

Reflection (cont...)

And that brings me to the key point that I think Mark was trying to make, and the connection to the first reading. Isaiah describes the signs by which the coming of the Messiah will be recognised: the blind will see; the deaf will hear; the lame will leap; and the dumb will speak. However, these great prophesies of restoration had not yet come true. The opposite of restoration was exile: even though the people had returned from Babylon, many, if not most, Jews regarded the exile as still continuing.

What Mark is trying to show is that the real return from exile, including the real resurrection from the dead, is taking place in Jesus own ministry, in a way that no one expected.

This is why items of Mt Carmel's (draft) vision are important. Being welcoming, inclusive, and reaching out to those who no longer feel that they belong are all pointers that the Kingdom of God is amongst us and breaking into the world, restoring and redeeming it. This is God's mission in the world.

Paul Asnicar Parishioner

We Remember those in God's Care

- ❖ Francis Hunter, Kerry Gow, Arthur Johnson, *and all who have died recently;*
- ❖ Veronica Maguire, *and all whose anniversaries occur now.*

We Pray for

- ❖ Pat Ryan, Joan Meehan, Margaret Nance, Marie Rhodes, Steve Clark Ryan, Leo Caffery, Tim O'Neill, *and all our sick.*

PARISH PRIEST : Laurie Timms O.Carm
ASSOCIATE PASTORS: Jerome Watt O.Carm
PARISH SECRETARY: Emanuela Heaton
FINANCE: Maureen Hassett
PRIOR OF CARMELITE COMMUNITY: Frank Shortis O.Carm

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YOUR GENEROSITY
can live on!

Thinking of making
or renewing
your Will?



as thank s.

For more information
please contact
Mt Carmel Parish Office
3397 1587



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH
in the care of the Carmelites since 1937

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

6 September 2009

My mother is starting to lose her hearing. She is progressively finding it harder to talk on the phone and also hold conversations. Deafness is building a wall around my mum, disconnecting her from the people she loves, and she finds it quite frustrating. In today's gospel we hear about a man who is deaf and has an impediment in his speech. His condition places him at a great disadvantage as regards communication: he can neither receive verbal communication nor freely communicate his own thoughts, feelings and reflections to others. His condition is lonely and isolated. What Jesus does for this marginalised person is to bring him into the hearing and speaking community where interpersonal communication can truly flow through him.

I think there may be more than this going on in the minds of the early Jewish readers of Mark's gospel. Evidence suggests that a maimed Jew could not be a full member of the community. For our man, in addition to the physical burden of being deaf and dumb, he was blemished and unable to be a full Israelite.

Have you ever had those times that you felt excluded from a group? I recently have had the experience of being restored to the group. In the last month, I joined a riding group on Saturday mornings. The feeling of being in a "pack" is strong, particularly since we all wear the same riding garments. Being new, my fitness level is not up to scratch, and on one of the longer rides I fell behind. A colleague, seeing me fall behind, fell back to "draft" me back to the group. This simple act of kindness and encouragement restored me to the group and I was able to finish with them, and I was grateful for it.

Imagine what it meant for the deaf man. Jesus' healing miracles can be seen as bestowing the gift of shalom, wholeness, bringing not only physical health but renewed membership in the people of YHWH. The touch of Jesus should certainly have brought him uncleanness, but instead restored wholeness. Mark is impressing on his readers that it was not a display of supernatural power for its own sake, but the coming of Israel's God to save and heal: a vital ingredient in the inauguration of the kingdom.

(cont...pg 4)

PARISH MASS TIMES

Weekends:

Saturday Vigil ó 6 pm;
Sunday - 7.30 am, 9.30 am & 5.30 pm

Weekdays *this week*:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
Thursday, Friday & Saturday - 9 am

RECONCILIATION

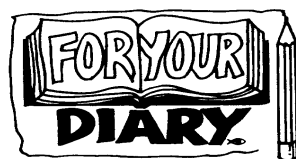
Saturdays 9.30 am ó 10 am

MEDITATION

Wednesdays 6.30 am ó 7 am

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

by appointment



SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 50:5-9 James 2:14-18
Mark 8:27-35

Baptism Sunday

Monday 14 September

St Paul's Call to Conversion Study in
Church, 9.45 am

Wednesday 16 September

Sacrament of Reconciliation Parent
Information Night, 7.30 pm

Thursday 17 September

Mt Carmel Social Club Bus Trip, leaving
church at 9.30 am

Readers Preparation in Sacristy, 7.30 pm

What's Happening?

During the month of August, we were happy to receive the ministry of a visiting Carmelite from the British Province, Fr. Kevin Melody. His melodious accent and quiet friendly style were very much appreciated by many people. Kevin has now returned to the UK where he will continue to work in the beautiful Kent area near Aylesford. Thanks again Kevin and good luck.

A number of our younger parishioners have enrolled for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (2009) and First Eucharist and Confirmation (2010). Please keep them in prayer as they embark on this journey with their families on this new phase in their faith formation.

Parents are asked to remember the Information night in the church at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 16th.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Perhaps you have had questions about the Catholic faith
Perhaps you have found faith, prayer and spirituality feeling at home with the Mt Carmel community and its celebrations...

Perhaps your own journey of life has lead you to a place of curiosity where you want to discover more, ask tough questions, or share your insights about your search for God

Perhaps you know of somebody who is making inquires concerning the Catholic faith

Mt Carmel Parish has an RCIA Team comprising parishioners who are willing to support people inquiring about the Catholic faith.

For further information regarding this process please contact the Parish Office 3307 1527

This week at Mt Carmel

Today is 6 September

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 35:4-7 James 2:1-5
Mark 7:31-37

Monday 7 September

Rosary after 9 am Mass

St Paul's Call to Conversion Study in
Church, 9.45 am

St Vincent de Paul meeting in Carmel
Community Room, 7.30 pm

Thursday 10 September

Readers Preparation in Sacristy, 7.30
pm

MT CARMEL SOCIAL CLUB BUS TRIP

on Thursday 17 September

*Leaves church at 9.30 am Morning
Tea at Currumbin Rocks travel Coast
Road to Cabarita Bowls for Lunch
then Hastings Point and home.*

All Welcome

\$35 Bookings by [Please Note]

13 September

John 3397 7281

Parish Registration Forms

A couple of months ago parishioners were asked if they would update their details for the parish data-base ó this information has now been entered in the register. Thank you to those who have completed these forms.

However, there are a large number of families who have not responded to the request to update their details.

We are once again asking for your assistance to enable our records to be as accurate as possible.

Forms are available in the foyer of the church. Please return them to the parish office as soon as possible.

Many thanks