

In today's Gospel, Mark provides a significant amount of information about the Jewish observance of ritual-purity laws. Most scholars believe that Mark includes this information because his audience includes Gentile Christians who have no knowledge or experience of these laws. We can infer, therefore, that many in Mark's community were not Jewish Christians. In this Gospel, Mark addresses the question of which Jewish practices would also be observed in the newly emerging Christian community. This was a significant question for the early Christian Church, especially in communities that included both Jewish and Gentile converts to Christianity. We also hear this question addressed in the letters of Paul with regard to table fellowship. In Gospel passages such as the one today, we see the Gospel evangelists finding justification for a Christian practice distinct from Judaism in the remembrances of Jesus' teaching and the practice of his first disciples. Jesus first criticizes the Pharisees for putting human tradition above God's Law. Here, Jesus is referring to the tradition of the elders, the teachings of the Pharisees, which extended the ritual-purity laws of Temple worship to everyday Jewish life. Jesus criticizes the Pharisees for making this tradition equal to and as binding as the Law of Moses. Next, Jesus comments on the meaning behind the Pharisees' language of holiness—clean and unclean. Jesus teaches that a person is not defiled by the food that enters his or her body, but rather by sin that emerges from his or her words and actions. In this teaching, Jesus unmasks a deeper question behind the one posed to him by the Pharisees. The real issue is holiness, which is not found in external acts alone. Holiness comes from within and is evidenced in the actions and attitudes that emerge from a person's life.



Farewell, birthdays and get-well.....



"Catholics must avoid being rigid, embrace change, and show mercy, not harsh judgment, toward non-traditional families." That was the message from Chicago's Archbishop Blaise Cupich. In a 15-minute homily

Cupich said bishops and other Catholics should avoid "absolutizing one particular era" by remembering the richness and diversity of their faith. At the same time, the Church should be "open to new avenues and creativity when it comes to accommodating families, particularly those who are broken, those who have suffered" and "not settle for solutions that no longer work, expressions that no longer inspire, and ways of working that stifle creativity and collaboration..."

St Michael's Catholic Church

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WEEKEND MASS TIMES:

Sat. Vigil: 5pm

Sunday: 8am, 9:30am & 5pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Mon, Tues & Thurs: 7:30am

Wed: 6pm

Fri: 9:15am

Sat: 9:15am (Sthn Cross Hostel)

HOLY HOUR: Wed: 5pm

RECONCILIATION:

Wed: 5:15–5:45p: Sat: 4:15–4:45pm;

Sun 4:00–4:30pm

BAPTISMS:

Sundays 9:30am Mass

BAPTISMAL PROGRAMME &

WEDDINGS: By appointment

ANOINTING MASS:

Quarterly: 1st weekend

1ST SAT OF EACH MONTH:

11am Mass in honour of Our Lady.

SUNDAY DEVOTIONS:

4:00 to 4:30pm

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME:

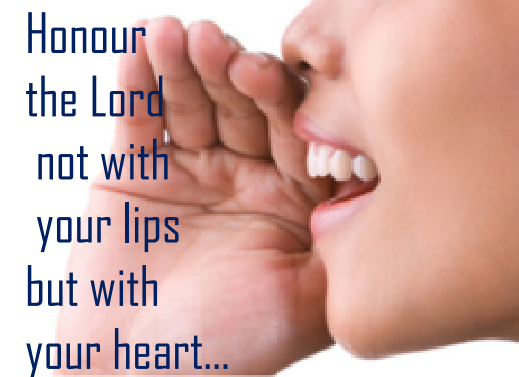
80% tax deductible. Please join by contacting parish office.

FAITH FORMATION:

Sundays 3:30pm (in presbytery)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon, Wed & Fri 9am to 2:30pm



30th Aug 2015 (B)
 22nd Ordinary Sunday

1ST READING: Deuteronomy 4:1-2. 6-8

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

The just will live in the presence of the Lord

2ND READING: James 1:17-18. 21-22. 27

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: St Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Internet resources:

"Zenit News"; "Catholic on Line"; "Liturgical Year Calendar", "Spirit Daily", Children's web: Google, EWTNKIDS. "Tim Staples; Catholic Sacraments, videos"; "Catholic Answers", "Catholica" www.vocationcentre.org.au
 GODGOSSIP

MASS INTENTIONS (29/08/15 to 4/09/15)

Sat Vigil: Arokia Malara Aristen Joseph (for blessings)

Sat 8am: Pro Populo

Sun 9:30am: †Yolanda & Giuseppe Pappalettera

Sun 5pm: †Jean Blundson

Thur: †Ok Bong Choi (40 days)

OUR SICK: Patricia Flannery, Josephine Helback, Joseph Haggar and Southern Cross residents...

Happy birthdays to: Austin Calleja (27th), Tony Youssef (31st), Stella Kim (3rd), Kylie Findlay and Mercia McGregor (5th).

THE NEXT ANOINTING MASSES WILL BE HELD ON THE WEEKEND OF 5TH / 6TH SEPT.

WYD2016 Raffle: **3 tickets for \$10** on sale in the church foyer.

PARISH / WYD2016 FETE: SUN 20TH SEPT: Please offer your kind assistance in the following manner:

- 1) **Financial sponsors** for stalls to buy supplies, prizes etc.
- 2) **White elephant stall:** Any donation of 2nd hand items will be gratefully accepted. No clothes or books please. You may bring them to the presbytery or at weekend Masses.

WYD2016 Deanery Info Night: Wed 2nd Sept at 7pm at St Therese, Mascot.

Parish School News: 1) Class Mass: Fri 11th Sept: Yr 5; Fri 18th Sept: Yr 6. 2) Family Mass: Sun 30th Aug: KH; Sat 12th Sept: KB

The next Memorial Mass for the deceased interred in Botany Cemetery and Crematorium will be held in the South Chapel on **Sat 12th Sept at 11am.**

Next week we are holding the **Priests' Retirement Foundation** Pastoral Appeal. Your donations are important in helping to build the Foundation which funds the practical needs of our sick and retired priests to give them a decent standard of living in their retirement years. We ask you as our parishioners to give this appeal your generous support. *Specially printed envelopes are now available in the pews for your kind donations.*

Foley Gardens Self-care Retirement Village – Upstairs one-bedroom unit is now open for inspection. Please call Joe de Andrade (Manager-Property) on 0438 696 396 or Patricia Low (Manager-Admin) on 9349 1292 for an appointment or for further details.

This weekend: Vigil: J Haggar (A) J Spora, P Tjugito (R) F Doherty, C Lan Kam (C) Thomas W. (M)
8:00am: G Diab (A) A Burke, J Perera (R) G Gates, M Wong (C) P Low (M)
9.30am: A Varghese (A) Volunteer, K Wong (R) M Tjokrowidjaja, I Tjahjadi (C) T Chin (M)
5.00pm: R Yang (A) Volunteers (R), Volunteers (C) **Counters:** G Hage, V Hage

Next weekend: Vigil: J Haggar (A) F & G Hogan (R) G Hage, S Tjen (C) Thomas W. (M)
8:00am: G Diab (A) M Marshella, T Long (R) P Chen, L Hart (C) P Low (M)
9.30am: A Varghese (A) I Lie, J Lie (R) S Pedisich, K Wong (C) A Burton (M)
5.00pm: R Yang (A) J Chandra, D Sarmiento (R), Volunteers (C) **Counters:** G Hage, V Hage

TRIPLE CELEBRATIONS: ✨ Fr Jerzy's 61st birthday;

✨ Fr Anthony Simari's 51st Anniversary of Ordination to Priesthood

✨ Fr Martin Wilson's 60th Anniversary of Ordination to Priesthood

This event will be held on: **Thursday 3rd Sept from 6:3pm at Souths Juniors, Kingsford, Sundeck Brasserie (glassed area).**

*It will also be a night of fun and games to raise funds for **WYD2016**. Bring lots of gold coins. Thank you for your support and attendance.*

The community is to welcome persons who have divorced and entered into new unions, the Pope said, that "they may live and develop their adherence to Christ and the Church with prayer, listening to God's word, frequenting the liturgy..."

Oct. 4-25, 2015 ordinary Synod will reflect on the theme "Jesus Christ reveals the mystery and vocation of the family" will gather more than 200 Bishops and representatives from all over the world. The conclusions of the gathering will be used by Pope Francis to draft his first Post-Synodal Exhortation, which can be expected in 2016.

On Friday morning, 21st Aug. Pope Francis surprised the faithful in St. Peter's Square when he showed up at the Altar of St. Pius X to pray. It was the saint's feast day. The Holy Father came to pray at the altar and participated in the 7 a.m. Mass that was celebrated there by Msgr. Lucio Bonora, an official of the Vatican's Secretary of State, who was unaware the Pope planned on being there. "When [Pope Francis] saw me, he told me he came to pray because he had already said Mass earlier in the Casa Santa Marta, and he wanted to pay his respects to St. Pius X," Msgr. Bonora told Vatican Radio. Msgr. Bonora said Pope Francis greeted the faithful during the sign of peace. "It was very moving for me, and for the faithful, to see the



Pope as a humble member of the faithful, going to pray at the tomb of St. Pius X," the priest said. Msgr. Bonora said Pope Francis told him he has a strong devotion to Pius X, and that he prayed especially for catechists, since in Buenos Aires the feast serves as the Day of Catechists. St. Pius X (June 2, 1835 - Aug. 20, 1914) was Pope from Aug. 4, 1903, to his death in 1914. He was canonized in 1954.

Let's pray for Synod

Earth Day Prayer 1st Sept. O GOD, we thank you for this earth, our home; for the wide sky and the blessed sun, for the ocean and streams, for the towering hills and the whispering wind, for the trees and green grass. **WE THANK YOU** for our senses by which we hear the songs of birds, and see the splendour of fields of golden wheat, and taste autumn's fruit, and rejoice in the feel of snow, and smell the breath of spring flowers. **GRANT US** a heart opened wide to all this beauty; and save us from being so blind that we pass unseeing when even the common thornbush is aflame with your glory. Amen.

THE APOSTOLATE OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH EXPLAINED at 10.45am on Sundays.

Video sessions: 1) 30th Aug: Divine Revelation 33mins.

2) 6th Sept.: The Bible and Story of Salvation . 67 mins.

THE APOSTOLATE OF PRAYER
on Saturday and Sunday
4.00 – 4.25pm in the Church.