

BIRTHDAYS: Happy Birthday to Deacon Paul Rummery who celebrated his Birthday on 18 February and to Bert Broekhuysen who's Birthday was on 20 February. We hope you both had a special day.

BODALLA MASS: Bodalla Masses resume this Sunday, 26 February at 3pm and every 4th Sunday.

MASS TIME CHANGE: Please note there will be **no 9:15am Mass on Thursday, 2 March.**

SEASON OF LENT: During Lent, join us for the **Triumph Lenten study** at Sacred Heart on Tuesdays after 5:30pm Mass. Booklets will be provided and are available from the office.

Stations of the Cross at 9:45am every Friday after Mass.

PASTORAL CARE GROUP: Inviting all Parishioners interested in being apart of a **Pastoral Care Group** for our Parish. A meeting is planned on **Monday, 27 February** at 9.30 for 10am. We will be discussing ideas for this to work in our Parish; what is involved, and a general discussion about Pastoral care.

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 Anthony Riosa, SSS

Secretary: Mrs Vickie Moore

Parish Office hours: Wed and Fri 9:00am—2:00pm

Mass Times:

Moruya: Sat: Vigil 6:00pm Sun: 10:00am

Tue: 5:30pm, Wed, Thu & Fri: 9:15am/1st Saturday of the month 9:15am

Tuross: Sun: 8am **Bodalla:** 3pm every 4th Sunday of the month

Reconciliation: Sat @ Moruya: 1st Saturday of the month 8:30am-9:00am before Mass
5:15pm-5:45pm before Mass

Devotions: Daily Rosary and Saturdays 9:30am **Adoration:** 40 mins before weekday Mass

Schools: St Mary's Moruya: 4474 2817 Carroll College Broulee: 4471 5600

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



1st Sunday of Lent

- YEAR A -

February 25 & 26 2023

The Temptation of Jesus

“We should confront our temptations and conquer them as Jesus did, by fasting, prayer and the Word of God”

Ours is a vibrant culture, always in pursuit of happiness. Death is an obscenity, hidden by cascades of flowers and relegated to remove burial lawns on the edge of town. Sin is denied, camouflaged, psychoanalysed and repressed — not confessed. We do not really sin. We make mistakes of judgement. If a popular politician lies, he or she is only being human. Lent is a time to look at such temptations, sin and the consequences. Originally Lent was the season when those about to be baptised repented of their sins and sought to know the Lord Jesus more intimately. Then it became a season for the baptised to do the same. We are challenged to die to sin so that we may rise again to the new life in Christ. Since the Church begins the season with a reflection on the origins of sin among us, the main themes in today's **readings** are temptation, sin, guilt and forgiveness. We are told of the temptations offered to our Lord, submission to which would have destroyed his mission. Today's **readings** give us the notion that testing comes to us by an agency apart from and in opposition to God. But the truth is that, while testing comes from the outside, temptation comes from within ourselves. However, the good news is that, though we are tempted, and often succumb, God's grace provides the way of salvation for us. The ultimate temptations in life are NOT those that push us to “do” things we are not supposed to “do”, but to “be” persons we were not made to be



Entrance Antiphon: When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

Communion Antiphon: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

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.



World Day of Prayer 2023

Taiwan

Date and time: Friday 3rd March
10 am

Location:
Moruya Uniting Church

Contact person:
Martha 04 27 742 416

ARCHDIOCESAN NOTICES



First Sunday of Lent
25 & 26 February



Laxmi, 16, lives in in Jajarkot, a remote district in Nepal where almost half of the population live below the poverty line. Tragedy struck when Laxmi was 10 years old and her father passed away. Her father worked hard to pay for his children's education and after losing him Laxmi was at risk of falling further into extreme poverty.

With the support of our partner Caritas Nepal, Laxmi joined a child's club at her school where she was encouraged to resume her education. Through the child's club, Laxmi developed the skills and confidence to become a leader, advocating for clean water taps at her school.

Laxmi is now excelling in her studies and working towards her dream of becoming a civil engineer. She continues to be involved in the child's club, serving as an advisor and mentoring the next generation of young leaders at her old school.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.



Photo: Richard Wainwright/Caritas Australia

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7

A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. see v.3

(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. **(R.)**
2. My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done. **(R.)**
3. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **(R.)**
4. Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise. **(R.)**

Second Reading Rom 5:12, 17-19

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

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 Mt 4:1-11

P: The Lord be with you

All: And with your spirit

P: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

All: Glory to you O Lord

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE WORD AND LIFE this week ...

1) We are to confront and conquer temptations as Jesus did using the means he employed. Everyone of us tempted to seek sinful pleasures, easy wealth and a position of authority, power and glory, and to use any means even unjust or sinful ones to gain these things. Jesus serves as a model for us in conquering temptations by strengthening himself through prayer, penance and the active use of the 'Word of God'. Temptations make us more powerful warriors of God by strengthening our minds and hearts. By constantly struggling against temptations we become stronger. Each time one is tempted to do evil but does good, one becomes stronger. Further, we are never tempted beyond our power. In his first letter, St John assures us: "Greater is the one who is in us, than the one who is in the world (1 John 4:4). We may be strengthened by St Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 10:13: "No testing has overtaken you, that is not common to everyone. God is faithful and God will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing God will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it". Hence, during this Lent, let us confront our evil tendencies, by prayer (especially by participating in the holy Mass), by penance and by meditative reading of the Bible.

2) We are to grow in holiness by prayer, reconciliation and sharing during Lent: a) by finding time to be with God every day of Lent, speaking to Him in fervent prayer and listening to Him through the meditative reading of the Bible; b) by repenting our sins daily and asking God's forgiveness every night at bedtime; c) by being reconciled with God through the sacrament of reconciliation; d) by being reconciled with others, forgiving them the hurts they have caused us and asking their pardon for the hurts we have inflicted on them; e) by sharing our love with others through selfless and humble service, almsgiving and helping those in need; f) by living the gospel or the 'good news' of God's love, mercy and forgiveness in our lives, thus bearing true Christian witness.

3) Lent is the time for the desert experience. We can set aside a place and time daily with God, a time to distance ourselves from the many noises that bombard our lives every day, a time to hear God's word, a time to rediscover who we are before God and a time to say yes to God and no to Satan, as Jesus did.

NOTICES FROM THE PARISH

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: We continue to pray and extend our support to those at Banksia Village, IRT Moruya, the sick members of our Parish and those in need of our prayers: Kathleen Ebbelaar, Gerry Ebbelaar, Dianne Ebbelaar, Kylie Leplaw, Andy McCosker, Bala Stankovich, Paul Croese, Clare Broekhuysse, Pat Morris, Julie and John Kay, Lee Maat, Kirk Dowling, Rosemary Patyus, Kay Morton, Rod McDonald, Hans Brosch, Father Giles Setter OFM, Annette Moore, Annette and John Nader, John Harnett, Ross Hay, Bernard Carroll, Taine Woodford, Robyn Barkley, Mark Wales, Lyn Timms, Rick Christensen, Pat Anderson, Emma Spinks and John Mehl.

CONDOLENCES: Please pray for baby Mia Riley who tragically passed away last Sunday. We pray and extend our sincere condolences to Mia's parents Lani and Tom Riley and Mia's sister Layla on their loss. Rest in peace little one and please pray the Lord will give strength to Mia's family and friends at this very sad time.

We also offer our prayers and condolences to Dr Judy Toman on the passing of her brother John Toman.

Gary Parker, past Moruya resident, passed away on Saturday, 18 February. Condolences to Lois and the Parker family.

Sadly Jenni Husband passed away on Thursday, 23 February. Condolences to Jenni's mother Maureen Price and to Jenni's daughters Sarah and Stacey.

May they rest in peace dear Lord.

