

Alleluia, alleluia!

Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death, and brought us life through his gospel. Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Mk 10:46-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

*Master, grant that I may see.*

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said, 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him, 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

27 OCTOBER 2024

## 'LET ME SEE AGAIN'

This week's Gospel is the story of Bartimaeus, a 'blind beggar'. Earlier in the Gospel (8:22-26) there is another healing story of a blind man in Bethsaida. These two stories bookend the journey of the disciples with Jesus toward Jerusalem and the three passion predictions. Last week we heard of the sons of Zebedee who, like the other disciples, fail to see who Jesus is. In today's story, Bartimaeus is named and connected to a family, which is unusual for healing miracles.

Bartimaeus is sitting alongside the road, the way. Jesus, the crowd and disciples are leaving Jericho on the way to Jerusalem. Bartimaeus shouts out asking for mercy, addressing Jesus as 'Son of David'. He recognises him as Messiah. Many order him to be silent. He shouts the same phrase more loudly. Jesus stops in his tracks and invites the crowd to call Bartimaeus to come to him. They say 'Take heart, get up, he is calling you'. Jesus' reconciles the many to their mission.

Bartimaeus throws off his cloak, his means of income from begging. He springs up, coming to Jesus guided by the sound of his voice. Jesus asks 'What do you want me to do for you?' This is the question Jesus had asked the sons of Zebedee. Bartimaeus answers: 'Let me see again.' Jesus' words have immediate impact. Bartimaeus regains his sight and follows Jesus on the way: he becomes a disciple of Jesus. How clearly do we see our mission to bring others to Jesus, to spread the good news, to invite others on the way.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

## FIRST READING

Jer 31:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

*I shall lead them back in mercy – both the blind and the lame.*

The Lord says this:

Shout with joy for Jacob!  
Hail the chief of nations!  
Proclaim! Praise! Shout:  
'The Lord has saved his people,  
the remnant of Israel!'  
See, I will bring them back  
from the land of the North  
and gather them from the far ends of earth;  
all of them: the blind and the lame,  
women with child, women in labour:  
a great company returning here.  
They had left in tears,  
I will comfort them as I lead them back;  
I will guide them to streams of water,  
by a smooth path where they will not  
stumble.

For I am a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my first-born son.

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 125. R. v. 3

**R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, / it seemed like a dream. / Then was our mouth filled with laughter, / on our lips there were songs. **R.**
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels / the Lord worked for them!' / What marvels the Lord worked for us! / Indeed we were glad. **R.**
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage / as streams in dry land. / Those who are sowing in tears / will sing when they reap. **R.**



4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, / carrying seed for the sowing: / they come back, they come back, full of song, / carrying their sheaves. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Heb 5:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek.*

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

■ The word of the Lord.



### Contact us ...

Fr Cassius Correya (Parish Priest)  
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#### St Joseph's Community

46 Otter Street, Collingwood

Tel: 9973 5681 School: 9419 4918

Principal: Damien Schuster

#### The Chapel of the Good Shepherd

St Heliers Street, Abbotsford Tel: 9417 2909

#### St John the Baptist Community

61 Queens Parade, Clifton Hill Tel: 9481 7333

If you would like to have a pastoral visit from the parish priest, or a priest, or a seminarian, or co-parishioner, kindly leave a message at the administration office on 9481 7333 or email to office@olsc.org.au

#### October 12/13 Collection :

St John's \$652 St Joseph's \$

#### Sacramental Reception ...

**Baptism** : Second and fourth Sundays of the month at 12 noon (book online ... olsc.org.au/baptisms)

**Marriage**: by appointment

**Reconciliation**: every Friday 7:15—8:00pm

**Confirmation, Reconciliation and Holy**

**Communion**: Preparation for these Sacraments will be conducted at John's for State School children.

Email our office at office@olsc.org.au for further information.

#### Mass Times at OLSC

##### St John's:

Tuesday to Friday at 9.15am, Saturday 8.30am, 6:00 pm  
Sunday at 9:00 am (Italian), 11:00 am and 5:00 pm

##### St Joseph's:

Monday to Saturday at 8:30 am, Saturday 6:00 pm (English)  
Sunday at 9:00 am (Vietnamese)

##### Good Shepherd:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday 9:30 am

At Our Lady of the Southern Cross, we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our parish.

We acknowledge that we are meeting on the traditional land of the Wurundjeri people and offer our respects to the elders past, present and future. We recognise and respect the cultural heritage of this land.

# Parish of Our Lady of the Southern Cross

## 26/27 October, 2024

## Year B

### For those whom we remember...

**Mass Intention:** Irene Taylor.

**Condolences:** We pray for the families and souls of those who have departed recently.

**Anniversaries:** Sebastiano Pulvirenti, Irene Taylor, Francescò Mete.

### For prayers of healing

Please remember the following in our prayers:

Mario Misurelli, Tony Addamo, Cecily Hollingworth, Annette Baker, Rose Capp and Ian Armstrong.

If you hear of any of our parishioners who are not well or who have been injured, please email us at office@olsc.org so that we can remember them.

### Youth Mass

We will again enjoy our Youth Mass at St John's Church this weekend, 27th October at our 5pm Mass. Come and witness the wonderful involvement by our young people.

### Parish Mission Statement

When did you last refresh your memory of our Parish Mission Statement? You can see a copy at the back of our three churches.

#### Holy Hour: Adoration and Prayer for Vocations

Friday 1st November 6pm-7pm at St John the Baptist Church. Prayer for personal discernment and praying for others who are discerning their way in life. All welcome.

#### Roster for Mass at St John's

Please Note: If unforeseen circumstances prevent you from taking part, please arrange a substitute.

Date	First Reading	Second Reading	Prayers of the Faithful	Special Minister
<b>11 am</b>				
27 Oct	John A	Bill	Jill	Quyen
3 Nov	Michael/Anna	Lucy	Sue/John	John S
10 Nov	Hugh	Gabrielle	Lucy	Michael B
17 Nov	Samoans	Samoans	Samoans	Samoans
24 Nov	John A	Bill	Jill	Quyen
<b>5 pm</b>				
27 Oct	Daniel	Christina	Marita	
3 Nov	Lachlan	Daniel	Marita	
10 Nov	Akkermans	Akkermans	Akkermans	
17 Nov	Manickams	Berrymans	Manickams	
24 Nov	Marita	Christina	Daniel	

### Upcoming Events

#### October: Month of the Holy Rosary

Last Sun—Rosary and Reflection at St Joseph's

#### November: Month of the Holy Souls

Photos of deceased relatives are invited to the sanctuary of both churches

Friday, 1—All Saints Day

Mass at St John's at 9:15am (English) 6pm Adoration

7pm Mass; St Joseph's at 8:30am (English);

7:30pm (Vietnamese)

Saturday, 2—All Souls Day

Mass at St John's 8:30am (English); 6pm (English)

Mass at St Joseph's 8:30am (English); 6pm (E)

Sunday, 17—"A Sunday to Celebrate" at all masses at St John's

Saturday, 23—45th Anniversary of St Cecilia Cung

Chieu Choir

Sunday, 24—St Cecilia's Feast Day, Mass at St Joseph's 9am (Vietnamese)

#### December: Advent and Christmas

Sunday, 1—First Sunday of Advent (then Sun 8, 15, 22)

Friday, 6—Reflection and Reconciliation at St John's (with Adoration led by Fr Brian).

### Baptisms

Today (Sunday) we have the pleasure of celebrating two baptisms at St John's: Elaria Rose, daughter of John and Deana Crivelli of Doncaster East; and Riley, son of Chi An Nguyen and Mimi Nguyen-Pham (and grandson of our own Quyen) of Thornbury. We warmly welcome these two children into the Church and hope their journey of faith is most enjoyable.

### Celebrations

On Saturday, 23rd November St Cecilia Cung Chieu Choir will be celebrating their 45th anniversary. Congratulations to all our Vietnamese parishioners for such wonderful singing in our parish.

On Sunday (following the anniversary celebrations) a special Mass will be held at St Joseph's for the Feast Day of St Cecilia at 9am.

The 2024 Knox Public Lecture will be held on Thursday 7th November at 7.30 pm trybooking.com/CVXGD

"Connecting with Hope, Reconnecting with the Christian Vision of the Person"

Presented by Rev Assoc Prof Jamie Calder, SJ MAPS

**URGENT PASTORAL NEED**  
Please call mobile: 0401 887 115

### A word from our PP ...

#### From a beggar at the side of the road to a disciple along the road

Every disciple of Jesus Christ has his or her journey of faith. This weekend, we shall hear the story of Bartimaeus' journey of faith. Even though Bartimaeus was blind, it appears that he was attentive to the stories about Jesus of Nazareth that people who passed through Jericho on their way to Jerusalem shared with excitement. So, **his journey of faith begins with listening to what others had to say about Jesus**. He certainly would have heard of Jesus' healing power and his claim to be the Messiah. And as time went by, he seemed to have imagined Jesus to be a holy man, a man from God. His imagination turned into **conviction** that Jesus could transform his life and this is evident from his immediate response when he heard that Jesus was passing by; he shouted out and said, "Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me."

We also notice that his conviction made him **determined** to meet Jesus and the people who tried to hush him up, could not stop him. He shouted all the louder, just to make Jesus stop and call him! He then **demonstrated great**



**faith and joy** when the people told him that Jesus is calling him (it is interesting to note that the same people who scolded him and told him to be quiet, encouraged him to respond to Jesus' invitation). He **threw off his cloak, jumped up and went to Jesus**'. This act of Bartimaeus reveals how certain he was that Jesus could change his life. It also shows that he himself was willing to let go of his comfort zone (at the side of the road) and his old self; and to step into a brighter future. So, the very moment he asked Jesus with trust and confidence **to see again**, Jesus offered Bartimaeus not only the gift of sight, but also the gift of salvation.

Finally, although, Jesus told him, "**Go**, your faith has saved you," Bartimaeus followed Jesus 'along the road'. Having been healed, there is a transformation that takes place in his life. He becomes a **committed** disciple. From the fact that Bartimaeus is the only person who Jesus healed is named in Mark's Gospel indicates that he would have been a prominent disciple in the early Christian community who happily **shared** with people what Jesus did to him.

Bartimaeus' amazing journey of faith - **from being a blind beggar at the side of the road to a committed disciple along the road** - invites us to reflect on our own commitment as disciples of Jesus Christ and the reason why we are still along the road with Jesus.

Remember, there's no such thing as a small act of kindness. Every act creates a ripple with no logical end. Scott Adams