

LITURGY OF THE WORD
First Sunday of Lent Year A
First Reading Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7
A reading from the book of Genesis
Creation of our first parents, and sin.

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, ‘Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?’ The woman answered the serpent, ‘We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, “You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death”.’ Then the serpent said to the woman, ‘No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.’ The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. see v.3
(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence.
 2. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin.
 3. My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done.
 4. 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.
 5. Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise
- (R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Second Reading Rom 5:12-19
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of ‘law-breaking’, yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man’s fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man’s sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man’s fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man’s fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man’s obedience many will be made righteous.

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 Mt 4:1-11
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.
Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.’ But he replied, ‘Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. ‘If you are the Son of God,’ he said, ‘throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels’ charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot

against a stone.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.’ Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. ‘I will give you all these’, he said, ‘if you fall at my feet and worship me.’ Then Jesus replied, ‘Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.’ Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ
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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate
It is Written

Jesus was offered three shortcuts for his ministry. Firstly, exceptional powers to satisfy his own needs (bread out of stones). Secondly, when he needed to take risks, angels to keep him safe. Thirdly, when he wanted to change the world, absolute political power. These were the Temptations of Christ, but also for us. If you or I are tempted to sin, we will find the marks of this threefold pattern. We want the whole world to change to satisfy us, or we want to take stupid risks and come out unscathed, or we want to exercise total power over others.

How can we try to follow Jesus without the shortcuts of the fantasy world which the Devil may offer? Note that Jesus resisted each temptation with: ‘It is written’. The forty days of Lent are a perfect opportunity to read what ‘is written’ in the Gospels about the episodes and pattern of the life of Jesus Christ. We could pause for a moment to find what is written and to imitate what we find. That is how the Devil is defeated.

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PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT
If you would like to join the Parish e-platform giving for both the Priest and the Church, the details are as follows:
Acc. Name: St Bernard's Operating
Account: BSB: 062-786
Bank Acc: 000012939
Ref: Family Name



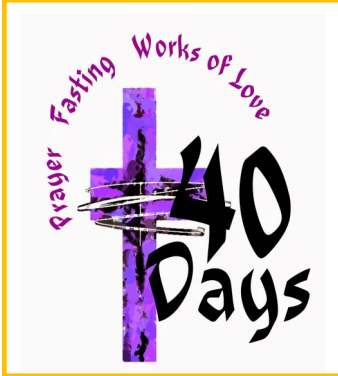
ST BERNARD'S PARISH
BATEMANS BAY
2 David Avenue, Batehaven NSW 2536



P.O. Box 3220, Batehaven, 2536.
Tel: 4472 4153
E: batemansbay@cg.org.au
Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay
Office Hours: 10am to 2pm
Tuesday-Friday

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Secretary: Roslynn Trompp
Finance Admin: Anne Jackson
PC Co-ord: Marie Weatherall
Asst. PC Co-ord: Carolyn Evenden

Principal: Mrs. Jo Wain
St. Bernard's Primary School, Batehaven
R.E.C: Sharon Beashel
Principal: Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan
Carroll College, Broulee
R.E.C: Erica Drewsen



Upcoming
Events

Choir Practice
Monday @ 1pm

Cenacle Prayer 9.30
am Fridays after
Mass, and 1st
Saturday of the
month @ 9.30am

ENJOY THE GOOD
NEWS
Resumes after
Easter

Wrap With Love
Tuesday 14th
March
10 am BBay Library

Craft Group
Thursdays 10am

ADORATION
TUESDAY @ 8AM

COFFEE CLUB
Thursdays after
Mass
Venue: Corrigans
Cove
All are welcome

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT —YEAR A

Choices to be Made

Over our life time we make choices, some everyday and practical, while other choices we make affect who we are and declare what values are important to us. Some choices can change the direction of our lives and relationships. J S Bolen in ‘The Open Door’ reflects: ‘**who we become, depends upon the choices we make at a particular time in our lives, really significant choices are made that really shape our future.**’ When we are at crossroads or in a threshold time, what we decide to do shapes, determines what comes next. [‘The Open Door’pg110]



When we stand on a threshold hopefully we take time – to discern, to reflect, pray, to seek advice and wisdom before we make life changing decisions or choices. In this journey and space of uncertainty we choose hopefully what will bring our best self into further wholeness or we choose only what eases our fears, not able to engage the truth that could set us free. With this latter choice a part of us gets lost; our hearts want to cling to the known and secure. Such threshold choices often determine if we will develop qualities such as compassion, trustworthiness, honesty, other- centeredness and generosity.

Jesus’ threshold choice.

As we start the journey of Lent Jesus in the Gospel [Matt. 4: 1-11] is **led by the spirit into the wilderness for 40 days – a time of preparation for his future ministry.** He stands on the threshold confronted by the devil who attempts to disturb and challenge his awareness of mission. Would Jesus accept being poor, being ignored, being weak? Whose authority would he obey? Would he be son and servant according to God’s plan? **On the threshold Jesus relies on God’s Word.** Later in his journey he will drink the bitter cup of death to the dregs, nor would he save himself when he had been nailed to the cross.

As we begin this journey of Lent let us be aware of our choices. We can take comfort in the words of Teresa of Avila - as we walk along the path before us there is no need to be discouraged ‘**because the feeling remains that God is on the journey too.**’ St Francis de Sales encourages us: ‘**Have patience in all things, but, first of all with yourself.**’ [Lenten Prog. 2023 pg 3.]

Let us open our lives and hearts to God during this season.

Marie Weatherall



MASSES THIS WEEK Monday 27th February Sunday 5th March

Monday 27th: No Mass
Tuesday 28th: Mass 9am
Wednesday 1st: Mass 9am
Thursday 2nd: Mass 9am
Friday 3rd: Mass 9am
Saturday 4th: Vigil 6pm
Sunday 5th: Mass 9am

ROSTERS

25/26 FEBRUARY
Cleaning
27/2-3/3
Coffey & Paine

6.00PM MASS
Welcomer B
Oerder:
Commentator: S
Ebejer
Reader: J Quigley
Eucharistic
Ministers
Y Oerder L
Rodwell
Computer Screen
M O'Neill

9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer M
deSmet
Commentator A
Skinner
Reader: B
Basevi. ..
Eucharistic
Ministers
S Beashel C Schor
Computer
Screen T Priest.

MORNING TEA:
T van den Broek/J
Barroman

ROSTERS

4/5 MARCH
Cleaning
6-10 March
R & K Ison
6.00PM MASS
Welcomer
J Anderson
Commentator:
P O'Kelly
Reader: M Bridges
Eucharistic
Ministers
J Wain, M Gaffney
Computer Screen
K Conway

9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer
J McClelland
Commentator
A Skinner
Reader:
A Jackson
Eucharistic
Ministers
L Stevens C Schor
Computer
Screen T Jackson
MORNING TEA:
N Beatty/M
deSmet

LENTEN PROGRAM—God is on the Journey too:



All are welcome to attend the

Lenten Program

each Wednesday to March 29 after the 9am
Mass in the Church Meeting Room.

Or you might like to join the **Evening
Lenten Group at 5pm** in the Church
Meeting Room, contact Bernie Basevi: [m]
0428 227 384

Or join a **zoom group** contact Phil
Billington [m]0428 593 191

A good way to prepare with other like
minded people for the Lenten Journey to Easter. We ask a \$5
donation for the booklet if you are able.

Any enquires contact: Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057

NAROOMA PARISH GALONG RETREAT 20-23 MARCH 2023

The cost for this year's retreat is Shared room \$130 p.p per night
Single room \$150 per night. All meals, together with morning and
afternoon teas. All rooms have ensuite

Further details contact Fr Joe Tran 44762191

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2023

**Friday 3rd March
10am
Salvation Army
Orient Street
Batemans Bay**



All are welcome to attend

One Day Pastoral Care Introductory

Course: a time to review if you are
experienced, a time to learn if you
are new and want to know more.

Date: Saturday March 25, 2023.

9am – 4pm beginning in St Bernard's
Parish Office. **BYO** Lunch. Morning
Tea & Afternoon Tea provided. Free.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL.

Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057

We only have 2 Pyxes left from 12
that were in the Sacristy. PLEASE
RETURN IF YOU HAVE ONE.
Many thanks, Anne Scicluna

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITION-
AL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND THE
WALBUNJA PEOPLE OF THE YUIN
NATION. WE PAY OUR RESPECTS TO
THEIR ELDERS, PAST,
PRESENT AND EMERGING

Aged Parishioners who belong to St. Bernard's need Visit and Holy Communion

Are you able to help once a
month? We provide Pastoral
Service to 5 Aged Care Facilities a
total of 46 residents.

They belong to our Faith
Community and they need our
outreach.

I need the following once a month
on a roster :

2 PEOPLE PLEASE for Maranatha
and 1 for The Glen .

All resources and guidance given
on 1:1.

Please consider this request.

Marie Weatherall
[m] 0405 028 057.

Used Stamps for the Mission work of the Sisters of St Joseph:

If you have any used stamps
please place them in the marked
box in the foyer of the church so
they can be collected by Desne.
These stamps help the Sisters in
raising funds for their many
projects.



Laxmi, 16, lives in in
Jajarkot, a remote
district in Nepal where
almost half of the
population live below
the poverty line.
Tragedy struck when
Laxmi was ten years
old and her father
passed away. Her
father worked hard to
pay for his children's
education and after
losing him Laxmi was
at risk of falling further
into extreme poverty.

With the support of our partner Caritas Nepal,
Laxmi joined a child's club at her school where
she was encouraged to resume her education.
Through the child's club, Laxmi developed the
skills and confidence to become a leader,
advocating for clean water taps at her school.

Laxmi is now excelling in her studies and
working towards her dream of becoming a civil
engineer. She continues to be involved in the
child's club, serving as an advisor and
mentoring the next generation of young leaders
at her old school.

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 and envelopes available from
your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.

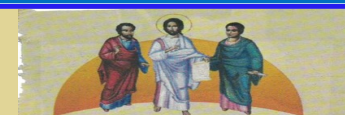


Remembering the Sick:

Sr Marie McAlister, Peter O'Neill, Barry O'Neill Beverley Biglia, Fr John Walter, Lola, Fr Kevin
Murphy, Allan Rogers, Pam Wilson, Antony and Andrew, Rita Condon, Ben Copland, Femia
and Mark, Roberto Alivio, Vince Burns, John Dillon, James Lee, Trish Hamilton, Jim Banks,
Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan
Simpson, Dawn Robinson, Allan Odum, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evenden, Judy
Betts, Janet Thornberry, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke, those in hospital
and nursing homes.

Death Anniversaries: are listed in the Memorial Book at the front of the Church and names can be
added to it if dates are provided.

We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community: David Coates, Christopher Horsfall,
Dawn Millman, Mara Pranjic, Pope Benedict XVI, Cardinal George Pell, Michael Thornton, Barbara
Mills, Travis Basevi, Judith Dewick, Flavia Clyburn, Nita Gorzalka, Michael Dove, Wayne Sing, Linda
Russell, Ruby Swinton, Anna Backo, Lois White



The Year of Walking Together

The Risen Lord walked
together with the disciples
on the road to Emmaus,
drawing them from anxiety
to hope, from confusion to
joy.

Jesus, centre of our
common Emmaus walk,
with You alone to guide
us, make Your home in
our hearts; as we pour
"new wine into fresh
wineskins" (Mk 2:22)

Like Mary, imbued by the
Holy Spirit, may we give
birth to a renewed faith and
united pastoral action in this
Archdiocese in the years
ahead.

St Mary of the Cross, our Great
Australian Intercessor,
pray for us.

Mary, Mother of the Church,
pray for us.

All Saints of
God, who name
and sanctify our
parishes, pray for
us. **Amen**

Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions

MARCH

For victims of abuse

We pray for those who have
suffered harm from members
of the Church; may they find
within the Church herself a
concrete response to their
pain and suffering.

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Ray and Anne Brown

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