



# Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



## PARISH BULLETIN: First Sunday of Lent, Year A, 22 February 2026



### PARISH VISION STATEMENT 2004



“Created by God, Loved by Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit ... We come together inspired by our patrons, St Mary the Virgin and St Joseph, her husband, to worship, study and serve.”

St Mary's Bombala  
St Joseph's Delegate  
St Peter's Corrowong

### PARISH CONTACTS

**PARISH PRIEST**  
Father Mark Croker  
02 6452 2062

### ASSISTANT PRIEST

**ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL**  
02 6458 3776  
School Principal  
Mrs Susan Tighe

### PARISH COUNCIL

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**PARISH WEBSITE**  
[www.cg.org.au/bombala](http://www.cg.org.au/bombala)

### PARISH BULLETIN

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Mr Greg Crotty 0427 229 533  
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Please assist the team by having items in by Wednesday pm.



### PRAYER INTENTIONS

#### POPES INTENTION FEBRUARY

##### For children with incurable diseases



Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

**We pray** for all who are celebrating the Rite of Election in cathedrals and churches today. May their desire to be baptised at Easter grow ever stronger as Lent unfolds.

**We pray** for the worldwide staff and volunteers of non-government organisations. May this week's World NGO Day encourage them greatly in their service of society.

**We pray** for rural dioceses and country parishes, including our own, that they may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit, finding creative ways to build a vibrant community and proclaim the Gospel with renewed faith and hope.



**We pray** for those who are sick in our family & community, may they be able to see Christ's presence in their most difficult moments:

John Elliott, Christine Cowell  
Lorna Thornton, Clive Cottrell  
Joyce Crotty, John Liston  
Roma Brownlie, Jenny Chaplin  
Peter & Joyce Reed, Glad Hurley  
Jim Parkes, Marilyn Holdsworth, Jen Farrell  
Patricia Guthrie, Mary Anne Dillon  
Terry Perkins, Kath Farrell, Val Perkins  
Kim Peisley, Heather Whitby  
Peter Hopkins, Marlene Kennedy



### PARISH CALENDAR

**MON** Saint Polycarp  
**TUE**  
**WED** Mass Bombala 9.30am  
**THU** Ecumenical Lenten Prog Delegate 2pm  
**FRI** Saint Gregory of Narek  
**SAT** LW&HC Delegate 5pm  
Mass Bombala 5pm  
**SUN**



### REMEMBERING THEIR FAITH AND LOVE

#### Recently Deceased

Fr Frank Fuchs

#### February Anniversaries

Val Buckley, Sonia Clear  
Veronica Cottrell, Ron Cowell  
Kevin Crotty, Gordon Ingram  
Heather Jones, Brian Lock  
Jean Muir, Marion O'Hehir  
Jean Parkes, Keith Parkes  
Sue Robinson, Daphne Smith  
Sheila White



“We have loved them in Life:  
Let us not forget them in death.”

**UNITE AGAINST POVERTY**  
this Lent

This Lent, as in 2025, there is one Project Compassion envelope. You may still give weekly by taking multiple envelopes or donate when ready. Thank you for Uniting Against Poverty this Lent.



**PROJECT COMPASSION**



A journey with  
**SAINT MARY**  
of the Cross  
**MACKILLOP**



Will you not help me to be faithful, will you not cheer me on with your kind, good prayers. (26.2.1872)  
God wants a heroic love from you. (To Flora MacKillop 26.2.1872)  
*Mary MacKillop baptised by Father Geoghegan OSF in St Francis Church, Melbourne 1842.*

# 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT



## First Sunday of Lent (Theme: Temptation)

Lord Jesus, you fasted forty days and allowed yourself to be tempted. Protect us so that we may not be led astray by temptation. Nourish our souls with the heavenly food of your Word, that we may emerge from this season renewed in spirit and commitment to your calling. **AMEN**

### FINDING GOD IN OUR WORLD

We pray for global conversion.  
May the entire human family renounce violence, greed and hate and undertake to work together for the good of all.



**Daily Prayer Intention** - We pray for the members of our parish community. May we help each other pray more deeply, give more generously, and fast more faithfully through this season of Lent.

**Weekly Prayer Intention** - We pray for the rural villagers of northern Fiji. May the training programs of Caritas help alleviate their poverty through our generous support for Project Compassion.

## Prayer of the Faithful

*Response: (R)*  
**Lord, hear our prayer**



**CELEBRANT/LEADER:** Dear friends, the season of Lent calls us to make strong and wise choices for what is good. Answering the call, let us pray for a new church and a new world.

**READER: For** the human family. May all whose lives are ruled by sin and death be set free by God's grace and others' steadfast love. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

**For** all the followers of Jesus. May they relish the gift of Lent and choose to be renewed in faith and mission. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

**For** the Catholic community in Australia. May the bishops' Social Justice statement on the cost-of-living crisis bear fruit in a common commitment to a fair economy for all. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

**For** the families of missing persons. May their anguish over the fate of a cherished family member be matched by their courage, hope and mutual support. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

**For** the sick among our parish community and for all who have sought our prayers, may they find strength, comfort, and healing. For those who have recently passed from this life and those whose anniversaries we commemorate at this time. May they be lifted to the glory of the Risen Lord and rest in eternal peace. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

**For** Our Lady's intercession for all our needs and especially for the people in war-torn places. We pray **Hail Mary...**

**CELEBRANT/LEADER:** Holy God, your Son Jesus stood firm against the tempter in the desert. By the power of your Spirit, set us free from the false gods that lay claim to our hearts. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **AMEN**



## FIRST SUNDAY of LENT – 22 February

This Lent, our parish community is called to *Unite Against Poverty* with Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. Each year, Project Compassion invites us to encounter stories of courage and hope from people around the world who are striving for a brighter future.

In 2026, Project Compassion shares four stories of resilience and strength. We'll meet Sisilia, a young student from Tanzania, whose education was being disrupted by long daily walks to collect water for her family. With the support of Caritas Australia and people like you, Sisilia now has access to clean water from taps installed in her school and village.

We'll get to know Monoranjon from Bangladesh, where communities are heavily impacted by natural disasters and climate change. Caritas Australia, together with supporters across Australia, has helped Monoranjon to learn climate-resilient farming skills. We'll be introduced to Manaini from Fiji, who struggled with poverty and food insecurity. With support, she gained training in food processing and gardening, improving nutrition and creating income to support her children's education.

And we'll hear the story of Ahmad, a Caritas Jerusalem worker from Gaza who was displaced many times due to ongoing conflict. Despite this hardship, he continues to serve families in need through Caritas' emergency response.



### NEWS FROM ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

What a great day at the **St Joseph's Swimming Carnival!** The students showed fantastic determination and school spirit, cheering each other on and creating a positive, supportive atmosphere. Thank you to the parents who came along, and especially those who volunteered with timekeeping and the canteen. It was wonderful to be commended by the Berridale lifeguards for having the most inclusive and encouraging atmosphere. Well done St Joey's!!



# HYMNS - ONE LICENSE 3642645A

## 1. Ashes *Tom Conry*

We rise again from ashes,  
from the good we've failed to do.  
We rise again from ashes,  
to create ourselves anew.  
If all our world is ashes,  
then must our lives be true,  
an offering of ashes, an offering to you.

We offer you our failures,  
we offer you attempts,  
the gifts not fully given,  
the dreams not fully dreamt.  
Give our stumblings direction,  
give our visions wider view,  
an offering of ashes, an offering to you.

Then rise again from ashes,  
let healing come to pain,  
though spring has turned to winter,  
and sunshine turned to rain.  
The rain we'll use for growing,  
and create the world anew  
from an offering of ashes, an offering to you.

## 2. A New Heart for a New World *Trish Watts, Monica O'Brien*

**Refrain: Create a new heart, holy Lord,  
Beckon our lives through your word, Open our  
eyes to your call, United as one for your world.  
Heighten our minds to your thoughts, Heal us of  
pride and of hurt, May we go forth in your name,  
We pray our hearts change.**

1. The heart of the cross lowly and poor, calls us on.  
Lord, it is you promising hope, promising truth. **R**

2. Restless the hearts who yearn for your peace in  
this land. Deepen the dream, justice brings life,  
justice redeems. **R**



## Father Daniel Ukpong

Lovely to have Fr Daniel with us last weekend to celebrate Mass at both Delegate and Bombala. With grateful hearts, we rejoice in the wonderful news that at Easter he will join the Monaro Mission as our Assistant Priest. As we journey forward in faith, we look forward to Fr Daniel walking beside Fr Mark, guiding and shepherding our parish with wisdom, compassion and the light of Christ.

Fr Daniel will be guest speaker at:

**World Day of Prayer**  
**St Joseph's Catholic Church Berridale**  
**Friday 6 March at 10am**  
**Morning tea to follow. All welcome**



Delegate Parishioners invite everyone to their  
**Ecumenical Lenten Program**  
at St Joseph's School Centre, Delegate.

Commencing Thursday 19 February at 2pm  
then each Thursday until Easter.

This well-received tradition offers reflection,  
fellowship and spiritual growth for all  
faith backgrounds.

New and returning participants welcome.

**Enquiries: Lorraine 0427 781 756**



A Catholic boy and a Jewish boy were talking and the Catholic boy said, "My parish priest knows much more than your rabbi." The Jewish boy said, "Of course he does, because you tell him everything."



# Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



**First Sunday of Lent, Year A**

**22 February 2026**

## First Reading Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7

*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.

## 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. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)
2. 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. (R.)
3. 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.)
4. 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.)

## Second Reading Rom 5:12-19 (or Shorter form Rom 5:12, 17-19)

*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

## 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

*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.



## Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

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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