



St Brigid's Parish Catholic Church

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Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
Willow Tree, NSW

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Administrator:
Secretary:

Fr Vince Amaro
Ms Bern Press

02 6746 1133
Mon & Tues 9.00 - 11.00am
Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm

21 February 2021 - First Sunday of Lent

Please Pray For Those Who Have Died

Recently Deceased: Bernard Thomas (Werra Creek); Sister Marcella Dawson RSL; Fidelma Kennedy (Belong Michael's Mother) Bishop Luc Mathys; Judy Porter; Gwen Waterford (Nee Murphy);

Deceased: Terry Fitzpatrick; Kai Fitzpatrick;

Anniversary: Dulcie Tinson; Monsignor John O'Connor; Raymond & Catherine Campbell; Reginald Crossman; Robert Ferguson; Carmel Woodward; Leo Press; Frank Ryan; Teresa Lantry; Bel Carpenter; Kathleen Perkins; Marie Howard; William Guyer; Edna Baker; Lucy Moran; Corey Baker; Leonard Turner; Carol Bourke; Michelle (Tootle) Lawrence; Win Lawson; Sam Miller; John Barr; Margaret Squires; Frank Donnelly; Bob Webeck; Michel Dare

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God Rest in Peace. Amen.

And for those who are ill:

Lisa Brown; Ray Lamb of Gunnedah; Les Ward; David Seiler; Rita Looney; Bobbie Paton; Fr John Willis; Clare Crane; Bill Gleeson; Billy Godden; Ros Turton; Gavin Sewell; Ian Gallagher; Fiona Nolan; Gail Martin; Wendy Brown; Sue Thomson; Lucy Giff; Father Pat O'Neill; Tom Sanderson; Colleen Hyatt; Michael McCormick; Dan O'Donnell; Marie Dalton; Jack Dunn; Colin Gallagher; Andrew McManus; Ivy Taylor; Joan Greenlee; Rosealyn Chan; all the members of the Parish who are ill.

Other Intentions:

Roster

27/2/2021 R: H Passfield
28/2/2021 R: First Holy Communion
C: J Daniels & K Sweep

Coming Events

Mon 22 Mass at 8.15am
Tues 23 No Mass at St Brigid's today
Tues 23 Mass for Religious at St Mary Help Christians 11.30am - Morning Tea at 10.00am
Fri 26 First Communion Reflection Day
Sun 28 First Communion Mass at 9.30am
Fri 5 World Day of Prayer at the harvest Christian Church at 7.00pm
Tues 9 Clergy Assembly
Wed 10 Clergy Assembly

Planned Giving \$485.00 + \$24.00 = \$509.00

First Collection \$287.40

The Sacred Liturgy

Weekday Masses:

Monday 8.15am - Quirindi
Tuesday No Mass today - Mass of Religious Tamworth
Wednesday 9.30am - Quirindi
Thursday 6.00pm - Werris Creek
Friday 9.30am - Werris Creek
Friday 9.30am - Quirindi

Weekend Masses:

Saturday: Vigil Masses
5.00pm - Quirindi
6.30pm - Werris Creek

Sunday:

8.00am - Willow Tree
9.30am - Quirindi

Carroona: Every 5th Sunday of the Month at 11.00am

Baptism: At any Sunday at 11.00am, arrangement to be made with the Parish Secretary. A Baptism preparation seminar is held every 1st Saturday of the Month at 10.00am at the Presbytery Meeting Room.

Reconciliation: Every Saturday at 4.15pm - 4.45pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Every first Friday of the month, after the 9.30am mass until 5.00pm.

Rosary is said 30 minutes before the Mass during weekdays.

Coronavirus - The following must be observed at all Masses:

1. If you are unwell, stay at home and get tested as soon as possible.
2. Please check-in with your details by scanning the QR code using your smart phones or by the log sheet.
3. Sanitize your hands before entering and when leaving the church.
4. Please observe physical distancing inside the Church, at the foyer and immediate surroundings.
5. People from the same household may sit together.
6. Before and after Mass celebrant and faithful alike should minimize any time spent together, and particularly avoid gathering in large groups.
7. This church bulletin notice is for single use only. Kindly take this home with you or put it in the bin after use.

Project Compassion — Jamila is a Rohingya refugee living in a camp in Bangladesh with her elderly mother and baby daughter. With the support of Caritas Australia, and through Caritas Bangladesh, Jamila has been able to access emergency food, shelter, counselling, and vocational training that will help to support her family



First Holy Communion - Sunday 28 February 2021

Second Sunday of Lent

Preparation Lessons for First Holy Communion have commenced for parents and children. The lessons will be every Wednesday at 3.50pm in the Fr Stan Campbell Hall with a full reflection day on 26 February which includes Reconciliation, this day is 9.00am till 3.00pm. Our Program is Parish Based, that includes Father Vince our Parish Priest, Parents, Candidates, Teachers and Catechists. It places a strong emphasis on family involvement as we recognise that parents/guardians are the main educators in the faith for their children. Please pray for these children and their parents/guardians during this preparation time.

Due to COVID - Parishioners that go to Mass on a Sunday are requested to go to Mass on Saturday night, so that there is enough room for families to attend on the Sunday Morning. Thank you.

LENTEN PENANCE

During Lent and on the Fridays of the year, we do penance, not only on our own account, but also in the name of the Church and of the world. We must take seriously our penitential obligations and be sure to carry them out. The Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference has not restricted our penance to fast and abstinence in all cases, it has left room for our own responsible choices. We should carefully select the form of penance that we consider most appropriate for our own circumstances and growth in the Christian life.

DAYS OF PENANCE

1. Abstinence from meat, and fasting, are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All who have completed their 18th year and have not yet begun their 50th year are bound to fast. All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain.
2. On all other Fridays of the year including the Fridays of Lent, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:
 - (a) prayer - for example, Mass attendance, family prayer, a visit to a church or chapel, reading the Bible, making the Stations of the Cross, praying the Rosary.
 - (b) self-denial - for example, not eating meat, not eating sweets or dessert, giving up entertainment to spend time with the family, limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country.
 - (c) helping others - for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened.

Prayer to St Joseph, Patron of the Holy Catholic Church

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son, in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and defend us from every evil. Amen.

Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unprotected. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother, to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful, O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

World Day of Prayer - Friday 5th March at the Harvest Christian Church at 7.00pm. If you would like to read please contact Dara 0412701172 or Kathie 040958707.

Missionary Religious Orders Collection To support missionary orders who have priests in ministry in the Diocese. Envelopes will be at the back of the Church.

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 Hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

1st SUNDAY OF LENT / B

21 FEBRUARY 2021

eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

■ The word of the Lord.

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

Mk 1: 12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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JOURNEYING WITH THE LORD

It is said that it's better to travel hopefully than to arrive. One element of the truth that underlies this saying is that it is the nature of life that we are continually on the move, that there is always another stage of the journey to be undertaken. As we begin this season of Lent the readings are filled with images of journeys, promises and hope. Noah's journey which began with trusting in the Lord's word and building an ark now comes to its conclusion. Having safely come to dry land another journey begins with a new word and promise of God's blessing and faithfulness towards all creation.

If it is true that we are called to walk towards the light it is also true that we are enabled to do so because God has already taken the first step towards us. Lent is a time when we rightly focus on the task of our on-going conversion but, lest we get discouraged, today's second reading and Gospel are timely reminders that we are not undertaking this journey alone. There is work to be done and Peter calls us to remember the responsibility that goes with our baptism. At the same time we are encouraged by the fact that Jesus has already gone where we hope to go and that not even the Dominations and Powers can really impede us. The testing that Jesus undergoes in the desert at the hands of Satan and his victory is a sign and promise that we too will overcome.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Gen 9: 8-15

A reading from the book of Genesis

I will recall the covenant between myself and you ... the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 24: 4-9. R. cf. v. 10

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. **R.**



2. Remember your mercy, Lord, / and the love you have shown from of old. / In your love remember me, / because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**

3. The Lord is good and upright. / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path; / he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Pet 3: 18-22

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of