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Please contact the Parish office for more information on 9338 2840.

# **Good Shepherd Catholic Parish**

88 South Circular Road, Gladstone Park PO Box 2400 (03) 9338 2840 gladstonepark@cam.org.au

### CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest: Fr Dishan Candappa Assistant Priest: Fr Samuel Pearson E. samuel.pearson@cam.org.au Deacon: Rev Poukesi Vaka'uta 0423 659 605 (Tongan Chaplain)

**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday - Friday: 10:00 AM - 2PM

#### PARISH SCHOOLS

School of the Good Shepherd PO Box 2400 88 South Circular Road Gladstone Park Vic 3043 Principal: Carmela D'Amato Tel: 9338 7686 Fax: 9335 2586 E. principal@sogsgpark.catholic.edu.au

St Carlo Borromeo 5 – 9 Drummond Street Greenvale Vic 3059 Principal: Kevin Gleeson Tel: 9333 2572 Fax: 9333 2187 E: principal@scgreenvale.catholic.edu.au

Mary Queen of Heaven 75 French Road Greenvale Vic 3059 Principal: Renae Gentile Tel: 7379 5600 E: principal@mqhgvale.catholic.edu.au

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES: Monday – Friday: 9:15 AM - Good Shepherd Church

WEEKEND MASS TIMES Saturday: 9:15 AM – Good Shepherd 6:00 PM - Good Shepherd Sunday: 9:00 AM - St Carlo Borromeo 11:00 AM - Good Shepherd 5:00 PM - Good Shepherd

ADORATION & BENEDICTION The first Friday of the month after the morning Mass at Good Shepherd Church

MARIAN NOVENA Wednesday at 6:30 PM preceeded by Adoration/Confession at 6:00 PM

**CONFESSION & RECONCILIATION** Wed-Fri: 8:40 AM - 9:00 AM Wed: 6:00 PM – 6:20 PM Saturday: 9:45 AM & 5:30 PM , or by appointment.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION** 2<sup>ND</sup> & 4<sup>TH</sup> Tuesdays of the month at 6:00 PM. Bookings essential.

WEDDING PREPARATION Bookings to be made 6 months prior to wedding date. Bookings made through Parish Office.

In today's Gospel we read about how Jesus overturned the tables of the merchants and the moneychangers in the Temple at Jerusalem. In order to understand the relevance of Jesus' action, we must learn more about the activities that were going on in the temple area. Worship at the Temple in Jerusalem included animal sacrifice, and merchants sold animals to worshipers. Moneychangers exchanged Roman coins, which bore the image of the Roman emperor, for the temple coins that were needed to pay the temple tax. Jesus' action at the Temple in Jerusalem is recorded in all four Gospels and is often understood to be among the events that led to Jesus' arrest and Crucifixion. The Gospel of John, however, places this event much earlier in Jesus' public ministry than do the Synoptic Gospels. In John's Gospel this event occurs at the very beginning of Jesus' ministry, after his first miracle at the wedding feast at Cana.

We must read the Gospel of John carefully, especially in its presentation of Jesus' relationship to Judaism. The Gospel of John tends to reflect greater tension and animosity between Jesus and the Jewish authorities than the Synoptic Gospels. The Gospel of John was the last of the four Gospels to be written, and its narrative reflects the growing divide between the Jewish community and the early Christian community. Thus, greater emphasis on the distinction between Christianity and Judaism is found in John's Gospel. Reflecting upon the destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem (A.D. 70), John recalls Jesus' cleansing of the Temple and uses that story to interpret this later event. John explains to his audience, an early Christian community, that temple worship would no longer be necessary because it was surpassed in the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus. With greater frequency than the other Evangelists, John intersperses post-Resurrection reflections of this Christian community in his narrative.

After clearing the Temple of the merchants and the moneychangers, John's Gospel tells us that the people asked for a sign of Jesus' authority to do such an audacious act. In response, Jesus predicted his death and Resurrection. Throughout John's Gospel, the language of signs is distinctive. Jesus' miracles are called signs, and the people look to these signs for proof of his authority. Here we learn that the sign par excellence will be Jesus' passion, death, and Resurrection. During Lent we reflect upon the meaning of this sign for us and for our world. We might take this opportunity to consider the quality of our prayer and worship. In our prayers we seek to deepen our relationship with the person of Christ. In our worship with the community, we gather to experience anew the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus and its significance in our lives. Christ promises to be present with us when we gather for prayer.





THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR B



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