



Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

(This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws)



First Sunday of Lent - Year B - 18th February 2018

Dear friends

This week I thought I would take a little section from Pope Francis' 2018 Lenten Message. In this section Pope Francis reminds us of the ancient practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

By devoting more time to *prayer*, we enable our hearts to root out our secret lies and forms of self-deception, and then to find the consolation God offers. He is our Father and he wants us to live life well.

Almsgiving sets us free from greed and helps us to regard our neighbour as a brother or sister. What I possess is never mine alone. How I would like almsgiving to become a genuine style of life for each of us! How I would like us, as Christians, to follow the example of the Apostles and see in the sharing of our possessions a tangible witness of the communion that is ours in the Church! For this reason, I echo Saint Paul's exhortation to the Corinthians to take up a collection for the community of Jerusalem as something from which they themselves would benefit (cf. *2 Cor* 8:10). This is all the more fitting during the Lenten season, when many groups take up collections to assist Churches and peoples in need. Yet I would also hope that, even in our daily encounters with those who beg for our assistance, we would see such requests as coming from God Himself. When we give alms, we share in God's providential care for each of His children. If through me God helps someone today, will He not tomorrow provide for my own needs? For no one is more generous than God.

Fasting weakens our tendency to violence; it disarms us and becomes an important opportunity for growth. On the one hand, it allows us to experience what the destitute and the starving have to endure. On the other hand, it expresses our own spiritual hunger and thirst for life in God. Fasting wakes us up. It makes us more attentive to God and our neighbour. It revives our desire to obey God, who alone is capable of satisfying our hunger.

I would also like my invitation to extend beyond the bounds of the Catholic Church, and to reach all of you, men and women of good will, who are open to hearing God's voice. Perhaps, like ourselves, you are disturbed by the spread of iniquity in the world, you are concerned about the chill that paralyzes hearts and actions, and you see a weakening in our sense of being members of the one human family. Join us, then, in raising our plea to God, in fasting, and in offering whatever you can to our brothers and sisters in need!

God bless

Deacon Tom

Parish Diary:

Monday 19th February

2:00pm Activities Group
7:00pm Rosary

Tuesday 20th February

1:00pm Lenten Group Meeting
7:00pm SVdp Meeting
7:30pm Baptism Preparation

Wednesday 21st February

10:00am Prayer Group
5:00pm Music Practice

Thursday 22nd February

The Chair of St Peter
5:00pm Adoration
5:30pm Reconciliation
6:00pm Mass

Friday 23rd February

9:30am Mass

Saturday 24th February

6:15pm Mass

Sunday 25th February

Second Sunday of Lent
8:00am Mass with Grades 4, 5 & 6

"Good actions give strength to ourselves and inspire good actions in others."

— Plato

This Week's Readings:

First Reading: Gen 9:8-15— *I will recall the covenant between myself and you....the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.*

Psalm Response: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul, to you I lift my soul.

(Alternative Psalm Response if spoken): Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Second Reading: 1 Pet 3:18-22 — *The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.*

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, But on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel: Mark 1: 12-15 — *He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.*



Next week's Readings

First: Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

Second: Rom 8:31-34

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Mass Times: Saturday 6:15pm & Sunday 8:00am

Reconciliation: Thursday 5:30pm

Parish Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9am to 1pm.
Wednesday Closed.

Pastor: Fr Frank Jones

Associate Pastor: Fr Epati Tamati

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Emergency Contact: 3207 4566

Safeguarding Officer: Lisa Knight ☎ 3822 2139

A VOCATION VIEW:

*Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert.
Where is the Spirit leading you ?*

Parish Primary School

Principal: Mr John Spillane

10 Hardy Rd, Birkdale Q 4159

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Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them: Winifred Linton, Jodie Bromiley, Casey Whitby, Celsa Obligado, Trish Swan, Ian Splatt, Jan Hurst, Steven West, Ava Loda, Joan Thorpe, Denise Hodgson, Patricia Haines, Kathy Stone, Christine Inch, Nicola Nociforo, Belinda Wheeler, Jim Gair, Cely Salisbury, Anne Delamere, The Bade Family, Carol Parker, Brian Crimmins, Brian Johnston, Medi Camelli, Hazel Foster, Dan Mullan, Dianne Charlton, Stana Matic, Page Brosnan, Dot Abrahams, John Schoites, Corrie Roser, Amelia Ramsay, Betty Reagan, Mary Chylewski, Jeanette Moore, Nola Murphy, Jeanette McNamee, Christiana Becker, Cathy Leane, Hazel Webster, Pauline McNamee, Pat Crimmins, Gina Mather, Paul McKean, Marina Weightman.

May God embrace all who have recently died: William Johannes, Ray Murphy, Carmen Jagga.

Anniversaries & Remembrances February: Gladys Wicks, Maria Otilia Patelesio, Kelly Delaney, Pearl Montgomery, Elva Park, Gaetano Cameli, Thelma Rubach, Giovanni Patti, Monica Evans, Ian Jackson, Br Kevin McGhee MSC, William Davies, Sheila Evans, Ned Matic, Patrick Conroy, Balbena Montgomery, Celeste Quinn, Jos Peters, Vicente Reyes Sr, Christine Leane, Alan Wyatt, Harry Ball-Wilson, Bob Lough, John McIntyre, Jill Martin, Bill Kelly, Ida Garbuio, Tony Alcock, Robert Montgomery, Daphne Weeks, Gina Biscontin, Adrian Delacour, Alan Wyatt, Peter Sherry, Doreen Bergin, Nadia Sklyarova, Geoffrey Scandrett, Warren Smith, Margaret Silveira, Evelyn Holmes, Greg Lawler, Beryl McNulty, Vincent Webster.

Please record any further names in the Anniversaries & Remembrance Diary at the Welcome Desk

Roster 24th & 25th February

Junior Ministers		Readers	Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Music
6:15pm	Anthony K Ivan K	6:15pm (1st) Martin M (2nd) Don F (POF) Matty M	6:15pm Dcn Tom, John E, Therese E, Tom M, Volunteer	6:15pm Gp 3 8:00am Gp 2
8:00am	Douglas M Xavier R	8:00am (1st) Hilda A (2nd) Lorraine K (POF) Peter L	8:00am Dcn Tom, Lena B, April M, Brian C, Walter G, 2 Volunteers	Powerpoint 6:15pm Lisa K 8:00am Chris M Counters: Gp 4 Clinton T, Stanis D, Jeff C
Weekend Mass Times		Week Day Mass Times		Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday	Manly - 5:00pm Birkdale - 6:15pm	St John Vianney Manly Ph 3131 2610 Tuesday - 6:00pm and Wednesday - 9:30am St Mary MacKillop Birkdale Ph 3822 2139 Thursday - 6:00pm and Friday - 9:30am Carmelite Monastery 7:00am Monday to Saturday		St Mary MacKillop Birkdale Thursday 5.30pm to 6:00pm St John Vianney Manly Saturday 4.30pm to 5:00pm St Jude Gumdale Sunday following 7:00am Mass
Sunday	Gumdale - 7:00am Birkdale - 8:00am Manly - 9:30am			

Adoration every Thursday evening during the time of Lent between **5:00pm and 6:00pm** ending in benediction and followed by Mass in the Chapel at 6:00pm. All welcome

Sacramental Journey We welcome all the families commencing their Sacramental Journey this weekend. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.

Readers, Communion Ministers, Junior Ministers: The current rosters finish at the end of February. Please contact the Parish Office or email/phone Mary on maryj99@bigpond.com or 3207 4241 if you need changes made. **NEW VOLUNTEERS TO THESE ROSTERS ARE NEEDED AND VERY WELCOME.**

Lenten Programme Be a part of this inspiring program in our own parish for Lent 2018 and prepare your heart for the most important event on the Church's calendar - the death and resurrection of Jesus. Join a discussion group (1:00pm on Tuesdays in the Parish Office or 10:00am on Wednesday in the Chapel) or simply follow the programme yourself. Please email the parish office at birkmmack@bne.catholic.net.au or phone 3822 2139 for more information. The cost of the booklet used for the programme is **\$10.00**.

Little Black Books – are now available. The books cover the Lenten period and walk you through the Sunday Gospels of Lent with explanations and reflections along the way. The cost of each book is **\$5.00**.

Ecumenical World Day of Prayer service will be celebrated here on **Friday 2nd March** at 10:30am followed by lunch in the Parish Centre. We hope you will be able to join us for the service and the lunch. We are in need of food for the lunch so even if you are not able to join us on the day we will welcome your donation of savoury or sweet finger food. Please contact Matty McKenna 0402 284 289 to advise your contribution.

Date Claimer Take Time For Timor, Fundraising Breakfast, Sunday 27th May, 2018 being hosted by St John Vianney, Manly Parish. More information in future newsletters.

Caritas - Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "A Just Future". You will be empowering young people to build a just future for themselves, their families and their communities. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by phoning 1800 024 413 or visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion

Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend – 3rd to 5th August 2018: relationship enrichment for married couples at Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston QLD. **For bookings/details contact:** Maria and David Murphy, ph (07) 3342 1456, dandmmurphy@optusnet.com.au Information website: www.wwme.org.au

NEW PARISHIONER? WELCOME! If you are new to our Parish, you are most welcome. Please fill out the form below and place on one of the collection plates.

NAME(S): Mr / Mrs / Miss _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____