

**6TH SUNDAY  
ORD TIME  
YR B 2018  
10 / 11  
FEBRUARY**

# The Parish of St James



## Coorparoo.

**An Augustinian Parish:  
Archdiocese of Brisbane.**



### From the Priory Window

Lent is upon us! This Sunday we are invited to take Project Compassion Boxes. A question arises: "Where does the Project Compassion money go? Are the recipients deserving?"

The Gospel passage below may assist to know the approach Jesus used when deciding who to assist. The poem below might identify some modern lepers.

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' Mark 1:40-45.

#### Question of the week.

Who are the 'lepers' in our 'villages' who frighten us? Which groups are on the edge of our community? How can I reach out to them?

#### Did you know?

- Having or being suspected of having leprosy caused a person to live outside the community.
- The very elaborate regulations about leprosy and becoming purified after its cure can be read in Leviticus 13 and 14. Leviticus is one of the first five books of the Hebrew Scriptures known as the Torah or the Law. They are often referred to as the books of Moses.
- By responding to the leper and touching him, Jesus put himself 'outside the community' and is now forced to 'stay outside in places where nobody lived'.

Just another leper,  
the better left unseen,  
'Surely it's all their own fault  
for not keeping clean.'  
Just another aids case  
now hidden well away,  
'They must have brought it on themselves  
promiscuous or gay.'  
Just another boat person  
sponging on me and you,  
'They've only got themselves to blame  
by trying to jump the queue.'  
Just another drug addict  
shooting up behind the shed,  
'Don't waste your pity on such trash  
they're better off dead.'  
Just one determined Jesus  
coming through our lands,  
touching all the unclean mob  
with warm, saving hands.

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Fr Peter osa

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