



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT
YEAR B

3 March 2024

LITURGY AND BULLETIN



OPENING PRAYER

*Father, you have taught us to overcome our sins by prayer,
fasting and works of mercy.*

*When we are discouraged by our weakness,
give us confidence in your love. Amen.*

FIRST READING: A reading from the book of Exodus

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. 'You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Response: Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. (R.)

2. The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. (R.)

3. The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. (R.)

4. They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey,
than honey from the comb. (R.)

Second Reading: A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 2:13-25

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.



Reflection on the Gospel of John 2:15-17 by GPBS 27 February 2024

Turning the Tables

Jesus put together a whip out of strips of leather and chased them out of the Temple, stampeding the sheep and cattle, upending the tables of the loan sharks, spilling coins left and right. He told the dove merchants, "Get your things out of here! Stop turning God's house into a shopping mall!" That's when his disciples remembered the scripture, "Zeal for your house consumes me."

A crowd of onlookers had quickly gathered. One man from the crowd, hoping to see a fight, shouted at Jesus, "Who do you think you are with your whip and your big mouth?" Another voice added: "He must be going crazy". "Get the rabbi," another shouted. Jesus knew their hearts. They had little time for God. They had little concern for their temple which had been reduced to a public

market. They had even less interest in the message of Jesus. There was a pall of hopelessness about the scene, but they would all be back in the morning. *Business as usual!*

Lent charges into our lives once a year, overturning our tables. Lent challenges us to think about our interests, our positions, and our transgressions. Lent asks us to examine the way we live, and the integrity of our relationship with God. During Lent, we may uncover obstacles which keep us from living our faith to the fullest.

Jesus will hand us his whip of cords so we can use it to drive the obstacles away, those things in the temple of our hearts that need “driving out” this Lent.

Kids' Corner

... and to those who sold doves Jesus said, “Take these out of here, and stop making my Father’s house into a marketplace.” (John 2: 16)

I bet it was frightening to be in the Temple when Jesus drove out the money changers. Jesus was angry because the Temple was for worshipping God, not making money. We call the emotion Jesus experienced “righteous anger” because it’s anger about something that isn’t right. You might feel righteous anger when you see someone being hurt or bullied. It’s different from anger that comes from hatred, jealousy or selfishness. (Remember Joseph’s brothers from a few days ago?) Wherever anger comes from, it can be scary. But you know who isn’t afraid of anger? God. Whether you’re experiencing your own anger or someone else’s, take it to God. Let God help you.

Loving God, help me today. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray for scholars, preachers and teachers. May they offer wise and encouraging guidance on the practice of Christian morality in contemporary society. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for an end to the terrible bloodshed persisting in so many places around the world. May the perpetrators repent and lay down their arms. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for women around the world, especially in societies that deny them freedom. May this week’s International Women’s Day (8 March) strengthen their hope for fulfilling lives. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the work of Caritas Samoa in providing clean drinking water to island residents. May our support for Project Compassion help them sustain this initiative. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who work in Catholic agencies of education, health and social service. May their missionary spirit be good news for all they serve. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who are confined in prison, especially young Indigenous offenders. May they gain freedom of body, mind and spirit and find the way to a new life. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who suffer in mind, body or spirit, especially Patrick Thomas, Val Goodsell, Kerry Prothero, Tony Riley, those on our prayer list and all who need our prayers. May they not suffer alone but be assured of the love and care of the whole community. (Pause) Lord, hear us

We pray for the recently deceased, Oliver Koch and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time. May they enter the heavenly sanctuary that is the risen Christ. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord, may we receive your forgiveness and be brought together in unity and peace. Amen.

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Father Tony Percy M. 0431 225 574
Braidwood Contact Numbers: Ph. 4842 2444; Mobile: 0430 169 849
(Helen)

Parish email: braidwood@cg.org.au Parish Website: [ttp://cg.org.au/braidwood/Home.aspx](http://cg.org.au/braidwood/Home.aspx)

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Marylou Gorham Ph. 4842 2413

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Tues: 9.30am – 3.30pm; Fridays: 9.30am – 12.30pm

Mass: Saturdays at 6.00pm. Last week at this time. 2 March 5.00pm

Meditation: Thursdays in Presbytery at 10.30am

Social Justice Group: 5 March at 3pm in the Presbytery

Scripture: Tuesdays at 4pm in the Presbytery.

Finance Committee Meeting: Tuesday 5 March @ 5.30pm

Changeover to 5pm Mass: starting date will be 3rd Sunday of Lent - 2nd March 2024.

Telstra upgrading Interruptions: The first phase of disruptions will occur daily between 8am and 4pm on Monday 4 March and Tuesday 5 March 2024. The mobile base station at Monga will also be disrupted during this period as work on the transmission is undertaken. The second phase of disruptions will occur from 8am on Monday 11 March to 5pm on Wednesday 13 March 2024. The site is expected to be off the air for this entire period. Minor disruptions will be experienced during the day on Thursday 14 March and Friday 15 March as we test and integrate the mobile network. If all goes according to plan and weather permitting, residents should be noticing an improvement in Telstra mobile services by 15 March 2024. Telstra mobile customers will receive text messages advising of the upcoming work. Landline services, NBN internet services and mobile coverage from other providers will not be impacted. Any calls to Triple Zero from a Telstra mobile when the site is off air will automatically be diverted to any working mobile network for connection to emergency services. Check out the Bugle article for tips on how to improve connectivity during this time at <https://braidwoodbugle.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/193-20240212-Braidwood-Bugle-min.pdf> (copy and paste this address)


First Thursday luncheon March 7 at the Club. Commences at 11.30am.

A Community meeting to discuss child care will be held in the Old Sunday School hall on Monday 4 March at 4pm. Anyone affected by the closure of the Purple House should attend. This includes grandparents. Also attend if you are responsible for after school care of students as the

Readings for Mass: 1st: Exodus 20:1-17. 2nd: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25. Gospel: John 2:13-25.

Next week's reading: 1st: 2 Chron. 36:14-16,19-23. 2nd: Eph. 2:4-10. Gospel: John 3:14-21.

Radio Church: Sundays at 6pm

Ministries for our Mass:	2 Mar	9 Mar	16 Mar	23 Mar (Palm Sun)
Welcomer:	Cathy F	Helen P	Cathy F	Geraldine
Acolyte:	Felix (when available)			
Reader 1:	Tommy	Germaine	Ann T	Cathy F
Reader 2:	Bobbie	Wendy M-B	Wendy H	Michael
Ministries of service:	1 Mar	8 Mar	15 Mar	22 Mar
Altar Decorating:	no flowers during Lent please			
Cleaning:	Bronnie & Felix		Helen P & Sarah	
Please note: there is a wedding on Saturday 16 March, at 2.30pm				
Counters: 1 st Sunday:	Pauline & Bobbie.		2 nd : Sunday: Wendy H	
	Brenda		4 th : Phil Owen	
			5 th Helen Bopping	
 If you are unable to fulfil your roster or get a substitute from the list on the reverse side of the roster, so alternative arrangements may be made.				

Not having access to a reliable source of clean water caused Leaia a lot of worry.

Their home is not connected to a piped water system, so they had to rely solely on rainwater collected in old fridges. When their water ran out, Leaia had to walk with her young children to collect water in buckets and containers from a neighbour down the street.

With the support of Caritas Australia's local partner, Caritas Samoa, a water tank was installed at Leaia's home. She and her family now have a steady supply of clean drinking water at home. Next year, they will also have a toilet built, with the support of Caritas Samoa, which will further improve their health and living conditions.

"We are very thankful and grateful for the water tank. It has helped us so much and made our daily life easier," Leaia said.

Please donate to Project Compassion. 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 available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

May this Lent be a time of renewal for you all,

Helen Hart