



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.

First Sunday of Lent- C

Sunday 6 March 2022

Readings for
this week:



Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Romans 10:8-13

Luke 4:1-13

Readings for
next Sunday



Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 9:28-36



Liturgical Jottings Season of Lent I

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence from meat. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their 18th year until their 60th year. The law of abstinence binds those who have completed their 14th year. (CCL 97, 1251). The law of fasting prescribes or allows a single full meal each day according to accepted local custom. (III §2 Paenitemini, Paul VI, 1966) Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others. In this way, the whole Church prepares for Easter with those who are to be baptised. Other celebrations must take account of the spirit on penance: musical instruments are only used to sustain singing and floral decorations are very simple. (Ordo 2022)

Looking at the Readings

Each first Sunday of Lent we hear the temptations of Christ. This year we have Luke's account which is much more detailed than Mark (B) but similar, slightly longer than Matthew (A). Luke has the Devil tempt Jesus the whole 40 days and finally records the last three temptations, bread to satisfy his hunger, power and glory, and third most complicated one of throwing himself down from the top of the temple. Jesus resisted all temptations but warned that the devil will return.

The Temple is where Luke's gospel commenced with Zechariah receiving the message of his son's birth, the presentation and later finding Jesus among the doctors and concluded with the apostles returning from the mount of the Ascension to Jerusalem and the Temple to give praise to God. It is in Jerusalem that Jesus finally returns. Here the devil enters Judas Iscariot, and Jesus is taunted by soldiers in similar words used by Satan: "If are the Son of God ..." to save himself.

Temptations are real, no one is spared, they come at anytime but we able to overcome them. We look to Christ at this time at the beginning of Lent, a season of prayer, fasting and reconciliation at season to prepare for baptism and the Resurrection.

Lenten Quote from the Saints

"We must fast with our whole heart, that is to say, willing, whole-heartedly, universally and entirely." *St Francis de Sales*

"I have found the paradox, that if you love until it hurts, there can be no more hurt, only more love." *St Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

Prayer for the Week

God of promise, we are weak, but our hearts are sincere. Strengthen us with your Holy Spirit so that we may continue the journey free of temptation, ever moving toward your Light

Lighter Side

This time last year, liturgically speaking, the State of Victoria had a snap "circuit-breaker" lockdown. The churches reopened on the Thursday after Ash Wednesday. I distributed the ashes at Masses and in classrooms for the next three days. I asked each time what day is it? The children replied: "Ash Thursday, Ash Friday, or Ash Sunday, accordingly. The adults, however, retorted: "No, it's not!" Again the young showed their adaptability in time of pandemic.

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St Mel's Parish Is...

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

REFLECTION FROM FR PETER

The season of Lent takes us with Jesus and his journey into the desert. For ourselves, Lent takes us through the call of the Spirit into a wilderness experience to see more clearly, love more dearly, and follow more nearly, the Lord of life.

So what does this season of Lent bring to you? There is variety in so many things we can do. Caritas' appeal through Project Compassion is asking we be mindful of the theme .. FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS.

The three principle actions of PRAYER, FASTING and ALMSGIVING are personal initiatives important in living a faith open to those less fortunate.

Lent opens our minds to all we have in our living. We know many today live with a continuing wilderness experience of simply .. going without.

Lent is the season for getting back to basics, maybe having a 'clean out'

In mindset, so as being freer in God's life within us.

Project Compassion takes us to Southern Mozambique where we meet Anatercia a remarkable 12 year old where she took a stance in seeing what really matters. Doing household chores from such a tender age, including walking for hours to obtain clean water, getting food and supporting herself like many others, in pursuing education. While along way from us, Anatercia has a message to give. We can never take for granted what we have. Our deepest longing is to create God's love at the centre of our lives. Anatercia feels a real connect from her community I her hopes of becoming a nurse.

This week for Lent try something a little different, it might be (dare I say this) for sitting somewhere different in Church next Sunday.... be closer to someone you don't know very well .

LENT 2022 This season of Lent will see some of our parishioners offering themselves to share something of their life in faith, something close to their heart. THIS Thursday Ms Mel Domaschenz will be our first presenter.

The evening begins at 7pm you are encouraged to come along. Mel will speak for a time of her choosing, after which a short reflection time will be held. This is to allow you to bring reflection to your life in something Mel has offered.

Fr Peter



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM ... The St Mel's Parish Sacramental Program saw many interruptions and rescheduling during 2021. We are pleased to have begun preparations with our first group of Candidates for this year (those who unfortunately were not able to begin towards the end of last year) by holding an Adult Faith and Information evening last Thursday. Twenty five candidates will begin preparations through the Steps in Faith program at home with their families, supported by the Sacramental Team, the week beginning Monday March 14. We ask our Parishioners to please pray for the Candidates and their families and if see our Candidates wearing their stole at Mass make them feel welcome.

GATHERING THE PEOPLE OF GOD ... Continuing Fr Frank O'Loughlin's thoughts on Renew the Liturgy – Renew the Church, A chapter titled "Numbers At Mass", Fr Frank begins from an assumption that both CHURCH and SOCIETY are in transition and this becomes a critical factor gauging where we are in Church today. As a society it can be said we no longer breed a sense of God who influences. This puts religious practice and belief into a whole new footing. Since the early twentieth century Western European societies and their off shoots such as Australia, have become more pluralised in their understanding of the world and social structures have influenced greatly on religious identity..... (more on this next week... Fr Peter)

SANDHURST COUNCIL OF PRIESTS Meet this Tuesday in Shepparton. That's all of us !!!!!

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Meets for our second meeting this year on Wednesday 9th March at 7pm in the gathering room.

WELCOME ... to Natalio Rafael Cruz child of Jonathon and Maria who was Baptised into our Church community last Sunday

SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB at the Terminus Hotel, Shepparton on **MONDAY 21st**



March 7.30 – 9pm (meals from 6pm optional). The Plenary Council's First Assembly was in October. Our Sandhurst Plenary Members, Ruth Lawlor and Fr Joe Taylor along with Assembly Facilitator, David Walker will share **What was a highlight? What was a challenge? What's next?** and we're asking you **What outcomes do you want from the Plenary Council? What will indicate success or progress?** Enq: Kerry 0408 579904 Frank 0407 587527 Fran 0409 012228

CAN YOU SEW? DO YOU HAVE TIME TO VOLUNTEER?

For many years, Camille Kelly has volunteered her time and skills to our Parish by making our Baptismal Stoles. Camille we thank you for this wonderful dedication. Camille would like some more time to spend with her family and is offering to share her talent with someone who may be willing to offer their time to us to make the stoles. If you are handy and can sew, or willing to learn, please contact the Parish office on 5831 2194.



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 13th MARCH 2022

First Reading

A reading from the book of Genesis

God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms: 'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm - The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Christ will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.

For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord

Weekday Masses this coming week
28th February to 6th March 2022

Monday 7th March - No Mass

Tuesday 8th March - 9:15am

Wednesday 9th March - 9.15am

Thursday 10th March - 9.15am

Friday 11th March - 9.15am

Saturday 12th March - No Mass

Sunday 13th March - 9.30am & 5.00pm

READERS/COMMENTATOR/SPECIAL MINISTER
Sunday 13th March 2022

9.30am - Sr Pam Barlow (Commentator) Nora McCarthy (L1)
Denis Muto (L2)

9.30am - Special Ministers: Leanne Daldy & Hollie Daldy

5.00pm - Helen May (Commentator) Dom Poppa (Lector)

5.00pm - Special Ministers : Helen May & Angie Knez

Anniversaries: Giuseppe Antonio Lorenzini (10 years),
Barry Pummeroy, Gino Copat, Rina Copat (Sayers), Assunta
Zanardo, Lenny Calandro