



**1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY LENT YEAR B**  
**20 February 2021**

**Liturgy and Bulletin**

*The  
Season  
of  
Lent*



### **OPENING PRAYER**

*Father,  
through our observance of Lent,  
help us to understand the meaning  
of your Son's death and resurrection  
and teach us to reflect it in our lives.  
Amen.*

**FIRST READING:** A reading from the book of Genesis

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

**Response: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth  
to those who keep your covenant.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour. (R.)

2. Remember your mercy, Lord,  
and the love you have shown from of old.  
In your love remember me,  
because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)

3. The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
he guides the humble in the right path;  
he teaches his way to the poor.

## **SECOND READING:** A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

## **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:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him. After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

## **REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant**

Today's readings show us that Lent is a time for us to receive God's grace. We are not the ones who, through our penance, are meant to accomplish great things. Rather, it is God who acts; it is God who makes the sacrifice; it is God who accomplishes great things for us.

Each reading describes a different kind of conflict within which we might find ourselves: a world-wrenching upheaval, such as happens during social discord, war or natural disaster; the struggle between right and wrong, between fidelity and disobedience; the struggle with temptation. In the midst of the conflicts of life, God initiates a covenant with us. God saves the world from the chaos into which it was thrown, makes a covenant with all living things and with the earth, and sets a bow in the heavens as a perpetual reminder of the covenant. Christ dies for sinners, and offers them baptism that will save them from the chaos of their lives. The Spirit drives Jesus into the desert, there to be tested, but to emerge triumphant. His victory is not for him alone, but for all who will heed his words and follow his example.

The bow in the sky is a sign of the good news of the covenant; baptism is both the good news of salvation for us and our pledge of fidelity to God; Jesus' proclamation is that the reign of God is at hand. With the psalmist we praise God for inviting us into this covenant relationship.



## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Reader: That our Holy Father Pope Francis will lead us in faith and repentance during this season of Lent. (pause) In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: On Social Justice Sunday: that leaders of nations will resist the temptations of greed and power. (pause) In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That our parish community will turn to Christ for consolation and never doubt God's abundant love. (pause) In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the sick will be sustained by God's mercy and kindness, especially Tony Riley, Rupert Ermert, Ann McDougall, Val Biggers and Celia Roach. (pause)

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who have died will live forever in the grace of God, especially Reece Grant and our own deceased relatives and friends. (pause) In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

*Father, you increase our faith and hope  
and deepen our love. Help us to live by your words  
and to seek Christ who is Lord for ever and ever.  
Amen.*

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Hello St Bede's Parishioners,

Mass last Saturday evening was attended by 34 parishioners. Social distancing, hygiene requirements and recording attendance procedures are still being observed. **Please try to arrive in good time** as all these regulations and requirements will take time. The protocols are being slowly relaxed, singing is now allowed and distancing is now 2 square metres inside the church.

**Weekday Masses: No weekday Masses until further notice.**

**Meditation:** Thursdays at 10.30am in the Presbytery.

**Adoration:** has been suspended until Father Mick is in the parish and times can be discussed.

**Araluen Stations of the Cross:** 3.00pm First Friday of every month. All welcome.

**Baptism: 20 February at 10.30am**

**Wedding: 27 February at 4.00pm.**

**Social Justice Meeting:** Sunday 7 March in the church at 10.30am.

**Lent begins on Wednesday 17 February 2021.**

18 February – 25 March 7.30pm to 9.00pm "Walk in the Spirit, Lenten Renewal Experience  
Led by Archbishop Prowse via livestreaming every Thursday during Lent, *Walk in the Spirit* is open to all desiring a new Lenten renewal experience. Talks, prayer, sharing and Encounter Nights. Register and find our more at <https://cgatholic.org.au/walk-in-the-spirit/>

"**Look to Jesus**" is the name of the Lenten and Easter Reflection booklets that we have purchased for use this year. Anyone who would like one can collect after Mass or see Brian during the week.

**Working Bee for tree planting:** Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9.00am.

**Project Compassion boxes** can be collected from the back of the church before or after Mass.

## Markets in Ryrie Park: 8am - 2pm next Saturday.

Our markets bring in around half our annual income so let us support them as well as we can.  
Produce; Crafts; Plants; Antiques & Collectibles; Trash & Treasure;  
Monthly Raffle; Donations of cooking etc gratefully accepted by the rostered group.



**Cleaners:** the group decided that fortnightly cleaning should be sufficient as the church is still only open for services. If anyone would like to join the "Clean Team", please contact Helen for details.

**Please note** the ceremonies happening in the church in February when cleaning will be required beforehand.

**Readings for next week: Second Sunday of Lent:** 1<sup>st</sup>: Gen. 22:1-2,9-13,15-18. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Romans 8:31-34.  
Gospel: Mark 9:2-10.

### Ministry Rosters for Restrictive Masses

Date	Acolyte	Welcomer	Readers	PowerPoint
20 Feb	James	Geraldine	Cathy F/Michael	Helen H
27 Feb	Geoff	Helen P	Wendy M-B/Ann	Helen H
6 Mar	Felix	Cathy F	Wendy H/Germaine	Helen H
13 Mar	James	Geraldine	Rod/Bobbie	Helen H

Please let me know as soon as possible if you won't be attending, so other arrangements can be made.

**COVID-19 Links** for information: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19>

**Mass Online Link:** <https://catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online>

**Masks are not yet mandatory** but recommended. Please feel free to wear one to Mass if you wish.

Take care and keep safe  
Helen Hart