

LITURGY OF THE WORD
Sunday 09 Mar 2025
First Sunday of Lent Year C
First Reading

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

The confession of faith of the elect.

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement: "My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 90:1-2, 10-15. R. v.15

(R.) Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

1. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the Almighty says to the Lord: 'My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!'

2. Upon you no evil shall fall, no plague approach where you dwell. For you has he commanded his angels, to keep you in all your ways.

3. They shall bear you upon their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone. On the lion and the viper you will tread and trample the young lion and the dragon.

4. His love he set on me, so I will rescue him; protect him for he knows my name. When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.' I will save him in distress and give him glory.

(R.) Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Second Reading

Romans 10:8-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The confession of faith of the believers in Christ.

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 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 *Luke 4:1-13*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness where he was tempted.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.' Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God', he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says: He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Having exhausted all

these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

'Jesus does not converse with the devil', observes Pope Francis. The Pope points out that Jesus never seeks the devil's opinion, nor does he get into a dialogue with the devil. Jesus only gives firm answers, rebuffing the devil with Scripture, even when the devil tries to warp Scripture to his own ends. Hoping that Lent can be 'a time of the desert' for each one of us, a time when we can find silence and make time for prayer, the Pope also warns us against falling into a 'slumber of the conscience'. Silence and prayer must never become dialogue with the devil. If we start to think of ourselves as holier than others, excuse ourselves from helping the poor, or judge others whose lives appear different from our own, then perhaps we have started listening to the devil's opinion. This Lent we might reflect on this temptation to self-justify, to dialogue with evil. 'The devil does this with us', the Pope suggests. Too easily the devil can, as the Pope puts it, 'disguise himself with sacred, apparently religious motives!' Therefore, we might begin Lent by praying for the fortitude to answer our own inner temptations with firm resolve.

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If you would like to join the Parish e-platform giving for both the Priest and the Church, the details are as follows:

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

A/C Name: St Bernard's
Operating
BSB: 062-786
A/C No: 00012939
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

Priest: Rev. Rex Curry
Secretary: Roslynn Trompp
Finance Admin: Anne Jackson JP
PC Co-ord: Marie Weatherall
Asst. PC Co-ord: Carolyn Evenden

Principal: Karen Hadley
St. Bernard's Primary School, Batehaven
R.E.C: Rebecca Keough
Principal: Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan
Carroll College, Broulee
R.E.C: Anna Smart

FIRST SUNDAY of LENT YEAR C



CHURCH EVENTS

Choir Practice
1PM Every second and fourth Monday

Cenacle Prayer 9.30 am
Fridays after Mass

Wrap with Love
TUESDAY 11 March
10-11am BB Library

Lenten Program
Wednesdays after Mass
5 March—9 April

Craft Group 10am
Thursdays Church Meeting Room

ADORATION
TUESDAYS @ 4pm

COFFEE CLUB
Thursdays after 9am
Mass
Venue: Corrigans Cove

LENT

is a season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving that begins with Ash Wednesday and concludes at sundown on Holy Thursday. At this point, the Easter Triduum begins and Catholics enter more deeply into the mystery of Christ's Passion before Easter.

Although penance is a calling of every Catholic throughout his or her life, Lent is a season specially marked out for the Church to be 'united among themselves by common observance' of it (*Code of Canon Law*, §1249). It is a way of growing in the faith together.

What is penance?

Although the term *penance* might sounds strange to modern ears, and perhaps hold some negative connotations, you might be surprised to learn that penance in the Catholic tradition is considered a virtue, one we're invited to live in our whole lives, not just in the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Lent, as a penitential season, is the time for us to turn radically back to God; to experience true conversion and repentance. This conversion, however, is primarily the work of grace, according to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (§1432). Lent should not be approached simply as a season of self-denial, then, but welcomed as a season of grace, in which our hearts can be softened.

Is Lent just about 'giving something up'?

No. As you've probably caught on by now, giving something up—or fasting—is only one of three things we should be focusing on throughout Lent. The other two, prayer and almsgiving, are very much about 'taking something up'.

What are our Lenten obligations?

In Australia and New Zealand, the obligations for Lent are:

- ◆ Catholics aged 18-59 should fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday
- ◆ Catholics aged 14 and older should abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday
- ◆ Catholics aged 14 and over should abstain from meat on every Friday of the year, including Lent or substitute this with another form of penance, either in prayer, fasting or almsgiving

Taking up some form of voluntary penance throughout the season of Lent is also expected.

What is the difference between fasting and abstinence?

On a day of fasting, Catholics are supposed to have one normal-sized meal and two 'snacks' (or 'smaller meals'), which cannot, put together, equal a full meal. On a day of abstinence, Christians are asked to abstain from meat (although seafood is allowed).

Why do we have obligations?

According to the *Catechism*, obligations like this are there to serve the moral and spiritual life of the faithful. The purpose is to make plain 'the very necessary minimum in the spirit of prayer and moral effort, in the growth in love of God and neighbour' (CCC, §2041)—essentially, they are the lowest bar we have to meet to grow in the spiritual life.

Fr Rex

MASSES THIS WEEK

Monday 10th:—Sunday 16th March

Monday 10th : NO MASS

Tuesday 11th: Mass 5pm

Wednesday 12th: Mass with Anointing of the Sick 9am

Thursday 13th: Mass 9am

Friday 14th: Mass 9am

Saturday 15th: Mass 5pm
Reconciliation 3.30-4.30

Sunday 16th: Mass 9am

FUNERALS IN THE PARISH:

Mr David Wick
Thursday 13th March 11 am
St Bernard's Church

ROSTERS

8/9 MARCH
Cleaning
10-14 R & K Ison

5.00PM MASS
Welcomer: J McCarthy
Commentator M Weatherall:
Reader: J Mackay
Eucharistic Ministers
J Wain
Computer Screen
M O'Neill

9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer L May
Commentator . J Whiteford
Reader: B Basevi
Eucharistic Ministers
K Coorbin L Stevens
Computer Screen D May

MORNING TEA:
J Barroman/G Berryman

COUNTERS:
M & C Lowe

15/16 MARCH
Cleaning
17-21 Favetta/ O'Neill/
Nugent

5.00PM MASS
Welcomer P Jobs
Commentator M O'Neill
Reader: S Ebejer
Eucharistic Ministers
K Lovering
Computer Screen
K Conway

9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer M deSmet
Commentator J O'Sullivan
Reader: D Herring
Eucharistic Ministers
M & C Lowe
Computer Screen T Jones.

MORNING TEA:
M & C Lowe

COUNTERS:
G Norris/J O'Sullivan

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Parishioners are invited to attend the Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent.

A soup dinner is served after the short service.
The Stations of the Cross are held at 5.30pm each Friday.

Starts 7th March 2025

LENTEN GROUP

Will be held after Mass on Wednesdays beginning March 5 Ash Wednesday—April 9
Enquiries: Marie Weatherall 0405 028 057

EASTER MUSIC PREPARATION

In addition to our regular Monday practices, extra choir practice to prepare for Easter will take place at 1pm on Monday 17th March, Monday 31 March and Monday 7 April.

New and previous singers....All welcome!!

GARDEN HELP NEEDED

Help is needed for gardens around the Parish Office and Roses. I will be away from March 19– end of May. Can you assist?
Marie 0405 028 057

CHURCH RUBBISH BINS

Please ensure if you fill a green, red or yellow bin, make sure it goes out for collection on the appropriate day.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the refreshments for the Totterdell and Quigley families whether you shopped, set up, prepared food, served, washed up or cleaned up you are very much appreciated

Ministry Sunday was last weekend.

Have you filled in your form – is there even one way you can assist in the Parish? Did you know that some families have been volunteering since the Church opened in 1987. We need new members from our community to share the work as there are roles which are being depleted as people are unable to continue.

We truly value all those who have volunteered.



This Lent, we're invited to *Unite Against Poverty* with Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. This year is especially significant as we celebrate the Jubilee Year - *a time of renewal and solidarity*.

Project Compassion 2025 shares three stories from around the world. We'll meet **Toefuata'iga** - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) a young student from Samoa who faced severe water shortages at her school. Thanks to Caritas Australia and the generosity of supporters like you, her school now has a 10,000 L water tank, improving access to clean water and allowing teachers to prioritise education

We'll get to know **Lam** from Vietnam. Born with short stature, Lam faced social exclusion and limited employment opportunities. Through the I-SHINE program, Lam completed a course and is now a freelance graphic designer.

And we'll meet **Irene** from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) who faced immense challenges after losing her father to war and raising her children in poverty. With support from Caritas Australia, Irene received vocational training in sewing and farming and can now support her whole family.

Envelopes available for donations or online

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our
brother, and the flame
of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your
Kingdom.
May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of
the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos, in
the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth, when,
with the powers of Evil
vanquished, your glory will shine
eternally.
May the grace of the
Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of
Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of
heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our
Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

Remembering the Sick:

Jeanette Clarke, Margaret Priest, Chris Bowditch, Sheree Jackson, Brendan Blyton, Wendy & Pat Roberts, Mark O'Neill, Karen Nixon, Kevin Totterell, Dawn Robinson, Maria de Rocco, Myrna Glenn, Norma Dean, Ann Marie McLoughlin, Antionette Doyle, Christine Norman, Anne Gatehouse, Tony Vogel, Suzanne Hughes, Sr Marie McAlister, Peter O'Neill, Fr John Walter, Fr Kevin Murphy, Allan Rogers, Rita Condon, Ben Copland, Vince Burns, Patrick Burns, Carolyn Burns, John Dillon, James Lee, Trish Hamilton, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, Diane Lanzon, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Allan Odlum, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, 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 Wick, Joe Quigley, Margaret Silversides, Patricia Totterdell, David Cowley, Joanne Rogers, Gerald Lewis, Josephine Beckhaus, Cyril Noyeaux, Frank Simic, Sr Paulinus Croker, Marion O'Grady, Patricia Suhl, Neil Leonard, Letitia Baz, Trent Fisk, Kevin Carew, Margaret Kelly, Arthur Hurrell, Vicki Lukasik, Paul Skinner, Suzanne Melton, James Quirk, Giovanni Menon, Tony Puconja, Hazel Nolan, Else McGahey, Richard Smart, Patrick Dunn, Laurence Foran, Lynton Ryan, Jacki Harding, Keith Cooke, Sarah Good, Robert Mitchell, Joyce Hurrell, Archbishop Francis Carroll, Ruth O'Malley, Julie Morgan, Suzanne Houssard, Nancy Sykes, Lillian Burkinshaw, Lynette Arundel, Patricia McKeough, Ivan Trojkovic, Brian O'Connor, Annie Scicluna, Francis Bezzina, Pam Wilson, Drago Bandur, Vin Taylor

Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions

MARCH

For families in crisis

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences

BATEMANS BAY & MORUYA DISTRICT FUNERALS
Caring for Eurobodalla shire families for over 50 years
Batemans Bay 44728886
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