

St Finbar's Brighton East, St James Gardenvale, St Joan of Arc Brighton

Catholic Parishes

86 Centre Rd, Brighton East, VIC, 3187 - Presbytery/Office: 9593 2122

Parish email: brightoneast@cam.org.au Parish Website: www.melbcatholic.org/s/brightoneast

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B

18th February, 2024

Parish Staff

Parish Priest: Fr Ian Ranson
Retired Priest: Fr Clemente Cafarella
Parish Secretary: Carmel Cristiano
(Closed Monday, Tues-Fri 9.00 am—3.30pm)
St Vincent de Paul: 1800 305 330

Weekday Masses

St Finbar's: Monday - Saturday 9.30am

St Joan of Arc: Tuesday 7.00pm
Friday 9.15am
followed by Exposition

Weekend Masses

St Finbar's: Saturday 5.30pm
Sunday 9.00am, 11.00am
St Joan of Arc: Sunday 11.00am, 5.30pm

Confessions times: 30 mins prior to masses

Baptism & Sacrament Registration
please call the office to organise.



Discussing this Gospel, Pope Francis once said that 'Lent is a time of repentance, yes, but it is not a time of sorrow!'

The Pope wanted to remind Christians that Lent is a season of 'a joyous and serious commitment to strip ourselves of our selfishness ... and to renew ourselves according to the grace of our Baptism.' Note his emphasis on it being 'joyous.'

In one of his major teaching documents, *Evangelii Gaudium*, the Pope begins as follows: 'The Joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus.' He goes on to say that 'With Christ joy is constantly born anew.' This is the kind of Lent we should all strive for: a joyful one.

Later in the same document the Pope expresses concern about joyless seriousness. 'There are Christians whose lives seem like Lent without Easter.'

The Pope then reminds us that 'Joy adapts and changes, but it always endures, even as a flicker of light born of our personal certainty that, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved.' Our Lent should be a time of joyful response to that love. Fasts and penances should be helping us find joy in Christ, not misery.

After all, Jesus emerged from the desert proclaiming 'Good News'.

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Let us pray

Baptism: Frankie Hunter, Harlow Hunter, Zachary Swierc, Edward Swierc, Joshua Swierc

Recent death:

Laurie McMahon, Maureen O'Shannassy

Anniversaries:

Kerrie Robinson, Rosy Chacko, Thresiamma Thomas, Jerry Quill, Roger Picking

Memorial Garden Vases Please use our vases when you bring flowers for your loved ones to the Memorial Gardens at Brighton and Gardenvale. Pop into the Bayside office to collect a vase and we would appreciate a gold coin donation to cover the cost.



Have you thought? Temptation?

When we adopt a view of Jesus as the Son of God, it is hard to imagine him even facing temptation, let alone the possibility of him giving in to it. However, when we see Jesus as also being fully human, we realise that he was just as likely to face temptation as we are. But what might have tempted Jesus? Was he tempted to simply go back to his life in Joseph's carpentry business and not respond to God's call? Was he tempted to display his power in flashy demonstrations for all to see? Was he tempted to despair at what lay ahead of him?



FEBRUARY - Month of The Holy Family

19th St Mansuetus

20th St Eleutherius

21st St Peter Damian

22nd Chair of St Peter

23rd St Polycarp

24th Blessed Constantius of Fabriano

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www.melbcatholic.org/s/brightoneast



Lenten discussion group

Meeting dates

Monday 12th February, 19th, 26th, 4th March, 5th, 11th, 18th

Time: 7pm - 8:30pm

Location

St Finbar's Church - Marian Room (meetings 1, 3, 4, 5)

Please note that on Monday 19th February and 18th March (meetings 2 and 6), the group will be held in the smaller room where the St Vincent de Paul pantry is located.

Group Leader

Teresa Meyer

Booklet

We have once again chosen the Lenten Program booklet from the Diocese of Wollongong. This year's title is Pieta. The booklet provides deep reflections on the gospel readings and has questions to structure and guide the group discussions.

We will have copies of the booklet available at the meeting. Original hard copies of the booklet are \$10 (including postage).

If you would like access to the booklet before next Monday, please let me know.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call me on 0412 526 546. Cathy M



St. Finbar's School Principal Appointment

The position of Principal of St. Finbar's will be readvertised on the weekends of March 2 and March 9. The panel will then meet to review applications and interview for the position by the end of Term 1. We ask that you keep the panel members in your thoughts as they work through this process.

St John of Arc Charismatic Prayer Group

Lenten Study

Start: 19th Feb, Monday, 11.30—1.00pm

Location: St Joan of Arc Presbytery

Please contact Elisabeth for further information on 0425 762 111.

All are welcome.

New website

www.melbcatholic.org/s/brightoneast

SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL VULNERABLE PEOPLE

We are committed to holding the care, safety and wellbeing of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility for our community.