

Reflection by Greg Sunter

Strangely, this week's gospel about the healing of a man who was deaf and dumb is less about healing than it is about Jesus being the Messiah. The theme is set up in the first reading when the prophet, Isaiah, describes the signs by which the coming of the Messiah will be recognised: the blind will see; the deaf will hear; the lame will leap; and the dumb will speak. When Jesus healed the man in the gospel story the crowd



were admiring of what he had done. They even exclaimed, 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.' These words are a direct echo of the Isaiah text – they were recognising Jesus as fulfilling the prophecies of the promised Messiah.

However, the passage also demonstrates to us that Jesus was trying to show the people that he was not exactly the Messiah that many of them were anticipating. This healing story takes place in the region of The Decapolis – south-east of the Galilee region and populated mostly by Gentiles. By travelling in this area and working miraculous healings, Jesus is making the point that his mission is to all people, not just 'the Chosen People' of Israel. He commands the crowd who witnessed the healing to tell no one about it but, filled with the idea that Jesus was the Messiah they had been waiting for, they broadcast the news. Jesus wanted their silence because he knew that they did not fully understand the sort of Messiah that he was. Only when they understood that this Messiah must suffer and die would he have allowed them to speak of his deeds.

PARISH HAPPENINGS

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday 10 September

- 9.30am SVDP – AQ Room
- 7.30pm PFC Meeting – Library
- 7.00pm Italian Prayer Group – Church

Tuesday 11 September

- 9.30am Scripture group – Library
- 9.30am Playgroup – Hospitality Area
- 4.30pm FHC Practice - Church
- 7.00pm Liturgy Committee - Library

Wednesday 12 September

- 6.00pm OLOG Diners – Pacific Golf Club
- 7.00pm Legion of Mary - Library

Thursday 13 September

- 9.30am Playgroup – Hospitality Area

Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 September

FHC across all masses

Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick John Andersen and those whose anniversaries occur around this time Edna O'Brien, Reginald Tissera and the recently deceased Elizabeth O'Mara, Avelina Catay, Dr John Farnworth and Jo-Anne de Wolf.

Office Hours for Parish Staff

Parish Secretary: Monday 8.30am to 12.30pm and Tuesday to Thursday 8.30am to 3.30pm. If you have a newsletter item request, please forward it to the office by no later than the Wednesday of the week you would like it published.

Pastoral Associate: Monday and Friday 8.30am to 12.30pm and Tuesday to Thursday 8.30am to 3.30pm

Finance Officer: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8.30am to 1.30pm

(N.B. hours are subject to change)

Sacramental Program FHC 2018

Next weekend on 15 and 16 September, we will be celebrating some of the children in our parish receiving their First Holy Communion. Families, you will need to have booked in for the FHC mass **NO LATER** than Monday 10 September, 3.30pm. For those children who attend St Martin's, there will be a practice session during school hours. For those who do not attend St Martin's, there will be a practice on 11/9 at 3.30pm. Thank you.

Children's Mass 16 September

This is a note to everyone who participate or attend the 3rd Sunday, 5.30pm children's mass. This month on the 16th of September, there will be no children's mass due to First Holy Communions. It will resume again in October.

From Archbishop Mark Coleridge

To the people of god of the Archdiocese of Brisbane

Brothers and sisters: Peace be with you!

As we cross another threshold in the long journey of responding to the crisis of sexual abuse in the Church, I want to speak a word to you, a word of hope and encouragement.

I speak first to the victims and their families who have suffered most through it all. Especially to those in the Archdiocese of Brisbane who have been traumatised by abuse I offer a most heartfelt apology. I think too of the many fine clergy and religious in the Archdiocese who have been so mired and burdened by what has happened. But there is no-one in the Church who hasn't been wounded in some way by abuse. When one in the community suffers, all suffer. That's the way it is in the Body of Christ; when one part of the body is in pain, the whole body suffers.

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia have just published a joint response to the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. We have accepted, accepted in principle or supported 98 per cent of the Royal Commission's recommendations. As requested by the Royal Commission, we have referred some to the Holy See, and we are pursuing discussions with the Vatican.

(You can read more on the Archbishop's letter at the back of the Church.)

St Vincent de Paul

The next St Vincent de Paul meeting is Monday 10 September at 9.30am in the Aquinas Room. All new comers are welcome. If you wish to come along but you are unsure contact Barbara via email brdougherty@bigpond.com and mobile 0438 982 140.

SOMETHING FUNNY

Is this what babies think when they are baptised?



Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Brisbane East Deanery (BED)

Evening Session

Date: Wednesday October 31, 2018

Time: 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Location: Our Lady of Graces Parish,
Dominic Centre,
100 Mayfield Road, Carina, 4152
p: 07 3398 2977
e: carina@bne.catholic.net.au

Daytime Session

Date: Wednesday November 14, 2018

Time: 10am - 12 noon

Location: Regina Caeli

Parish Hall
81 Waverley Rd, Camp Hill, 4152
p: 07 3398 3697
e: reginacaeli@bne.catholic.net.au

For registration & further details contact parishes of Our Lady of Graces Parish & Regina Caeli respectively. Please note, this face-to-face training is only applicable to those registered volunteers who are:

- **providing services for children & vulnerable adults**
- **engaging in activities mainly with children & vulnerable adults**
- **in a leadership/council/finance position also employed by their parish, faith community or the Archdiocese**

For all other volunteers, there will be a video released at the end of this year in which you will be able to watch at home.

..for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Mark 10:14

The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded by all.

Last Week's 2nd Collection

Loose	\$797.70
Planned Giving	\$3,711.50
Total	\$4,509.20

Planned Giving Program

To obtain envelopes, Direct Debit or a Credit Card request, please complete the form on the back page of this newsletter and place on either collection plate or deliver to Parish Office.

Petition on Abortion

There is a petition at the back of the church against the current introduction of changes to legislation around abortion laws. For more information around this subject, please go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6E7wAwtXv8> Please note that some topics in the video might be emotionally confronting.

CATHOLIC LEADER

Available at the back of the church for \$2

- * *Papal letter condemns clerical sexual abuse and cover-ups*
- * *Kerala flood disaster hits home*
- * *St James creates pathway to inclusivity*
- * *Vinnies helping struggling farmers through drought relief appeal*
- * *Refugees still in dire need of aid in Uganda*
- * *Nun 'nudged' Church to act on Aussie's sainthood cause for Eileen O'Connor*

ANNUAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN 2018

This weekend, our Church is delighted to be supporting the Annual Catholic Campaign. It is the one time of year that all of the parishes in the Archdiocese come together to help vital works of our church and local community.

Funds raised will support ministries that directly impact this parish. The Campaign supports training future priests, caring for elderly priests when they are no longer able to serve our parish, helping families access a Catholic education and caring for those suffering physically and emotionally in our local community.

You can find out more information by reading one of the brochures provided at the back of the church!

Our Church, our community. Doing good.

This weekend our parish is holding a special collection for the **Annual Catholic Campaign**, in support of the vital ministries in our Church.



It's the one time a year that all of the parishes in the Archdiocese pull together to help build these good works of our Church and local community.

Please consider a thoughtful gift.
It will be the answer to someone's prayer.



Support the good works of the Church.

Give today: 07 3324 3200 or
catholiccampaign.com.au

Become a part of the parish Planned Giving Program to help your Parish grow.

We thank, sincerely, all Parishioners who contribute to Planned Giving. Your ongoing commitment and contribution assists the parish to budget for operating expenses (wages, rates, electricity, phones, maintenance etc) as well as parish pastoral planning (faith education, sacramental preparation, resources etc). To obtain Planned Giving Envelopes or to contribute by direct debit, complete this form and place on the plate, or contact the Parish Office. Planned Giving contributions are not Tax Deductable.

Surname: _____ **Given names** _____

Address _____ **P/code** _____

Phone _____

Email _____