



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time *13th / 14th February 2021*

Parish Clergy

Fr Martin Cruickshank

Parish Office

Gemma Whitehead—Monday

Fran Kernaghan—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: This Week:

Wednesday (Ash Wednesday) 9.30am

Thursday & Friday 9.30am

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM

BAPTISMS—By appointment.

Preparation Course: 0411 883 661



Today's readings point to the loving compassion of God, which is revealed in the way Jesus always responds to the plight of those around him.

The Book of Leviticus (First Reading) sets the scene by listing the rules concerning those who were declared 'unclean', including banishment from the community.

In the Gospel, one such person, suffering with leprosy, breaks the rules designed to maintain isolation. We see how Jesus responds to this desperate plea – with merciful, physical contact – resulting in the person being restored not only to health, but also to a rightful place within the community. There is a further, ironic consequence to this response, with Jesus becoming an outcast, now having to stay in places where nobody lives.

The Psalm praises God, 'my refuge', in whom is found joy and salvation, while the Second Reading gives us an injunction to imitate Christ by putting the advantage of the other always first.

Let's pray for that grace this week, 'to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage'.



Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Myles Borg, Brian Rolfe, Frank

Dunn, Harry Struck, Mark Harrington, Kath Duck.

ANNIVERSARIES: Pat Scott, Val Garland, Eileen James (Keogh), Vin Griffiths Snr, Hubert Newhauser, Noel Flanagan, Arthur Scott, Pauline Blissett, Alma Whitehead, Claude Gilson, Des Healy, Keith Clancey, John Evans, Barney Frauenfelder, Kylie Evans, Ena Gale, Catherine McCormack, Alice Butler, Connie Murphy, Peter Rothe, Birute Valys, Matthew Hartwig, Stephen Ratcliffe, Eileen Duck, Maurice Higgins, Claude Jones, Rev T Desmond, Matthew O'Brian, Jack Lonergan.

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: 13th / 14th February

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Justin Clancy	Richard Parkinson
Lector 1	Michael Byrnes	Ed & Margy Brown
Lector 2		
Eucharistic Ministers	Anna Farrell	Noelene Cruise
Cantor	John Van Lint	Bob Mathews
Musicians	Catherine Cutler	Val Hayes

Counters: Lachlan McIntyre & Wendy McFerran (Sunday) Group 1

Sat /Sun: 20th / 21st February

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Sr Carina Morton	Roy Thompson
Lector 1	Justin Clancy	John Dowling
Lector 2	Paula Waters	Gavin Dykes
Eucharistic Ministers	Jeneice Harding	Sue Betts
Cantor	Catherine & Judy	Simon Goss
Musicians	Judy Foley	Val Hayes

Counters: Carey Menz-Dowling & John Dowling (Sunday) Group 2

Prayer for the Beginning of Lent

Loving God, this coming Wednesday marks the beginning of a period of inner reflection and examination.

Father, the Lenten days stretch before us and invite us inward to that silent, holy space that houses Your Holy Spirit. This special period invites us to examine our lives through our Lord Jesus

Father, give us the grace to enter the atmosphere of these days with anticipation of our meeting.

Lord, when we open our hearts to your presence, let your loving kindness flow over us and seep into the pockets of our souls. We ask this for the sake of your love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen



*This weekend we welcome into the community of the Christian church through the sacrament of Baptism: **Harriet & Sadie Batchelor** daughters of Kate and Scott.*

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

"Let us look inside, into our hearts: how many times do we extinguish the fire of God with the ashes of hypocrisy!"

Parish News

Visitation of Bishop Mark Edwards

Thanks to all those involved in welcoming Bishop Mark to our parish and school communities over the three days of his pastoral visitation.

On Friday he spent the day visiting staff and students at St Anne's and Xavier. The staff of St Anne's joined Bishop Mark for the celebration of Eucharist a prayerful experience which he very much appreciated.

Thanks to Cassandra Jones (R.E.C., St Anne's) and Ed Brown (Director of Faith and Mission, Xavier) for initiating and co-ordinating school visits.

On Friday evening Bishop Mark met with members of the Parish Pastoral Council and their families for a social gathering.

Bishop Mark celebrated both weekend masses and after each occasion there was an opportunity for shared fellowship.

Thanks to John Van Lint for providing specimens of his bonsai collection on the sanctuary - or as one child put it, 'It was like being in a real forest'. Thanks to our musicians and choir who turned up in numbers to enhance our liturgical celebration. Gratitude is expressed to both Gemma & Fran who did much of the work behind the scenes and to Sandra for the provision of meals and assistance with catering.

Bishop Mark through his prayerfulness, listening approach and relaxed manner expressed his desire to engage positively with individuals and our parish community as a whole as we continue by our lives to witness to the Good News of the gospel.

World Day of Prayer 2021

This Prayer Day is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women throughout the world who welcome us all to join in prayer and action.

The prayer service this year is prepared by the Christian women of the Republic of Vanuata.

The local service this year will be held in Sacred Heart Church, Mate Street, North Albury on Friday 5 March at 10.30am. This will be followed by morning tea. BYO plate to share. All welcome.

UPDATED COVID-19 DIOCESAN PROTOCOLS

If you are feeling unwell, have a cough or cold, sore throat or flu like symptoms please do not attend our physical gatherings as this puts others as well as yourself at risk.

After having your name registered or ticked off please use the hand sanitiser located at the four entrance points of the church at the beginning of our liturgical celebration and as you leave the church building.

Communion will begin with those on the car park side and then move to those seated on the Swan Street side. Please allow space between each recipient.

Lenten Discussion Groups

The Season of Lent begins with the commemoration of Ash Wednesday on February 17.

Once again it is our intention to hold Lenten Discussion groups on Tuesday and Thursday evenings in our Parish Hall from 7.00pm. Please indicate your intention to participate in one of the groups by signing the sheet at the Swan Street entrance or by email so that we can order the required materials. If anyone is interested in a group meeting for discussion in their home please contact the parish office.

It's All About Hope—is a modern Lenten program that takes us through the six weeks of Lent.

This year, author Chris Monaghan explores the theme of 'Hope', using prayer, a careful selection of readings, reflection and his own stunning personal photography. *It's All About Hope* presents each week of Lent in its own colour-coded section for ease of use, with a list of questions that encourages discussion, and invites the reader to reflect further.

Both groups begin this week—Tuesday 16 February and Thursday 18 February.

Look to Jesus—Daily Reflections for Lent and Easter

For those unable to participate in our Lenten Discussion groups the parish will provide a resource for individual reflection. *Look to Jesus* has been assembled by the faith team at Evangelisation Brisbane.

The daily reflections invite the reader to contemplate a verse from the scripture reading of the day. This reflection is followed by a quote from Pope Francis, a short prayer, and a reflective question that relates to our personal spiritual journey.

Free copies available at the church entrances.

Return of the Roster System Commentators/Lectors/Eucharistic Ministers/ Counters Needed

Thanks to those who have volunteered to participate in the counting of the second collection. We currently have 21 names which means that the commitment can be well spread.

Volunteer counters should have received a roster by email.

If you wish to participate in our liturgy as a Lector / Eucharistic Minister please add your name to the list at the Swan Street entrance.

Lenten Prayer

Loving God, as we begin to prepare for our Lenten Journey we pray that the mists that can cloud our vision may lift, so that we may see the road that lies before us and so come with open hearts to you, the source of living water. Melt what is frozen within us, warm our hearts, and lift our spirits that we do not lose heart in our capacity to grow, or in your desire to lead us safely home.

Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

First reading Leviticus 13: 1-2,44-46

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a cause of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons. The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'
The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 31

I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Happy the man whose offence is forgiven,
whose sin is remitted.
O happy the man to whom the Lord
imputes no guilt,
in whose spirit is no guile. **R**

But now I have acknowledged my sins;
my guilt I did not hide.
I said: 'I will confess
my offence to the Lord.'
And you, Lord, have forgiven
the guilt of my sin. **R**

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,
exult, you just!
O come, ring out your joy,
all you upright of heart. **R**

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia , alleluia!
A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people.
Alleluia!

A reading from the first letter of the St Paul to the Corinthians 10: 31– 11: 1

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone—to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everyone else, so that they may be saved.
Take me for your model, as I take Christ.
The word of the Lord.



A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1:40—45

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

The Gospel of the Lord.