

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

31 JANUARY 2021

A TEACHING WITH AUTHORITY BEHIND IT. Power and authority usually go together and are often confused. If Jesus exercised authority it was not in the oppressive fashion of many earthly rulers but in service of the poor. His power was directed towards liberating people from unjust laws, evil spirits, debilitating illnesses and the slavery of sin. It is this power that is at work in us.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Ps 105: 47

Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. Have mercy on us, O Lord.

R. For we have sinned against you.

P. Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

R. And grant us your salvation.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

V. Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / 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.

COLLECT

P. Grant us, Lord our God, that we may honour you with all our mind, and love everyone in truth of heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Deut 18: 15-20

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy
I will put my words into the prophet's mouth, and he will tell them all I command.

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PS Ps 94: 1-2, 6-9 R. v. 9

R. If today you hear his voice harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; / hail the rock who saves us. / Let us come before him, giving thanks, / with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

2. Come in; let us kneel and bend low; / let us kneel before the God who made us / for he is our God and we / the people who belong to his pasture, / the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

3. O that today you would listen to his voice! / Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, / as on that day at Massah in the desert / when your fathers put me to the test; / when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R.**



SECOND READING 1 Cor 7: 32-35

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

The unmarried woman dedicates herself to the things of the Lord, that she might be holy.

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 4: 16

Alleluia, alleluia! / A people in darkness have seen a great light: / a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mk 1: 21-28

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

This is a new kind of teaching that speaks with authority.

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep

ST MARTHA'S PARISH STRATHFIELD



Parish Priest: Fr John Hayes

Parish Administrator: Fr Jacek (Jack) Cichy

Administration Coordinator: Nicolle Mazzaferro (Mon-Thurs) admin@stmarthas.org.au

Administration Support: Larissa Argiro (Fridays) office@stmarthas.org.au

Safeguarding Officer: Dianne Dawson safeguarding@stmarthas.org.au

Parish Ministries Coordinator: Helen Williamson

Music Ministry: Marcella Ayoub & Agnes Lee

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Rachel Suriano

Plenary Council Ambassador: Helena O'Neill

Youth Ministry: Jessica Gereis youth@stmarthas.org.au



'This is a new kind of teaching that speaks with authority'... Mark 1:21-28

70 Homebush Rd Strathfield NSW 2135

Phone: 9746 6131 Fax: 9746 3040

Email: office@stmarthas.org.au

Website: www.stmarthas.org.au

Parish Office: Mon- Fri 9.00am-3.00pm



St Martha's School: 9764 1184

Email: info@stmstrathfield.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Carolyn Parsell

Assist Principal: Steven Belcastro

REC: Attilia Kazacos

THE PARISH OF ST MARTHA'S ACKNOWLEDGES THE WANGUL PEOPLE AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND ON WHICH THE CHURCH IS BUILT

Vision:

**Welcoming
Eucharistic
Transformed by the Word
Full of Grace
Proclaiming Good News**



*Please
continue
to support the
St Vincent De Paul Society
through the Church
Poor Boxes.*

Mission:

**Alive with the Spirit
Inspired by St Martha
We Celebrate & Witness
God's love
Using our Gifts & Talents**



MASS TIMES

Tuesday: 7.30am

Wednesday: 9.10am

Thursday: 9.10am

Friday: 9.10am

Saturday: 9.10am, 5pm Vigil Mass

Sunday: 8.00am; 10.00am & 6.00pm

1st Saturday of every month:

8-9am Adoration, 9am Benediction, 9.10am Healing Mass and Anointing of the Sick, followed by reconciliation

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday after 9.10am Mass or by appointment.

BAPTISM:

2nd & 4th Sundays of the month at 11.00am by appointment only.

(One months' notice is required).

Next Preparation Session:

7th February 2020 in the Parish Hall
Contact the Parish office for more information.

MARRIAGES: By appointment only.
(6 months' notice is required).

ROSARY: Tuesday & Saturday after morning Mass, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8.30am and 7.30pm on Fridays in conjunction with Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle and Divine Mercy Chaplet

PRAYER GROUP / ADORATION AT

ST MARTHA'S CHURCH:

Mondays 10.30am - 11.30am

Resumes February 2021

**Please support our Catholic Press
Copies of the Catholic Weekly \$2
& Catholic Leader \$2.50
are available at the Church Entrances.**



SAFE GUARDING

A reminder to parents that the Notice-Board located at the side entrance contains various resources for children regarding Safeguarding.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY.

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance.

The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Please be aware that if you "TAG" St Martha's in photos on your Facebook page, the images also appear on an "unofficial" St Martha's Facebook page. This "unofficial" page was created automatically by Facebook and is not controlled by St Martha's. We kindly remind you to take care when uploading photos of any children without parent consent.



IMPORTANT NOTICE:

IF YOU PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING MINISTRIES YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN IN - ACOLYTES; READERS; EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS; CHOIR; CHILDREN'S LITURGY (LEADERS & CHILDREN) & SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM (LEADERS & CHILDREN). SIGN IN FOLDERS ARE KEPT IN THE SACRISTY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION.

ALTAR SERVERS ARE **NOT** PERMITTED IN THE SACRISTY WITHOUT A PARENT/TEACHER. THE SIGN IN FOLDER IS LOCATED IN THE CORRIDOR OUTSIDE THE SACRISTY.

'Sharing the Word'

Mondays at 7pm in St Martha's Church.

Everyone is Welcome.



GLUTEN FREE HOSTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ANY CELIAC PARISHIONERS. IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION PLEASE TELL THE CHURCH WARDEN OR SEE AN ACOLYTE IN THE SACRISTY PRIOR TO MASS.



Dear friends of St Martha's,

From time to time in our lives, we have to say "goodbye". This weekend I say farewell to our faith community here at St Martha's.

Four years has passed by so quickly. In this time, I have met many faith-filled, caring and courageous people. I have been privileged to together witness with you the goodness and blessings God has so graciously lavished upon us. Many thanks for opening your hearts and homes to me in my time here. I will cherish each and every kind gesture and deed, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for these gestures of kindness and friendship.

I am very proud of our many parish achievements in particular meeting the recent challenges of covid by being adaptive and responsive to the changing covid environment and restrictions.

I pray for our whole community and I also pray for and wish Fr John, your new parish priest, countless blessings as he begins his ministry in St Martha's.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the work and dedication of the many unsung heroes of our church, who go about their work daily without fanfare or attention and are the backbone of St Martha's. Thank you and may God shower his blessings on you is my prayer!

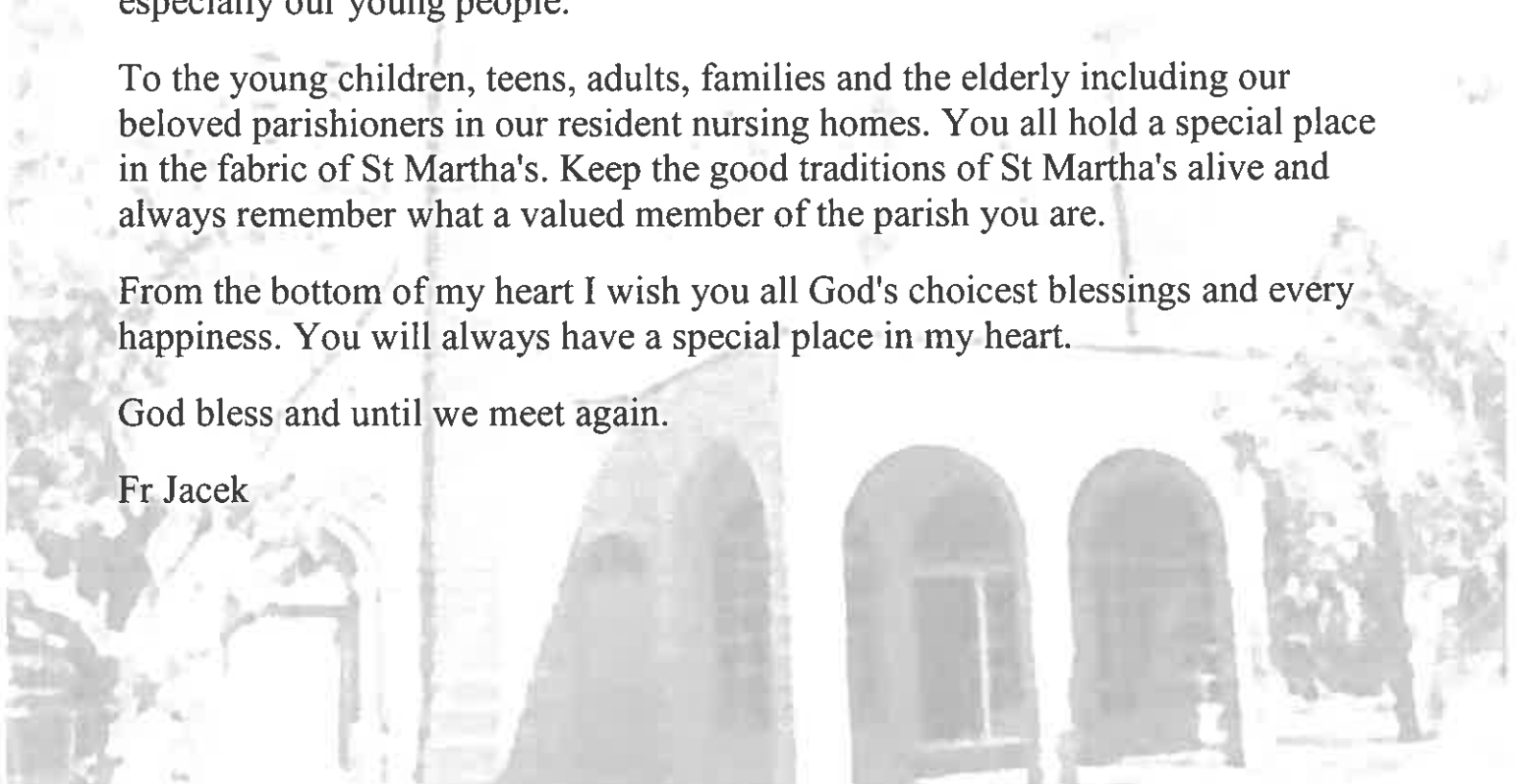
To St Martha's parish school and staff, and other neighbouring schools and their staff, fellow visiting supply priests, seminarians, I thank you for your faith filled vocations and for all that you do to spread God's word to our community in your day to day lives. I pray that God will continue to bless you all abundantly, especially our young people.

To the young children, teens, adults, families and the elderly including our beloved parishioners in our resident nursing homes. You all hold a special place in the fabric of St Martha's. Keep the good traditions of St Martha's alive and always remember what a valued member of the parish you are.

From the bottom of my heart I wish you all God's choicest blessings and every happiness. You will always have a special place in my heart.

God bless and until we meet again.

Fr Jacek



Sacramental Coordinator farewell announcement

Patricia Saad had informed me that she would be leaving her role as Sacramental Coordinator for the parish at the end of January. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Patricia for her many years of tireless and dedicated service to the parish and wider school community. Thank you Patricia for all your assistance and help, you will be greatly missed. We wish you all the very best for the future and ask God to bless you for all you have done for St. Martha's. Fr Jacek.

*Farewell
Best
OF
Luck*



Welcome!

Welcome Father John Hayes

Fr John has been appointed Parish Priest at St Martha's from 1st February 2021. We warmly welcome Fr John to our parish and will keep him in our prayers.

MASS INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased:

George Karam, Dorothy Spratt, Alessio Pappalettera, Father Isidore Anantharaj, Bishop Geoffrey Robinson, Chi Kong, Caterina Randazzo, Betty Rooney, Ann-Maree Leydon, Roxann Astruc, Patrick Griffith, James Brady, Patricia Wilson, Norma Shore, Sr Pauline Smith rsm, Marie Verschuer, Enid Wynne.

Repose of The Soul:

Fr Adrian Horgan, Fr Paul Ryan, Br Ray Dowding, Gerald Wilson, John Ferguson, Daniel Lucich, James Brady, Ken Fraser, Connie Wong, Mary Bentley, Aldo Amarino, Salvatore (Phillip) Puglisi, William (Bill) & Dorothy Starr, Roger O'Reilly, Stefano, Estelle Thurn, Anne Cecilia Glass, Reginald & Agnes Glass, Gerald & Frances Gleeson, Faado & Alice Herro, John, Doreen & Des McNamara Patrick & Janet Reynolds, Jim Reynolds, Ken Rich, Monica & Patrick Ryan, Stephen Maxwell Stewart & Christopher John Stewart, Dr Stephanie Winfield, Philip Winfield, Tom O'Rourke, Norman & Christine Coorey, Caterina & Matteo Genova, Francesco & Maria Colagiuri, Lisa Cooke, Michael & Mary Cassar, Guiseppe & Romilda Reginato.

Anniversaries:

Sr M Fabian rsm, Joseph & Margaret McGannon, Richard Sullivan, Maureen Sarks, Rosario Pagano, Violet Bouffler, Gerald Gleeson, John McManus, Des McNamara, Alice Herro, John Behringer, Monica Ryan, Beryl Erskine, Michael Donegan, Elisa, Patrick & Mereani Chang, Declan & Redmond Dower, Thomas Kenny, Dorothea Francis Starr, William (Bill) Starr, Harry Thorpe, John Harrington, John St George, Zahia Azzi, Oswald Oudin.

Sick Intentions:

Aida Bechara, Susanna Boroczky, Neale Apps, Pat Fraser, Tony Grace, Baby Alice Ladd, Margaret Davidson, Marc Kayrouz & Peter Starr.

Special Intentions:

Margaret, Meredith & Hannah Apps, Siva Sothy, The Pagano & Colagiuri Families, May & Frank Grieves, Eileen Givney, Anne Goodrick. For Deceased Friends & Benefactors of the Dominican Order.

6th & 7th February

	5.00PM VIGIL	8.00AM	10.00AM	6.00PM
SPECIAL	Vince Blefari	Gian Surjadinata	Relyn Ponce	Theresa Kuk
MINISTERS	Beatrice Bonnet	Artha Surjadinata	Anne Marrins	Mary L'Estrange
			Maria Soares	
	5.00PM VIGIL	8.00AM	10.00AM	6.00PM
READERS	Donald Bonnet	Greg Glass	Mark Soares	Miriam Redolfi
	Helen Blefari	Paulina Roncevic	Melanie Yates	Lena Melhem
	5.00PM VIGIL	8.00AM	10.00AM	6.00PM
ALTAR	Frederick S.	Thomas C.	Zachariah B.	Marina B.
SERVERS	Christian S.	James T.	Antoinette B.	Oliver B.
	Samuel P.	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
	Luke P.	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
	5.00PM VIGIL	8.00AM	10.00AM	6.00PM
WARDENS	Anne Chow	Phil Robinson	Trudie Rogers	Jean Duma

If you are unable to attend your rostered Mass kindly organise a replacement.

Planned Giving via Credit Card – we advise that the January donation will be processed in early February

impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

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.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. O Lord, we bring to your altar these offerings of our service: be pleased to receive them, we pray, and transform them into the Sacrament of our redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray...

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said...

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON cf. Ps 30: 17-18

Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

or

Mt 5: 3-4

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are the meek, for they shall possess the land.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Nourished by these redeeming gifts, we pray, O Lord, that through this help to eternal salvation true faith may ever increase. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

WHAT COMES FROM WITHIN

At his death, Moses was praised because 'never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face' (Deuteronomy 34:10). He was the mediator between the people of Israel and the living God. They could not bear to be in God's presence for long at Horeb and so they had begged him to be the one to represent them and bring God's message back to them in ways they could understand. Today's first reading reminds the reader that Moses' mission was only the beginning of a larger mission that would be completed in the future. In the meantime, the people would have to wait for the promised prophet.

When Jesus began his ministry, his exorcisms, healing and teaching led his contemporaries to recognise his authority. The word for authority is ἐξουσία and it is a beautiful way of describing what others could see coming out of his very being. While Moses knew God face to face, it is clear that Jesus has something more because it comes from within. The demons have insight that we need to make our own – this is more than a prophet, this is the Holy One of God. Paul continues his advice to the Corinthians reminding them we need to do more than simply proclaim that Jesus is the Holy One of God. Our proclamation is a great start, but it must be lived out in our daily lives. We are called to find the right balance between the attention we give to the Lord and our family commitments.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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