



# Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

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



## Second Sunday of Lent - Year C - 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019

### PART II MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2019

“For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God” (Rom 8: 19)

Dear Brothers and Sisters

Each year, through Mother Church, God “gives us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed... as we recall the great events that gave us new life in Christ” (Preface of Lent I). We can thus journey from Easter to Easter towards the fulfilment of the salvation we have already received as a result of Christ’s paschal mystery – “for in hope we were saved” (Rom 8:24). This mystery of salvation, already at work in us during our earthly lives, is a dynamic process that also embraces history and all of creation. As Saint Paul says, “the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God” (Rom 8:19). In this perspective, I would like to offer a few reflections to accompany our journey of conversion this coming Lent.

#### 2. The destructive power of sin

Indeed, when we fail to live as children of God, we often behave in a destructive way towards our neighbours and other creatures – and ourselves as well – since we begin to think more or less consciously that we can use them as we will. Intemperance then takes the upper hand: we start to live a life that exceeds those limits imposed by our human condition and nature itself. We yield to those untrammelled desires that the Book of Wisdom sees as typical of the ungodly, those who act without thought for God or hope for the future (cf. 2:1-11). Unless we tend constantly towards Easter, towards the horizon of the Resurrection, the mentality expressed in the slogans “I want it all and I want it now!” and “Too much is never enough”, gains the upper hand.

The root of all evil, as we know, is sin, which from its first appearance has disrupted our communion with God, with others and with creation itself, to which we are linked in a particular way by our body.

This rupture of communion with God likewise undermines our harmonious relationship with the environment in which we are called to live, so that the garden has become a wilderness (cf. Gen 3:17-18). Sin leads man to consider himself the god of creation, to see himself as its absolute master and to use it, not for the purpose willed by the Creator but for his own interests, to the detriment of other creatures.

Once God’s law, the law of love, is forsaken, then the law of the strong over the weak takes over.

The sin that lurks in the human heart (cf. Mk 7:20-23) takes the shape of greed and unbridled pursuit of comfort, lack of concern for the good of others and even of oneself. It leads to the exploitation of creation, both persons and the environment, due to that insatiable covetousness which sees every desire as a right and sooner or later destroys all those in its grip.

Dear brothers and sisters, the “lenten” period of forty days spent by the Son of God in the desert of creation had the goal of making it once more that garden of communion with God that it was before original sin (cf. Mk 1:12-13; Is 51:3). May our Lent this year be a journey along that same path, bringing the hope of Christ also to creation, so that it may be “set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God” (Rom 8:21). Let us not allow this season of grace to pass in vain! Let us ask God to help us set out on a path of true conversion. Let us leave behind our selfishness and self-absorption, and turn to Jesus’ Pasch. Let us stand beside our brothers and sisters in need, sharing our spiritual and material goods with them. In this way, by concretely welcoming Christ’s victory over sin and death into our lives, we will also radiate its transforming power to all of creation. **Francis**

### Parish Diary:

#### Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March

St Patrick

2:00pm Activities Group

7:00pm Rosary

#### Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March

St Joseph, husband of Mary

1:00pm Lent Group Meeting

7:00pm SVdP Meeting

7:30pm Baptism Prep

#### Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March

7:30am HeartFIT

10:00am Prayer Group

5:00pm Music Practice

#### Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March

5:30pm Reconciliation

6:00pm Mass

6:30pm 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation for Sacramental Candidates and 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite Reconciliation

#### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

9:30am Mass

6:30pm Fete Art and Craft group

#### Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

3:30pm Baptisms

6:15pm Mass

#### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March

Third Sunday of Lent

8:00am Mass

“Love is a fruit in season at all times, and within reach of every hand.”

— Mother Teresa

### This Week’s Readings:

**First Reading:** Gen 15:5-12, 17-18 – God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.

**Psalms Response:** The Lord is my light and my salvation, of whom shall I be afraid, of whom should I be afraid?

(Alternative Psalms Response if spoken): The Lord is my light and my salvation.

**Second Reading:** Phil 3:17-4:1 – Christ will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.

### Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father’s voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

**Gospel:** Luke 9:28-36 – As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.



Next week’s Readings (Year A Readings) First: Exod 17:3-7

Second: Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

Gospel: John 4:5-42

**Pastor:** Fr Frank Jones

**Associate Pastor:** Fr Prem Rethnamony

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**Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them:** Judy Mullan, Charles Lilley, Ann Brown, Sally Legarda, Kade Battersby, Gemma Paxman, James Thomas, Cindy Cummins, John Bacon, Winifred Linton, Jodie Bromiley, Casey Whitby, Trish Swan, Ian Splatt, Jan Hurst, Steven West, Ava Loda, Joan Thorpe, Denise Hodgson, Patricia Haines, Kathy Stone, Christine Inch, Belinda Wheeler, Jim Gair, Cely Salisbury, 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, Christiana Becker, Cathy Leane, Pauline McNamee, Pat Crimmins, Gina Mather, Paul McKean, Marina Weightman.

**May God embrace all who have recently died:** Lesley West, Anne Delamere, Jackie Watkins, Brian Cannon, Jack Rosa.

**Anniversaries & Remembrances March** Sasha Thomsen, Francis Thomsen, Annie Geale, Bob Paino, Jo Donnellan, Kathleen Howard, Dorothy Copas, Tullio Tonini, Molly Hudson, Gerard Copas, Angelo Sparti, John Beers, Augustina Seanson, Pacencia Marcelo, Eileen Margaret Gilhooley, Martha & Bill Kluck, Paul Gauci, Jodie-Anne White, Adrian Hadley, Georgina Fleming, Thomas Miles, Reynaldo Cane, Adela McCullagh, Lionel Logan, Emily Eeles, Salvatore (Sam) Greco, Val Hume, Patrick Flynn, Assunta Lippi, Forina Bunin, Maria Bolton, David Cooper, Del Forsyth, Annie Quantock, Laszlo Lengyel, Ambrose Gorogo, Roy Kok, Roslyn Cairns, Ahlia Raferty, Rosa Tucket, Mark Ramage, Cecchin Giovanni, Jack Maclean, Frank Sherry, Daniel Sherry, Johanna Ruygrok, Tom Topatig, Santa Aquili, Doris Watson, Mary Linthwaite, Paul Moloney, John Turner, David Hume, Mervyn Cosgrove, Christine Leane, Malcolm Simpson, Luigi Cal.

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

**Roster 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> March**

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

**PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND AND ROME** Fr Frank will be accompanying a 15 Night/18 Day pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Rome departing 29th September 2019 and returning Wednesday 16th October 2019. The tour is being organised by Harvest Journeys and will be visiting Amman, Jerash, Dead Sea, Bethany Beyond the Jordan, Sea of Galilee, Nazareth, Cana, Mt Tabor, Mt Carmel, Haifa, Jericho, Jerusalem and Rome. Brochures available from the Parish Office. **For more information see Fr Frank.**

**SPIRITUALITY NIGHTS** at St John Vianney, Cnr Koorangin and Ernest Sts, Manly Fr Frank will be lecturing on the topic "Mystical Prayer" following the 6pm Tuesday night Mass from 6.30pm to 7pm on the 12th March, 26th March, 9th April and the 16th April. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**2nd Rite of Reconciliation** will be celebrated at St Mary MacKillop Church on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 6.30pm (after the 6pm Mass). Seven priests will be available for Reconciliation. This will meet our obligation as Catholics to celebrate this Sacrament at least once a year before Easter. Sacramental Candidates will also be receiving their 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation.

**40 HOUR ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** As in previous years we will host this most precious devotion of grace by continuous silent prayer before Jesus. Adoration begins Friday 5th April at 6pm and continues through until 9.00am on Sunday 7th April. **This year Manly will be hosting the 40 hours.** Please consider giving one hour before Christ in silent prayer. A roster is at the back of the Church.

**St Mary MacKillop School Fete** this year the fete will be celebrated on **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2019**. Volunteers are needed on the day of the fete to work in the Devonshire Tea Stall – serving tea/coffee and scones. Shifts will be for 2 hours commencing at 9:30am and finishing at 3:30pm. For further information or expression of interest, please contact Lisa at the Parish Office on 3822 2139. A roster will be placed in the Church closer to the date of the fete.

**Project Compassion 2019** Tati lives in the remote forest of Indonesia. She is a mother of three who was earning an income working in a local rubber plantation. Since taking part in eco-tourism training with Caritas Australia and its partners, Tati can now afford to send her children to school. With new hope and commitment Tati aspires to a future free from poverty for her family. **Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and help lift communities in Indonesia out of poverty, and give them hope to protect our common home. Lives change when we all give 100%.** You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

**Mature Age Fitness** at St Mary MacKillop - Following the successful launch last week there is to be a weekly exercise class in the Parish. **Wednesday's 7:30am-8:30** in **St. Mary McKillop Parish Hall**. It is not too late, age strongly, live life to the full. Exercise will renew your body & mind at any age. Improve your strength, balance, confidence & your mood. Exercise at your level - relaxed, friendly & safe environment. "Believe in the whisperings of God to your own Heart" Mary MacKillop.

**Refugees & Asylum Seekers:** You are invited to come to a meeting at **St John Vianney's on Wednesday 27 March at 6.30 pm** when Peter Arndt from the CJPC will update us on the current situation of Refugees & Asylum Seekers and to explore areas where we might help.

**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: \_\_\_\_\_