

INVITATION TO SUNDAY MORNING TEA



Each Sunday after the 8am Mass we host a morning tea. Please join us. Meet and talk to your fellow parishioners.

| ROSTER | Sat 4th March | Sun 5th March | Sat 11th March | Sun 12th March |
|-------------|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Welcomer | Beverley | Tyson | Warren | Christine |
| 1st Reader | Tom | Frank | Pat | Pat |
| 2nd Reader | Pilar | Catherine | Anne | Eris |
| Communion | Gerry Wayne | Con Graham | Judy Sue | Rebecca Graham |
| Servers | Thu Han Stazio | Sophie Nicholas Charlotte | Andrew Chet Andre | Byron Isaac Xavier |
| Musicians | Robyn | Rita | Robyn | Robyn |
| Singers | Janette | Choir | Janette | Men |
| Mass set up | Beverley Lou | Lita Rebecca | Gerry | Lita Rebecca |
| Morning Tea | | Perry | | Pastoral Council |
| Flowers | | | | |

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PARISH PRIEST
 Rev. Fr Lucius Edomobi
 Email: edomobil@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH MANAGER
 Antony Manjooran Sebastian

OFFICE HOURS
 8.30AM TO 2.30PM TUESDAY - FRIDAY

(FROM 28TH FEBRUARY 2023 TO 28TH MARCH 2023
 THE OFFICE HOURS WILL BE AS BELOW)
 TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY :
 8.30 TO 12.30

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER
 Ron Wroe 0455 433 335

PARISH SCHOOLS
 St Mary's Primary 41 215705
 St Mary's College 41 902200



**NEWSLETTER 5TH MARCH 2023
 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A**

OF YOU MY HEART HAS SPOKEN:
 SEEK HIS FACE. IT IS YOUR FACE, O LORD,
 THAT I SEEK; HIDE NOT YOUR FACE FROM ME.

In the Spirit of Lent.....

Twins, a sister and brother were talking to each other in the womb. The little sister said to the little brother, 'I believe that there is life after birth!' Her brother protested: 'No, no, this is all there is. This is a dark and cozy place and we have nothing else to do but to cling on to the cord that feeds us.' But the little girl insisted: 'There must be something more than this dark place, there must be something else where there is light and freedom to move.' Still she could not convince her twin brother. Then...after some silence, she said hesitantly: 'I have something else to say and I am afraid you won't believe that either but I think there is a mother!' Her brother now became furious: 'A mother, a mother, what are you talking about? I have never seen a mother and neither have you. Who put that idea in your head? As I told you, this place is all we have so let's be content.'

The little sister finally said: 'Don't you feel this pressure sometimes? It's really unpleasant and sometimes even painful.' 'Yes,' he answered, 'what's special about that?' 'Well,' the sister said, 'I think this pressure is there to get us ready for another place, much more beautiful than this, where we will see our mother face to face! Don't you think that's exciting!' In this story the twin brother did not believe there was anything beyond what he could see and hear and touch while his twin sister believed there was a life beyond what she could see and hear and touch. Like the girl in the womb who could not see her mother, we too believe that eternal life follows this life and that there is more to this life than we can see and hear and touch.

On the mountain Peter, James and John saw that there was more to Jesus than met the eye. During the transfiguration they got a glimpse of the future glory of Jesus' resurrection. Like them we too get glimpses of the presence of God in our lives. We get glimpses of God in the love we receive from other people. We get glimpses of God when badly needed help suddenly comes to us from nowhere. We get glimpses of God when we look back over our lives and what we couldn't understand in the past makes sense now. We see glimpses of God when we see someone making a sacrifice to help somebody else. We see glimpses of God in the beauty of a fine day, in a nice rose, flowers around us or a beautiful sunrise or sunset. We see glimpses of God when a passage from the Bible or a homily strikes a cord in our hearts. We get a glimpse of God when we spend time in prayer and experience the loving presence of God in our lives.

Dear Friends, we get more than just a glimpse of God when we receive the body of Jesus in Holy Communion. The Transfiguration coming early in Lent encourages us to continue our Lenten penances because it reminds us of the glory of Jesus risen from the dead. So, in the spirit of Lent, let us listen to God; let us go to the mountain to encounter and to behold his glory. Let us try it this Lent and be filled with the glory of his presence.

Peace be with you! Fr Lucius

This Week's Mass Schedule

| | | |
|------------|-------------|---------|
| 08/03/2023 | Wednesday | 08.00am |
| 09/03/2023 | Thursday | 12:00pm |
| 10/03/2023 | Friday | 08:30am |
| 11/03/2023 | Saturday | 06.00pm |
| 12/03/2023 | Sunday | |
| | Maryborough | 08.00am |
| | Tiaro | 10:00am |

**1st RITE OF RECONCILIATION
 EVERY SATURDAY 5 - 5.30pm**

**BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSIONS
 (Starting from Thursday April 20th). Third
 Thursday of every month, 5.30 to 6.30pm**

*Please Ensure Silence in
 The Church By
 Supporting Silent Prayer*

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Friday
 during Lent at 5:15 pm at St Mary's

READINGS

**2nd Sunday of Lent - Year A
 (p.168 in St Pauls Missal)**

- 1st - Genesis 12:1-4
- Psalm - 32 Resp. in hymns page
- 2nd - 2 Timothy 1:8-10
- Gospel Accl. in hymns page
- Gospel - Matthew 17:1-9

**Next weekend's: 3rd Sunday of
 Lent - Year A (p.171)**

- 1st - Exodus 17:3-7
- Psalm - 94
- 2nd - Romans 5:1-2,5-8
- Gospel - John 4:5-42

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 has a story.**

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It is almost 12 months since I retired from the Parish Secretary position. Retirement is great but I am happy to take the reins for four weeks while Antony takes a well-earned break from the busy routine of the parish office. I will do my best to keep up with the necessary tasks, the most challenging I expect will be compiling the Order of Mass for display on the screens which I had a quick lesson in. I apologise in advance for any errors. Please note that the office will only be open on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8.30 to 12.30 until Antony returns.

Some of you would already be aware that Fr George is due to return to India permanently in May this year and Fr Lucius has accepted a request from Fr George to celebrate the Masses here on the weekend 15/16 April which is the week after Easter. I thought it might be a good idea to put together an album with photos of parishioners as a keepsake. This could be done in three ways – email a current photo in JPEG format, call into the office on the days I will be working to have your photo taken or if you are unable to do either of these contact me and I will arrange to come to your home to take a photo. It would be a wonderful surprise to present the album to Fr George personally. The deadline for photos will be Friday 24th March so that there is enough time to have the album printed. If you have any queries, please phone me on 0439 947 472 or email me at the office.

Last week I had the opportunity to attend two of four 90 minute sessions with The Catholic Guy (Bruce Downes) in a mission style retreat which challenged the participants to reflect deeper into their spiritual lives by presenting ways to make the most of these days of Lent to restore and renew our relationship with God and with one another. Bruce has given hundreds of talks all across Australia and overseas and has written several books. I hope to share some of his words of wisdom in a down-to-earth way over the next few weeks. I recommend the daily video which anyone can access via his website The Catholic Guy/walking with God. According to Bruce, one of the simplest prayers we can offer during Lent is “Lord, increase our faith” *Mary Kirkpatrick*

CONGRATULATIONS GERRY: Following Gerry Donoghue’s installation as an Acolyte on Saturday 25th February, he conducted a liturgy on Wednesday morning in Fr Lucius’ absence. The role of such a person was described in detail in last weekend’s newsletter.

NEWSLETTER SPONSORSHIPS 2023: We are delighted to report that the businesses featured on the back are continuing with their financial support of the newsletter this year for which we offer our sincere gratitude. In return, we ask that you keep them in mind should the need arise for any of the services on offer.

CHORAL SOCIETY INVITE: Palm Sunday Songs Sunday 2nd April 2pm St Paul’s Anglican Church. More details next week.



WORKING BEE SATURDAY 1ST APRIL FROM 7AM

PALM SUNDAY AND EASTER TRIDUUM

A roster will be available from next weekend for you to add your name if you are willing to be a Minister of Word or Communion as per schedule.



PLEASE TAKE A SET OF ENVELOPES IF YOU ARE IN A POSITION TO ASSIST THE WORK OF CARITAS AUSTRALIA. THESE MAY BE THEN PLACED ON THE COLLECTION PLATE.

LENTEN REFLECTION FROM “FROM ASHES TO HOPE”

FOR REFLECTION: What resonates for you from the gospel or reflection? Am I like James and John, overcome by the experience of what God is inviting me into? Or am I like Peter? Where is God working in/transforming my life?

PRAYER FOR THE DAY: God of all hope, be with me as I pray that your presence fills me with awe and wonder and your word gives me an unshakable faith. Nourish me with your word and transform me so that I am your living witness and your hope in this world.



ENTRANCE: GLORY AND PRAISE TO YOU

Refrain:

*Glory and praise to our God,
Who alone gives light to our days.
Many are the blessings he bears
To those who trust in His ways.*

We the daughters and sons of Him
Who built the valleys and plains,
Praise the wonders our God has done
In every heart that sings. **R./**

In His wisdom He strengthens us,
Like gold that’s tested in fire.
Though the power of sin prevails
Our God is there to save. **R./**

Ev’ry moment of ev’ry day
Our God is waiting to save,
Always ready to seek the lost,
To answer those who pray. **R./**

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PSALM RESPONSE: (Read)

Lord, let your mercy be on us as we place our trust in you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus;
Praise and honour, Lord Jesus Christ.
From the shining cloud The Father's voice is heard:
This is my beloved Son, hear him.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus;
Praise and honour, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION: A TRUSTING PSALM

Refrain:

*Lord, let your mercy be on us
As we place our trust in you.*

The word of the Lord is faithfulness and love.
His love can never be measured.
His beauty is like nothing we have ever seen,
So let us place our trust in him.

The word of the Lord means a patient, gentle God.
His love can never grow weary.
His mercy is as though our sins have never been,
If we can place our trust in him.

The word of the Lord is fire burning strong.
His love can never grow weary.
He will seek and save the lost until we all return,
So let us place our trust in him.

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THANKSGIVING: ASHES

We rise again from ashes, from the good we’ve failed to do.
We rise again from ashes, to create ourselves anew.
If all our world is ashes, then must our lives be true,
An offering of ashes, an offering to you.

We offer you our failures, we offer you attempts,
The gifts not fully given, the dreams not fully dreamt.
Give our stumblings direction,
give our vision wider view,
An offering of ashes, an offering to you.

Then rise again from ashes, let healing come to pain,
Though spring has turned to winter and sunshine turned to rain.

The rain we’ll use for growing, and create the world anew
From an offering of ashes, an offering to you.

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RECESSIONAL: LORD, THE LIGHT OF YOUR LOVE

Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth You now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Refrain:

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
Fill this land with the Father’s glory;
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
Flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth Your Word, Lord, and let there be light.*

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,
From the shadows into Your radiance;
By the blood I may enter Your brightness,
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me. **R./**

Words and Music: G Kendrick
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Please remember in your prayers:

Those in ill health: Evelyn Keys, Peter Barry, Karl Guerin, Rita Sempf, Daryl Sempf, Carmel Bird, Paul Massingham, Patricia Thackeray, Gregory Massingham, David Brettell, Anna Pecar, Ame Cox and Laurel Dingle.

The Recently Deceased: Cyril Barbelier, Brian Berry, Jerome Parker, Aileen Manthey.

Anniversary of Death: Vic Sempf, Patricia Murray, Con, Jean & Brian Deere, Sally D’Cruz, Phan Dieu My.

Schedule for Lent and Holy Week 2023

The Second Rite of Reconciliation (Communal Celebration).
Sacred Heart, Tiaro: Sunday 26th March After 10 am Mass
St Mary’s: Wednesday 29th March 5.30 pm

| Mass Timings | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------|------------------------|
| Saturday 1 st April | Vigil for Passion | 6 pm | St Mary’s |
| Sunday 2 nd April | Passion Sunday | 8 am 10 am | St Mary’s Tiara |
| Thursday 6 th April | Lord’s Supper | 7 pm | St Mary’s |
| Friday 7 th April | Stations of the Cross Solemn Liturgy | 10 am 3 pm | St Mary’s St Mary’s |
| Saturday 8 th April | Holy Saturday Vigil | 6 pm | St Mary’s |
| Sunday 9 th April | Easter Sunday | 8 am 10 am | St Mary’s Tiara |

NOTE: Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday during Lent at 5.15pm at St Mary’s.