FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Gen 9:8-15

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Genesis

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh."

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 24:4-9. R. see v.10*

- (R.) Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.
- 1. Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. (R.)
- 2. Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)
- 3. The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

SECOND READING 1 Pt 3:18-22

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL Mk 1:12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

The Gospel of the Lord All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



A retreat into a wild and lonely place can mean both death and renewal, crisis and opportunity. Everything in a wilderness can seem a threat: even small creatures like this gecko can be classed as 'wild beasts'. But when we become familiar with geckoes - if we have lived with them and really looked at them – the threat fades. The same goes for Mark's 'wild

Reflection by Artist

beasts', i.e. demons, which 'the Spirit drove' Jesus to face. They were inner demons that confronted Jesus and they posed no mortal threat once he had lived with them and faced up to them. The vital ingredients in this situation are time, courage and a little help from God. Lent is a time for us to face our personal demons and, if we are courageous and rely on divine help, then death will lead to renewal and crisis to opportunity.

Next Week : SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT Readings: GEN 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31-34; Mk 9:2-10

The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & amp; Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and

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ST GERTRUDE'S PARISH

St Benedict's Church

Corner Justin & Neville Street SMITHFIELD

Sunday Masses: Saturday Vigil 6.00pm; 8.00am (Italian): 10.30am: 6.00pm.

Weekday Masses: 9.15am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday; 7pm Wednesday Weekday Public Holidays: 10.30am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Adoration: Wednesdays after evening Mass with Novena to St Benedict till 7.30pm; Saturdays from 4.45pm-5.45pm; & Fridays after the 9.15am Mass

First Friday of the Month: 7pm Mass & Adoration

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Tuesdays after Mass

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

18 FEBRUARY 2018



We welcome the following

Ariella ROMEO, Mia COSTANTINO,

Joseph LENTINI, Hazel ANDERSON, &

Olivia RISTEVSKI

Fr Gabriel Taylor OSPPE,

Fr Jose Maria Enedaguila.

Maria Blanda, Max Hazmoth, Indu Vassallo,

Kartia Grace Russell, Frank Trimboli, Gino Mifsud

Rina Favotto, Neang Nep, Eric Pasquetti,

Emely Jade, Sandra Roy, Patricia Battistel, I

vy Fernandes, Maria Perre, Tania Perre,

Alina Przewoznik, Philomena Greenwood,

Ernesto DiDomizio, Stella Zappacosta,

Antoinette Jansen.

Bless our sick today so that they may bear

restore them quickly to health

6 Justin St, Smithfield Tuesday-Friday 10am - 2pm Phone: 9604 1199 Fax 9609 6585 Email: office@stgertrude.org.au Website: www.stgertrude.org.au

Parish Office:

Parish Council: Denise Namroud

Finance Committee: Jurgen Mertin

Catechists: 9725 4317 Mimi Romeo: catechist@stgertrude.org.au

Sacraments: 9725 4317 Helena Mertin sacraments@stgertrude.org.au Reconciliation/Eucharist/Confirmation

Baptised in our Parish Community Liturgy: 9725 4317 Anna Kleibert liturgy@stgertrude.org.au We pray for the sick of this parish

Adult Sacraments (RCIA) Mariola Herbert Every Sunday at 8.30am in the Crying Room (in front of St Benedict's) Contact Mariola: 0421 944 051.

Children's Liturgy Mariola Herbert

Reconciliation: Smithfield - Sat 4.45-5.45 pm their illness in union with Jesus' sufferings and (or by appointment)

Please remember in your prayers

Giovanni Mattielo, Mario Todaro, Annunziato Martino, Renato Almici, Gianni Caruso, Carmelo Cordina, Nicola Capolupo, Liliana Raisa, Recently Deceased

And for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time :

Vincenza Zappala, Tommasina Zappala, Alfio Zappala, John Attard, Sara Barrios, Ettora Cavallaro, Mario Vaccari.



Parish Priest Fr Jarek Zan OSPPE

Assistant Priest Fr Wojtek Sliwa OSPPE

Baptisms: Parish Office 9604 1199 1st Sundays of the month during the 10.30am Mass at St Benedict's Church; & Every 3rd Sunday at 12noon St Benedict's

Marriages: Parish Office 9604 1199 By appointment only (6 months required)

Sick Calls: 9604 1199 Any Time



PARISH INFORMATION

St Theresa's Church Corner The Boulevarde & Stella Street

FAIRFIELD WEST

Sunday Masses: Saturday Vigil 5pm (Vietnamese); 7.30am & 9.00am; 11am (Spanish); 5pm (Arabic)

> Weekdav Masses: Mon - Fri 7.00am; Saturday 8am Weekday Public Holidays: 8.00am

> > First Friday of the Month: from 6.30am

First Saturday of the Month: 7am Rosary 8am Mass

> Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Tuesdays after Mass



Novena to St Benedict

Every Wednesday after the 7pm

Mass with Rosary &

Exposition of the Blessed

Sacrament

Reconciliation is available during this time.

Rosary for Vocation to Religious life and Priesthood. After Mass on Thursdays at St Therese's Church, Fairfield West



Church Cleaners Tuesday 20 February -Ediths's Group

Parish Collections Week- Ending 11/02/2018 1st Collection \$1,476.35 goes to Fr. Jarek & Fr Wojtek as well as the upkeep of their Order of St Paul the First Hermit.

2nd Collection: Envelopes and/or Credit Card payments: \$2,296.50 and \$970.20 Loose Money.

Thank you for your generous support & May God Bless you all!

LENT

Lent lasts from Ash Wednesday to the Mass of the Lord's Supper exclusive (29th March). On Good Friday and, if possible, also on Holy Saturday until the Easter Vigil, the Easter fast is observed.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LENTEN PENANCE

- Abstinence from meat, and fasting, are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All who have completed their 18th year and have not yet begun their 60th year are bound to fast. All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- 2. On all other Fridays of the year including the Fridays of Lent, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following.
- (a) prayer for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a Church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the stations of the Cross; praying the Rosary.
- (b) (b) self denial for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened.

PASCHAL PRECEPT

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday unless for a good reason, it is done at another time during the year. All the faithful are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

Smithfield YOUTH MASS

Next Mass: Sunday 18 February at 6pm

Youth Program on 3rd Sunday of the month . 7pm - 8pm in the Montefano Hall. All Youth Welcome!

YOUTH PROGRAM: 18th FEBRUARY 2018

SUNDAY 25TH FEBRUARY ~ 10:30am Children's Mass with Blessing of School Bags.

Children (and their families) are warmly invited to attend Sunday Mass to have their school bags blessed as they begin the new school year. Followed by morning tea in the foyer. All welcome!

> Next Parish BBQ 10 March 2018. Everyone Welcome!

ALTAR SERVERS MEETING Tuesday 27 February 4.30 – 5.15pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS <u>St Benedict's Church</u> Every Friday at 7pm On the First Friday (2nd March) Mass & Adoration will follow the Stations of the Cross.

<u>St Therese's Church</u> Every Friday after the 7am Mass; & 7pm (Italian)

*



2018 LENTEN PROGRAM (Catholic Diocese of Wollongong) SURRENDER - Lenten Program and Daily Lent and Easter Reflections 2018 (Year B). For the first time, SURRENDER will also include short daily reflections (from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday) in addition to the longer-form Sunday Gospel reflections, spiritual direction, prayers and reflection questions that are traditionally part of the Lenten program for groups. Therefore, Surrender is also perfect for those that cannot

attend a Lenten group.

Limited copies available. Please contact the parish office on 9604 1199 to purchase your book and CD (optional) Books: \$9 / CD's: \$9

LENTEN GROUPS ~ EVERY THURSDAY

Started Thursday 15th February After the 9:15am Mass & 7pm In the Parish Office Meeting Room

PROJECT COMPASSION

Project Compassion Boxes are available at the Church Doors. As we are now in the holy season of Lent, may the concern of the Catholic community be one of love and compassion for all members of the human family. Guide us to act in solidarity with those most marginalised and vulnerable to injustice so together we can work for A Just Future for all. Amen

In Nepal, a Caritas supported program has helpd Janaki turn her life of poverty and disadvantage around. She is now running her own successful sewing business, training others and has become a role model in her community.

Pease donate to project Compassion 2018 and help our most vulnerable neighbours in Nepal to build a just future for their families and their communities.

Thursday 22 February ~ Feast

The Chair of St Peter, apostle

New sets of envelopes are available to pick up from ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH **this weekend** and next week end

at St Therese's Church Fairfield West. New envelope numbers were allocated to givers using

St Gertrude's Parish Fund Envelopes

envelopes between # 270 and 300. A letter advising you of your new number was sent. A list of old and new numbers will also be available if you have forgotten your number.

Any one wishing to use envelopes for St Gertrude's Parish Fund, please contact the parish office on 9604 1199 *Thank you for your support!*

YOUTH GROUP ~ MUSIC REHEARSALS

<u>Monday 26th February at 7.30pm</u> <u>for Group 2</u> (last Monday of the Month): Patricia, Thien, Mark, Maya, & Miranda

and

<u>Monday 12th March at 7.30pm</u> <u>for Group 1</u> (*Second Monday of the Month*): Haylee, Alex, Patricia, Samantha, Esther & Alister

CONFIRMATION

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered in our parish during Mass on **Sunday 17th June at 2 pm & 4 pm.**

Children in Year 6 to Year 12 who have received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion are eligible to enrol in the Confirmation Program. <u>Enrolments</u> will be accepted when <u>parents and children</u> participate in the enrolment ceremony during the Vigil and Sunday Masses on the weekends of **24/25 February or 3/4 March**. Relevant information and enrolment forms

will be distributed through the schools, on the Parish website and will be available at the entrances to the church next week. Enquiries Helena 9725 4317 (Tuesday or Friday) or email:

sacraments@stgertrude.org.au

Now Enrolling for 2019 & 2020 PATRICIAN BROTHERS' COLLEGE ~ OPEN DAY Sunday 11 March 2018 10am – 2pm

268 The Horsley Drive Fairfield NSW 2165 T 9728 4488 E <u>info@pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au</u> W wwwpbcfairfieldcatholicdue.au

MARY MACKILLOP CATHOLIC COLLEGE ~ OPEN EVENING Wednesday 21 March 2018 from 6.30pm – 8.30pm 5 Carnarvon Street, Wakeley NSW

T 9725 4322 W www.mmcwakeley.catholic.edu.au

In marriage, the joy of love needs to be cultivated (Pope Francis)

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Mark Malone J.P. Director

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