

PARISH OF ST FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

THE YEAR OF THE WORD

Eighth Week, beginning February 2nd 2020
This week we read St. Matthew's Gospel Chapter 8

KEY PASSAGE - ST MATTHEW 8:28-34

When he came to the other side, to the country of the Gadarenes, two demoniacs coming out of the tombs met him. They were so fierce that no one could pass that way. Suddenly they shouted, 'what have you to do with us, Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?' Now a large herd of swine was feeding at some distance from them. The demons begged him, 'if you cast us out, send us into the herd of swine.' And he said to them, 'Go!' So they came out and entered the swine; and suddenly, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and perished in the water. The swineherds ran off, and on going into the town, they told the whole story about what had happened to the demoniacs. Then the whole town came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighbourhood.

* The townspeople were afraid of what Jesus might do next if he stayed : might we be afraid of what he might do with us, or ask of us? Do we prefer security and what is comfortable?

* Jesus brought peace to those two fierce and troubled men. How can we be more open to his gift of Peace?

* Maybe we find this incident troubling. It is basically about Our Lord's power to bring healing and freedom to his people.