



Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

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



LENT

First Sunday of Lent - Year A - 1st March 2020



TO KEEP A TRUE LENT.....

We have now entered the great season of lent. It is important for us to realize that our life is a journey, a movement towards God and the way to prepare ourselves to receive Him fully. During the season of Lent, the Church invites us to examine our lives, to repent of our sins and do penance. By means of fasting, penance and prayers, the faithful obtain the strength they need to overcome our sinful tendencies.

What makes each Lent different is our response. This special time can be an opportunity for real conversion of heart. Turning away from the trap of selfishness, turning towards Jesus who gives fullness of life, lasting into eternity, starting here and now.

At the beginning of chapter six of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus calls us to give to the poor, to pray and to fast. But He prefaces this call with a warning not to "practice these good deeds before people in order to be seen by them." Three times He repeats "your Father, who sees all that is done in secret will reward you." Lent is a time for that deeper meeting with God and the true conversion of our hearts. Only out of that conversion can come any good deeds worthy of the name.

A Different Approach to Fasting... Fasts have a tendency to be oriented toward things like giving up food or television. But there are many other creative ways we can welcome Jesus' healing touch. Here are suggestions we may want to consider. *Fast from anger and hatred. Give our family an extra dose of love each day. Give up anger - Be more patient. *Fast from judging others. Before making any judgments, recall how Jesus overlooks our faults. Give up gossiping - Control your tongue. *Fast from discouragement. Hold on to Jesus' promise that He has a perfect plan for our life. Give up discouragement - Be full of hope. *Fast from complaining. When we find ourselves about to complain, close our eyes and recall some of the little moments of joy Jesus has given us. Give up complaining - Focus on gratitude. *Fast from resentment or bitterness. Work on forgiving those who may have hurt us. Give up bitterness - Turn to forgiveness. *Fast from spending too much money. Try to reduce our spending by ten percent and give those savings to the poor.

Finally, make this Lent a time to rediscover the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Don't wait till Holy Week, but find a time early in Lent to reflect on where you need forgiveness and healing and bring it to Confession. The priest will welcome you and help you. The prayer of Absolution is beautiful for the truly penitent to hear.

Wishing you Peace, Love, and Happiness during Lent and let's pray for one another as we journey to Easter.

Blessings

Fr. Dantus Thottathil

This Week's Readings:

First Reading: Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7 - Creation of our first parents, and sin.

Psalm Response: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Second Reading: Rom 5:12-19 - What sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

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: Matt 4:1-11 - Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

Next week's Readings

First: Gen 12:1-4

Second: 2Tim 1:8-10

Gospel: Matt 17:1-9

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Parish Diary:

Monday 2nd March

2:00pm Activities Group

7:00pm Rosary

Tuesday 3rd March

7:00pm SVdP Meeting

Wednesday 4th March

7:30am HeartFit

10:00am Prayer Group

5:00pm Music Practice

Thursday 5th March

5:30pm Reconciliation

6:00pm Mass

Friday 6th March

9:30am Mass

10:30am Mass at Regis Grange

Saturday 7th March

6:15pm Mass

Sunday 8th March

Second Sunday of Lent

8:00am Mass

9:15am Sacramental Workshop

10:00am Golf at Howeston followed by BBQ

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

Life is a Bank Account in God's hands.

Nobody knows the balance of the remaining days.

Keep depositing with prayer, fasting and almsgiving.



Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them: Kevin Kranz, Patricia Briscoe, Alicia Black, Tessa Gorogo, Mick Gauci, Paul McKean, Geoffrey Whall, Kevin Harrop, Judy Mullan, Charles Lilley, Ann Brown, Sally Legarda, 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, Patricia Haines, Belinda Wheeler, Cely Salisbury, The Bade Family, Carol Parker, Brian Crimmins, Brian Johnston, Medi Camelli, Hazel Foster, Dan Mullan, Stana Matic, Page Brosnan, Dot Abrahams, Amelia Ramsay, Jeanette Moore, Nola Murphy, Christiana Becker, Cathy Leane, Pauline McNamee, Pat Crimmins, Gina Mather.

May God embrace all who have recently died: Mildred Ball-Wilson, John Mills, Betty Reagan, Russell Corrie, Fr Ray O'Leary.

Anniversaries & Remembrances March Sasha Thomsen, Francis Thomsen, Annie Geale, Bob Paino, Jo Donnellan, Kathleen Howard, Dorothy Copas, Tullio Tonini, John Scholtes, Molly Hudson, Gerard Copas, Angelo Sparti, John Beers, Augustina Searson, Pacencia Marcelo, Eileen Margaret Gilhooly, 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, John Kelly, 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 7th & 8th March

Junior Ministers 6:15pm Isabelle L Bianca L 8:00am Volunteer		Readers 6:15pm (1st) Tom M (2nd) Therese E (POF) Siobhan E 8:00am (1st) Julie C (2nd) Jane W (POF) Loretta M		Extraordinary Ministers of Communion 6:15pm Paulina P, Matty M, Mike V, Betty A, Janet B 8:00am Lena B, April M, Walter G, Mark C, Anthony W, 2 <i>Volunteers</i>		Music 6:15pm Gp 1 8:00am Gp 3 Powerpoint 6:15pm Alan B 8:00am Chris M Counters: Gp 2 Maria S, Mike V, Kerry B Cleaning:	
Weekend Mass Times Saturday Manly - 5:00pm Birkdale - 6:15pm Sunday Gumdale - 7:00am Birkdale - 8:00am Manly - 9:30am			Week Day Mass Times 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			Sacrament of Reconciliation 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	

Sacramental Journey We welcome the families and children on the Sacramental journey. Please remember to sign in. Dates for Workshops – **Sunday 8th March and Sunday 15th March** following the Masses.

Mass of Anointing – will be celebrated at 9.30am in the church on **Friday 13th March**. Morning tea to follow in the parish centre. All are welcome to give support to the sick, elderly and housebound of the parish.

40 Hour Adoration As in previous years we will host this most precious devotion of grace by continuous silent prayer before Jesus. This year, Adoration will be at St Mary MacKillop, Birkdale. Adoration begins **Friday 27th March at 6:00pm** and continues through until **8:00am Mass on Sunday 29th March**. Please consider spending one hour over the weekend in silent prayer before Jesus. A roster for the 40 hours of continuous Adoration is on the Welcome Desk.

Sunday Mass Communion Ministers needed - More volunteers are needed for Special Minister of Communion. If you can help with this Ministry please go to <http://archbne.org/welcome> and complete the relevant sections. *Thank you for your consideration.*

CHILDRENS LITURGY – It has been a number of years since our parish has had a children's liturgy and I am putting together a team to lead and inspire our kids in a children's liturgy (the aim is to start Term 2). I am looking for volunteers who want to help engage our children and set small hearts a light with the beauty of our faith. Sessions will be Sunday mornings during Mass at 8am for 20-25 mins. All resources and instructions will be provided. No teaching experience is necessary just enthusiasm and a willingness to get stuck in and answer those tricky questions that come up! All volunteers in our parish are required to undergo a police check and obtain a blue card (please go to <http://archbne.org/welcome> and complete the relevant sections). Please don't let this be a barrier, our parish organises everything you just need to fill out some forms online. I am more than happy to walk you through the process step by step. Volunteers will be on a roster and rostered once a term (if I can get enough volunteers) for the 4 term school year. If you are keen or would like to have a chat about what is involved please drop me a line at hello@robinsoncreative.com.au or 0421 912 680. I am super excited to be getting this liturgy up and running! *Catherine Robinson*

St MMK Social Golf Club will play their next game on Sunday **8th March** at Howeston Golf Course. Tee off 10am. BBQ in the Parish Centre follows. Any enquiries, phone Steve on 0417 195 571.

World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday 6th March at St Anthony's Church, St Anthony Dr, Alexandra Hills at 10:30am followed by lunch.

Project Compassion Sunday Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "**Go Further Together**". As Teresa of Calcutta said, Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things, with great love. You will be helping empower our world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and share their strengths with their communities to lift themselves out of poverty. When we **Go Further Together** in love and compassion, the whole world thrives. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

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: _____