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

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YR B**

**13TH & 14TH MARCH, 2021**

### **WEARING OF MASKS FOR MASS**

In consideration of your safety and the safety of others, it is strongly recommended that you wear a mask during all Masses.

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 every week 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**

**120**

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



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

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



### **CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH**

Address: 86-92 Andromeda Drive  
Cranebrook, NSW, 2749

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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](mailto:Christopher.Antwi-Boasiako@parracatholic.org)  
Mobile: 0415 505 594

Deacon Owen Rogers  
- [owen.rogers7@bigpond.com](mailto:owen.rogers7@bigpond.com)

Mrs Marie Cottey - Parish Secretary  
- [mc@corpuschristi.org.au](mailto:mc@corpuschristi.org.au)

Mrs Sue Weekes - Office Support  
- [sw@corpuschristi.org.au](mailto: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 16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021**  
at 7:00PM

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

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## **HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE**

**Thursday 1st April - 7.30pm**

**Mass of the Lord's Supper**

A beautiful celebration of the origins of our Eucharist.

**Friday 2nd April - 10.00am**

**The Stations of the Cross**  
(in school grounds)

**Friday 2nd April - 3.00pm**

**The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

This moving ceremony honours the  
great sacrifice of Christ.

(in school grounds - **BYO Chairs**)

**Saturday 3rd April - 7.00pm**

(Note not 5.00pm & 6.00pm)

**The Easter Vigil**

This is the highlight of the Church year when we celebrate the  
greatest hope ever given to humanity.

**Sunday 4th April - 7.30am, 8.30am & 9.30am**

**Masses of Easter Morning**

A continuation of the celebration of resurrection when  
the new Easter light and Easter water of Baptism

**Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal**  
**This Weekend - 13th & 14th March, 2021**

Help CatholicCare chaplains bring comfort, faith and hope  
to the sick and isolated. **Your compassionate gifts and  
prayers will help CatholicCare chaplains provide spiritu-  
al, sacramental and emotional support in the footsteps of  
the Good Samaritan.** Please give generously to the Bish-  
op's Good Samaritan Appeal [yourcatholicfounda-  
tion.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal). **Thank you for accompanying them  
on their journey.**



**Easter Parish Working Bee**  
**For Front Gardens**

**SATURDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

**STARTING 8.30AM UNTIL 1PM**

Bring your own brooms, rakes and weeding equipment.  
Many hands make light work.

## **Confirmation Photos**

If your child made their Sacrament of Confirmation in No-  
vember 2020, photos are available to be picked up from  
the Parish Office during office hours.

## **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 ARE NOW AVAILABLE AND**  
**CAN BE COLLECTED IN THE FOYER.**

*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.



## **Let us Offer Gifts of Prayer:**

### **Recently Deceased:**

Bishop Bede Heather (*First Bishop of Parramatta Diocese*), Fr  
Mick O'Callaghan (*former PP of Emu Plains Parish*), Sam  
Vassallo (*brother of Rita Vella*), Cathy Nadalini (*Marie Cot-  
tee's aunt - 28/02*)

### **Mass Intentions:**

Maria Aquilina, Josephine Portelli, Margaret & James Vella

### **Anniversaries:**

Fr George O'Mara (28/02/18), Mario Vella (23/03/16)

### **And for those who are sick:**

Kevin & Mary O'Connor, Robyn Toose, Pauline Rugg



**Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
**14th March 2021**



Arsad, an Indonesian farmer, had no toilet at home and was often sick due to the practice of open defecation.  
Through Caritas Australia's support, Arsad and his community improved hygiene and sanitation,  
and funded their own toilets.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and support people like Oliva's gain access to  
education to build a brighter future and live in communities that upholds everyone's dignity.**

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning  
1800 024 413.

# The Living Word

Fourth Sunday of Lent

14th March 2021



## First Reading

2 Chr 36:14-16. 19-23

A reading from the second book of Chronicles

*The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.*

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia,

"The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 136. R. v.6

*(R.) Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!*

By the rivers of Babylon there we sat and wept, remembering Zion; on the poplars that grew there we hung our harps. *(R.)*

For it was there that they asked us, our captors, for songs, our oppressors, for joy.

'Sing to us,' they said, 'one of Zion's songs.' *(R.)*

O how could we sing the song of the Lord on alien soil?

If I forget you, Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! *(R.)*

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not, if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys! *(R.)*

## Second Reading

Eph 2:4-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

*When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.*

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

## Gospel Acclamation

Jn 3:16

*Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

*Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*

## Gospel

Jn 3:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.*

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

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## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

### God's Works of Art

How does God picture us? St Paul reveals one of God's favourite ways of regarding us. 'We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus, to live the good life as from the beginning He had intended us to live it.'

Just as an artist respects the medium he or she is working in, whether it be oils or crayon, so too God respects us as human beings with free will. Which is why His works of art don't always look the way He intended!

Now, if one has a work of art in the house, a picture or print that means a lot to you, or perhaps the first sketch by a child, do you put it in the darkest corner of the room? Or do you allow just enough light to fall on it so as to reveal how terrific it is, why it gives you pleasure? Of course, the latter.

Now, if you and I are God's work of art, God wants exactly the same. He wants us to be revealed in the light. What sort of light? Christ our Light.

Of course, it might be necessary for the Light to dispel some darkness, some shadow dimension of our lives. In this regard Christ is a healing Light, but this is so that he might illuminate us in a way which more clearly reveals the love which the Divine Artist has for His creation.

We might take a moment to pray for the courage to expose ourselves to Christ's healing light this Lent to be more beautifully illuminated at Easter.



## REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Each reading provides us with an example of divine mercy. God's use of Cyrus to deliver the Israelites, even though he was not a believer, shows that every circumstance and any person can demonstrate the scope of God's love. In fact, it is often the situation or the individual that we least expect that has been chosen to manifest God's mercy to us. This same mercy is seen as God brings us to life with Christ even when we were dead in sin.

Mercy means that strict justice is set aside in favour of compassion. Dispossessed people are raised out of defeat and given another chance. Sinners condemned to severe punishment are raised out of despair and offered a reprieve. The whole world is raised up out of darkness when God's own Son is sent into that world as saviour rather than as judge. God's mercy raises us out of loss and hopelessness, out of darkness and sin, so that we might enjoy the blessings of life.

We too have been raised up so that we might live in truth and might become the visible sign of God's mercy in the world. We have been made a new people, free from the restraints of the past. Joined with Christ we become God's handiwork, creations that bear the seal of the great creator. We are the very sacrament of God's mercy. The forgiveness that we have experienced and the new life within us shine forth as witness to the mercy of God.

## Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for March

### Intention for evangelization -

#### Sacrament of reconciliation



Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.



## REFLECTION FOR ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS

### Questions for Adolescents

- \* Why might the Israelites have turned away from God in the time before the coming of Jesus?
- \* In what way did Jesus coming into the world bring 'light' to the darkness?
- \* In what ways have you sometimes 'tested the boundaries' with those who care about you?
- \* How might you reassure those you love that you do love them?

### Questions for Adults

- \* Why were the Israelites so ready to see their Babylonian exile as God's punishment of them?
- \* What other Biblical examples do you know of where God forgave and gave people another chance?
- \* In what ways do we sometimes choose actions that are 'of the darkness'?
- \* Why do people continue to test the boundaries of love in relationships?
- \* Have you ever acted purely out of love for someone else?

***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.***

- \* Can you think of a time when you were worried about being in trouble for something you did?
- \* Have you been forgiven much easier than you expected?
- \* When someone forgives you they show you mercy. How do you feel when someone shows you mercy?
- \* Who are some people you know who are merciful?
- \* God is merciful. He loves us and does not want to be parted from us.
- \* How can we show mercy to others?

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# God gave his only Son to save us

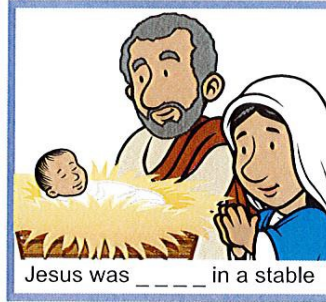


4th Sunday of Lent, Year B

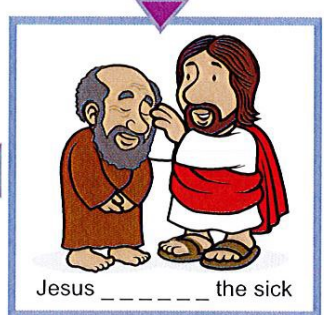
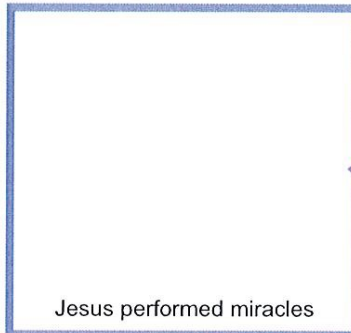


Draw or write some of the ways we can see God's love in the world today.

## Jesus Saves Us



When he grew up he proclaimed the Good News



Write a prayer about how you would like God to help you.

*Dear Lord,*




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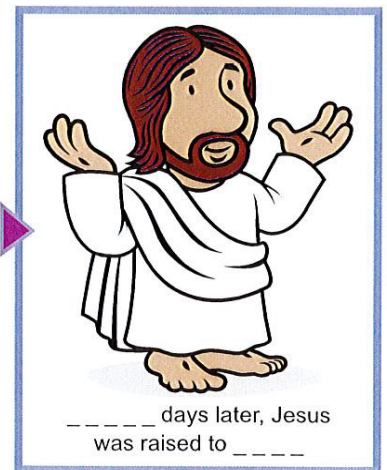
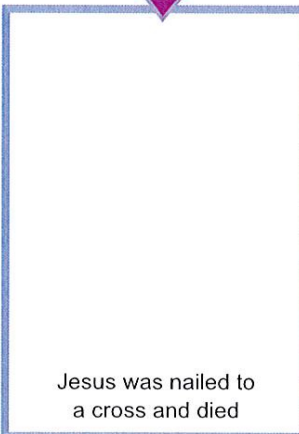
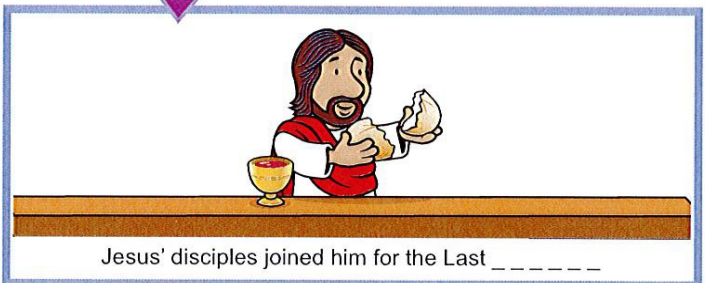
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*Amen.*





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who support our parish throughout the year.  
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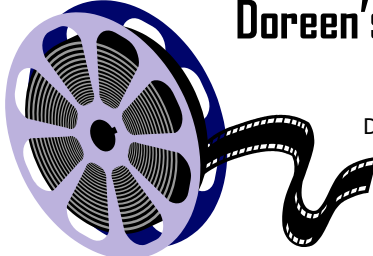
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