LITURGICAL CALENDARS

Available from the Ushers or the Parish Office at a cost of \$350.00 each. We would be grateful if you could provide exact change in cash on delivery.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Online registration is now open for new persons interested in joining. Children's Mass will be on Sunday, January 28th at 9:00am. Please encourage our children to be involved in the church.

ALTAR SERVERS

Commissioning and recommissioning ceremony of Altar Servers will take place on Sunday, January 28th at the 9:00am Mass.

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Please carry your candles for blessing at the 6.00pm Mass on Friday, February 2nd.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Resumes this week Sunday in the church. The topic "Challenges facing the Catholic Church at this time". Do make an effort to attend this important session.

UPCOMING EVENT

Dwight Richards presents Musical Enchantment on Sunday, February 11, 2024 starting at 5:00pm on the Stella Maris Church Grounds. Cost of the ticket is \$5,000.00 available at the church office.

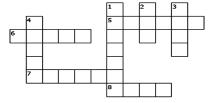


Jesus in the Synagogue

The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law.

Puzzle is based on Mark 1:21-28





ACROSS

- 5. To be completely surprised or shocked by something
- To help another person to learn how to do something; to give lessons
- 7. A being (such as a ghost) that has no physical body
- 8. Something that is considered as sacred or set apart for God

DOWN

- The day of the week set aside in a religion for rest and worship
- 2. A rule or set of rules that control the actions of people
- 3. A report of recent events or of something previously unknown
- 4. The Son of God

SPIRIT	JESUS	SABBATH	TEACH
AMAZED	LAW	NEWS	HOLY

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Stella Maris Church Community

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Pastor: Rev. Fr. Richard Brown Deacon: Mark Hitchener

Church Council Chair : Winston Ormsby Finance Chairperson : Neville LynFatt

MASS TIMES: Sunday 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. Tuesday – Saturday 6:00 p.m.

RECONCILIATION: Appointment/Announced

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Year B - January 28, 2024

Today's Readings

1st Reading: 2nd Reading: Gospel Reading:



Deut. 18:15-20 1 Cor. 7: 32-35 Mk. 1: 21-28

Response: O that today you would listen to His voice, harden not your hearts



Reflection

The three Scripture readings assigned for this Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time speak about being attentive and listening to the prophet whom God will send (the first reading from Deuteronomy), of being free from worry (second reading from First Corinthians), and finally, in the Gospel, the importance of the "completely new teaching in the spirit of authority," which Jesus heralds.

The reading today from the Book of Deuteronomy is addressed to God's people by Moses, considered to be the greatest of the prophets. Moses' words carry an important message for those who belong to God, that God will not abandon his people, but will continue to raise up prophets after Moses, who acts on God's behalf, as did Moses, to make God's ways and commands known to the nations.

The reading from Saint Paul's Letter to the Corinthians today is not so much about which is better, married life or the single life, as it is about that fact that every person has his or her own special gift from God. Paul desires, in the spirit of the Gospel he is preaching, that no one be bogged down with anxiety, or feeling that a noose has been thrown around their neck. Rather, everyone should consecrate him or herself to the Lord, according to one's call. Saint Paul is not advocating pushing anyone into an ideal that is beyond the capacity of the believer.

Turning to the Gospel for this Sunday, we find Jesus teaching in the synagogue of Capernaum. The synagogue there, by the Sea of Galilee, is neither grand nor outstanding, and in its present state stands partly in ruins, with no roof on it. This fact, of being roofless, strikes me as underlining the fact that the message of the saving deeds of the Lord cannot in any way be bound or confined, but must extend to all the ends of the earth. In other words, there is no roof on Jesus' message.

Our work is cut out for us as followers of Christ, challenging us to proclaim the Gospel by our lives. We should never give up in our search for God each day of our life, trusting in the loving help of the One who created us and who has sustained us to the present. At the same time, we need also to keep in mind that at some point we will all be exchanging time for eternity, one definition of the reality of death. May we be prepared to meet the Lord now and at the moment of the completion of our earthly pilgrimage.



