

Dear Parishioners,

Today's Gospel is one of the best known of Jesus' parables and speaks to us of forgiveness. Forgiveness is an essential part of the Lenten season, as it is our recognition that we need to be forgiven which initiates our acts of penance. For us, imperfect as we are, forgiveness can be hard work; when someone really hurts us, or hurts someone we love, it can take a lot of time and prayer to overcome our feelings of resentment and pain. Even when we decide with our head that we have forgiven the one who has sinned against us, our hearts cause us to avoid or draw back from them. The parable of the prodigal son teaches us that God's forgiveness is perfect—he never draws back from even the worst of sinners: rather, he runs with open arms to welcome them home. It is a wonderful image for us to carry to Easter and one which can help us to reconcile with those who hurt us.

This weekend at the 6.00pm Sunday Mass, we celebrate the second Scrutiny – another rite of passage for our 5 Elect and 3 Candidates who are almost prepared to receive the Sacraments of Initiation into the Church. I warmly welcome Mark, Geoffrey, Connie, Ryan, Danielle, Kent, Kyle and Shade' and their sponsors and families. Please continue to pray for these brothers and sisters who long to be received into full communion with the Catholic community.

I also welcome all the families who have brought their children to enrol for First Communion. I ask you to join me in praying for these children as they begin the Sacramental journey toward the reception of the Body and Blood of Jesus for the first time. Let us do all we can to support their parents and wider families as they bring their children to our loving Father. - Fr. Sunny



PARISH BUSY BEE FOR EASTER

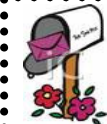
SATURDAY 16th MARCH 9am—1pm

We need many hands, to help make our parish grounds and centre clean and fresh for our celebrations at Easter. There will be gardening, cleaning and small maintenance jobs to be done. Children are very welcome to come with their parents to help. Morning tea and a sausage sizzle lunch will be provided to all the workers. Lists will be in the foyer detailing the jobs that need to be done and the equipment required for each task. If you can bring your own equipment, that would be a help, but the parish will provide equipment if you do not have your own. It would be great to see some new faces!

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY: Chisholm, Trinity, Mercedes or other high school students can come and assist at the busy bee as a way of completing their community service hours. Please register your name at the Parish on 9276 8500.



The youth of the Parish will be re-enacting the Passion of Our Lord again this year on Good Friday morning. Anyone who is interested in being involved in the Stations of the Cross, whether it be reading, acting, or the music is asked to contact Lenny on 0423 180 478. Attendance at a few rehearsals in the weeks leading up to Good Friday will be necessary. We hope to see many new faces this year!



GO OUT AND SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS!

LETTERBOX DROP FOR EASTER

There are lots of streets marked off the lists in the foyer—thank you to everyone who is helping to ensure that local Catholics (and others) know that we would love to see them at our Holy Week liturgies. If you haven't tried it yet, why not

take home a pack of Lent/Easter letterbox flyers from the church foyer to distribute to those in your street. Please only deliver to homes inside our Parish boundaries and cross off street names which you intend to deliver to.



Celebrating Holy Week and Easter

Sunday 24th March (Passion Sunday) to Sunday 31 March

Make this Holy Week a very special time by joining in as many of the services as you can:

Morning Prayer of the Church: Mon 25th - Wed 27 March at 6.40am, Thur 28— Sat 30 March at 8am.

Daily Mass: Mon-25th March - Wed 27 March, 7am and 9am; **NO MORNING MASS Thurs 28—Sat 30th.**

Stations of the Cross Wednesdays in Lent 7.30pm except 20th March.

Confession/Reconciliation: Thursday 28—Saturday 30th March 8.30am—9.30am;

2nd Rite of Reconciliation : Wednesday 20th March at 7.30pm

Palm Sunday: 24 March: Sat Vigil Mass: (**23 March**) at 6.30pm. Sunday Masses at 7.30am, 9.30am (procession), 11.30am (Italian) and 6pm

EASTER TRIDUUM:

Holy Thursday 28 March: Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.30pm.

Good Friday 29 March: Stations of the Cross at 9.30am, Via Croce (Italian) at 11am, The Passion of Our Lord at 3pm.

Easter Vigil Mass 30 March: Service of Light begins outside the church around the fire at 7.30pm. This Mass includes adult baptisms.

2nd Rite of Reconciliation for Easter.

(Communal Rite with Individual Confession)

20th March at 7.30pm
in our church.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR LENT

Each Wednesday of Lent in our church starting at 7.30pm. Why not make this one of your Lenten practices and enter more deeply into the Passion of our Lord?

INVITATION TO JOIN THE COMBINED CHOIR FOR OUR EASTER SERVICES

'The person who sings, prays twice' – St Augustine



Do you like to sing but are not able to commit to a choir for every Sunday of the year?

You are very welcome to be a part of our choir for the

Triduum / Easter services.

It will be a very rewarding and enjoyable experience. We look forward to seeing you at our practises in the church – which are outlined below:

Saturday 9th March from 11am – 1pm

Saturday 16th March from 11am – 1pm

Saturday 23rd March from 12pm – 2pm

Ring Linda to have a chat. 0402 120 978

Important
DATE!

To Do:

Our Parish Events

Don't
FORGET!

Reminder!

Parish Prayer Concerns

Recently Deceased: Charlie Sharman, Norma Togher, Margaret McAteer;

Anniversaries: Ross Lewis, Dylan Sharpe;

Deceased: Shian Coggins, Melina, Giuseppe & Maria Giovinazzo;

The Sick of the Parish: Mario Zaffino and all who are in need of our prayers.

*"Jesus Christ spoke peace
to a sinful world and brought
mankind the gift of reconciliation."*

Personal Advocacy really needs you!

Enabling people with intellectual disabilities to lead full and valued lives.

You are invited to consider joining the Personal Advocacy Wednesday morning community of friendship. We meet in Morley from 10-12noon, once a week during school terms. We are in need of a friend for a very special lady who has been in our program for many years. She loves coming to Mass and to the PA group and needs an advocate to ensure this can continue to happen. Contact us and come to an information session and find out if this ministry is for you.

You will probably discover that the program is much deeper spiritually than you imagined and you will discover that the program nurtures your own faith whilst your intention was to help another. **Contact Jocelyn or Robyn on Ph 9275 5388 or admin@paswa.org.au**

Retired Teachers Mission Outreach

You will all be delighted to hear that the teacher who has stepped forward to support this outreach by either teaching English or Maths to one child - for one hour - once a week and gifting half the lesson donation to this outreach, is also a professional photographer. He has offered to donate half the amount to be paid to him from wedding photos he took for a couple's special day to the Retired Teachers Mission Fund! He prefers to remain anonymous.

This to me is another one of God's miracles. I always remember what a priest once told me which I have found to be true on several occasions - "God is a God of surprises."

This bible quote applies to every Christian wanting to do God's work - "the Lord Himself goes before you and will be with you" Deuteronomy 31

Thank you to those who are spreading the word about this new outreach as word of mouth is always the best way of personal advertising. We need teachers, students who need catch-up lessons and general helpers. It will take time for this new venture to grow as we do what we can and wait patiently for growth to take hold.

Please take a flyer from the foyer near the Project Compassion Display today. Maggie Box.

PH: 9272 8263. Email: margaretbox7@bigpond.com

NO Foreign Coins Please.....

We have been receiving a large number of foreign coins in our Mass collections and in Project Compassion. As the counting is done automatically, foreign coins create a lot of problems for the counting team.

PROJECT COMPASSION..... Please ensure that Project Compassion boxes are properly sealed as some coins are escaping through the openings.

Catholic Women's League

Members are reminded that our monthly meeting will be held **NEXT TUESDAY, 12th March** after the 9.30am Mass and Rosary.



PILGRIM STATUE:

This week in the home of Mrs S Haney, 2 Richard Place, Noranda
Ph.0412 589 461



CAN YOU HELP? The Parish is hoping to install a much needed air-conditioner in the Library and would appreciate it if someone could help with the installation. Please contact Fr Sunny if you are able to assist.



No more aluminium cans, thank you.

Sadly, after many, many years of collecting aluminium cans to raise money for Fr. Luis' charities, our much loved Charlie Sharman has passed away. His family are unable to continue his work and so, with regret, have asked that we advise that we will no longer accept aluminium cans here at the parish.

On behalf of Charlie and his family, heartfelt thanks for all who have helped Charlie by bringing in their cans over the years.

.... The "Record" is priced at **\$2.00 per copy**. It has always been sold on an honour basis. Please make sure you tender the correct amount each time

WANTED

**18-20 EXTRA PEOPLE
(OR MORE)
TO BUY THE "RECORD"
CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER
EACH WEEK, SO THAT WE
CAN SELL OUR FULL
COMPLEMENT OF 100
PAPERS.
THE "RECORD" IS A GREAT
WAY TO KEEP UP WITH
CATHOLIC THINKING IN
AUSTRALIA AND AROUND
THE WORLD! ONLY \$2.00**

Our Liturgical Life

Morning Prayer of the Church: Mon-Fri, 6.40am; Sat, 7.45am

Morning Mass: Mon-Fri: 7am & 9am, Sat: 8.30am

Saturday Vigil Mass: 6.30pm

Sunday Masses: 7.30am, 9.30am (Children's Liturgy during school terms), 11.30am (Italian), 6pm (Youth Mass 2nd & 4th Sundays)

Reconciliation: Saturday 10-11am and 5-6pm.

Baptisms, Weddings & Sacraments: Please contact the Parish Office.

OUR DEVOTIONAL LIFE

Perpetual Novena in honour of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel:

Wednesday 7.15pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Friday 9.30am - 10.30am and 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Contact Us

PREP Co-ordinator: Linda Yapp/Brenda Picardo

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Youth Ministries Coordinator: Lenny Ong

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Reception: Anna Patton / Pearl Chin

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Parish Admin Officer: Darren Parnell/Michael Ng

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