

4TH SUNDAY
ORD TIME
YR B 2018
27 / 28
JANUARY

The Parish of St James



Coorparoo.

An Augustinian Parish:
Archdiocese of Brisbane.



From the Prioory Window

Last Sunday I presided at two parish Eucharistic liturgies. Remembering that the word 'liturgy' means 'the work of the people', I was most impressed with the quality and breadth of that 'work of the people'.

In particular, I was delighted at the quality of the proclamation of the scriptures. The people who undertake this ministry are often called 'readers'. How poorly that word describes what they are called to do—to announce God's own word!

The Second Vatican Council told us that, "the Church has always venerated the sacred Scriptures just as she venerates the Body of the Lord." Wow! But there is more, "since, especially in the sacred liturgy, she unceasingly receives and offers to the faithful the bread of life from the table both of God's Word and of Christ's Body."

God's word, the scriptures, is the bread of life! That being the case, our 'proclaimers of the readings' do far more than 'read'. They announce the good news of God's love for us. They broadcast that which is meant to nourish and sustain us through the coming week.

It helps if we return to that nourishment when we go from church to home. And one way to do this is to discuss, to reflect on, to talk about a question or two which springs from the Sunday readings. Below is a question that springs from the Gospel of this Sunday.

Gospel Passage **Mk 1:21-28**

"Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the Sabbath came, Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority."

Question of the Week.

Recall someone who 'made a deep impression on you'. What were the qualities of that person which so impressed and drew you to them? What qualities of Jesus draw you to him?

Did you know?

In the ancient world, many forms of mental illness were attributed to being possessed by 'evil spirits'.

In Mark's Gospel, Jesus is often presented in confrontational situations with evil spirits, with the Jewish authorities and even with his own disciples when they fail to understand who he is and what his mission entails.

This text shows that where absolute good is, evil cannot remain.

Fr Peter osa

Parish Administrator.