

10th March, 2024, 4th Sunday of Lent, Year B

TEMORA MISSION AREA

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Ardlethan/Sacred Heart Ariaiah Park

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Sacred Heart Temora Parish Priest Fr Sijo Jose

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St Therese Barellan

In our Prayers: Robyn Richards, Neville Caldwell.

For our Deceased: Kath Kenny, Janice Lewis, Bruce Baker, Ken Horan, Leo & Edna Griffin (*anniversaries*) Deceased Family, Friends, Victims of war, violence, accidents and natural disasters



March 16-17 Ariaiah Park 6.00 p.m. *Liturgy*

Mass Temora 10.00 a.m.

Liturgy Ardlethan **8.00 a.m.** Barellan 10.00 a.m.



Reflection

God Loved the World so Much. During the season of Lent we humbly acknowledge the ways in which we have failed to respond to our Christian vocation. We do this before a God who is infinitely rich in mercy and grace, who sent the Son into the world not to condemn it but to be its saviour. Acknowledging our failings and accepting healing and forgiveness from Christ prepares us to celebrate the feast of Easter with great joy.

WEEKLY REFLECTIONS
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



2 Chronicles 36:14–16, 19–23 | Ephesians 2:4–10 | John 3:14–21

Written by Michael McGirr

We have all lived through a great deal of change. Even young people have seen plenty. ChatGPT is a recent development and so are electric cars. Older people can remember having a phone plugged into a socket that you couldn't carry around with you. Sometimes we have discussions about the good old days. They are often tinged with nostalgia for things we miss and gratitude for improvements. We no longer need to buy film for our cameras or change typewriter ribbons. Climate change is deeply troubling. Many medical improvements are inspiring.

Change can certainly be frightening. It can also be an occasion of great hope. Jesus seems to have understood this. Nicodemus comes across as a character who is looking for change in his life, but he is nervous about it, so he comes to see Jesus under cover of darkness. Earlier in the chapter, Jesus uses the image of being born again. Of starting all over again. It is a dramatic description of change. Jesus says that the light has come into the world and that people prefer the same old darkness. They are set in their ways.

Every Lent, through Project Compassion, Caritas Australia asks us to help bring light into the world and to make positive change. An example is presented to us this week in the story of Memory, a young woman from rural Malawi, the eldest child in a family living at the level of subsistence farming.

Listen to some of Memory's words: 'Growing up in the village was not easy. My parents don't have a job, so they depend on farming. When the season goes wrong, we suffer a lot and become food insecure. Sometimes we need to bathe without soap. Sometimes we need to walk without shoes.'

With the support of Caritas Australia and its partner the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi (CADECOM), Memory was able to enrol at a technical college where she learnt practical skills in carpentry. A new life became possible. She can now realise her full potential and offer more to her family and her community.

Today, the letter to the Ephesians reminds us that every person is 'God's work of art.' God is the artist who never signs off on a painting but is always trying to make it better. Perhaps we can see the world in the same way.



A reminder that we are in the Year of the Holy Spirit, celebrating from August 2023-2024. **Prayer to the Holy Spirit for the Archdiocese :**

“O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, Grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolations. Through the same Christ Our Lord.”

Roster 17 Mar

Leader:

Reader: Suzanne Lucas

Ex. Minister :