



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PARISH MENAI

LIVING AND SHARING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE AS A GROWING PARISH FAMILY

Alfords Point Bangor Barden Ridge Illawong Lucas Heights Menai Woronora West

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 14 February 2021 Year B/1

Divine office Psalter Week 2

Entrance Antiphon

*Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.*

A reading from the book of Leviticus (Lv 13:1-2. 44-46)

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean". As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 31:1-2. 5. 11. R. v.7)

(R.) I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Happy the man whose offence is forgiven, whose sin is remitted. O happy the man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no guile. **(R.)**

But now I have acknowledged my sins; my guilt I did not hide. I said: 'I will confess my offence to the Lord.' And you, Lord, have forgiven the guilt of my sin. **(R.)**

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, exult, you just! O come, ring out your joy, all you upright of heart. **(R.)**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

(1 Cor 10:31 - 11:1)

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone - to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

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Parish Office hours:

Tuesday—Friday: 9am—3.30pm

Mass Timings:

Weekday: **Tue-Fri 7am**

(during Lent Season)

Weekday: Tue—Sat 9.15am

1st Friday of the month: 7.00pm

Weekend: Saturday Vigil 5.30pm

Sunday: 8.30am, 10.00am

Blessed Sacrament Exposition

Tue—Sat: 8.30am—9.10am

Fri (after mass): 9.45—10.30am

1st Friday of the month (after 7pm Mass - 9am)

Reconciliation: Sat: 4.30—5.15pm

Or by appointment.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us;

God has visited his people.

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

(Mk 1:40-45)

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started

talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



Next Sunday's Reading: First Sunday of Lent: Gen 9:8-15; 1 Pet 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

We pray for better health for:

Anthony Alam, Armand Favis, Barbara King, Barbara Skorut, Bernie Mendieta, Brian Emmerson, Carlos Simoes, Carmelita Kelly, Catherine (Kit) Adams, Cecelia Donohue, Craig Rapley, Eleanor Emmerson, Ethan Roy, Flynn Crofts, Himits Sarajoy Ly, Jeanette Chong, Jim Maher, Joan Sprod, John Miller, Johnson Tan, Kathleen Jean-Louis, Kevin Sullivan, Leandro Rodrigues Marques, Maria Serratore, Marie Isbester, Mary Baddock, Mary Farrugia, Natalie Lynch, Paul Hill, Paul Tyson, Pauline Taylor, Paolo Lepre, Peter Atkinson, Ronnie Attard, Russell Fairbairn, Sharone Marsh, Shona Maher, Steve Clare, Stephen Doyle, Trevor McGrath and all who are sick.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Response: Lord, hear our prayer

Celebrant: Let us make our prayers to the Father, asking him to renew the cleansing and healing grace of his Son in our world today.

Reader: For the Church of God in every place, that she may shine forth as a community of reconciliation. Let us pray to the Lord **(R)**

Reader: We pray for Alicia who through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is to be received into the Catholic Church at Easter. Let us pray to the Lord **(R)**

Reader: For those who have neglected the sacraments, that they may return to the healing peace of personal confession. Let us pray to the Lord **(R)**

Reader: For our students for the priesthood, that they may prepare wisely and well for the permanent grace of ordination. Let us pray to the Lord. **(R)**

Reader: For those who have died, that Christ may cleanse them and bring them to glory, especially recently deceased Joan Cameron, Maurice Joseph Bellucci, and for Lily Mifsud, Georgette Abdallah, Wendy Walters, Mary Fonseca and Francesco Cardinale whose anniversaries of death occur around this time. Let us pray to the Lord. **(R)**

Celebrant: God our Father, your gifts of healing and peace encourage us in our prayers. Grant what we seek in faith, through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Communion Antiphon

*God so loved the world that he gave his Only Begotten Son,
so that all who believe in him may not perish,
but may have eternal life.*

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down
from heaven,

***(all bow) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of
the Virgin Mary, and became man.***

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,

he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and
glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

THE MYSTERY OF FAITH.

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.

PLACES OF WORSHIP AND RELIGIOUS GATHERINGS - EASING OF COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

From this Friday, February 12th, an unlimited number of people can attend Mass, provided that the one person per 2m² rule is observed. Now that the 2m² rule has been reinstated, Archbishop Anthony has lifted the dispensation from our Sunday Mass obligation. The Catholic faithful are once again obliged to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation when this is reasonably possible. If restrictions are once again tightened, and attendance at places of worship limited to one person per 4m², the dispensation will once again be in place. Those who are of great age, have health conditions or are otherwise anxious about the risks of COVID-19 are free to remain at home and find another way of keeping the Sabbath holy. Priests should encourage parishioners to return to regular Sunday worship.

Holy Family Parish will be allowed up to **280** attendees at each Mass inside the Church with provisions in the foyer, if the attendance numbers increase.

Mask wearing. Parishioners are encouraged to wear masks where social distancing is not possible, but this is no longer mandatory.

Choirs. Indoor choirs are limited to five people. The small choir should face forwards and not towards each other, with physical distancing of 1.5 metres between each chorister, and 5 metres from all other people including members of the congregation, where practical.

Congregational singing. Congregational singing is still not permitted for indoor Masses.

PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH

Glorious Saint Joseph, foster father and protector of Our Lord Jesus. To you do I raise my heart and hands to ask for your powerful intercession. Please obtain for me, from the kind Heart of Jesus, the grace and help I need, for my spiritual life and my earthly journey. I also humbly ask for the grace of a happy death, and for the special favour I now implore, **successful and timely completion of our Church renovation**. Guardian of the Word Incarnate, I am so hopeful and confident that your prayers on my behalf will be graciously heard before the throne of God. Dearest Saint Joseph, through the love you bear for Our Lord Jesus, and for the Glory of His Name, please hear my prayer and obtain my petition. **Amen.**

HAIL, HOLY QUEEN AND PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL WILL BE OFFERED FOR THE END TO THE CORONAVIRUS

HAIL, HOLY QUEEN

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve: to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, O most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus, O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Jesus outcast for us

Lepers were social outcasts forced to live outside the villages and towns. Jesus heals the leper, allowing him to return to communal living, but, in touching him, Jesus put himself on the outer. The Gospel says that Jesus 'had to stay outside where nobody lived'. Jesus willingly changed places with the leper!

This incident prefigures the deepest mystery and scandal of the Gospel. Because of our deliberate wrongdoing, we are 'on the outside' with God. Our Lord and Saviour willingly experienced that alienation on Calvary, outside the walls of Jerusalem, in a desolate place where no-body lived. He suffered the dis-locating consequences of sin in his body and mind: 'My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?'

He took our place outside the human awareness of the loving presence of His Heavenly Father so that we might be located in the right place, insiders with God.

We might pause for a moment to lovingly thank our Saviour for leading us into 'the One in Whom we live and move and have our being'.

© Fr Michael Tate

Living the gospel

Who is your leper?

There is a story of Francis of Assisi in which he encountered a horribly disfigured leper. Initially, Francis was repulsed by the man but remembered that this man too was a child of God and made in the image and likeness of God. Overcoming his fears, Francis ran forward and embraced the man. Rather than seeing the disease, Francis saw the person. We can ask the question, Who is your leper? Who is the person in your life that you need to embrace rather than reject? Who would benefit from you viewing them with different eyes? Soft eyes! Eyes of compassion!

From Fr. Mani's desk

Ash Wednesday

Soon we are embarking on the most glorious season of the liturgical year, the season of Lent beginning on 17th of this month with the traditional 'Ash Wednesday'. On that day, the priest pours ashes on our head; and all the Christians no matter to what denomination they belong, feel happy about themselves that they participated in this most solemn occasion. Is Ash Wednesday meant only to create that 'good feeling' among the Christians? Certainly not. It is meant to create a further deep feeling of experiencing death, the excruciating death of Jesus for you and me on the Cross.

That's why, the Church uses ashes to begin this journey into the mystery of Cross, the mystery of Jesus' Passion and finally the mystery of the Death of Jesus followed by the glorious Resurrection.

What do ashes signify? We were taught in our Cosmology class in Philosophy that when something is burnt, the matter undergoes a substantial change. Ashes signify this, that we should undergo a substantial change of heart. God spoke through Prophet Ezekiel, "I will give you a new heart and put a new Spirit within you; I will remove your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." (36: 26). That's the reason, men and women in the Church down through the centuries prayed for a conversion of heart and became holy. The psalmist cried again and again, "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my concerns. See if there is any offensive way in me; lead me in the everlasting way." (139: 23,24). "For I am the Lord your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy." (Lev. 11: 44)

This Conversion of heart is an ongoing process. It is difficult to change man's heart. But it is not difficult for the Holy Spirit to change man's heart. So the season of Lent calls us to become a new creation in Christ. By so doing, man can no longer conform himself to the world but will be transformed by the renewal of his mind by the Holy Spirit. "40 days from now, you will be destroyed" were the words of the pessimistic prophet, Jonah to the people of Nineveh. He wanted them to be destroyed thinking that 40 days would not suffice for them to turn away from their sinful works. They poured ashes upon themselves, beginning with the King to the least in the Kingdom as a sign of their conversion. A great surprise to us and a great shock to the prophet, the people of Nineveh turned away from their evil ways and turned to God. What an encouraging and consoling incident, the conversion of Nineveh is for us! We are now given 40 days' time to walk in the holiness of God. Ashes signify one's nothingness. We are just NOTHING in front of God, king or servant, cook or catechist, priest or parishioner, we are all next to nothing. Lent is a precious time of the year to reflect upon our nothingness deeply and invite the Holy Spirit to transform our lives by immersing ourselves in the Holy Scriptures. Have a taste to read and meditate on the Scripture and other spiritual books. Day by day, we should go closer to the heart of Jesus which is full of Holiness. I pray that this year's Lent may bind us together in prayer and take us into the inner heart of Jesus' Passion. Let our Lenten observances of fasting, praying and almsgiving help us to transform our hearts into hearts of flesh. Fast from not only food, but also from whatever keeps us away from God. Holy Father Pope Francis reminds us of this. Fast from the usage of words that hurt people, fast from the usage of your voice calls and data, fast from your selfish activities, fast from watching what is not appropriate on TV and other social media, fast from idling away time, fast from gossip, fast from anything that does not suit your purpose to get transformed.

I wish you a fruitful season of Lent. May this Lent shower Heaven's holiness upon each one of us.

Jesus has the power to heal

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

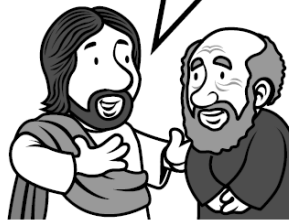


How were people with leprosy treated in Jesus' time?

What are some things we can do for sick people today?

What did Jesus say to the man after he cured him of leprosy? Use the words below to find out!

Say _____ of this to anyone;
but go and _____ yourself to the
_____, then make an offering
at the _____ as Moses
_____, then all will know
you are _____.



temple show
commanded
healed nothing
priest

Jesus showed God's power by healing the leper. Draw a picture from one of the following stories where God's power is shown by what Jesus did.



What's On

- ♦ **First Reconciliation**, Hand in at all Masses this weekend.
- ♦ **Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**, Tue 16 Feb, 7.30pm
- ♦ **St Vincent de Paul Meeting**, Tue 23 Feb, 7pm
- ♦ **Ash Wednesday Masses**, 17 Feb 9.15am and 7pm.
- ♦ **EARLY MORNING MASS (during Lent)**, commencing Thu 18 Feb, 7am & 9.15am
- ♦ **Stations of the Cross**, commences Fri 19 Feb, 7pm in the English, 7.30pm in Italian
- ♦ **Daily Rosary**, Everyday at 8pm on Zoom, please text (ROSARY) to 0418 433 333 to receive the link.
- ♦ **Holy Rosary**, Every Sat, 8.45am in the Church



Project Compassion Sunday 14th February 2021



Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes (available in the foyer) and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "Be More". Through your generosity and by aspiring to be more, you are assisting some of the world's most vulnerable people build better futures for themselves, their families and their communities.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Feast Days

- ♦ **Ash Wednesday**, 17 Feb
- ♦ **The Chair of St Peter**, Mon 22 Feb

CATHOLIC WEEKLY PULPIT POINTS

- ♦ Chilling Victorian Law
- ♦ First woman to vote in Synod
- ♦ Tyburn sisters ensure serenity for all
- ♦ The Art of Spiritual War
- ♦ Movie review: *Greenland*
- ♦ Getting to know Catholic Social Teaching

Only \$2, please leave the money in the poor box on the wall next to the kitchen.

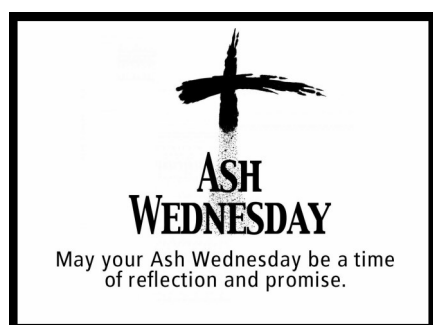
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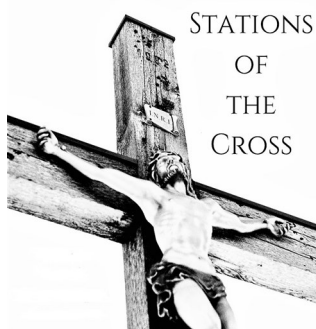
BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS

to *Michael and Jessica Langtry* baptising their child *Lincoln* this weekend at Holy Family Parish.

Copies of the Lenten Penance issued by Archbishop Fisher and the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference message are available on the table in the Church foyer to take home for Lent.



Ash Wednesday
17 February Mass at 9.15am & 7pm



Stations of the Cross during Lent

We invite you to join us each Friday during Lent, for 'Stations of the Cross' in the Church. 7pm in English and 7.30pm in Italian. Commences Friday 19 February.

Everyone is welcome, children too!



What's on at Holy Family during Lent?

Early Morning Mass - during Lent we will be celebrating Mass at **7am & 9.15am** Tuesday - Friday

Stations of the Cross each Friday at 7:00pm in English and 7:30pm in Italian

2021 Lenten Programme - If you would like to be a leader for the Lenten Programme this year, or you would like to join a group, could you please contact the Parish office on 9543 2677. Thank you.



COULD YOU BE A CATECHIST IN 2021?

The 2021 school year is underway! Scripture classes in the state schools will be starting in a few weeks. Is there a role for YOU as a Catechist or a classroom helper?

There are basic induction courses being run in February and March. Anyone considering becoming a Catechist **MUST** complete this basic 4 hour course before entering the classroom. There is no cost and no obligation. For anyone undecided about becoming a Catechist, it's an ideal opportunity to see what is involved before making that commitment.

This year we have vacancies in the following schools:

Tharawal PS	Kindergarten	Tuesdays 11.30 am
	Year 1	
	Year 2	
Alfords Point PS	Kindergarten	Wednesdays 11.50am
Lucas Heights CS	Year 1/2	Wednesdays 2pm
	Year 3/4	Wednesdays 2.30pm
Bangor PS	Year 5	Tuesdays 10.50am

Catechists are people who keep the memory of God alive; they keep it alive in themselves and they are able to revive it in others.

-Pope Francis



For more information, please contact Terri Casey on 0409390829 or email terrica@bigpond.com



R.C.I.A

RREAL

Today we welcome

Alicia

CHURCH

Into our Church community as a candidate

IN

proceeding on her 'Journey to Easter' when she will be fully initiated into the Catholic Faith.

ACTION

Please take time to welcome and assist her.

THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK is a wonderful companion for Lent which consists of 6 minute meditations on the Gospels of Lent

Available at the piety stall for \$5.

ROSTER FOR 20/21 February 2021: (3rd WEEKEND)

	5:30pm	8:30am	10am
ALTAR SERVERS	1A	2A	3A
ACOLYTES	Peter McLachlan	Phil Tax	Grant Scott
READERS	Elisabeth Ward Isabella Lo Russo	Emma Gioiello Lesley David	Bridget Nappa Ranelle Puse John Shanahan
PIETY STALL	<u>Volunteer Needed</u>	Roslyn	Marie W