

Dear Parishioners,

It has been very busy since I returned from a Carmelite meeting in Sydney. There is also a lot in this week's bulletin. So, I will be brief.

The Catholic Bishops of Australia have agreed that the days from Ash Wednesday to the Saturday after Ash Wednesday would be designated as days of fasting and reparation for the whole Church in Australia in sorrow for child sexual abuse and the healing of victims and survivors. As part of our response we will hold a special Evening Prayer on Friday 16 February at 7.30pm. Copies of the Bishops' letter are available at the entrance to the church.

The change of the mass time to 6.00pm on Saturday evening has been well received.

The purpose of Alpha in a Catholic Context can be seen in talks given by Fr James Mallon, author of *Divine Renovation*, in 2016 in Brisbane. The Parish Pastoral Council at its meeting on Monday night decided to watch these videos and then discuss them at their meetings. If you want to know more then check out the first talk at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFokxOKNYK0he> If there is enough interest we can organise viewings of these videos in the Parish Centre. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested.—**Blessings, Greg**

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2018 - CONFIRMATION ENROLMENT MASSES

All families who wish to enrol their child for the Sacrament of Confirmation at Infant Jesus Church this year are **required** to attend ONE of the following enrolment Masses:

- Saturday 24 February at 6.00pm **OR**
- Sunday 25 February at 9.30am **OR** Sunday 25 February at 6.00pm.

Please remember to register your child's name and your contact details at the church foyer before or after the Mass.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

Wednesday 14th Feb

Masses will be held at: **7am, 9am (Whole School Mass) and 7.30pm**

****Please note that the Wednesday perpetual Novena will be cancelled on this day, due to the evening Mass.**

An Invitation to 'Come and See'

Do you love people? Enjoy a cuppa and chat? Do you have a passion for bringing people closer to God? You are an ideal person for our Alpha team!



Alpha is an easy-to-use tool for evangelisation which has been used by thousands of Catholic Parishes around the world to grow people's faith and welcome people into parish community.

Alpha presents the core of the Christian faith, the *Kerygma*, in a welcoming and friendly way which appeals to millennials, and it seeks to address their questions and concerns. For more information, please go to <https://australia.alpha.org/blog/catholic>

You are invited to attend an Alpha 'Come and See' session with a free dinner and talk. This will help you understand what Alpha is and to decide whether you would like to be involved.

Date: Tuesday, 13 February 2018 at 7.00pm

Venue: Infant Jesus Parish Centre

RSVP ESSENTIAL: By This SUNDAY, 11 February to parish office

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Our first meeting for this year will be held this Tuesday 13 February. We attend 9am Mass and Rosary, then meet in the Library at 10am. New members will be most welcome; come and join us for a "cuppa".

Parish Prayer Concerns

Recently Deceased: Freda Spykerman, Rebecca Yap and Priva Sansone;

Deceased: Jason Lo Chun Khiong;

Anniversaries: Jose and Florentina Myares, Denis Williams, Michelina and Michele Schacchia, Emilio and Marianagela Tassone, Damiana and Alain Martinet, Tindara Cincotta;

The Sick of the Parish: Roger Cullen, Darryl Miranda, Bernard Spears, Denise Bendotti, Ossie Gonsalves, Trudy Berhuber and all the sick who are in need of our prayers.

"Happy are they who hope in the Lord."



PILGRIM STATUE: This week in the home of Mr & Mrs John Boog, 2 Horsley Way, Noranda. Ph: 9375 1667

Workshop For All Infant Jesus Parishioners Exploring the Centrality of the Mass: Source and Summit of our Christian Life

Co-hosted by the Centre for Liturgy and Centre for Faith Enrichment, this course invites all those interested to discover and deepen their understanding of the Mass—the source and summit of our Christian Life. Starting with an overview of the history of the Mass, the course will explore why we do what we do during the Mass, and reflect on how the Sacrament of the Eucharist can be lived in a way that shapes our daily lives.



Dates: Wednesdays 21st Feb, 28th Feb, 7th March & 14th March

Time: 7pm - 9pm

Cost: Suggested donation, \$20—4 sessions

Speaker: Sr Kerry Willison, RSM

Venue: Infant Jesus Parish Centre

RSVP: Parish office 9276 5000 or email

secretary@infantjesusparish.org.au

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LENT

FROM A MESSAGE TO THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AT THE BEGINNING OF LENT FROM THE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS:

“Dear brothers and sisters,

Last December, the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse handed down its final report....

With the Royal Commission concluded, our country and our Church enter into a new moment. We are calling upon the Catholic community in Australia to embrace this new moment by beginning the penitential season of Lent with four days of fasting and reparation. These are spiritual practices which express our desire for God's reconciling and healing grace.

Through fasting, we stand in solidarity with the victims and survivors of abuse whose much deeper hunger is for healing and peace in their lives. Through reparation, we make amends for the sin of those in the Church who abused children or failed to listen and act when they should have.

The days of fasting and reparation in sorrow for child sexual abuse and for the healing of victims and survivors will be marked by prayer—in our homes and in our Catholic communities.”

THEREFORE, WE WILL HAVE A SPECIAL EVENING PRAYER AT INFANT JESUS PARISH ON FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY AT 7.30PM

All parishioners are invited to join an hour of communal prayer in reparation for the sins of those in the Church who have abused children or failed to listen and act to protect the vulnerable.

Please note: This special service, requested by the Bishops of Australia, will take the place of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on this evening.



Project Compassion Sunday

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season, themed “A Just Future”. You will be empowering young people to build a just future for themselves, their families and their communities.

A Just Future starts with your support! You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by phoning 1800 024 413 or visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion

STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR LENT

Stations of the Cross begin, in place of the Perpetual Novena, from Wednesday 14th February and continue through Lent. The service will start at 7.30pm and conclude at 8pm. PLEASE

NOTE: *The perpetual Novena to Our Lady of Mt Carmel will not be held during Lent. It will be replaced by Stations of the Cross.*



Let Yourself be shaped by God With Br. Lawrence of the Resurrection

Prepare yourself for Lent together with the Discalced Carmelites.

This online retreat is offered by the Discalced Carmelite friars of the Parish Province. Subscribe: www.online-retreats.karmel.at

Br. Lawrence helps us to live our most ordinary everyday life under the

LENTEN BOOKLETS

If you would like to prepare yourself for Lent at home, we have these Lenten booklets just for you. “Surrender” reflections booklets from Archdiocese of Wollongong and **the little black books**, available now from piety stall and parish office. The booklets features daily reflections from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday.



**Blessed
+
Broken**

**2018 LENTEN PROGRAM—BLESSED + BROKEN
Pray, Share & Live the Gospel**

PARTICIPANTS BOOKS AVAILABLE TODAY IN THE FOYER

This beautiful 6 week program from the Archdiocese of Brisbane is renowned for its ease of use, and includes Gospel Reflections written by Dr Antonia Pizzey, Rev Dom Orih, Bishop Anthony Randazzo and Fr Rob Galea.

We have three groups running this year, which you are encouraged to join:

Wednesdays, 9.45am beginning 14th February in the parish library led by Julie Bonanella.

Thursdays, 7pm beginning 15th February in the parish library led by Fr. John.

Tuesdays, 2pm beginning 13th February in the parish library led by Chris Andrews

Please phone the parish office on 9276 8500 to register, or put your name on the foyer list today.

LENTEN PIETY STALL AT ALL MASSES THIS WEEKEND

After Masses this weekend, there is a special piety stall for Lent and Easter in the Church foyer: prayer books, children books and rosaries. Also available CD for Mass of St. Teresa of Avila. Little Black Book daily reflection for Lent \$4.00. “Surrender” daily reflection \$4.00. Personal Way of the Cross booklets.