



Photo thanks to the Catholic Weekly: Bishop Terry Brady, Parish Priest Fr Salas Muttathukattil MSFS, parishioners and sisters including Sr Mary Constable, centre, gather for the farewell. Photo: Patrick Lee .

“After 155 years of benefiting from the presence of Good Samaritan Sisters, the people of St Augustine parish in Balmain sadly wished the last remaining sister, Sr Mary Constable sgs, goodbye at a warm and touching thanksgiving Mass on 25 August. It was a double celebration, also marking Sr Mary’s 100th birthday which fell on 10 August.”
(Catholic Weekly. Marilyn Rodrigues. Aug. 2019).

John Mehl Advises: Sr. Mary Constable, a Good Samaritan nun who was born in Moruya to a well known family, died December 2020 at the age of 101. Sister Mary was received into the order in the 1940’s. After the 2nd World War she went with others to Japan where she taught for several years. On return to Australia she taught at various places. On retirement and right up to her death she did charitable work from her home in Balmain Sydney with her good friend Sr. Marie McMahon. A life of service to God.

PROJECT COMPASSION STORY THIS WEEK.



Margret is a teacher at a vocational school for deaf students in the Solomon Islands that suffered long-term water shortages and damage from Tropical Cyclone Harold. With Caritas Australia’s support, Margret’s school installed water tanks, repaired cyclone damage and implemented COVID-19 prevention measures, and is now planning to boost food security. **Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and help people living with disabilities in the Solomon Islands gain access to education and clean water, empowering them with skills to protect our common home.** You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.



THE CATHOLIC TEACHING ON HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY: The souls of people who had faith and love for God and for neighbor but died in an imperfect moral and spiritual state could still be perfected after death in purgatory. “Through they are “assured of their eternal salvation,” they still need to “undergo purification” that makes possible “the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, n. 1030) These souls cannot earn any merits in purgatory but suffer passively there. Still, the prayers and works of the living can bring them merit and benefit (CCC, . 1032) We pray for the souls in purgatory simply because they need our prayers. A selfless Christian love for these suffering souls, whether we knew them in life or not, is the primary motive for praying, fasting, helping the needs in works of charity, and offering up suffering all for the relief of the pain these souls experience in purgatory.



**ST EDMUND’S BODALLA
NOW HAS A CEMENT
DRIVEWAY INTO THE
CHURCH YARD.
WITH THANKS TO A VERY
PROUD WORKER.**

**NEW PIN BOARDS
ARE ALMOST READY TO
BE INSTALLED IN THE
FOYER OF SACRED
HEART MORUYA.**



SACRED HEART PARISH MORUYA



36 Queen Street (PO BOX 23) Moruya NSW 2537
Phone: 4474 2024 Email: Moruya@cg.org.au
Web: <http://cg.org.au/Moruya>

Priest: Fr George Azhakath msfs
Secretary: Mrs Pat Anderson

Parish Office hours: Wed. and Fri. 10am—3pm

Mass Times:

Moruya: Sat: Vigil 6.00 pm Sun: 10.00 am

Tue: 5.30 pm. Wed, Thu & Fri: 9.15 am

Sat: Reconciliation: 10—10.30 am

Tuross Mass: Sun. 8am Bodalla: Mass: 2nd Thursday of the month 9.15am. Fifth Sunday of the month 3 pm .

Schools: St Mary’s Moruya: 4474 2817

Carroll College Broulee 4471 5600

Caring Group: Tuross Head: 0497 315 534 Moruya: 0431 354 993

Devotions: Daily Rosary before mass. Adoration & Benediction.: Fridays 9.45—10.45 am



2nd SUNDAY OF LENT

-YEAR B -

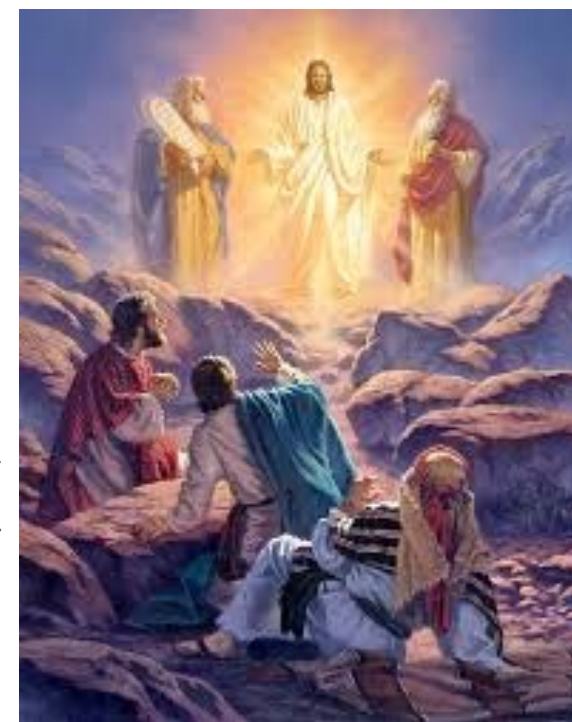
FEBRUARY 27 & 28 2021

The Transfiguration of the Lord.

“This is my son the beloved; listen to him.”

The readings for the Second Sunday of Lent highlight Jesus’ identity as *God’s beloved Son* (real at his baptism and transfiguration), and confront us with the mystery of his death on the cross. Hence, the main purpose of today’s readings is to give us an invitation as well as a challenge to put our faith in the loving promises of a merciful God who sent His Son to die for us and to transform our lives by renewing them during Lent. Our transformed lives will enable us to radiate the glory and grace of the transfigured Lord around us by our Spirit-filled lives.

The first reading shows us how God saved the life of Abraham’s son Isaac as a reward for Abraham’s trusting faith. Because of this faith the Lord renewed his promise to Abraham for the blessings of land and progeny. While Abraham’s son Isaac was spared, God’s beloved son Jesus underwent a cruel death on the cross. The linking of this story with the Gospel reading emphasises God’s infinite love, as seen in the redemptive sacrifice of his own Son for the salvation of the world. If the mystery of the sacrifice of Abraham’s beloved son, Isaac, is hard to understand, the mystery of the death of God’s beloved Son Jesus, is far more challenging. That is why Paul reminds us, in the second reading, that God the Father did not spare his own Son’s life. What an irony and paradox! God spared Abraham’s son, but not his own! Why? Because God loves us with a everlasting love. Paul interprets God’s willingness to sacrifice his own Son as proof of His great love for human kind and as God’s pledge that He will always protect and provide for us. Today’s psalm speaks of God’s distress at the death of anyone. *“Too costly in the eyes of the LORD is the death of his faithful.”*



In the transfiguration story in today’s gospel, Jesus is revealed as a glorious figure, superior to Moses and Elijah. He is identified by the heavenly Voice as the Son of God. Thus, the transfiguration narrative is a Christophany, that is, a manifestation or revelation of who Jesus really is. Describing Jesus’ transfiguration, the gospel shows us a glimpse of the heavenly glory awaiting those who do God’s will by putting their trusting faith in Him.

Prayer for Australia: Lord you place deep in our hearts the love of Mary Help of Christians. Through her prayers grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens. Under her protection may Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer after Communion: Lord, we thank you for coming into our hearts in Communion. We believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. You are our life and our hope. Draw us more deeply to yourself and transform our hearts through your abiding love. May we come to know Sunday as a special day of faith, the day of our Risen Lord. May our celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday consecrate this day to you.

O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, All Praise and All Thanksgiving be every moment thine.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Gen 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

God put Abraham to the test. ‘Abraham, Abraham,’ he called.’ Here I am’ he replied. ‘Take your son,’ God said ‘your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.’

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. ‘Abraham, Abraham’ he said. ‘I am here’ he replied. ‘Do not raise your hand against the boy’ the angel said. ‘Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.’ Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. ‘I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.’

The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 115:10. 15-19.

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

1. I trusted, even when I said:
‘I am sorely afflicted.’
O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful. **(R.)**
2. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord’s name. **(R.)**
3. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Rom 8:31-34

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God’s right hand he stands and pleads for us.

The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Mt 17:5

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: Mk 9:2-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. ‘Rabbi,’ he said ‘it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.’ He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.’ Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what ‘rising from the dead’ could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

Entrance Antiphon: Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

Communion Antiphon: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

WORD AND LIFE this week....

1. The transubstantiation in the Holy Mass is the source of our strength: In each Holy Mass, the bread and wine we offer on the altar become “transfigured” - “transformed” into the crucified and risen, living body and blood of Jesus. Just as Jesus’ transfiguration strengthened the apostles in their time of trial, each holy Mass should be our source of heavenly strength against temptations, and our renewal during Lent. In addition, our holy communion with the living Jesus should be the source of our daily “transfiguration” transforming our minds and hearts so that we may do more good by humble and selfless service to others.

2. Each time we receive one of the sacraments, we are transformed: For example, baptism transforms us into sons and daughters of God and heirs of heaven. Confirmation makes us temples of the Holy Spirit and warriors of God. By the sacrament of reconciliation, God brings back the sinner to the path of holiness.

3. A message of encouragement and hope: In moments of doubt and during our dark moments of despair and hopelessness, the thought of our transfiguration in heaven will help us to reach out to God and to listen to His consoling words: “*This is my beloved son.*” Let us offer our Lenten sacrifices to our Lord, that through these practices of Lent and through the acceptance of our daily crosses we may become closer to him in his suffering and may share in the carrying of his cross so that we may finally share the glory of his final “transfiguration,” his resurrection.

4. We need ‘mountain-top experiences’ in our lives: We share the mountain-top experience of Peter, James and John when we spend extra time in prayer during Lent. Fasting for one day will help the body to store up spiritual energy. This spiritual energy can help us have thoughts that are far higher and nobler than our usual mundane thinking. The hunger we experience puts us more closely in touch with God and makes us more willing to help the hungry. The crosses of our daily lives also can lead us to the glory of transfiguration and resurrection.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND HOUSE BOUND.

We continue to pray and extend our support to those who are in near lock down at Banksia Village, IRT Moruya; and the sick members of our Parish: John Gerber, Ben Pollock, Catherine Hulse, Kathleen Ebbelaar, Carmel Trenholme, Dale Moore, Gerry Ebbelaar, Kylie Leplaw, Jean Marrion, Monique Driver, Andy McCosker, Paul Croese, Pauline & Peter Morgan, Trish Tarlington, Elizabeth Martin-Yates, John Nader & John Moore. Love and prayers to all of them for a speedy recovery. Please advise the Office if you would like to be added to or taken off the list for prayers.

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED:

Sadly two people we have had on our prayer lists have died recently. Your prayers are asked for the repose of the souls of Patricia Behringer who died on 13th February, 2021 and Gail Fenton who died on 24th February, 2021. Patricia was related to a number of our parishioners and Gail is the sister of Pauline de Grave. Please include the family and friends of Patricia and Gail in your prayers. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

FIRST RECONCILIATION– ENROLMENT NIGHT– St Marys. Was held in the school on Wednesday 24th February when 12 parents enrolled their child for the sacrament of penance. Fr George, REC and class teachers gave preliminary introduction about the Sacrament of Reconciliation to Yr. 3 children’s parents. Your prayers are requested for the further involvement in the faith of the Catholic families attending our schools.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Due to unforeseen circumstances last weeks PPC meeting has been rescheduled for Thursday 4th March, 5.30pm. On Saturday 20th February at the PPC attended a presentation by Tim Cahill who has produced information from the 2016 Pastoral Planning Survey. The PPC members are very committed and starting a meeting at 8.30am on a Saturday is a good example of this. We need to keep them in our prayers and assist them, especially when requested to respond to suggestions as they represent our parish to the parish priest.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: The Finance committee will be meeting on Wednesday 3rd March in the Presbytery 5.30pm.

LENTEN REFLECTION: The group meets every Tuesday after the 5.30pm Mass in the Kennedy Meeting Room until Holy Week. Daily reflection books are available for use in the group. We are using the Brisbane Archdioceses “Look To Jesus” reflections for Lent and Easter.

All welcome, come when you can. You can now access the podcast of the daily reflections on Apple podcast and Android podcast.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: On all Thursdays of Lent after 9.15am Mass.

