



5TH SUNDAY LENT YEAR B
21 March 2021

Liturgy and Bulletin

*The
Season
of
Lent*



OPENING PRAYER

*Father,
Help us to be like Christ your Son,
inspire us by his love and guide us by his example.
Amen.*

FIRST READING: A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Response: Create a clean heart in me, O God.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt.
and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)

2. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)

3. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. (R.)

SECOND READING: A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;
and where I am, my servant will also be.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come
for the Son of Man to be glorified.
I tell you most solemnly,
unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies,
it remains only a single grain;
but if it dies,
it yields a rich harvest.
Anyone who loves his life loses it;
anyone who hates his life in this world
will keep it for the eternal life.
If a man serves me, he must follow me,
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.
If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.
Now my soul is troubled.
What shall I say:
Father, save me from this hour?
But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.
Father, glorify your name!'
A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'
People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.
'Now sentence is being passed on this world;
now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.
And when I am lifted up from the earth,
I shall draw all men to myself.'
By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.



REFLECTION on John 12:20-33 by Fr Michael Tate

We want to see Jesus

I can observe a baby, but the parents 'see' their baby very differently. They gaze with total fascination, trying to perceive what this little bundle of flesh is really all about, trying to get an insight into its personality, visualising a possible future, hoping for a response.

This Gospel passage begins with a request from some Greeks 'to see Jesus', surely in all the ways parents see their baby. They were trying to perceive what this Jesus was really all about, trying to get an insight into his personality, imagining a possible future, hoping for a response.

And there was a response full of allusions to the future.

Jesus was as a grain of wheat. He died and was buried in the earth and that death was fruitful for the whole of humankind. He foresaw being nailed to the cross which would be dropped upright into a hole in the ground.

Our Lord says of that scene: 'When I am lifted up I will draw all people to myself.' How were people drawn to this scene?

People saw the length to which Jesus was prepared to go in order to persevere in his mission to live out the message that his Heavenly Father was full of mercy and wanted all people to share in Divine Life. This led to his being lifted up on the cross, being buried in the ground like a grain of wheat, only to rise to new life.

We could take a moment to pray that we will shortly see all this with the eyes of faith as we participate in the rituals of Good Friday and Easter.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Reader: That the Church will follow Christ's path of service and self-sacrifice.

(pause) To God we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That nations will seek peace and reconciliation. (pause) To God we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the cries of those who suffer poverty and homelessness will be heard by those who have plenty. (pause) To God we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the sick, including James Clarke, Tony Riley, Rupert Ermert, Ann McDougall, Val Biggers and Celia Roach, and those who care for them, will be drawn into the loving embrace of Christ. (pause) To God we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the dead will be raised to eternal life, including Bishop Bede Heather, Monsignor Kevin Barry-Cotter and our own deceased relatives and friends.

(pause) To God we pray:

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord,

*Protect your people always,
that we may be free from every evil
and serve you with all our hearts.*

Amen.

Hello St Bede's Parishioners,

Mass last Saturday evening was attended by 45 parishioners, a very good rollup. 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 but singing is now only allowed with masks and distancing is still 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.

Social Justice Meeting: Sunday 11 April in the church at 10.30am.

Baptism: 20th March.

Easter Services: **Holy Thursday April 1 at 7pm**
Good Friday: April 2: Stations 10am; Passion 3pm.
Easter Vigil: April 3: Service of Light 6pm.

Mass of Reconciliation will be on 5th Sunday of Lent (Saturday 20). Please all come along if you can.

Planned Giving Envelopes: due to the number of parishioners now giving online, we are re-evaluating the number of boxes we order. They will now cost us \$20 per box, which is such a waste if not used. If you would like to continue receiving envelopes, please contact Helen Hart at the office or on 0430 169 849

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.

Many thanks to those who brought in goodies last month.



This Lenten season is themed "Be More". As Teresa of Calcutta said, "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things, with great love." **Project Compassion boxes** can be collected from the back of the church before or after Mass.

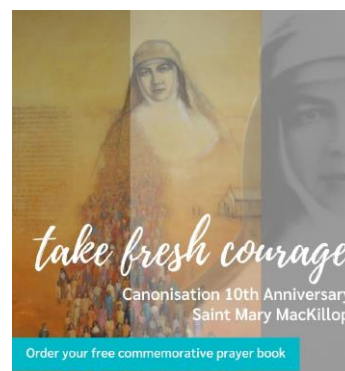
To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the canonisation of Saint Mary MacKillop

We invite you to order your [free copy of Encountering St Mary MacKillop in Prayer](#)

The Sisters of Saint Joseph have created a commemorative prayer booklet to inspire us all to "take fresh courage..." as Mary did so often. These prayers share details of her personal journey, highlighting Mary's values and spirit, and offering prayers and blessings for our modern world.

To order your exclusive copy please go to:
www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/prayer-book or call us on
Ph: 02 8912 2777

MARY MACKILLOP
today



Cleaners:

1 April: Wendy M-B and Judith. **16 April:** Bobbie and Pauline. **30 April:** Margaret and Barbara.

Please note the ceremonies happening in the church when cleaning will be required beforehand will be advised at the beginning of the newsletter.

Readings for next week: Palm Sunday 1st: Is. 50:4-7. 2nd: Phil. 2:6-11. Gospel: Mark 14:1-15:47.

Ministry Rosters for Easter Services

Date	Acolyte	Welcomer	Readers	Passion	PowerPoint
20 Mar	Geoff	Helen P	Michael/Cathy F		Helen H
27 Mar Palm S.	Felix	Cathy F	Wendy M-B/Ann	Michael/Rod	Helen H
1 Apl. Holy Thurs.	James	Geraldine	Rod/Bobbie		Helen H
2 Apl Passion		Helen P		Wendy M-B/ Germaine/Wendy H	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