

MOVED TO RECONCILIATION
SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) – 14 FEBRUARY 2021



Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, 'I do choose. Be made clean!'

LENT

Are we ready yet for Lent?

The Season of Lent begins this Wednesday – Ash Wednesday with Masses and the Ashes at 9am and 7pm Masses.

With schools back and parish life adjusting with COVID-19, we highlight a few special moments.

SCHOOLS

Congratulations to St Joseph's Primary School and St. John Fisher College on their opening school liturgies during last week, Year Twelve leaders were commissioned last week and Year Six leaders this coming week.

BAPTISMS

We look forward later this month to eleven baptisms and pray for each of the children - Henry, Elsie, Lilah, Amber, Kylie, Vance, Gus, Sophia, Aro, Nate and Marcus.

FAREWELL

This week will be the funeral Mass and burial for Shami, a member of our parish community, We recall her lifelong courage and her journey to Australia.

GOSPEL OF MARK 1:40-45

In today's Gospel Jesus encounters a man with Hansen's Disease.

He is *"moved with pity"*.

From the original Greek we learn that this could be a deep compassion.

Jesus is moved with compassion, so moved, he feels even his bowels moving.

That depth of compassion.

Other ancient translations use a different word in Greek, that translates as *'anger'*.

The anger might be more like frustration.

We can be fully attentive to someone's needs, and at the same time, angry at injustice or circumstances of disrespect.

We can identify with both versions, *'moved with compassion'* or *'angry'*.

Both words speak to us.

Let us read the Gospel passage [twice](#).

[Firstly](#), with deep compassion.

And [secondly](#), with a sense of anger or frustration at the plight of the poor man, suffering with a major disease, and cut off from his family, his village, and his lifestyle.

*“A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him,
‘If you choose, you can make me clean.’*

*Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him,
and said to him,*

‘I do choose. Be made clean!’

Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean.

After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, saying to him,

***‘See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest,
and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to
them.’***

*But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word,
so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly,*

but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.”

The man in today’s Gospel does not follow the law.

How desperate must he be?

He knows within himself that Jesus can heal him fully
and return him to community and religious life.

Jesus can turn his whole life around.

Jesus can reconcile him to his community.

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

This weekend at each Mass, Parish Pastoral Councillors will update us on the pilot
[Reconciliation Action Plan](#) within the Archdiocese of Brisbane and our parish.

Enlightened by Jesus, healing the man in today’s Gospel,
we ask how we can be truly reconciled as a community.

In the Bible there is a phrase *‘land of’* to signify relationship to land.

For example, in the first five Books of the Old Testament, the phrase is used [242](#) times.

From the Psalms as prayer and their use in liturgy, the phrase *‘land of’* is also used.

In Psalm 116.9 *‘I walk before the Lord in the land of the living.’*

In Psalm 142.5 *‘I cry to you, O Lord; I say, ‘You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the
living.’*

We discern a spiritual relationship with God and the land and its people.

In other Psalms, *‘the land of Israel’* and *‘the land of Canaan’*
and *‘the land of Ham’* are acknowledged.

At the beginning of Mass, instead of *‘land’* we say *‘country’*,

We have *‘acknowledgment of country’*.

And when there is a Turrbul person present, we could be *'welcomed to country'*.

During the year we will explore their very deep meanings.

There is a helpful video link that our Parish Pastoral Council and parish RAP Group could preview. And possibly it could be made available to all of us in the near future.

Let us now open our ears and hearts to the presentation by members of our Parish Pastoral Council.

Fr Gerry

Readings: <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/021421.cfm>

To read the Archdiocese of Brisbane Reconciliation Action Plan please click on the image below. The document is the property of the Archdiocese of Brisbane.

Details of the artwork are on page two of the document.

We wish to acknowledge the artist, Shara Delaney, who is a descendant of the Noonuccal, Ngugi and Goenpul clan groups of Quandamooka.

