

The first goal of our Parish Vision and goals is... Welcoming. Today we are welcoming Kelly and Peter in our catholic community here at MQFP Blacktown where we welcome, grow and act. We as a community support you, accompany you, we share our faith and gifts with you.

Today's readings remind us that if the Gospel is really good news to us, we should share it. *For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.*

Nevertheless, in today's First Reading Job is in desperate need of some good news after being so afflicted. Job speaks out as the plain man who cannot make sense of the suffering to be found in daily life; he's lost property, family, and health.

- Life has become pure drudgery for him with the rest.
- In a hopeless life, there's little good news to share.
- ***Yet even Job knows his Redeemer lives. Life is not entirely hopeless.*** There is hope, there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

In the gospel, we find a different context from this first reading. No moaning or groaning here. No feeling sorry for oneself. Jesus is totally occupied in putting himself at the service of people and bring healing and wholeness back into their lives.

And this is what gives meaning, fulfilment, satisfaction and happiness into people's lives – *when I am making my*

*unique contribution to the well-being of those around me and of my society.*

Besides ***The life of Jesus is telling us that life is for service, for giving, for sharing.*** And, if we all do this, how enriched we all would be! The more we all give, the more we all get.

***“And I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessing”*** I still do what??? endure humiliations and adversities for the cause of the gospel. The greatest blessing, we can get is to Know Jesus. The blessings that come with the gospel are...love, understanding, acceptance, tolerance, faith, humility.... these are the values of the kingdom of heaven.

Saint Paul reminds us that the Gospel is good news that is meant to be shared. Spreading the good news for Paul is not just something he wants to do, but something he felt obliged to do. *I should be punished if I did not preach it!* There's no catch. He's not trying to sell anything. He'll do whatever it takes to make sure the Gospel is received as good news. With a smile, with a good face that reflects our love for Jesus; with mercy, trust, confidence, embracing the other as a reflect of our faith in Jesus. Paul's example teaches us that if we don't share the good news, it could be because for us it is not good news. If it's not good news for us, then what is it?

*I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me.* It should be preached especially with our acts, our testimony

That's why we *Praise the Lord, who heals the broken-hearted. We approach our Lord with humility, we come to him so that he can heal our wounds.* That was what Jesus did with that mother in law from the Gospel and the people who brought along those who were sick and in the power of evil spirits and he healed them all.

As we look for him, He also comes close to us to help us accomplish what we could never attain by ourselves. He became feeble to join us who are feeble.

Every Sunday Eucharist is our meeting with the Lord who comes to raise us from our routine and makes out of us the living testimonies of an encounter that constantly renew us, and truly sets us free in the grace of Jesus Christ.

At the end of the day, what does Jesus do? *In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there.*

He goes off to a lonely place to pray. He needed this. He had given away so much of himself that day that he now needed to be by himself, to recharge his batteries and, above all, to get in touch with his Father, the source of all his energy, and to restore wholeness and peace. He will come away from this experience truly energised and ready to share and serve...you and serve us. Prayer should be a desire and give meaning to our battle. It must help us to be in tune to God's will, to trust Him, and at the same time, to take on our responsibilities.

We will pray for you Peter and Kelly so that you may know Jesus truly. he who is for every one the true source of happiness in our lives.

"Lord Jesus Christ, you have all power to heal and to deliver from harm. There is no trouble nor bondage you cannot overcome. Set me free to serve you joyfully and to love and serve others generously. May nothing hinder me from giving myself wholly to you and to your service."

