



Christ the King Church

ST MEL'S PARISH

"BE STILL AND KNOW I AM GOD..."

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Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:30am - 3:30pm

Parish Priest : Fr Peter Taylor

St Mel's Parish is a Child Safe community. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all and a zero tolerance to child abuse.

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - C

Sunday 27 February 2022

Readings for
this week:



Sirach 27:4-7

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

Luke 6:39-45

Readings for
next Sunday:



Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Romans 10:8-13

Luke 4:1-13



Liturgical Jottings

Book Of Sirach

This Old testament book from the wisdom literature is attributed to Ben Sirach the Wise. This collection of sayings was, until recently, known as Ecclesiasticus, a name given to it by Christians since the time of Cyprian (bishop of Carthage martyred in 258) because it was used to instruct catechumens.

The four sentences read this Sunday concern speech (27:4-7) a common theme in Sirach who denounces lies, gossip, swearing, quarrels and hypocrisy. Luke often quotes Sirach in his Gospel and presents us with a collection of wise sayings to live by and recognise speech as a gift from God. (DOTL Vol 6 p60)

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Looking at the Readings

A sense of judgement pervades the first reading and the gospel: The Reader is encouraged to test the goodness of a person's speech and the disciple to maintain self-integrity in giving advice or in passing judgment on another. Simple but valuable images are used: sieve, kiln, fruit to judge the truth and worth of a person's words (Sirach). Jesus, in his parable, also presents us with dynamic and effective images: guiding the blind, avoiding the pit, the splinter or plank in the eye, rotten or sound fruit. Cartoonists go to town on these images, which are helpful to display on the screen during a homily. Ben Sirach is acquainted with and a victim of bad talk and hypocrisy yet he also recognises the gift of speech and its effectiveness in revealing the Word of God.

Last week's Gospel contained a warning not to judge (Luke 6:36) and to show mercy. This week Jesus exhorts his disciple to see the faults and pitfalls in their actions and others. To judge or test but not to condemn; to guide and to seek the goodness in one's heart is far better than to judge, condemn and complain.

Quote of the Day

The Church is in an extremely critical state, we have churches, money & everything else; people come here every day; surely this is something? It is that we lead a truly Christian life; every day we make ourselves spiritually richer, bearing fruit, Who is a better person for frequenting the church all month? Do you believe that the truly Christian life consists in not missing a prayer meeting or Mass? This is nothing, if we do not derive fruit from it. If we bring nothing to fruition through it, it would be better to stay at home." *St John Chrysostom (344-407) Homily on the Acts of the apostles 29:3*

Ember Days

Four times a year, on the Friday at the beginning of a new season (winter, spring, summer and autumn), the Church sets aside a day to ask for blessings and to pray in gratitude upon creation. We also pray for fruitful harvest, favourable weather, the environment and our stewardship of the world resources. These days are marked with prayer, fasting and abstinence and stress spiritual renewal. It is appropriate that this Friday 4 March is the first Friday of Lent which captures the themes of the autumnal Ember Day.

On the Lighter Side

A hyperbole is, without any doubt the single most magnificent thing that has ever happened in the world ever."



St Mel's Parish Is...

"A welcoming and caring community that helps all people grow stronger in our Catholic Faith."

REFLECTION FROM FR PETER

PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

Project Compassion this Lent is taking the theme ...**FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS.** This Sunday is one of taking up this theme through the distribution of Lenten boxes, envelopes being distributed in Catholic Parishes across Australia. There is a great deal occupying our thoughts presently. Our Church and Parish life is gradually returning, amid the upheavals of the past two years. Issues of climate justice abound, with the onset of poverty and famine. At the end of last year a fatigue mentality confronted us. Yet it's our faith which is the human lens we look through for optimism and hope.

The theme this year is one of seeing future generations and the optimism we have and reminding us that the good we do today will extend and impact lives of generations to come. We are being invited to see a better world and for global issues to be met and resolved. It's from the book of Genesis 9:12, the story of Noah's Ark, when the flood waters subsided, a rainbow appeared in the sky and the dove returned with an olive branch indicating a new beginning. God said... "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you, and every living creature that is with you, will be for future generations.

As has been the great generosity of our St. Mel's Church and community in faith I do encourage your support for this year's Project Compassion, We do live in a rather prosperous society, not without it's difficulties. it's when we go deeper we see clearly our life in God and the response we make. The countries Project Compassion ask we be mindful of are : Mozambique, India, Australia, Democratic Republic of Congo, The Solomon Islands, and revisiting Thandolwayo.

Kirsty Robertson is Caritas' Australia CEO. In welcoming us and our Church communities to Project Compassion 2022, says Each one's generosity is a pebble that allows Caritas Australia to create the ripples that will improve the livelihoods of vulnerable communities, supporting them to flourish and create opportunities form future generations to live and for their potential to thrive. Kirsty goes onto say ... it is through the strength of our compassion we follow the steps of Jesus Christ in help and building resilience during trying times.

May we thrive in our generosity of Project Compassion this Lent.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Masses in the Church will be at : 9:15am and 6pm

Pope calls for a day of Prayer and fasting for peace Ukraine... Pope Francis invites everyone to make March 2nd, Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting for peace. The Pope remarks... 'We seek a God of peace, not war'

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER.. An annual event around this time of the year. This year the countries of England, Wales, and Northern Ireland are at the forefront of special intention. Friday March 4th at 10am in St Brendan's Church is the venue. For details contact : Helen Van Ryn on 0409 033 789

Pope Pays tribute to 'heroic health' care workersIn his message last Sunday, Pope Francis asked the public to offer applause for all health care workers . In part of his message the Pope said ... "No one saves themselves, in illness we need someone who saves us, who help us".

LAUDATO SI'.... Action Platform.. Australian Catholics embrace Laudato Si 'Platform! There is momentum taking place of our Church communities becoming ÉARTHCARE PARISHES. At the invitation of Pope Francis Australia's Catholic Bishops are endorsing our Church and Parishes to take up this call. There is an aim to empower the Church to achieve total sustainability in a holistic spirit of integral ecology. As most are aware there is an urgent need to have the necessary tools to address the current socio- ecological crisis . There are a number of copies of this important document of Laudato Si in the narthex, I do encourage this for your reading. When I supplied Mass last Saturday evening at St Brendan's , a presentation was given by Kerry Stone. Something we here at St. Mel's need to undertake into the future. Fr Peter

SANDHURST PRIESTS RETIREMENT FOUNDATION ... Presently there are thirteen retired priests in Sandhurst. While the general appeal is held in September I do encourage your support to this. Envelopes are available in the Church narthex. Fr Peter

GATHERING THE PEOPLE OF GOD Moving forward in his timely publication of Gathering the People of God, Fr Frank O'Loughlin brings to us a consideration of Liturgical Prayer. For most of us this centres around the Eucharist. However there is more to this. When liturgical prayers are offered it's about creating a unity , the Church's unity as the living Body of Christ, a sign of our unity as the gathered Church of Christ. Through this Frank O'Loughlin suggests we all of us the Baptised are on a journey of conversion. Our pilgrim way brings understanding of how we PRAY together, "no one in front of another". Taking this for ourselveswith the season of Lent upon us ...it might be a good time to see how we pray the Liturgy / Mass with those around us

LENT 2022 This important season of our Church year is nearly upon us. Over the years doing something for Lent is a sound thought. Some have organized themselves to reflect upon the Sunday Mass readings, interest on this is happening. Others have suggested something on the lines of Could one person during the weeks of Lent be prepared to speak publically for say 10 minutes on their lives , whatever this may seem to be, or on a topic important to them. Then to have time to engage with a brief Q and A. Something similar to spirituality in the pub. I am pleased to say I have speakers arranged for each Thursday evening during Lent. More on this in weeks to come. Fr Peter

WELCOME - Mrs Jessica Tassoni who completed her sacramental initiation last Sunday at the 5pm Mass. Well done Jess on your journey and now taking your place around the table of the Lord. Fr Peter

St Mel's Parish FOOTY TIPPING competition for 2022 AFL season....

All you do is : Predict the final 8 at the end of the Home and Away Season... With your entry ,,include \$5 - write your name clearly on front of the envelope along with your phone number (privacy respected)

The entry with most teams in the final eight WINS !!!!! 'Shouldn't be that difficult???'

However, should there be multiple entries of teams making up the final eight , teams in correct position on the ladder will be determined the winner(s).

The judges are yet to be determined they will be unbiased!!!!

Fr Peter

**AFL
Competition**



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY 6th MARCH 2022

First Reading

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

The confession of faith of the elect.

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

"My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

Responsorial Psalm

Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm - Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The confession of faith of the believers in Christ.

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness where he was tempted.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.'

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God', he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says:

He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

The Creed is said.

The Gospel of the Lord

Weekday Masses this coming week

28th February to 6th March 2022

Monday 28th February - No Mass

Tuesday 1st March - 9:15am

Ash Wednesday 2nd March- 9.15am & 6pm

Thursday 3rd March - 9.15am

Friday 4th March - 9.15am

Saturday 5th March - 9.00am

Sunday 6th March - 9.30am & 5.00pm

READERS/COMMENTATOR/SPECIAL MINISTER

Sunday 6th March 2022

9.30am - Sev Cortese (Commentator) Zoe Hamilton (L1)
Melissa Hamilton (L2)

9.30am- Special Ministers: Sarah Maloney and Maree McKenna

5.00pm - Tim Kelly (Commentator) Paul Bertoli (Lector)

5.00pm - Special Ministers : Rosana Legalo and Lin Waite

Recently Deceased: Jack Maloney, Carmel Allert (Numurkah Magellan Club).

Anniversaries: . Barry Pummeroy, Giuseppe Salamone, Vincenzo Campi, Salvatore Campi, Rosa Campi, Baetano Lustri, Katarina Buda, Maria Montelione, All Souls of Teresa Manno, Sam Gardani.