Continued from Page — 1.

By reaching out and touching the leper, Jesus does something revolutionary and deeply symbolic. In that society, touching a leper was unthinkable; it rendered one ceremonially unclean. Yet, Jesus' touch was a powerful statement – He was willing to share in the leper's social and spiritual alienation to restore him. This action was a radical message of inclusion and acceptance. Jesus was not only healing the man's physical leprosy but was also restoring his dignity, his sense of belonging, and his spiritual well-being.

When Jesus commands, "be clean," it is more than a physical healing. It is a restoration of the man's total identity – his social, emotional, and spiritual life. Jesus gives back to the man what his condition had stolen – his humanity, his place in the community, and his relationship with God. The healing is comprehensive, addressing the deep-seated feelings of being despised and rejected, not just by society but also seemingly by God.

This passage is a vivid reminder that Jesus' ministry was deeply rooted in compassion and radical inclusion. It challenges us to see beyond the surface, to understand the complex nature of suffering, and to approach others with the same depth of compassion and bold love that Jesus demonstrated.

Blessings~ Fr Stephen Berecz St John the Baptist, Parnell

Fish & Chip Farewell to Kevin & Barbara McBride after Mass Saturday

24 February

Parish of St Peter - Waiheke Island

P O Box 19, Oneroa, Waiheke Island. www.waihekecatholic.org.nz

PARISH TIMETABLE: SATURDAY VIGIL MASS 5.00PM

SUNDAY MASS 9.15AM

RECONCILIATION RITE I AVAILABLE BEFORE WEEKEND MASSES

Parish Priest: Fr Chris Denham (frchris@stpatricks.org.nz): 09 303 4509

Assistant Priest: Fr Glenford Lowe

Parish Liaison: Christine Sloan (stpeters.waiheke@gmail.com): 09-372-3581

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME— 11TH FEBRUARY 2024

Pastor's Note

n today's Gospel we read a profoundly moving encounter between Jesus and a leper. This narrative is not just a testament to Jesus', miraculous power to heal physical ailments but also a profound

insight into His deep understanding of human suffering and His approach to healing that goes beyond the physical



In the reading we witness a leper approaching Jesus, imploring Him for healing. Leprosy in biblical times was not just a physical ailment; it was laden with social and spiritual implications. Lepers were not only shunned by their communities but were also seen as bearers of divine punishment for sin. This man's illness was a

source of profound physical suffering, social isolation, and spiritual despair. The heartbreak accompanying this disease was immense, as it severed individuals from their communities and made them subjects of scorn and fear.

Jesus' reaction to the leper is deeply telling. He is moved with compassion, understanding the full spectrum of the man's suffering. This compassion is not just for the physical ailment but for the profound emotional and spiritual pain that comes from being ostracized and labelled as cursed by God. Jesus' response is holistic – He sees the leper not just as a sick body but as a whole person, crushed under the weight of illness, social rejection, and spiritual anguish.

——> Page 4

Waiheke Parish is part of the Auckland Inner City Pastoral Area, Catholic Cathedral of St Patrick, Parish of St Benedict – Newton, Parish of St John – Parnell



Gather Us In **Be Not Afraid Amazing Grace** 526 449

437

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on Earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore vou, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God. Lamb of God. Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PSALM #32 (PRAY TOGETHER)

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord; be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty. Creator of Heaven and Earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate. was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into Hell: on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven. and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body. and life everlasting. Amen.

CONFITEOR

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God

PARISH ROSTERS 10th February – 24th March 2024

PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD

		Prayers of faithful:	1st reader:	2nd reader:
Saturday	10 February	Ruth Gracie	Carol Grbin	Ivan Grbin
,	11 February		`Judith Walshe	Christine Sloan
,	,	Judith Aggrey	-	•
Saturday	17 February	Bronwen Muir	Don Sheridan	Ceri O'Connor
Sunday	18 February	Sheldene Crookes	Kirsten Sloan	Gaileen McGivern
Saturday	24 February	Bronwen Muir	Mary Sullivan	Pat Sullivan
Sunday	25 February	Christine Sloan	Mark Mullins	Viki Trainor
Saturday	2 March	Carol Grbin	Bronwen Muir	Ivan Grbin
Sunday	3 March	Gaileen McGivern	Judith Aggrey	JudithWalshe
Saturday	9 March	Ruth Gracie	Ceri O'Connor	Don Sheridan
Sunday	10 March	Viki Trainor	Sheldene Crookes	s Kirsten Sloan
Saturday	16 March	Mary Sullivan	Pat Sullivan	Bronwen Muir
Sunday	17 March	Mark Mullins	Christine Sloan	Judith Aggrey
Saturday	23 March	Ruth Gracie	Carol Grbin	Ivan Grbin
Sunday	24 March	Christine Sloan	Judith Walshe	Gaileen McGivern

MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION (*responsible for set up only)

Welcome /

Saturday	10 February	*Pauline / Velvet
Sunday	11 February	*Ann Ita Harrison
Saturday	17 February	*Ruth Gracie
Sunday	18 February	*David Sloan
Saturday	24 February	*Pauline / Velvet
Sunday	25 February	*Fe De La Haye
Saturday	2 March	*Ruth Gracie
Sunday	3 March	*Ann Ita Harrison
Saturday	9 March	*Pauline / Velvet
Sunday	10 March	*David Sloan
Saturday	16 March	*Ruth Gracie
Sunday	17 March	*Fe De La Haye
Saturday	23 March	*Ruth Gracie
Sunday	24 March	*Ann Ita Harrison

DRIVEWAY MAINTENANCE

10 February	Barbara Boyce		
17 February	David Harold	24 February	Patrick Newton
02 March	Barbara Boyce	09 March	David Harold
16 March	Patrick Newton	23 March	Barbara Boyce

CHURCH CLEANING - n/a - done by professional cleaning company

