

From the Outside of the Window

The End of the World - Victory or Destruction?

CHANGE – it could be both, positive and negative. Somewhere I read this saying: "If you do not create change, change will create you". According to this proverb, the only constant in our life is change. To resist change means to fight against reality. Even if you resist or avoid it, it will enter your life just the same. When you initiate the change yourself, it's pretty easy to adapt to it, since it's a wanted one. In spite of some positive effects produced by change, it is also clear that change may also cause fear because change always includes uncertainty which results in insecurity. We fear change. The older we get, the more we are anxious about the terror of change.

Fear is also a topic of this Sunday's gospel. Straightforwardly, Jesus depicted the chaos that will reigns at the end of the world: **"the sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light, the stars will be falling from the sky, and the powers that are in the heavens will be shaken"**. When God first "created the heavens and the earth, ...the earth was formless and empty. Darkness was on the surface of the deep" (Genesis 1:1-2). Then God created the lights in the sky, the sun and moon and stars Genesis 1:14-19)—heavenly bodies essential to the sustenance of life, which God created next (Genesis 1:20ff.). Now Jesus is pointing to a day when God will strip away those heavenly bodies, returning Earth to the chaotic state that existed before creation. If chaos exists, is God not anymore in control? Far from it! Mark wants to convey to us this message: God disempowers the power of darkness that causes chaos so that He can made new: **"Then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory"** (v. 26). The cosmic powers will be gone, and Godly power will reign. The title, Son of Man, comes from Daniel 7:13-14, where the Ancient of Days (God) gave to the one like a Son of Man "dominion, and glory, and a kingdom that all the peoples, nations, and languages should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed."

While Jesus' imagery is frightening, it is intended to encourage Christians who are living in frightening times. It acknowledges their suffering, and promises that:

• The Holy Spirit will give them the right words to say (v. 11).

• "he who endures to the end, the same will be saved" (v. 13).

• The Son of Man will "gather together his chosen ones from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the sky" (v. 27). Jews believe that God will gather the faithful to Jerusalem from the nations to which they have dispersed (see Deuteronomy 30:4; Isaiah 11:11; 43:6). God scattered these people because of their unfaithfulness. But in the last days the Son of Man will gather them together, restoring them as God's people once again. With Jerusalem and the temple gone, the Son of Man will become the new temple of God. While this is encouraging, it is also demanding. Jesus places a high premium on faithful discipleship in the midst of terrible trials. He calls us to endure and to be watchful. From God's perspective, change does no lead necessary to destruction, but to transformation effected by Christ's own sacrifice. Paul says in 2 *Cor* 3:18, "we (Christians) are being transformed into the same image (Christ) from one degree to another... This comes from the Lord who is Spirit". Paul says that transformation (foundation) comes the Holy Spirit (what you received when trusting Christ). This means that the Holy Spirit (free gift of God) leads us to justification (I was once in sin – old self), then to sanctification (I am now being made like Christ – new self), to one-day glorification (one day restored to the full image of Christ – future self).

Let us embrace this transformation by God. Let us also make a difference in the people's lives. I was so blessed that I could help the lepers over 20 years. Because God has changed my life through His gifts – that were more than I could have ever imagined – I vow to help to transform the life the lepers whom Jesus also called his friends. In this sense, CHANGE in God's eye is a victory!

As always, let us pray for each other, Fr. Joe.

First Reading Daniel 12: 1-3 When that time comes your own people will be spared. **Second Reading** Hebrews 10: 11-14, 18 By a single offering

he has achieved the eternal perfection of those who are sanctified. **Gospel Reading** *Mark 13: 24-32* He shall gather his elect from the four winds. **For complete Sunday's readings, visit our St James website (look for the Prayer tab). www.stjames-coorparoo.org.au/sundays-readings**



We pray for our deceased whose names are written in our Book of the Dead. Eternal God, we praise you for the great company of all those who have finished their life in faith and now rest from their labours. We praise you for those dear to us whom we name in our hearts before you. Let perpetual light shine upon them; and help us to believe where we have not seen, that your presence may lead us

through our years, and bring us at last with them into the joy of your home not made with hands but eternal in heaven. **Please pray for these unwell**: Ebbie Bradfield; Alberico Salvatori; Salvadore Resolado Jr.

Please give prayers and welcome to these Baptismal Children:

Preston Collett; Theodore Berry.

It is customary to re-light your child's baptism candle each birthday or baptism anniversary.

St. James Parish acknowledges the Jaggera People of Coorparoo as the traditional owners of the land on which we live.

Social Justice



NOVEMBER:

Sunday 18: World Day of the Poor. Monday 19: World Toilet Day. Tuesday 20: Universal Children's Day.

1959: adoption by Un of the Declaration of Rights of the Child.

Thursday 22: 1963: assassination of US President John F Kennedy.

Financial Security for Women (ACSJC)... the loss of entitlements have a significant impact on women, who are disproportionately concentrated in retail and hospitality. Women continue to fare worse than males in the competitive labour market, with lower average earnings, limited opportunities for promotion, and over-representation in professions that are less well-paid. Many who are single parents balance the unpaid work of family care with irregular hours in low-paid work. We suggest there is a worker underclass, marginalised within employment.

Planned Giving for the Week ending 11th November (Week 2)							
Collection	Loose money [not pledged]	Envelopes [pledged]	Direct Debit	Credit card	Total		
1 st Collection Augustinian	\$1,026.30	\$415.50	\$115	Week 4	\$1,556.80		
2 nd Collection Parish	\$687.40	\$352.50	\$115	only	\$1,154.90		

Parish news

<u>RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS</u> Co-ordinator: Kev Mahoney kevmahoney2@bigpond.com <u>Sunday, November 18</u>: <u>The Bible and Catholicism.</u> Mass



at 6pm then the meeting is in St James Priory dining room. We leave after the homily and retire for about 1 hour to discuss the Gospel and to explore some major areas of Catholic faith. Meetings conclude 7.15 – 7.30 pm.



Thank You from Catholic Mission

'How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news...' Isaiah 52:7

Thank you for supporting this year's Catholic Mission Church Appeal through your kind gifts and prayers, and for being a part of an "education revolution" in Myanmar. Your generosity makes it

possible for programs such as the Pyinya Sanyae Institute of Education, as well as schools like St John's in Hakha, to provide quality, child-centred education to children. Thank you also to parishioners who have become an integral part of this inspiring work by joining as monthly giving partners. For more information about the work of Catholic Mission around the world, please contact our friendly team at the freecall number below, or at catholicmission.org.au/about-us/contact. **Freecall: 1800 257 296 catholicmission.org.au/Myanmar**

> Reminder to volunteers for **Church brass cleaning** - date scheduled is Saturday 24th November, 8.30am. Thank you for helping.

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Fr Joe is on his annual Spiritual Retreat 19th - 25th November.



St James Parish Coorparoo...Sacrament of Reconciliation / Penance *Final session for children:* Friday 23rd November after school (6pm in the hall), with the First Rite of Penance being celebrated after the session (7pm in the church), if parents would like to be there.

Date claimer: St James Parish will be holding a Ceremony of Readings and Carols on Thursday 13th December from 7 - 8 pm followed by a "Bring a Plate" supper. Please come and join us to share in the joy of Christmas with a range of Carols, both traditional and new, in with Readings appropriate to the season. All are very welcome.

Thank you to all who generously gave food and other items during anti-poverty week. These have been delivered to Romero Asylum Seeker Centre and Blind Eye "drop in" centre for people living on the streets. They were received with much gratitude.

Names of dear departed relatives and friends-rest in peace. Book is available at the front of the church, ready for you to sign. Jhere are envelopes [November Mass Offering] available on church pews or at the side entrance for you. Place them in the collection bowl.

St James Parish choir is looking for extra singers to join us in celebrating Christmas this year at both a Carols Service in mid-December and with the usual Carols and Mass from 11:30 pm Christmas Eve. Practice will be held either Monday or Tuesday nights at 7:30 pm in the church from now until Christmas. Please contact Helen Deakin on 0419124873 for any enquiries. We will be singing a variety of old favourites and brand new Carols. You do not have to be able to read music or be a great singer to join. Just be willing to lift your voice in song with a joyful heart.



\$2 at entrances

interspersed

1.1 M.A.

Next practice: Monday 19 November, 7:30 pm in the church.



- * Bill Hayden continues to progress in faith as he awaits the joy of his First Holy Communion
- * Life-changing book to help people revel in later years with joy, passion and wisdom
- * Australian Catholic University in Brisbane to host a panel forum to discuss the role of women in Church leadership in Australian context

Other news of interest

Third public multi-faith walk in Brisbane City to commemorate the **United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women**. This year's walk is also being supported by the United Nations Association of the walk is also being supported by the United Nations Association of the walk is also being supported by the United Nations Association of the walk is also being supported by the United Nations Association of the walk is also being supported by the United Nations Association of the walk is also being supported by the United Nations Association of the walk is also being supported by the United Nations Association of the walk is also being supported by the United Nations Association of the walk is also being supported by the United Nations Association of the Nations Association of National Nations Association of National Nations Association of National Nations the National Nat

Australia Queensland branch and a couple of human rights organisations: FRIDAY 23 NOVEMBER 4.30PM to 6PM icd@griffith.edu.au or info@bwcp.org.au (see noticeboard)

The Parish of St James

165 Old Cleveland Road. Postal: PO Box 1051 COORPAROO DC, QLD, 4151 Phone: (07) 3397 1671 OR 3847 3696 Email: osastjames@bne.catholic.net.au Parish Administrator: pp.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au Web: www.stjames-coorparoo.org.au

Primary School

92 Kirkland Ave, Coorparoo, 4151. John Bates - Principal



Phone: 3457 1100 Fax: 3847 3337 Email: pcoorparoostj@bne.catholic.edu.au Web: www.stjames.qld.edu.au/

Administration

Parish Administrator	Fr Joseph Lam OSA	3397 1671
Assistant Pastor	Fr Saldie Resolado OSA	3397 1671
Assistant Pastor	Fr Dang Nguyen OSA	3397 1671
Retired	Fr. Peter Hayes OSA	3397 1671
Parish Secretary	Trish Rashad	3397 1671
Parish Council Chairperson	Ray Mitchell	3892 1682
Finance Committee	Paul Davey	0437 730 792
Pastoral Care	Parish Office	3397 1671
Safeguarding Officer	Kate Pearson	capearson@optusnet.com.au

Counters

November 17 / 18 Lenore & Brendon

November 24 / 25 Paul & Cecilia

NEXT WEEK November 24 / 25	SATURDAY 6 PM	SUNDAY 7AM	SUNDAY 9AM	SUNDAY 6PM
COMMENTATOR	H. DEAKIN	M-J VIDLER	A. EGERT	YOUNG
LECTOR	R. STEPHENSON	J. DUNGAN	K. PEARSON	ADULTS GROUP
EUCHARIST	PRIYA C. NEANDER A. STEPHENSON	N. POKARIER H. LEWIS M. NORRIS	J. BUTOYI D. MARTIN *	J. WALSH D. STRANO *
HOSPITALITY	C. WHELAN F. DARCH	G. TRIGGS-FULTON B. TRIGGS-FULTON	J. MILLER	B. SCHLECHT
ALTAR SERVERS	ΜΑΧ	DON, GENE, DENEB	*	JOHN, RODEL, RAMIL, ALYSSA, KLARIS
POWERPOINT	CECILIA	GENE, GILBERT	DI, OLIVER, JUNE	SYDEL

Mass Times WEEKEND: Saturday 8 am; Vigil 6 pm;

<u>Sunday</u> 7 am, 9 am, 6 pm.

RECONCILIATION: <u>Saturday</u> 4.30—5.30 pm.

WEEKDAY: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 8 am.

ADORATION: Thursday 8 am.

PRAYER GROUP: each morning prior to Mass.

ALL NIGHT VIGIL: Friday 7th December 2018.

NEXT ANOINTING MASS: Friday 14th December 2018, at 10am (no 8am mass on this day).

NEXT MASS WITH CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Sunday 18th November 2018 — 9am mass.

"All that is good, all that is true, all that is beautiful brings us to God. Because God is good, God is beautiful, God is the truth." Pope Francis