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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - YR B

27TH & 28TH FEBRUARY, 2021

WEARING OF MASKS FOR MASS

On consideration of the most recent NSW Health advice, the Diocese of Parramatta still highly recommends all worshippers at Masses in the Diocese to wear a mask to, during and from Mass and other services.

We understand the inconvenience that masks may pose, but the health of our parishioners and the wider community is our highest concern.

We sincerely thank you for understanding, and for playing your part in keeping our community safe.

WEEKEND MASSES

SATURDAY VIGIL 5PM & 6PM & SUNDAY 7.30AM, 8.30AM & 9.30AM

You are now invited to attend Mass <u>every week</u> at the time you were allocated by Fr Chris.

If you need to change your allocated time, please phone Fr Chris.

ALL RELIGIOUS SERVICES HELD AT PLACES OF WORSHIP ADHERE TO THE 2 SQUARE METRE RULE AND AS SUCH WE HAVE A LIMIT OF 120 PEOPLE.

Online Masses are still available so if you are feeling unwell or you are advised not to attend Mass.

WEEKDAY MASSES

TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS AT 6PM (NO ADORATION)
THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS AT 9.10AM

You are welcome to attend any of these Masses without a phone call or email invitation.

***PLEASE USE THE QR CODE TO SIGN IN

RECONCILIATION BY APPOINTMENT

Please contact Fr Chris on his mobile 0415 505 594 to make an appointment.

DUE TO COVID-19, THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARISHIONERS PER MASS IN OUR PARISH CHURCH IS



PLEASE PRACTISE SOCIAL DISTANCING BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS.





1.5M



As per government regulations, please observe the 2 square metre rule.

Please note that <u>hand sanitiser</u> is available at the Church entrances for use upon entering and exiting the Church.



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

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Presbytery: 4730 6258 Office Hours: 9am - 3.30pm (Tuesday & Thursday)

PARISH TEAM:

Fr Christopher Antwi-Boasiako -Parish Priest

Christopher.Antwi-Boasiako@parracatholic.org

Mobile: 0415 505 594 Deacon Owen Rogers

- owen.rogers7@bigpond.com

Mrs Marie Cottee - Parish Secretary - mc@corpuschristi.org.au

Mrs Sue Weekes - Office Support

- sw@corpuschristi.org.au

Mrs Joanne Hocking - Sacrament Support

SCHOOLS OF THE PARISH:

Corpus Christi Primary – ph 4726 2200 (Principal - Mrs Sarah O'Rourke)

Xavier College – ph 4777 0900 (Principal - Mr Michael Pate)

Parish News

The Parish Lenten Reconciliation will be held on TUESDAY 16TH MARCH 2021 at 7:00PM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS WILL BE CELEBRATED DURING LENT EACH FRIDAY AT 7.00PM IN THE CHURCH.

The Net:

If you know of anyone who is not receiving The Net via email and they would like to, please ask them to contact the Parish Office.

Planned Giving Envelopes

THE NEW PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES FOR APRIL – OCTOBER 2021 WILL SOON BE AVAILABLE. If you are:

- ♦ contributing to the Planned Giving Programme by way of credit card and your details have changed;
- ◊ or contributing to the Planned Giving Programme via the envelope system and would like to change to credit card or direct debit;
- ◊ or if you would like to join the Planned Giving Programme, please contact Marie at the Parish Office during office hours.

Parents of Sacrament Children

Final preparation for all children who are making their Due to COVID restrictions, places are limited. To register, First Reconciliation will take place on

FRIDAY 5TH MARCH FROM 3.30PM - 4.30PM IN THE CHURCH.

It is essential that all children attend. Please contact the parish office if there is a problem.

Let us Offer Gifts of Prayer:

Recently Deceased:

Jerry Kuncewicz (dear husband of Monica (10/02/)

Mass Intentions:

Maria Aquilina, Josephine Portelli, Margaret & James Vella

And for those who are sick:

Pauline Rugg, Joan Schneider

If any parishioner would like Fr Chris to offer Mass for someone who is recently deceased, a loved one's anniversary or if someone is sick, please email the Parish Office.

Parramatta Diocesan News

Institute for Mission Formation Programs

Interested or already involved in your parish community initiatives? Looking to explore key themes of the Catholic tradition? Express your interest today in the Institute for Mission's Reflective Ministry and Themes of Faith programs for your life and faith enrichment. They are 100% free and begin in early March in an online format. For more information, contact Sr Grace on 9296 6369 or grace.roclawska@ifm.org.au or Donnie on 0432042140 or donnie.velasco@ifm.org.au

Welcome to The Well

The Diocese of Parramatta proudly announces its latest initiative - The Well. In what can be described as 'Netflix for Catholics', The Well is a new online platform that provides free, 'on-demand' inspiration for families, children, young people and faith communities. Explore fresh offerings every week on topical issues that inform, entertain and challenge. Check it out at www.thewell.org.au

Glenbrook Parish Lenten Biblical Studies

Parish Priest Fr Joseph Lam will be running Lenten Biblical studies on the Passion of Jesus Christ in the Gospel of Mark at St Finbar's Parish, Glenbrook.

- The Death of Jesus 9 March at 7.30pm;
- The Resurrection of Jesus 23 March at

contact secretary@stfinbars.org.au or call the parish office on 4739 8928.

Position Vacant:

Natural Family Planning Educator (Casual) - Diocese of Parramatta – Applications close 1 March 2021 More details at: parracatholic.org/employment

St Dominic's College Open Day Sunday 7th March

College Tours will commence at 9.30am.

ONLINE BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL www.stdominics.nsw.edu.au Places are limited.

54-94 Gascoigne Street Kingswood. All enrolment enquiries: phone 4731 1933



Second Sunday of Lent 28th of February 2021



Margret is a teacher at a vocational school for deaf students in the Solomon Islands that suffered long-term water shortages and damage from Tropical Cyclone Harold. With Caritas Australia's support, Margret's school installed water tanks, repaired cyclone damage and implemented COVID-19 prevention measures, and is now planning to boost food security.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and help people living with disabilities in the Solomon Islands gain access to education and clean water, empowering them with skills to protect our common home.

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

The Living Word

Second Sunday of Lent

28th February 2021

First Reading

Gen 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham,' he called.' Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'



Responsorial Psalm

Ps 115:10. 15-19. R. 114:9

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

I trusted, even when I said: 'I am sorely afflicted.'

O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful. (R.)

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord's name. (R.)

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. (R.)

Second Reading

Rom 8:31-34

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

God did not spare his own Son.

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us — he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Gospel Acclamation

See Mt 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard:

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

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Gospel

Mk 9:2-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

Gospel Focus - A new vision

Part of Peter's mistake is to see the appearance of Elijah and Moses as a confirmation that Jesus has come to continue the work of the great prophets of the past. Rather than placing Jesus in the old tradition of the prophets, the appearance of Elijah and Moses, together with the voice of God, is to endorse the new direction that Jesus' ministry is taking. Jesus' new vision for the world is informed by the relationships forged between God and the prophets of the past, but it is a vision of a completely different way of relating to God: a much more personal relationship that calls us to respond from the heart to those around us.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate Transfigured Bodysouls

St Thomas Aquinas famously said: 'If only my soul is saved, I am not saved.' And yet many Christians do think that our ultimate goal is, by the grace of God, to end up as souls in Heaven.

No, I am a human being, bodysoul. If I am to be saved, then this stardust, this fraction of material creation, this earthling, needs to be immersed into Divine energy and light.

The Transfiguration of Jesus Christ, especially as recounted in the other gospels, shows what happens when human nature is in total communion with God. Every molecule of his body was evidently pulsing with Divine energy and light. The amazing truth is that God ardently desires that each one of us should share in the transfigured life of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

For this to occur, we must play our part, accepting that Jesus of Nazareth is indeed the Beloved Son of God, listen * to him, and put into practice what we hear.

We could take a moment to pray that after the "repose of the soul" after death, we may participate as bodysouls in the transfigured humanity of the Risen Lord.



REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

We all have dreams for the future, dreams about success and well-being. We all want a better world for our children and grandchildren. Our religious tradition sets before us aspirations that call for personal transformation. However, sometimes when we follow the inspiration of our most devout aspirations, obstacles are thrown in our path preventing us from following our dreams. Still, God does not call us out of our dreams into a vacuum. If we are asked to relinquish a possible future, it is only to be offered God's future. Our aspirations may be noble, but the possibilities that God offers will outstrip them in excellence. Abraham was promised an heir; he relinquished his hold on his heir, and he was granted heirs beyond counting. Jesus came as a Rabbi; he allowed himself to be handed over to death, and he was revealed as the beloved Son of God.

Those preparing for Baptism might be asked to relinquish the dreams that they previously held in order to embrace * the future God has in store for them. We who are already joined to Christ will be asked to recommit ourselves to this * transformative experience. Do we have faith, or do we need a glimpse of Christ's transfiguration in order to believe in his resurrection? Do we have to see and touch Jesus, or are we able to believe because we have heard his message? God's future in Christ is open to us, but we must accept it in faith, even when we do not fully understand what it means.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for February

Universal intention - Violence against women



We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.



REFLECTION FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS

Questions for Adolescents

- * Why might Jesus have only taken three of his disciples up the mountain with him?
- * Why were the disciples frightened by what they saw?
- * Why might Jesus have warned the disciples to tell no one what they had seen?
- * Have you ever had a really pleasant experience that you wished could keep on going?
- * Why was it important for Jesus and the disciples to go back down the mountain?

Questions for Adults

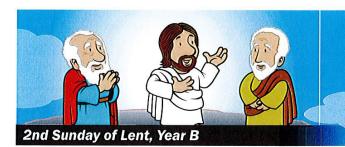
- * Why is this transfiguration event regarded with such importance in the Church?
- * Why are the disciples portrayed as struggling to grasp the meaning of what they have seen?
- * Can you recall an experience of God that occurred to you at a mountaintop location?
- * Have you ever had the experience of not wanting to 'go back down the mountain'?
- * Why is this reading chosen for use in the season of Lent?

This is an opportunity for parents to discuss today's Gospel with your children.
The following questions and worksheet are a beginning point to assist with the discussion.

- * What are some of the things that you hope for this year?
- * Can you think of a time when you hoped for something but it did not turn out the way you wanted?
- * In today's gospel Jesus' friends were surprised to see Jesus change before their eyes. How did they react?
- * Have there been times when you have been disappointed or did not understand what was going on around you?
- * During Lent let us build a better world by making time to speak to God in prayer and help those in need.

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This is my Son

The Transfiguration

One day, Jesus took Peter, James and John to the top of a high mountain.

They then witnessed Jesus talking with Moses and Elijah and heard
the voice of God. Draw a picture of the Transfiguration.



God wants us to listen to Jesus. What are some things that Jesus tells us?

Draw a line from each of the following statements to either Moses of Elijah.



Moses

God's law was revealed to him

He challenged King Ahab for worshipping a false god

A great prophet mentioned in the first book of Kings

He rescued God's people from Egypt

Elisha became his successor

He became the leader of the Israelites



Elijah

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Solutions

2nd Sunday of Lent, Year B

Draw a line from each of the following statements to either Moses of Elijah.

