



The Parish is in the Care of the Apostles of Jesus Missionaries

Parish Newsletter—Sunday of the Word of God-Year B: 21st to 28th January

**MASSES— 21st TO 28th Jan 2024**

Sun	21	9.30am	Neil McHugh (RIP), Pearl Irianan (B'day)
		11.30am	People of the parish Eromosele Gabriel Agenmonmen (B'day)
Mon	22	12.00noon	Tony Smith (Spl int)
Tues	23	9.30am	Sr. Franca Rita (RIP)
Wed	24	9.30am	Tom Ward (Spl int)
Thurs	25	9.30am	Fr. Aloysius & Fr. Jimmy (Spl int)
		6.00pm	Divine mercy prayers
Fri	26	9.30am	Mabel Braganza (Anniv)
Sat	27	9.30am	Bob Haddock (RIP)
Sun	28	9.30am	McHugh & Ferry Family (Spl int) Mariam Osagie (B'day), Anna Mora & John Mora (B'day)
		11.30am	People of the parish

**Lectors**

	<b><u>21/01/2024</u></b>	<b><u>28/01/2024</u></b>
<b>9.30am</b>	Desma, Cosmos (R)	Cath Slatter, Naomi (R)
<b>11.30am</b>	Angela N., Mary (R)	Daluchi, Valerie (R)

**Eucharistic Ministers**

	<b><u>21/01/2024</u></b>	<b><u>28/01/2024</u></b>
9.30am	Felix (E)	Sophie (E)
11.30am	Florence K. (E)	Loveness (E)

**The sick of the Parish:** Rose Hogan, Norah Griffith, Mary Mulrone, Gerard Griffith, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Bridie McAndrew, Teresa McAffer, Chinasa Okosi, John Crowford, Mr. Tran, Owen Darroch, Lucia Drabik.

**Anniversaries during the week :** Eugene Pinto., Michael Hyland, Francis Hannon, Sylvia Forrest , Kathleen Waters, William Peyton , Denis McGrath, Caroline Alexandra Gorman, Felich Goucher, Alice & Michael Moran, Lynn Hand, Maria Hilda Vaz , Terrence Reily, Fame (Mabel ) Braganza, Neil McHugh, John Ferry, Harold Rixon.

**Feasts during the week:** 24th Jan - Memorial of St. Francis de Sales; 25th Jan—Conversion of ST. Paul, the Apostle; 26th Jan—Memorial of Ss. Timothy and Titus, Bishops.

**Reflect on...**

*As we celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God, ask God to give us a love for His Word and strength to obey it so that through it God might cultivate a greater love in our hearts for Him. As He does, we will be challenged to live greater lives of obedience for His glory.*

**The Bible is Word of God**

This third Sunday in Ordinary Time is designated the “Word of God Sunday” and provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the meaning of the Bible in our lives. The word Bible, from the Greek language, **Biblia meaning many books**, refers to a collection of many books each of which has been inspired. The Bible is a miracle book because, in it, God breaks the silence and speaks to us in a consistent manner that starts from the Book of Genesis and ends with the Book of Revelation. God invites people to form a special relationship of love. The great miracle about the Bible is its unified theme, namely, God's love for all people and Jesus Christ as the centre of all the writings. The preservation of the books through the centuries, and with its message that is ever old and yet ever new is also cause for wonder.

The Bible was written over a span of more than 600 years, which is a long time to have the kind of consistency in its progressive message whose crux is Our Lord Jesus Christ. There are many questions that we cannot accurately answer about the specific books in the Bible, for example the exact dates, and in some cases who their authors were. God used the authors to communicate his message to the people of their time.

The different authors wrote with the unique purpose of communicating their faith to the people of their generations, and they were aware that they were writing the Word of God.

When God speaks, we must listen. For several reasons, listening, even in our ordinary conversations, is a difficult skill. It requires some training in attentiveness to get the message of the other person. This too applies to the Word of God in our situations: God wants us to listen to him. Attentive listening to God must be accompanied by an appropriate response to leave the familiar sources of our security that are provided by our past lives, to follow the will of God, as we see in today’s readings of Jonah and the Gospel of Mark. In responding to the Word of God, we will experience God's mercy and love, the transformative power of Christ's message, and the constant mercy of God, who fills us with peace and other spiritual outcomes.

