

LITURGY OF THE WORD First Sunday of Lent B

First Reading *Gen 9:8-15*

A reading from the book of Genesis

I will recall the covenant between myself and you... the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

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.'

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9. R. see v.10

R. 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

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

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.

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

Second Reading *1 Pt 3:18-22*

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

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.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation *Mt 4:4*

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 *Mk 1:12-15*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

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.'

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

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.

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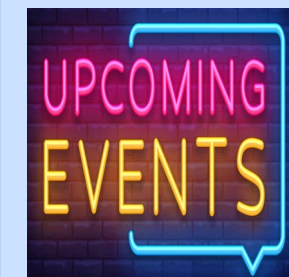
Carroll College, Broulee

R.E.C: Erica Drewsen

First Sunday of Lent -YEAR B



**For The
Celebration of
the Word and
The
Eucharist**



Cenacle Prayer: Tues
at 4.45pm in Church
Lenten Program—

After 9 am Mass start-
ing Wednesday 17th
Feb

**Walk in the Spirit
LentenRenewal—**

Thursday 18th—25th
March 7.30 pm—
9.30pm

Craft Group—

Thursdays 10 am

**Men Alive—1st & 3rd
Wed Wed 3 Mar, 17th
March**

**Singalong—Mondays
1pm**

**Adoration- Every Fri-
day at 5.30pm**

**Reconciliation—
Saturday 9.30**

**Wrap With Love-Wed
24th Feb 11am, 9th
Mar 10am**



We live in seasons. Last Wednesday we began the holy season of Lent. A season of hope, characterised by prayer, fasting and almsgiving. A time of purification, renewal and putting things right, mindful of our selfish choices and our continuing failures in the practice of charity; the building of our own little kingdom rather than the kingdom of God. A time to humbly recognise our humanity, our place as created but fallen beings before God; that we are but dust and unto dust we shall return (Ecclesiastes 3. 20). This is symbolised in the Ashes that we received in the hope of obtaining God's mercy and the grace to overcome.

Our parish theme for Lent this year is *-HOPE*. This is borne out of our faith and trust especially during the ongoing challenging times factored by the impacts of the disasters on our community and the global pandemic creating an eerie atmosphere compounded by prolonged uncertainty. Our confidence and hope for victory over the forces of nature, evil, diseases, death, disasters, temptations influenced by our human vicissitude is strengthened by the victory of Christ over the evil one as reflected in Mark's Gospel.

In the Gospel account, Mark described how Jesus, in obedience to the Spirit that had come upon him during his baptism, went into the desert region between Jericho and the mountains of Judea. There in the wilderness for 40 days and nights among wild animals and tested by Satan to abandon his submission to the Father's will in sacrificing his life on the cross and so, by his blood, seal an eternal covenant. Significantly, the figure 40 recalls God's covenant with Noah sealed by a rainbow, following the 40 days and 40 nights of the great flood-referred to in our first reading (Gn. 9:8-15). Like Jesus, this was a test of Noah's trust in God as well as a time of purification for the whole world cleansed by the waters of the flood, a type of baptism in the new and eternal covenant by which we are saved.

Meanwhile, in the temptation narrative, Jesus was tried and tested in relations to the things that are attractive to the human appetite: *food; wealth; power, prestige, and honour*. Even in his vulnerable state and in the most uncomfortable circumstance, Jesus came out of the wilderness of temptation resilient and victorious drawing strength from his exercise of prayer and fasting prior to his test.

This underpins, the practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, during this holy season to obtain God's grace to overcome like Jesus. And for this to happen, we need first to take time out from the ever-present busyness around us so to be open to receiving God's grace. This practical first step is not easy to achieve, especially in our technological age, with one's energy too easily dispersed among multitudinous tasks, aside the very many social obligations. Whilst we may not have the luxury of getting away from it all, of packing the campervan and heading off for respite into the countryside for forty days, somehow that first step of cultural withdrawal is necessary to put the Lenten practices into proper context fruitfully.

We are therefore invited to take up prayer, fasting, and almsgiving through Project Compassion (*Be More*) during this lent in hope for victory. In the words of Pope Francis, *'through recollection and silent prayer, hope is given to us as inspiration and interior light, illuminating the challenges and choices we face in our mission'* (2021 Lenten message), especially as we journey through the wilderness of life.

Fr Martins

**Pope Francis
Monthly Prayer
Intentions
February 2021**

Violence Against Women
We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Tues 23rd: 5.30 Mass
Wed 24th: 9am Mass & 5.30pm
Thurs 25th: 9am Mass
Fri 26th: 9.15am Mass
Sat 27th: 9am Rosary/Mass
9.30am Recon 6pm Mass
Sun 28th: 9am Mass 5pm Mass
5PM Family & YouthMass

ROSTERS

20/21 February 2021
Church Cleaning
B Coffey/M Paine (22-26)
Welcomers
6pm School
9am C Connell
5pm M deSmet
Commentator
6pm School
9am A Brown
5pm A Horsfall
Readers
6pm School
9am A Skinner
5pm M O'Neill
Eucharistic Ministers
6pm School
9am Tara Cashman
5pm M Devine
Computer Screen
6pm K Conway
9am T Priest
5pm J O'Sullivan

REGISTRARS

6pm M & S Beashel
9am G & M Weatherall
5pm N Beatty

27/28 February 2021

Church Cleaning
R&K Ison (1-5 Mar)
Welcomers
6pm Sr Marie
9am C Schor
5pm D Ebejer
Commentator
6pm P O'Kelly
9am S Beashel
5pm J O'Sullivan
Readers:
6pm J Quigley
9am L Page
5pm S Ebejer
Eucharistic Ministers
6pm M Bridges
9am N Page
5pm A Horsfall
Computer Screen
6pm K Conway
9am T Jackson
5pm M O'Neill

REGISTRARS

6PM J McCarthy/J Wain
9am G Norris/B Basevi
5pm M Devine

**PROJECT COMPASSION
BE MORE**

**PROJECT
COMPASSION
2021**

**ASPIRE NOT TO
HAVE MORE BUT
TO BE MORE
(St Oscar Romero)**



Jamila is a Rohingya refugee living in a camp in Bangladesh with her elderly mother and baby daughter. With the support of Caritas Australia, and through Caritas Bangladesh, Jamila has been able to access to emergency food, shelter, counselling, and vocational training that will help to support her family. **Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 to help mothers like Jamila be more for her family and her community.**



**RETREAT WITH
SR MAUREEN
MCDERMOTT RSJ. 8TH
-12TH MARCH**

**'Come Away and Rest
Awhile'** (Mk 6:31) A 3 day silent, guided retreat with an opportunity to pause and reflect as we invite God to renew and refresh us as we continue to live with the reality of Covid- 19.

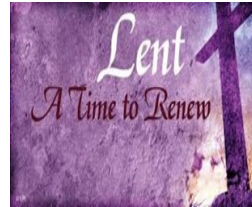
*If anyone is interested please
see Sr Marie this week*



LENTEN REFLECTION:

WEEK 1

**A TIME OF FAITH, HOPE &
LOVE**



As we begin our Lenten journey Pope Francis in his Lenten Letter, encourages us during this Lent to focus our energies in renewing Faith, Hope and Love.

In our Parish we are focusing on **HOPE:**
Pope Francis reminds us:

In these times of trouble, when everything seems fragile and uncertain, it may appear challenging to speak of hope. Yet Lent is precisely the season of hope, when we turn back to God who patiently continues to care for his creation which we have often mistreated (cf. Laudato Si', 32-33;43-44).

Saint Paul urges us to place our hope in reconciliation: "Be reconciled to God"(2 Cor 5:20). By receiving forgiveness in the sacrament that lies at the heart of our process of conversion we in turn can spread forgiveness to others.

Having received forgiveness ourselves, we can offer it through our willingness to enter into attentive dialogue with others and to give comfort to those experiencing sorrow and pain. God's forgiveness, offered also through our words and actions, enables us to experience an Easter of fraternity.



...Our Prayer for the Week...

We pray for:

*Faith that calls us to accept the truth and testify to it before
God and all our brothers and sisters.*

Hope as "living water "enabling us to continue our journey.

*Love following in the footsteps of Christ, in concern and
compassion for all, is the highest expression of our faith and
hope.*

**RETREAT DAY FOR THE
SACRAMENTS**

A retreat day was held on Monday February 15th for the teachers of Sacramental classes. The afternoon retreat was facilitated by Fr. Martins and attended by teachers from Years 3, 4 & 6 with Seminarian Mark, the Youth Minister Liarna and Sharon Beashel, the REC. It was a reflective time in preparation for the sacraments.



Pope Francis' message for Lent 2021.

"Renewing faith, hope and love:"

In his message for Lent 2021, Pope Francis calls on the faithful, "to renew our faith, draw from the living waters of hope and receive with open hearts the love of God."

<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2021/02/12/210212a.html>



2021 PARISH LENTEN PROGRAM

After discussions at the Parish Liturgy Meeting it was decided that this year there will be two opportunities to attend a Lenten program.

Wednesday morning, Comfort Lenten Program
beginning 17th February after 9.00 am Mass till 24th March in the Church Meeting Room.

Facilitated by Sr Marie

Thursday evening 'Walk in the Spirit, Lenten Renewal Experience'

18th February – 25th March 7.30pm – 9.30 pm

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 out more at

<https://cgcatholic.org.au/walk-in-the-spirit/>

This will be done at home and for the 5th Session there will be an opportunity to join a hub on Thursday 18th March 7.30pm in the Church Meeting Room.

Please use this link to go directly to the live stream;

Walk in the Spirit

Bible Study ... 'Enjoy the Good News' will continue after Easter

Saints Of The Week

Sunday 21st—St Peter Damian

Tuesday 23rd—St Polycarp

Monday 22nd—Feast Day—Chair of St Peter

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

From 1st October 2020 there will only be one collection which will be deposited in the Parish Operating Account this will include existing Credit Card transactions, Direct Debits, collection box and Tap machine. The collection will then be apportioned with a percentage forwarded to the Archdiocese for the Central Presbytery Fund each month.

If you would like to join the Parish e-platform giving, the details are as follows:

Acc. Name: St Bernard's Operating Account BSB: 062-786

Bank Acc:000012939 Ref: Family Name

Please note: For banking at any bank but not the Commonwealth Bank

If you currently have a direct debit to the Central Presbytery Fund a suggestion is that it be cancelled and combined into the St Bernard's Operating Account in order to facilitate the continuity of funds.

Please contact Anne Jackson in the Parish Office on a Friday from 10am-2pm if you need any further information.

Remembering the Sick:

Antony and Andrew, Kathryn King, Ben Copland, Femia and Mark, Roberto Alivio, Vince Burns, John Dillon, Trish Hamilton, Daniel Coffey, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, James Lee, Mary Henderson, George Fitzgerald, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Dawn Robinson, Margaret Harris, Bill Giust, Allan Odium, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Janet Thornberry, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke, and those in our local Nursing Homes and Hospital

Death Anniversaries: John Law, Siegfried Baoler, William Honan, Brian O'Grady, John Law, Roman Kachyckyh, Robert Brown, Bruce Sandry, Brian O'Grady, Mirko Baresic,

We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish

Community: Pauline Chalkley, Anna Dang, Anna Ordelman, Joan Logue., Sue-Anne Clarke, Maree Spillane, Rosemary Cooley, Malgorzata Colebrook, Te Otinga Te Kowhai Brennan, Pam O'Keefe, Maurice Connell, Susan McNamara, Dario Panes, Elizabeth Gallagher, Kenneth Torkington, Shirley Keir, Ken Bow, Steven Thomas, Maureen Kinross, Ian McAdam, Jan Schor, Pio Libérale, Glenda Gallagher, Ivy Rootsey,

COFFEE CLUB
Thursdays after the
9am Mass
Venue: Corrigan's Cove
Coffee N Chat

**STAFF
COMMISSIONING
MASS**

Congratulations to the Staff of St Bernard's Primary on the occasion of the 2021 Staff Commissioning Ceremony this weekend



*...to the Filipino Community and all who came along to Morning Tea to Welcome Mark and Liarna last Sunday.
God bless you*

Batemans Bay, Moruya & Narooma
District Funerals
Mark Hewson JP
Funeral Director
Phone 02 4472 8886
Moruya 02 4474 3555
Narooma 02 4476 3888

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