and the strict interpretation of Jewish Law.

The gospel passage also gives us an insight into what a charismatic figure Jesus must have been. Fishing was a good solid livelihood. Fish was a staple in the diet of Galileans and so supplying that staple would have provided a regular income. But on encountering this man Jesus, the fishermen abandon their nets and begin to follow him. They must have immediately seen something in him that impressed them. It seems hard to believe that physically tough men such as fishermen would have been easily impressed – much like today. So the impact that Jesus made on these men must have been quite special to make them walk away from everything that they knew.

This week's gospel marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry in the Gospel of Mark. The gospel writer has Jesus clearly announcing his message in plain, simple language: 'The kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.' That message is as true for us today as it was when those words were first spoken. The kingdom is still close at hand if we would only recognise it in our midst rather than pinning our hopes on some future reward. The call to repent and believe the Good News is as relevant for us as it was for the first believers. (Greg Sunter)



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