

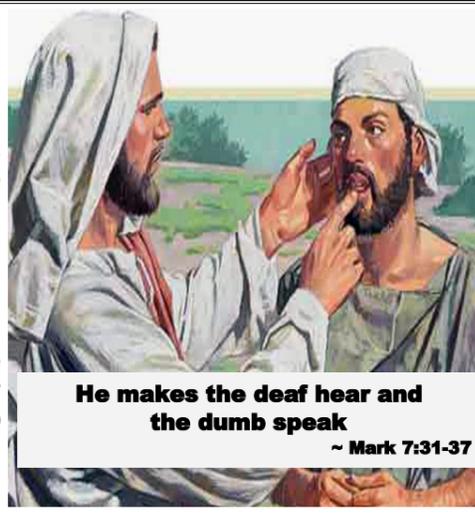


NEXT WEEK'S READINGS	RESPONSE	ACCLAMATION
1st Reading: Isaiah 50:5-9 2nd Reading: James 2:14-18 Gospel: Mark 8:27-35	Praise the Lord, my soul!	Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

NO ONE CAN BE A FOLLOWER OF THE LORD WITHOUT REACHING OUT TO THE HELPLESS

Today's readings offer us God's invitation to become humble instruments of healing in Jesus' hands by giving voice to the voiceless and caring love to the needy and the marginalized in our society. The readings also invite us to open our ears to hear the word of God and to let our tongues be loosened by the Holy Spirit to convey the Good News of God's love and salvation to others.

The Gospel describes how Jesus, by healing a deaf man with speech impediment fulfilled Isaiah's Messianic prophecy, "The eyes of the blind shall be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped." The ailments listed by Isaiah are symbolic of our interior illnesses: blindness to the needs of our neighbor, unwillingness to hear God's voice and the inability to speak words of praise and gratitude. Through this miracle story, Mark also reminds us that no one can be a follower of the Lord without reaching out to the helpless.



He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak
 ~ Mark 7:31-37

Excerpted from the homily of Fr Tony Kadavil available at <http://frtonyshomilies.com>. Image from <https://achristianpilgrim.wordpress.com>



NEW PRIME MINISTER STANDS FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

New Prime Minister Scott Morrison counts himself as a devout Christian and stands for protection of religious freedoms. Raised in the Uniting Church, he's a regular worshipper in the Pentecostal Horizon Church, along with his wife Jennifer and two daughters in the heart of Sydney's southern Sutherland Shire.

religious freedoms. 'It all starts when you allow religious freedoms (to be eroded), mockery to be made of your faith or your religious festivals – it always starts innocently and it's always said it is just a joke – just like most discrimination does,' he told Fairfax media in December last year.

During his first media conference as prime minister, Mr Morrison named the drought 'as the most urgent and pressing need right now', as well as addressing electricity prices and healthcare. He also moved quickly to identify the conflict over school resourcing as one of the 'key issues' for his government. His appointment of new Education Minister Dan Tehan received an immediate welcome from Catholic educators.

On other issues, Mr Morrison backed the 'No' vote during last year's same-sex marriage debate, and has signalled a clear willingness to ensure greater

POPE FRANCIS: PRAY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN AFRICA

Let us pray that young people in Africa may have access to education and work in their own countries. Africa is a wealthy continent, and its greatest, most valuable resource is its young people.

They should be able to choose between letting themselves be overcome by difficulty or transforming the difficulty into an opportunity.

The most effective way to help them in this choice is to invest in their education.

If young people don't have the possibility of education, what future can they have?

Let us pray that young people in Africa may have access to education and work in their own countries.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING AND THEIR FAMILIES

ANNIVERSARIES: Goodwin Silveira, Vernon Lamb, Moira Hudson, James Dalton, Adelina Byrne, Phillip Zaneli, Jean Kilmartin, Carmel Ruys
SICK: Mary Edmonds, Marta Kristan, Geoff Bell, Peter Lisle, Margaret Ratcliffe, Margaret McLean, Matthew MacDonald, Nigel Goggin, Wendy Markby.



FR JOE CADDY RECOGNISED AS MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

Last Tuesday 4 September, Fr Joe Caddy, Episcopal Vicar for Social Services and ex CatholicCare CEO, took part in an investiture ceremony and received his Order of Australia award at Government House.

Fr Joe was recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours for his 'significant service to the community through a range of social welfare initiatives and policy reforms, and to the Catholic Church in Australia', and on this sunny spring day Her Excellency the Hon Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria, presented the medal to Fr Joe during an official ceremony.

Fr Joe was accompanied by 119 others who also received an Australia Honour and Award today, all of whom have come from different walks of life.

'They so vividly showcase for us, the talent, the clever ideas, and the hard work that each one of you, our recipients, has shared with our state and our nation,' stated the Governor. 'I have always believed that it's the contribution of our finest, most committed, and most generous community members, that will help make our nation the very best it can be.'

Full report at www.melbournecatholic.org.au

BE A WOMAN FOR THE WORLD AND HELP FIGHT INJUSTICE THIS SEPTEMBER

Every day, in many countries globally, discrimination and inequality rob women and girls of the opportunities to earn, learn and lead. Gender inequality is a fundamental denial of human rights and a key cause of poverty.

Caritas Australia is encouraging women to fight this injustice, celebrate empowerment and help end poverty by hosting a 'Women for the World' event this September. Women for the World events, which can be held at home, in workplaces, schools or really anywhere, can take the form of a morning tea, movie night, luncheon or a dinner party.

Funds raised through the Women for the World events will go to Caritas Australia, the international aid and development agency of the Catholic Church. Long-time Caritas Australia supporter and one of the driving forces behind Women for the World, Dr Michelle Fernon said, that given the disproportionate impact that poverty has on women and girls it is vital that action is taken.

Full report at www.melbournecatholic.org.au

SAINT PADRE PIO'S RELICS COMING TO MELBOURNE

Sunday 30 September
Capuchin Friars St Anthony's Shrine, 182 Power Street, Hawthorn

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Saint Padre Pio's death, some of his relics, accompanied by Fr Gian Maria Di Giorgio from San Giovanni Rotondo Italy, are traveling to Melbourne this month.

A public veneration will take place before and after the 10.30am Italian Mass and 12.00pm English and in the afternoon from 3.00pm until 5.00pm.

A special 'Healing Mass' will be celebrated on that day at 3.00pm.

Enquiries: (03) 9819 3775

CALLING FOR APPLICATIONS TO TRAVEL TO PANAMA

Archbishop Peter Comensoli has recently announced that he and the Archdiocesan Office for Youth will lead a group of young Catholics to World Youth Day in Panama in 2019.

The announcement has come as a welcome surprise and we are excited to offer a limited number of places to join the pilgrimage. Our group will depart Melbourne on Tuesday 15 January 2019 and return on Friday 1 February.

The application round has a really short turnaround - closing on Wednesday 12 September. The pilgrimage is being subsidised by the Archdiocese of Melbourne and successful applicants will be required to contribute \$3500, which includes travel insurance.

You can read all the details via the website at www.cam.org.au/wyd.

So, hurry and get your application in to join thousands of other young Catholics in this mammoth celebration of our faith and our youth.

POPE: OUR HEART IS WHERE THE SPIRITS DO BATTLE

A person's heart is like a battlefield where two different spirits confront one another, Pope Francis said yesterday during Mass at the Domus Sanctae Marthae.

One, the Spirit of God, leads us "to good works, to charity, to fraternity"; the other, that of the world, pushes us "towards vanity, pride, sufficiency, gossiping," the Pope said in the homily.

He was reflecting on the first reading, in which "the Apostle Paul teaches the Corinthians the way to think like Christ" – a path that is characterised by abandonment to the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit, in fact, that leads us to "know Jesus," to share his "sentiments," to understand his heart.

Full report at www.cathnews.com

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

- 13 September - St John Chrysostom
- 14 September - The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- 15 September - Our Lady of Sorrow

TOY REPAIR



He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. - PSALM 147:3 NIV