



# OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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**4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) 29th January 2012**

## Mass Times

Vigil Mass Sat 6.30 p.m.

Sunday 8.30 a.m.

10.00 a.m.

(Spanish) 11.15 a.m.

12.15 p.m.

7.00 p.m.

Mon - Sat 10.00 a.m.

6.30 p.m.

## **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Mon - Fri 10.30 a.m. - 11.15 a.m.

**Rosary** - Wednesdays 10.30 a.m.  
followed by Tea in the Founders Room.

## **Sacrament of Confession**

Mon - Fri 6.15 - 6.30 p.m.

Saturday 10.45 - 11.15 a.m.  
6 p.m. - 6.30 p.m.

## Saint Days

**Tues 31<sup>st</sup> Jan** - St John Bosco

**Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb** - Presentation of the Lord - Crib dismantled

**Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb** - SS Lawrence, Dunstan & Theodore.

Bl Joachim of Sienna OSM

**Sat 4<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Mass of the BVM

**Total Offertory collection** - Last Sunday was £1,735 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> collection for the Restoration Trust was £604.

**Second collection today is for the Restoration Trust.** Next week's second collection will be for Catholic Education.

Thank you for your generosity.

**Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>** - St Blaise - Blessing of throats after 10 a.m. & 6.30 p.m. Masses

**Sunday Reflection "... he taught them with authority"** - In the past year or so we have seen a number of regimes fall. Some, like Syria, continue to be in crisis. These regimes had lots of 'power', but lacked 'authority'. The power was used to coerce, to control and frighten people into submission. They did not act out of the 'authority' conferred on them by their people. All despots and dictators have lots of 'power' but seldom have 'authority'. History testifies to the fact that reckless power can be so destructive, creating endless suffering for so many people. This is a power that bullies and manipulates. What a contrast genuine 'authority' provides? We think of people like Ghandi, Martin Luther King, and Archbishop Romero. They all opposed very powerful systems with non-violent means. They confronted wrongdoing with the words of truth. All were assassinated, but their authority was not diminished. "We shall overcome some day", note, not with force, but with moral authority. In today's Gospel we meet Jesus at the beginning of his public ministry. We are told: "And his teaching made a deep impression on them because unlike the Scribes, he taught them with authority". Jesus was invested with the power of the Holy Spirit at his baptism and a voice from heaven proclaimed "This is my Beloved Son, listen to him". In other words, Jesus was authorized and empowered by God the Father. His authority emerges from this deep loving relationship with His Father. In the incident before us today we have the authority and power of God in Jesus confronting the power of darkness in the man possessed, someone not in control of his own life. Jesus' life-giving words command the evil spirit to leave this man, and the man is liberated and set free. The people who witnessed this deed are astonished. They applaud Jesus, because there is no discrepancy between words and actions. His words have the power to change peoples' lives for the better. This will change later as they question his authority, withdrew their support and applause. Jesus finds himself having to face the rejection endured by so many prophets before him. But Jesus continues to act out of his God-given 'power' and 'authority' to unbind, liberate and heal people. He relies only on the Father's approval. Good words are credible when preceded by or accompanied by good deeds.

**Suits and dresses** - Parents, whose children have already received their First Communion, may wish to recycle suits and dresses that are now sitting in the wardrobe unused for years. These may be in perfectly good condition and can be re-used. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested.

**FHC (Sunday Group)** - Will have their session next Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February in the Founders' Room after the 10 a.m. Mass. Please note: bring your Silver books.

**Mass of Presentation** - of our Confirmation candidates will be on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 10 a.m. Mass.

**Grateful thanks** - Because of your continued generosity to the St Anthony's Shrine, we were able to make a substantial donation to "Progressio" (Catholic Institute for International Relations) to assist in their work to help people gain power over their lives. Christine Allen, Executive Director, writes: "We are so grateful for your support; it really does make a huge difference. By supporting "Progressio" you have played your part in ensuring women in Timor Leste are one step closer to achieving equality". We also sent a donation to Trinity Hospice. Leah Bull writes: "Please may we take this opportunity to thank all the congregation of Our Lady of Dolours Servite Church for their generosity".

**Parish Team** - Members note that the meeting on **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> Jan is at 7 p.m.**

**Our Lady of Lourdes** - The celebration of Our Lady of Lourdes, with *Anointing of the Sick* is on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> Feb at 2 p.m.** in the Cathedral. Please inform the Parish Office if you or a relative wish to be anointed.