

## 3rd Sunday of Lent - Year C 23rd - 24th March 2019

**First Reading:** Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

*This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you.*

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am' he answered. 'Come no nearer' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God. And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.' Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you". But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, "I Am who I Am. "This" he added, "is what you must say to the sons of Israel: I Am has sent me to you".' And God also said to Moses, "You are to say to the sons of Israel: the Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come."

The Word of the Lord

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 102:1-4,6-8,11

**R/** The Lord is kind and merciful.

**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

*All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.*

I want to remind you, brothers, how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert. These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

The Word of the Lord

**Gospel Acclamation:** Mt 4:17

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!** Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand. **Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**Gospel:** Luke 13:1-9

*Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.*

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.' He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied, leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."

The Gospel of the Lord



## Sacred Heart Parish Preston

322 Bell St, Preston 3072

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### 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C 23rd - 24th March 2019

#### Jesus Offers us his Love, Care and Help

Now into the third week of this season of Lent we are drawn to reflect more deeply upon our personal and communal relationship with God and God with us. The reading from Exodus is a summary of Israel's faith that took its shape under the leadership of Moses who, in the name of God, led the people out of slavery. God is revealed not as a dominant, punishing God but as a liberator and champion of the oppressed.

Speaking directly to Moses and indirectly to us, God says, "I am the God of your ancestors, of your fathers and mothers. I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt... I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them." Here is a God who is the source of being and active presence with humanity; who enters into a loving covenant, a relationship which liberates people, calling them to bring to the whole world the good news of God's generous and caring ways.

In today's Gospel, Jesus makes the point that contrary to common beliefs, people who suffer tragedy in their lives are not being punished for their sins nor rendered unworthy. Using the parable of the fig tree, he suggests that those who make these assertions should take a closer look at themselves and how they understand God's relationship with them and theirs with others. He calls them to 'repent', to think again. And so must we. As we address the challenges that face our Church and the tensions and sectarian and terrorist aggression towards peoples of our world today, we could reflect upon these words of Fr Brian Gleeson:

"Christian spirituality, which you and I had been sincerely trying to live is based on the conviction that a meaningful life is all about good relationships. In relation to ourselves we know that 'God doesn't make junk.' So we value and respect our own dignity, which is derived from our common human dignity, and we work on becoming better persons, knowing that God is patient with us and hasn't finished with us yet. In relation to other people, we look for the good in them, and deal with acceptance, trust, affection and care. In relation to God we treat God as our origin, the ultimate source of our existence. We treat God too as the one who sustains us through all the ups and downs of life. And we treat God as our final destiny, the one who is waiting to take us into his embrace at the end of life."

May we stand with our grieving brothers, sisters and children in Christchurch who, like us, all are loved by God.



#### Office Hours:

Tues to Fri: 10.00am - 12.30pm

#### Parish Priest:

Fr Jan Szweda, SVD

#### Priests in Residence:

Fr Ennio Mantovani SVD

Fr Phuong Vu SVD, La Trobe University Chaplain

**Parish Office:** Cristina Agius

**School Principal:** Mark Tierney

**School Phone:** 9484 3514

#### Sacrament Co-ordinator:

Judeline Wadhvani

#### Child Safety Officer:

Judeline Wadhvani

M: 0490660787

judeline.wadhvani@gmail.com

#### Parish Council Members:

Catherine Zanatta (chairperson),

Kay Dufty (secretary), Gerard

Grant, Ophelia Swai, Anisasio

(Pauline) Veamatahau, Mark

Tierney, Fr Jan Szweda SVD

#### St. Vincent de Paul Society:

Pauline O'Day (President)

Ph: 9484 2445

#### Parish Mass Schedule

##### Weekend Masses:

**Saturday:** 6:00pm

**Sunday:** 9:00am (*Italian*),  
10:30 am, 6:00 pm

##### Weekday Masses:

**Monday to Friday:** 9.10am

**Healing Mass:** 1st Thursday of the month at 1.30pm

##### Devotional Practices:

**Adoration of the Blessed**

**Sacrament:** Wednesday after 9.10am Mass

**Holy Rosary:** Thursday (English) & Friday (Italian) after 9.10am Mass

**Legion of Mary:** Thursday 7.30pm, in the Presbytery

##### Reconciliation:

Weekdays: 30 minutes before Mass or by appointment

##### Baptisms & Weddings:

By appointment only



**Melbourne Church Celebrates the 2019 Rite of Election**

On the Feast of St Patrick over 1,200 people gathered at St Patrick's Cathedral for the annual Rite of Election. It is at this Rite that those who are preparing for the Easter sacraments are presented to the Archbishop and the wider Catholic community.

Coming from over 60 parishes across the Archdiocese of Melbourne, there were 178 catechumens (those who are preparing for the sacraments of baptism, confirmation and Eucharist) and 57 candidates (those who have been baptised but have not yet come to the sacraments of confirmation and Eucharist and wish to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church). Among them were two our catechumen: Chris Freeman and Andrew Plain.

After listening to the Word of God in a simple but moving ceremony, the catechumens and the Candidates were called forward to join the Archbishop on the sanctuary, where he asked them to make public their commitment to journey towards the sacraments at Easter. In doing so, he also sought the commitment of their godparents, sponsors and the wider community gathered to support these people on their journey of faith.

The afternoon was truly a celebration of the local Church of Melbourne as people of all ages, from different nationalities and backgrounds, and different parts of the archdiocese boldly took the next step in their journey of faith which will result in the reception of the Easter sacraments at the Easter Vigil.

**Dates to Remember**

**All Fridays during Lent:**

Stations of the Cross - 7.30pm

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March:** Masses at 9.10am & 7.30pm

Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April:** 7pm

Liturgy Committee formation meeting with Cathy Jenkins.

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April:**

Palm Sunday, start of Holy Week and Easter Triduum

**Welcome!**

This weekend through Baptism we welcome: **Paris Flowers & Darcy Raymond Whytock** into our Parish family

**Last Week's Collection: 17/03/19**

1st Collection for our Church: \$1274.85  
2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$602.85

Thank you for your kind generosity!



**Thank you!**

Thank you to all who took part in the parish picnic last Sunday.

Thank you to the organising team and to all who came to the school ground on a beautiful, sunny day to spend some time together as a parish family. Thank you to parents who brought their children who had a great fun!



**Sacred Heart Primary School Enrolments**

Enrolments for the 2020 school year are open. For a school tour, contact the school principal on 9487 1001 or via the school website: <http://www.shpreston.catholic.edu.au>

**Preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Children preparing for this Sacrament are asked to proceed right after the 10.30am mass to the presbytery for catechesis. Last chance for enrolment!!!



**Liturgy Committee Meeting**

Those who would like to serve the parish in a Liturgy Committee; planning, organising and participating in liturgical celebrations, are invited to come to the presbytery on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, at 7pm for information/formation meeting. It will be conducted by Cathy Jenkins, the Director of the Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation. Those who signed up during the Stewardship Program to serve on this Committee, representative from every choir, readers and Extraordinary Communion Ministers, as well as anyone who likes to help to improve and make more meaningful our liturgical celebrations, are most welcome.

**Lenten Program - The Person of Jesus  
5<sup>th</sup> March - 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

Presenter: *Fr. Phuong Vu, SVD*  
Venue: Sacred Heart Preston  
Time: 7.00pm - 8.30pm



**Topics**

26<sup>th</sup> March - Jesus is the Healer  
2<sup>nd</sup> April - Jesus is the Teacher  
9<sup>th</sup> April - Jesus is the Redeemer

**Project Compassion 2019**

For over fifty years this Appeal has been an important means by which the Australian Church has shown its solidarity with those in need around the world, providing funds for development and emergency aid, and increasing our awareness of the work of Caritas Australia. Pope Francis said: "Caritas is the salt, the leaven and the light that provides a beacon of hope to those in need". This year's campaign theme is Give Lent 100%. Envelopes and boxes for your donation may be picked up in the foyer of our church. You may return your donation any Sunday in Lent. Thank you for your contributions.



**Empowering the Family**



Have you ever heard of Couples for Christ Australia (CFCA)? CFCA is one of the many hands and feet of the Church at the forefront of renewal. Its program builds upon personal conversions of married individuals starting in their participation in a basic course called the Christian Life Program (CLP). The experience not only places the individual's Christian life back on track, but also energizes them as they carry on their journey past the completion of the course. They are encouraged to belong to a small group that meets regularly for encouragement and support. Personal conversion continues as there is no short supply of powerful experiences in these small group meetings as well as in the other activities of CFCA.

Christian Life Program will be conducted in our parish beginning Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> April. Contact Bing & Candy Robles - 0435 759 148, Raymond & Julie Garcia - 0404618 591 or Mike & Faye Santos - 0413 713 973 for more information. See also the poster in the church foyer.

**Message to Readers and Ministers of the Eucharist**

In two weeks time the next liturgical ministers' roster for the next three months will be due. Please contact Cristina at the office or Pauline O'Day on 9484 2445. Email Pauline at [pauline.oday@optusnet.com.au](mailto:pauline.oday@optusnet.com.au) if you need to advise of any changes to your availability.

**Are You available to participate in our Holy Week Ceremonies 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> April?**

Please leave your name and contact number if you can participate in various ministries, preparation and setting up tasks for: - **Holy Thursday evening,**  
- **Good Friday morning Stations,**  
- **3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion**  
- **or the Easter Vigil.**



Like to join Sacred Heart's Music Ministry??  
Contact Priscilla on 0415061781

**Cleaning Roster:  
Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019  
Anne/Lucy**  
Thank you for your help!



**Church Cleaning Volunteers**  
Again, we invite parishioners who are willing to help clean our church, only once a year, to please sign your name and contact number on the roster placed in our church foyer. Thank you for your help!



**WE PRAY FOR:**  
The elderly and the sick  
*Peter Bourke, Brian Donnellon, Irene Navascues, Dale O'Keefe, Veronica Parkes, Rosie Poter, Lidia Razzi, Raul Reinal & Fr Jan Szweda*  
Those who have died  
*Clelia Ercole, Celio Pavan, Mario Trentin (18<sup>th</sup> month) & Elia Zanatta*  
O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen.



**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Readers of God's Word Workshops: Northern Region**

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 10.30am-3.30pm (includes light lunch)  
St Mary's Parish, 76 Hargreaves Street, Castlemaine  
The mass is made up of two parts: the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, which together form one single act of worship. The ministries of Readers of God's Word and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion during Mass are essential components of this ritual action. When delivered well, they have a profound impact on the celebration and on all those participating. The facilitator of these workshops is Mary Ryan from the Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation. Please note, all participants must be endorsed by their parish priest.  
Registrations: Juliet on 5472 1900

**Homelessness - What Can Parishes Do?**

On Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2019, with the onset of Winter, Catholic Social Services Victoria will host a forum "Homelessness - What can Parishes do?" at Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne, from 9.30am-1.00pm. The forum will focus on demonstrating practical ways participants can increase or renew support for homeless people in our communities. Cost: \$20 includes lunch. Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/BBQOR>; enquiries to Adrian Foley, [Adrian.foley@css.org.au](mailto:Adrian.foley@css.org.au), Ph: 0497 780 233.

**Roster for weekend of 30<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

	Readers	Ministers	Projector
Sat 6.00pm	Terry Murphy	Mary Harb Charlotte Bainy	Rohan Lemos
Sun 9.00am (Italian)	Paiano T.	Santini G. Pavan M.	Mancini M.
Sun 10.30am	Judeline Wadhvani Jessy Thambiraj	George Mc Brien Tony Eley	Jessy Thambiraj
Sun 6.00pm	Marijana Jurjevic Priscilla Stanley	Margaret Rankin	Jessica Suppiah