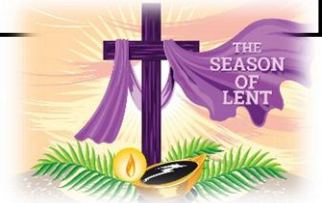




2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT  
YEAR A

5 March 2023

LITURGY AND BULLETIN



### OPENING PRAYER

*God our Father, help us hear your Son.  
Enlighten us with your word,  
that we may find the way to your glory.  
Amen.*

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

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:  
I will curse those who slight you.  
All the tribes of the earth  
shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**Response: Lord, let your mercy be on us,  
as we place our trust in you.**

1. The word of the Lord is faithful  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right  
and fills the earth with his love. (R.)

2. The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.  
The Lord is our help and our shield.  
May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you. (R.)

**SECOND READING:** A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his

own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

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:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'



### **Reflection on the Gospel of Matthew 17:1-9 by Dianne Bergant CSA**

The blessings upon which we meditate today are undeserved gifts from God. They were not earned. The graciousness of God transforms us in such a way as to effect new beginnings. It can be seen in the promises made to Abram. He leaves the past behind and moves into a new future. It can be seen in the psalm response. The Lord delivers us from death and inspires us to look to the future. It can be seen in the reading from 2 Timothy. Through Christ Jesus we are called to a new life of holiness; we escape the fetters of death and are brought into the freedom of the resurrection. We see it in the gospel, a glimpse into the future glory of Jesus which, through grace, we will be able to share. Lent is a time of new beginnings which find their origin in the abundant blessings of God.

The ultimate blessing of God is Jesus himself. As Abram was called to be the source of blessing for all others, as Peter, James and John were chosen to witness the transfiguration of Jesus, so today we too are invited to look to Jesus for inspiration during this holy season. Paul speaks of the salvation that Jesus brings as having come, not because of any works of righteousness that we might have performed, but because of the grace of God. Once again the Lenten readings focus on the merciful action of God in our lives, and in the end they point to Jesus.

## **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

We pray for the church, that the whole people of God attend to the words of Jesus and show God's glory to the world. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for missionaries who like Abraham have heard God's call to leave their homeland; that they sow seeds of gospel joy wherever they are sent. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the grief-stricken people of Turkey and Syria, and for our neighbours in New Zealand, that they will receive all the support they need to recover and rebuild. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for Ukrainian and Russian parents whose soldier sons have been killed in battle, that the grief they share may bear fruit in peace. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for women around the world, that this year's International Women's Day (8 March) will help secure the equity they seek. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation in Western Sydney, that our giving to Project Compassion will enable its members to keep supporting mothers and children. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who are suffering ill health, especially Archbishop Frank Carroll, Eadaoin (pronounced Aideen) Corkoran, Maurice Farley, Ann McDougall, Ross Lawless, Val Biggers, Rongo Tee Peeti, Helen Montgomery, Judy Nielson, Tony Riley and all who need our prayers; that they will be cared for by loving family, friends and community (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the recently deceased, Phillip Lee, Frank Stuart, David Nicholson and Anthony Kelly . . . and for Annmarie Rosengren Minogue, whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will enjoy the life and immortality proclaimed by Christ. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

## **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

*Lord, we give you thanks for all the gifts you bring to us here on earth.  
May we share in the life to come, through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*

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**PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays: 9am – 3pm; Fridays: 9am – 12pm**

**Weekday Mass: Tuesdays at 10.00am**

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

**Social Justice Group: Tuesday 5 April 2023 at 9.30am, at the Presbytery**

**First Rite of Reconciliation: 5-5.15pm Saturdays during Lent.**

**Dear Parishioners,**

**News from the Pews: Braidwood Scouts 2023 Mega Car Boot Sale: Saturday 11th March 2023 at Braidwood Scout Hall on Coghill Street. 9am to 2pm.**

## Majors Creek Festival: 17 - 19 March.

NSW State Election Saturday, 25 March 2023 - 8am-6pm



**Tereesa** is a Gamilaroi woman from Western Sydney who struggled with homelessness while raising her four children. At just 16 years old, she had to leave school after falling pregnant with her first child. A single mother struggling with homelessness, Tereesa's only concern was finding stability for her children.

Seeking a better future for her family, Tereesa joined Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation's Young Mums and Bubs Group, supported by Caritas Australia. Baabayn helped Tereesa access housing and psychological support. Today, Tereesa is studying a certificate in Community Services so that she can strengthen her skills and give back to her community.

Tereesa now works at Baabayn, providing support to young mothers and mentoring the next generation of young people.

Photo: Richard Wainwright/Caritas Australia

### 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/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion), or by calling 1800 024 413.



**The new Anglican minister, Kenneth King, is being welcomed this Friday night at 6pm, in S. Andrew's Anglican Church.** We are invited to attend.

**The Nowra Catholic Women's League** are once again coming to Nerriga to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Mass in the church and lunch afterwards at the pub. We are all invited to attend the celebration and lunch.

**Readings for Mass:** 1<sup>st</sup>: Gen. 12:1-4. 2<sup>nd</sup>: 2 Tim. 1:8-10. Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9.

**Readings for next week:** 1<sup>st</sup>: Exodus 17:3-7. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Romans 5:1-2,5-8. Gospel: John 4:5-42.

### Ministry Rosters for our Masses

Date	Acolyte	Welcomer	Readers
4 Mar		Helen P	Wendy H/Germaine
11 Mar	Felix	Geraldine	Wendy M-B/Ann T
18 Mar		Helen P	Michael/Cathy F
25 Mar	Felix	Cathy F	Bobbie/Tommy

### Ministries of service:

	3 March	17 March	24 March
Altar Decorating:		no flowers during Lent	
Cleaning:	Bani & Ella	Pauline & Wendy	Felix
Counters:	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday: Pauline & Bobbie. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday: volunteer please	2 <sup>nd</sup> : Sunday: Wendy H 4 <sup>th</sup> : Phil Owen	

Please advise if you are unable to fulfil your roster, so alternative arrangements may be made.

Take care of each other  
Helen Hart

The Parish of St Bede's Braidwood acknowledges the Yuin people, the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for many thousands of years. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.