

MASSES— 5th to 12th Feb 23

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|-------|----|-----------|---|
| Sun | 05 | 9.30am | Jimmy Ferry (RIP) |
| | | 11.30am | Deceased members of Eric & Preethi family |
| Mon | 06 | 12.00noon | Ben McAndrew (RIP) |
| Tues | 07 | 9.30am | |
| Wed | 08 | 9.30am | |
| Thurs | 09 | 9.30am | |
| Fri | 10 | 9.30am | |
| Sat | 11 | 9.30am | |
| Sun | 12 | 9.30am | People of the parish |
| | | 11.30am | People of the parish |

Lectors

05/02/2023

12/02/2023

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| 9.30am | Stanley, Nicholas O. (R) | Cath Slater, Cosmos (R) |
| 11.30am | Privin, Elena (R) | Morgan, Sharon (R) |

Eucharistic Ministers

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|---------------|--------------|---------|----------------------|
| 9.30am | Felix M. (E) | 11.30am | Lilian, Patricia (E) |
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The sick of the Parish: Rose Hogan, Norah Griffith, Mary Mulroney, Gerard Griffith, Maria Clear, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Jarek, Bridie McAndrew, Teresa McAffer, Andrea, Chinasa Okosisi, John, Mr. Tran, Damian Curristan, Owen Darroch.

Anniversaries during the week : Elizabeth Hoey, William, Antony Braganza , Peter Montague, Elizabeth Hugh , Frank & Maura Corrigan , William Mulroney, Leslie Burke, Bridget Agnes Clisham , Bridget Molloy , Teresa Langan, Harry Hone.

Saint of the week: St. Josephine Bakhita : was born around 1869 in the village of Olgossa in the Darfur region of Sudan. Historians believe that sometime in February 1877, Josephine was kidnapped by Arab slave traders. A young student once asked Bakhita: "What would you do, if you were to meet your captors?" Without hesitation, she replied: "If I were to meet those who kidnapped me, and even those who tortured me, I would kneel and kiss their hands. For, if these things had not happened, I would not have been a Christian and a religious today".

A Star Thrower

One day, a man was walking along the shore. As he looked down the beach, he saw a young person reaching down to the sand, picking up something and very gently throwing it back into the sea. As he got closer, he called out, "Good morning! What are you doing?" The young person paused, looked up and replied, "Throwing starfish into the sea." Why are you throwing starfish into the sea?" he asked. "The sun is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them in they'll die." "But, don't you realize that there are miles of beach here and starfish all along it. You can't possibly make a difference!" The young person listened politely. Then knelt down, picked up another starfish and threw it into the sea, past the breaking waves and said..."Made a difference to this one."



A.J. Missions

St. Osburg

Ss. Mary & Benedict

St. Elizabeth

Parish Newsletter –5th Sunday in ordinary time — 5th –12th Feb 2023

SO THAT SEEING YOUR GOOD WORKS

It is said that actions speak louder than words, and other people say: tell me who your friends are, and I will tell what kind of person you are. For people to know what kind of persons we are, they need not listen to what we say, but they can know us from what we do. We are being given away in different ways, for example the way we are dressed, the places we visit or the company we keep, all these tell others what kind of people we are or what kind of party or man we stand for.

This is exactly what Jesus speaks about, but he goes further to teach us that the action of our life can bring good taste just as salt does to food, it can enlighten others just as light does when we are in darkness. Jesus does not tell us to go and preach, he does not say that we should not do it either, but what he tells us is to go and live, to go and do, so that seeing your good works they may give praise to your Father in heaven.

Jesus reminds us that as his followers, whatever we do should not be intended to earn us praise but to help other people to acknowledge God who is at work in us. It is natural to feel that we should be appreciated or acknowledged for what we have done. But in doing so, we turn attention to ourselves other than God who is working in us.

In the first reading from the Prophet Isaiah, the power of actions is emphasized, share your bread with the hungry, shelter the homeless, clothe the man you see naked, do not ignore your family. The consequences of these actions is that our light shines and our differences are quickly reconciled.

The setting and composition of our parish is providentially designed by God. We come from different nations with diverse cultural values. We have been brought up in Christian communities where some elements of Catholic teaching are emphasised more than in other places. We are also lucky that the cultural differences among us is a great source of strength and admiration of one another. So, we are called to become light and salt to one another in the building up of God's kingdom.

In the second reading, Paul tells us not to exaggerate or to modify facts of our faith in order to make it attractive. When he preached to the Corinthians, he did not change facts about Jesus to make them believe in him, but spoke about him as the crucified Christ. It is not hard to find preachers watering down the gospel or the teaching of the Church so that people may accept it. In other words, we do not believe what we believe because the majority has voted that we believe it, but we believe because we know that it is revealed to us by God. As you return home today, go and be a light to your people, speak words of kindness, give them hope. Let your light shine, so that seeing your good works, they may give glory to your Father in heaven.

