

TEMORA MISSION AREA

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

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St Therese Barellan 6977 2104

In our Prayers: Frances Vince, Alicia Bonny Jim Bonny, Barry Carroll, Neville Caldwell, Kashaya Kuemmel,

For our Deceased: Irene Murat, Garry Lubke, Ray Fairman, Margaret Gaynor, Eliza Clark, Leo Griffin, Edna Griffin, Dianne Stout, Darcy Lucas (*an*)

February 25-26

← - - - - - Aria Park 6.00 p.m. Mass

Mass Temora 10.00 a.m.

Liturgy Ardlethan 9.00 a.m. Barellan 10.00 a.m.



Reflection

Be Holy! The word 'holy' can conjure up the image of someone who is always praying and perhaps cut off from everyday earthly realities. Today's readings, however, remind us that holiness is not measured by the calluses on our knees but by our love for others. Most essentially, holiness is God's gift. We are a holy people because God loves us and dwells among us making us the temple of God.

Ash Wednesday

An Ash Wednesday reflection sheet is available that can be used for personal prayer as Lent begins this week.

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"**. Your generosity will assist some of the world's most vulnerable communities to lift themselves out of poverty. When we Go Further Together in love and compassion, the whole world thrives.

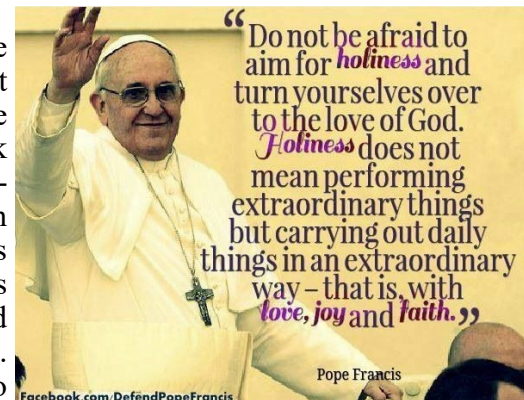


Drapes

With Lent starting on Wednesday it would be appreciated if the drapes could be changed to purple after our Mass today. *Thank you.*

Reflection—for your interest

The first part of today's gospel passage is perhaps one of the most misunderstood of Jesus' teachings. The notion of turning the other cheek usually brings up notions of non-violence, submission, or even sometimes a victim mentality. It seems an odd teaching to tell someone who is being hit to simply stand there and present the other cheek to also be hit. It's odd because we generally fail to understand the cultural context that is the setting for this teaching.



In the first century, a master would discipline a slave or servant by striking them with the back of his hand. Assuming the master is right handed, a back-handed strike would be delivered to the right cheek of the person he faced. If the servant were to then present his left cheek to the master, it becomes impossible for the master to strike with the back of his hand and forces him into using an open-hand slap or a closed-fist punch to the left cheek. Not much of an improvement, you might think. However, servants were disciplined with the back of the hand and only equals fought in such a way that would deliver blows to the left side.

What Jesus is saying to those who are oppressed is to offer no resistance but at the same time stand up for yourself and make your oppressor recognise you and treat you as an equal, not an inferior. It is extremely dangerous advice! Its aim is to shame the oppressor.

The other two examples, surrendering your cloak when used for your tunic and walking two miles when required to walk one are also examples of seeking to shame the one who would use their power and strength against you. That's not being a submissive wimp; that's staring the bully in the eye!

<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2023Feb19/0/RefGreSun>

Reflection Day

You are invited to join the people of the parish of Temora for their reflection day on Thursday, 23rd February, starting at 9.30 a.m. for 10.00 a.m.

Place: Southern Cross Village Meeting Room

No charge. Bring something to share for morning tea and lunch.

The reflection day will conclude about 2.30pm

Theme **"God is thirsting for Me"**

Roster February 26

Leader: Andrina

Reader: Tracey

Minister: John