

ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL PARISH, PARRAMATTA

Cathedral Office: 1 Marist Place Parramatta NSW 2150
Telephone 02 8839 8400 Web: <http://www.stpatscathedral.com.au>

4 & 5 March 2017 - First Sunday of Lent - Year A

BISHOP OF PARRAMATTA, MOST REV. VINCENT LONG VAN NGUYEN OFM CONV DD

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EMERGENCY CALLS
ANYTIME Ph: 0417 848 522

From the Dean's Desk

We are at the beginning of another season on Lent. It is a time when we are invited on a journey of renewal, recovery, repentance and hope. The Liturgy of the Word for the **Mass of Ash Wednesday**, that we celebrated just a few days ago for the beginning of Lent places before us the elements we need in order to ensure that these next forty days are indeed days of spiritual renewal. On that day, the prophet **Joel** reminds us that we need to return to the Lord with our **'hearts broken, not our garments torn'**. In other words, Lent calls us firstly to an interior journey into self which leads to a transformation and renewal which is exhibited in our actions. Lent is a time for looking inwards in order for us to truly be **ambassadors for Christ** as Paul reminds us in the second reading.



The Gospel for Ash Wednesday [**Matthew 6:1-6.16-18**] offers us three areas to consider for our Lenten journey: **prayer, fasting and almsgiving**. Primarily our involvement in these areas is to give praise to our God, not to receive accolades from others. **Prayer** should be a fundamental part of our spiritual lives. Lent can be an opportune time for us to deepen and renew our prayer if in fact we find that it is not as strong and prominent as it should be. Lent can be a time when I can take stock of my prayer habits: when do I pray? How effective is my prayer? How centred on life is my prayer? Is there anything I can do to allow my prayer to be more effective in my life?

Fasting is an aspect of spiritual life that we can take for granted. We often associate it with 'giving up something' – food, drink or some form of entertainment. As good and beneficial as it is to give up some foods or drink, perhaps this Lent we can look at 'giving up' an area or aspect of my life which can be addictive: do I spend too much time in front of the computer surfing the internet or playing games? Do I spend too many hours in front of the TV? Do I spend too much time away from family and friends? Do I spend too much time at work or in other activities that take me away from my basic relationships and responsibilities?

Almsgiving has always been a basic and fundamental charitable work among Christians. It is a wholesome way of bettering the lives of those less fortunate than myself. My contribution to Project Compassion is a viable way of achieving this. I can choose a particular charity and either financially assist it or give of my time and talent to its work. I can estimate the financial saving of my fasting during Lent and contribute that to either Project Compassion or to another charity. These are practical ways of being involved in almsgiving during Lent.

On this first Sunday of Lent we are presented with Matthew's version of the Temptation of Jesus in the desert [**Matthew 4:1-11**]. Here we see Jesus preparing himself for his public ministry, spending forty days and night in solitude and prayer, reminiscent of the Israelites wandering in the desert after their liberation from Egypt. We see the Devil trying to persuade Jesus from commencing his ministry, subtly tempting him with various means. Each time Jesus is tempted he drives Satan away by quoting Scripture, a sure indication and challenge to us of the effectiveness of God's word in combating evil. It is also a reminder to us that Satan comes to us when we are most vulnerable, as he did with Jesus, tempting firstly with food when he had fasted for a considerable time. Lent is then a time for us to spiritually enforce our lives so that the element of vulnerability does not give way to sin and evil. May this Lent be a time of prayer, fasting and good works for us in our spiritual journey.



Fr Robert Bossini
Dean and Parish Priest

ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL
WEEKLY TIMETABLE

SUNDAY

- ◆ 6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass
- ◆ 7.30am Morning Prayer
- ◆ 8.00am Mass
- ◆ 9.30am Mass
- ◆ 11.00am Solemn Mass with Cathedral Choir
- ◆ 6.00pm Mass

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

- ◆ 6.30am Morning Prayer
- ◆ 6.45am Mass
- ◆ 11.15am Exposition
- ◆ 11.15am Sacrament of Penance (till 12.20pm)
Rosary after Angelus at midday
- ◆ 12.30pm Mass
- ◆ 5.15pm Evening Prayer of the Church

SATURDAY

- ◆ 7.30am Morning Prayer
- ◆ 8.00am Mass
- ◆ 9.30am Mass in ExtraOrdinary Form
Latin
- ◆ 8.30am Sacrament of Penance (till 9am)
- ◆ 5.00pm Sacrament of Penance (till 5:30pm)

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Mass at 8.00am (No Adoration or Confession)

Wedding and Cloister Function Room bookings: Please call the Parish Office on 8839 8400. Visit our website www.stpatscathedral.com.au for more information.

Baptisms are celebrated in the Cathedral on Sundays. Family members and guests **must be present** at the Cathedral at least 15 minutes before the start time of 12.45pm.

Download baptism form at www.stpatscathedral.com.au

Preparation is essential and may be completed prior to the birth of the child.

Credo Connect

Facebook: Credo Young Adults



St Vincent de Paul Society

Family Assistance - 1800 606 724

Playgroup

Facebook: Parramatta St Pat's Playgroup



LITURGICAL CALENDAR

March

5 Sun

First Sunday of Lent

Readings: Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11
Rite of Election - 2.00pm - Cathedral

12 Sun

Second Sunday of Lent

17 Fri

St Patrick (*Solemnity*)

19 Sun

Third Sunday of Lent

25 Sat

The ANNUNCIATION of the LORD (*Solemnity*)

26 Sun

Fourth Sunday of Lent

NON LITURGICAL EVENTS

March

Tues 7

Parish Pastoral Council - 7.30pm - Parish House

Wed 8

Playgroup - 9.30am - Cathedral Hall

Fri 10

Formation - Blessing & Salvation in Christ - 7pm to 9pm - Hall
Stations of the Cross - 6.00pm - Cathedral

Sat 4

Legion of Mary - 9.45am-11.00am - Murphy House

Sat 18

St Patrick's Day Family Festival - 2.00pm-5.00pm - Cathedral Precinct

Sat 25

Work, Health & Safety inservice for ALL Ministers - 4.00pm - Cathedral Hall

LENT - Pray / Fast / Give

The Season of Lent is the most appropriate time for celebrating the Sacrament of Penance. Already on Ash Wednesday the people of God has heard the solemn invitation, *Turn away from sin and believe the good news.* It is therefore fitting to have several penitential celebrations during Lent, so that all the faithful may have an opportunity to be reconciled with God and their neighbour and so be able to celebrate the paschal mystery in the Easter Triduum with renewed hearts.

The Sacrament of Penance is better celebrated *before* rather than during the Easter Triduum.



Work, Health & Safety for Ministers

It has been a while since we had our work, health and safety meeting with all those who lead various groups and ministries in the Cathedral. We ask acolytes, senior servers, readers, Eucharistic ministers, children's liturgy leaders, youth leaders, hospitality leaders and ALL prayer group leaders to attend our WH&S workshop on March 25 at 4pm in the Cathedral hall.

This meeting is compulsory. If you CANNOT attend, please leave your name with the office.

For the sick: Jennifer Abdullah, Keith Mathews, Lisa Farrelly, Margaret Farrelly, Yvonne Malouf, Ditas Spears, Frances Pianna, Pilar Urbina Trillo

Special Intentions: Paul Elogious, Members Love family, Joseph Senn, Leo Coleman, David Pigott, Sylvester Bui, Paul Elogious, Orphaned Souls, Dadic & Senjak families, Mouzel R-del Mar, Hyun Jung, Lee (Agnes), Thanks, St Joseph, Mario & Maja, Josephine Cabezas, Mr & Mrs Cabezas, Thanks (Bui), Holy Souls

For those recently deceased: Rosalia Ferrer Datuin, Spiro Giannaklis, Donald Edward Roberts, Ronaldo Dimagmaliw, Odette Younane

Deceased: Bob Gebrael, Aaron Bannatyne, Deanna Hsu, Lucy Udovicic, Nikola Rastegorac, Carlos Jose Taua, Yang Suk, Jung (Johanna), Joseph Lin

Anniversary: Leonor Quinalayo, Karim Karim, Raffaele Morena, Donald James Graham, Christopher Nalletamby, Petrona Reeder, Mariyakutty Thayyil

Perpetuals: Norm Hector, Frank Agostino, Bernadette Melhen and Sally Boujandy Jack Barrett, Ann O'Brien, Ian Sanders, Don Andrews, Bill & Alice Kendall, Allan Kendall, Maria Patterson & Ellen Bancan, Giuseppina & Giovanni Rechichi, Maurice DeNiese, Fr Bray, Mary Coady, Mary & Jack White, Vincent & Rebecca Vella, Vincent Huang, Townsend, Walter Townsend, Watson Lee, Lucy D'Mello, Ferris Gurgeon, McInherny, White, McWilliam and McGuckin families, Mary Abela, Royan & Andrews Families, Sally & Frank Martlew, Robert Andrews, Sylvester Family, Rogan Family, Adcock, McMillan families, Gabrielle Baker, Paula Cowling, Sherwood Family, McDermott & Starr families, Repose of the Souls in Purgatory, Deceased Parishioners of St Patrick's and St Monica's.

Stations of the Cross

Lent is a penitential season of preparation for Easter. Please join us in the Stations of the Cross, which follow the path of Christ from Pontius Pilate's praetorium to Christ's tomb.

Stations will continue on **Fridays at 6.00pm in the Cathedral.**

We also need a few volunteers to lead and children to participate. If you would like to put your name forward, please contact Pat in the office. Books supplied.

Rite of Election

Today at 2pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, the Catechumens will continue their journey and will be then known as 'the Elect'.

Please pray for:

Veronica Leonardo-Allan

Mehrdad Mobaraki

Maryam Mohabatpour

Mehdi Mohabatpour

Samira Zarei

Dina Tang

Anna Bui

Adeel Mahfooz

Akram Karl Horst Von Busse



Lenten Journey 2017

"Lent is a season of intense prayer, fasting and concern for those in need. It offers all Christians an opportunity to prepare for Easter by serious discernment about their lives, with particular attention to the word of God which enlightens the daily journey of all who believe" – Pope John Paul II

What a great response we had last Friday night. The group was privy to two hours of reflection by Fr Bob. Please consider joining Fr Bob and Fr George for upcoming reflections on the Gospel readings for Lent.



Fri 10th March - BLESSING AND SALVATION IN CHRIST

7pm to 9pm - presenter – Fr Bob Bossini

Fri 17th March - JESUS THE WATER OF LIFE

7pm to 9pm - presenter – Fr George Azhakath

Fri 24th March - JESUS THE RESTORER OF SIGHT

7pm to 9pm - presenter - Fr George Azhakath

Sat 1st April - JESUS THE RESURRECTION AND LIFE

10am to 12pm - presenter - Fr Bob Bossini

Sat 8th April - THE PASSION OF JESUS ACCORDING TO

MATTHEW - 10am to 12 pm - presenter - Fr Bob Bossini

All sessions are held in the Cathedral Hall.

Diocesan Works Fund Appeal

Thank you for your kind donations. If you did not have an opportunity to contribute to the wonderful works this appeal supports, please feel free to make a donation today.

All donations are tax deductible.



Cloister Café

The Hospitality Team would like to thank all Parishioners who have left donations of supplies in the basket to be used at Sunday morning tea. Please keep up the generosity.



Connecting with our Youth



Junior Credo: EDGE

Yrs 4-6

Every Friday in school terms-5pm



Teen Credo

High School Students

2nd & 4th Sun. of the month - 4pm



Credo St Pats

18-35 Year Olds

1st Fri of the month - 6.30pm

St Patrick's Day Family Festival organised by the Life, Marriage & Family Office will be held on **Saturday, March 18**, 2-5pm at St. Patrick's Cathedral Precinct, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta. The Irish themed event will include live entertainment, food, rides for all ages and a historical display about the contribution the Irish have made to our Diocese. The event will also raise awareness about the World Meeting of Families taking place in Dublin next year and to raise funds for families to be able to attend. All are welcome! For more information check out: www.parralmf.org.au/St-patricks-day

Call for Volunteers Anyone interested in volunteering to help in terms of running stalls, preparing food, crowd management & other duties please email lmf@parra.catholic.org.au or call 8838 3441.

Project Compassion

Please donate to Project Compassion 2017 and help people in rural areas of the Philippines build better futures for their families and their neighbours.

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



School Enrolments

Parramatta Marist High

Enrolment Information Evening

Wed 8 March 2017 5:30pm - 7:00pm

Bookings are essential via www.parramarist.nsw.edu.au

Catherine McAuley

School Open Night - Tuesday 14 March

Applications close Friday 31 March 2017

Contact our school on 9849 9100 for an Enrolment Pack.

St Patrick's Primary School

Kindergarten Enrolment Packages for 2018 are now available from the school - Mon-Fri - 9.00a00pm - 3.m.

Closing date Friday 31 March 2017. For enquiries ph. 9630 1421.

St Patrick's Marist College, Dundas

Open Day Monday 6 March - 4.00pm-6.00pm

www.stpatsdundas.catholic.edu.au Ph: 9638 5644

Afternoon for Couples Hoping to Conceive

Married couples (Catholic or otherwise) who are hoping for children, struggling to conceive, or who wish to better understand what the Church offers and promotes in regard to fertility awareness and assistance are invited to an afternoon of information and discussion. WHERE: Dooleys Waterview Club, Silverwater Rd, Silverwater. WHEN: **Saturday 18 March 2017**, 2:00pm-4:30pm. Please direct RSVPs and inquiries to lifemarriagefamily@sydneycatholic.org or phone 9307 8403.



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202 - 214 CHURCH STREET
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