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www.sacredheartnorthalbury.com

Fourth Sunday of Lent—Laetare Sunday

10th /11th March 2018

Parish Administrator

Fr Martin Cruickshank

Parish Office

Fran Kernaghan

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

9.00 am – 2.00 pm

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MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm

SUNDAY: 9.30 am

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday:

9.30 am

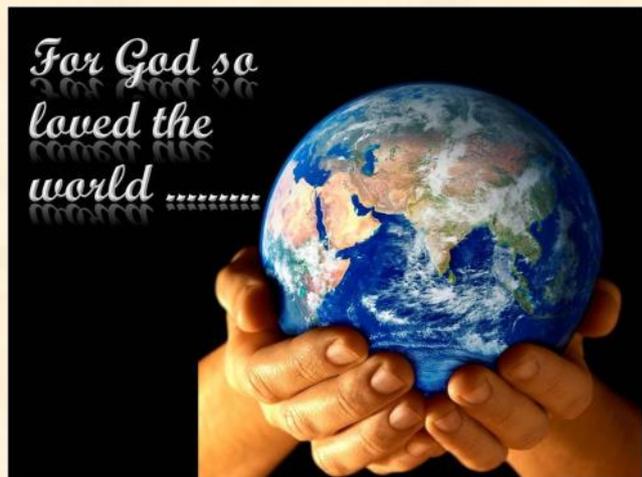
**First Tuesday of the month: 11.00 am Mass
at Mercy Place.**

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM

BAPTISMS—By appointment.

Preparation Course: 0411 883 661



The Gospel reminds us that if we feel condemned for what we have done and said, then it's because we have condemned ourselves, not because God condemns us. John tells us that even when we find ourselves lost in the darkness of our most destructive behaviour, the saving love of Christ is always available to us, inviting us to come out of the darkness into his light.

What a great metaphor the light and dark is for making the best judgments in our own lives. Alarm bells should always ring when we find ourselves not wanting anyone else to know what we have said or done. Secrecy is often the ally of sin and the more open and transparent we are, the more confident we can be that we are walking as children of the light.

May this Lenten Eucharist enable us to let go of the desire to condemn others and ourselves, and to receive again the compassionate, just and humble gift of right judgment that helps us to see the darkness for what it is, and keeps us walking in the light of Christ. (Fr Richard Leonard SJ)

Just as Moses lifted up the
snake in the wilderness,
so the Son of Man must
be lifted up,
that everyone who
believes may have eternal
life in him.
-John 3:14,15



Parish Community



We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith especially:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Terry Packer, Val Garland, John Mills, Arnold Fletcher, Donna Gogoll, Jeannette Cassidy.

ANNIVERSARIES: Pauline Harper, Bob Trebley, Moya Buckhorn, Dorothy Ryan, Mary Jory, Walter Kirley, Nora Davern, Joseph Amalfi, Irene Hunt, Ida Murray, John King, William Hayes, Carl Vonthien, Basil Harrington, Patrick Mullavey, Sylvester Graeber, Stella Sisley, Neville Bennett, Mina Bingham, Adrian Shattock, Roy Toon, Joyce Corrigan, Keith Appleton, William Toohey, Assunta Ravenna, Robin Drewe, Ivan Kruze, John Kane, Herbert Koucky, James Murphy.

Gather our loved ones into your arms. Quiet our doubt and anger and send us your healing grace. Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer for the Sick

We pray for all those who are sick. May they draw strength and healing from God's presence with them and from our prayers and thoughts for them.

May they have peace in their hearts and know they are greatly loved by all.

We offer our prayers believing that God's presence and power can do more than we can ever know. Amen

ROSTERS

Sat / Sun: 10th /11th March

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Kellie Gordes	Gavin Dykes
Lector 1	Michael Byrnes	Kathy Nyan
Lector 2	Pat Hickman	Sr Carina Morton
Eucharistic Ministers	Judy Lindsay Pat Hopkins	Trish Parkinson Peter Treacy Dianne Treacy
Cantor	John Van Lint	Anne McIntyre
Musicians	Catherine Cutler	Val Hayes
Counters: Nardia Scarvell		Church Cleaning: 2

Sat /Sun: 17th /18th March

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Brian Waters	Richard Parkinson
Lector 1	Anthony Foley	Wendy McFerran
Lector 2	Paula Waters	Michael Stephenson
Eucharistic Ministers	Jim & Kaye Deanshaw	Gemma Whitehead Pamela McIntosh Mary Lefevre
Cantor	Catherine Cutler & Judy Lindsay.	Volunteers needed
Musicians	Mary Hunt	Val Hayes
Counters: Desmond Lum & Jane Togher		Church Cleaning: 3

Prayer of St Patrick

I bind to myself today

God's power to guide me, God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to teach me, God's eye to watch over me, God's ear to hear me, God's word to give me speech, God's hand to guide me, God's way to lie before me, God's shield to shelter me.

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ within me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ at my right, Christ at my left, Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks to me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

I bind unto myself the Name,

The strong Name of the Trinity;
The Three in One, and One in Three,
Of Whom all nature hath creation,
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word:
Praise to the Lord of my salvation,
Salvation is of Christ the Lord.

A Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

"Holiness consists in the love of God and the love of our brothers and sisters — something that makes a person deeply happy, as the saints showed. The saints found the secret of authentic happiness, which lies deep within the soul and has its source in the love of God. "

Parish News

The Second Rite of Reconciliation will be held in our parish community on Tuesday 20th March at 7.30pm. Let us open our individual and communal lives to the power of God's healing and mercy.

Easter Masses & Ceremony Times During Holy Week

Holy Thursday: 7.00pm

Good Friday Ecumenical Stations of the Cross at 10.30 am, commencing St Marks Anglican Church, Gulpha St.

Celebration of the Lord's Passion: 3.00pm

Holy Saturday: 6.00pm

Easter Sunday: 9.30am

Choir Practice for Easter

Tuesday 13th March at 7.00pm. We appeal for new choir members as our numbers will be down this Easter. You don't need to be a Pavarotti or Joan Sutherland, just enjoy singing and willing to help us out. Contact Val 6025 5904 or Judy 6043 2766.

St. Clare's Conference St. Vincent de Paul wishes to express its thanks to the parishioners of Sacred Heart Parish for their generous support of our Christmas appeal. We were able to assist 150 families including 250 children with vouchers and gifts for Christmas.

Project Compassion Story this Week

Evangeline in the Northern Territory, featured in Project Compassion 2016. She was employed by the Caritas Australia supported Djilpin Arts and quickly rose to the role of Senior Artsworker. Her career has flourished. Her work at Djilpin Arts contributes to its success, whilst providing training and opportunities for other young people in the community.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and help provide employment and training for First Australians. The work of Evangeline and Djilpin Arts is creating opportunities for First Peoples to remain on country and keep their culture alive.

Feast Days

**Saturday 17th March—
Feast of St Patrick**



This weekend we welcome into the community of the Church through the sacrament of Baptism:

Ezra Charles Patrick Turner son of Benjamin & Lucy.

Project Compassion Prayer 2108

God of all peoples and nations, you accompany us on our Lenten journey. Through the life and mission of your son, you give us the gift of mercy. May we learn to walk your way of justice and compassion with all your people. In a special way, we keep in mind the children, women and men around the world who are most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice.

In this Year of Youth, may we support young people as they recognise that through their efforts, their desire to change and their generosity, they too are participating in the building of a better world.

Bless our prayers, our fasting and our Lenten gifts to Project Compassion. Through these actions, may our hearts be open to receive your grace as we work towards a just future for all your creation. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Amen.

Footy Tipping Competition

Please phone Parish office if you are interested in joining our footy tipping competition.

Liturgy of the Word

Fourth Sunday of Lent—Year B

Readings: Chron 36: 14-16,19-23; Eph 2: 4-10 ; John 3: 14-21

Responsorial Psalm:



Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,
that who believe in him might have eternal life.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!



Reflection on the Readings

The symbolism in today's readings remind us of the richness of God's mercy and grace. The first reading recalls the struggles of the people of God to remain faithful to God and to remember God's promises to them through the prophets. The role of the prophet in biblical times was to preserve in the people the reality that they were precious in God's eyes and that God was always present with them. In the Gospel today we see Jesus speaking with Nicodemus. The same Nicodemus we are told a few verses earlier, who came to Jesus by night [John 3:10-12]. In the scriptures night is often associated with secrecy and darkness. In contrast, later in John's Gospel, Jesus tells us he is the "light of the world."

As the Church continuously revisits the long history of God's relationship with God's people, Caritas Australia takes this opportunity to revisit and explore the impact of its relationships.

We first heard about Evangeline, a young First Australian woman a couple of years ago. She lives in the remote community of Beswick in the Northern Territory. Evangeline's work is, of itself, life-giving for her and her community. She helps to preserve and bring into the light her own precious gifts and talents and the art and culture of her people.

We are blessed by their willingness to share their gifts with the broader Australian community. In doing this, like St Paul reminds us, we are "God's work of art". Just as Evangeline is shining a light on her culture and lore for future generations, we can ask ourselves: how are we living in Christ's light?



This year, in 2018, Evangeline is busy guiding tourists, coordinating cultural activities and helping community members to practice and market their arts, such as weaving and jewellery-making. "Now we have a new gallery up. And we have our new kitchens, we look after these and we now maintain this to make sure it's running okay and in good condition. We're also trying to open up another tour for tourists to go around the waterfall, we're just planning that now." Evangeline's career has flourished and she has become an inspirational youth leader. Evangeline says that Caritas Australia's support for Djilpin Arts, through Project Compassion, is vital for all Wugularr's young people. Although their families do their best to pass on knowledge, Elders are dying and she is keen to spearhead the preservation of culture and lore for future generations. "It's good for them to learn and to keep their culture strong."

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