



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH

Second Sunday of Lent

Year B Cycle I

28 February 2021



Welcome Bishop Anthony!

This weekend we are privileged to have Bishop Anthony Randazzo visit our parish. Bishop Anthony will be celebrating the 5pm Vigil Mass on Saturday and the 9:30am Mass on Sunday. We are very pleased the Bishop has found time in his busy schedule to be present here with us. Now in his second year as our Bishop, it was on 7 October 2019 that Pope Francis appointed Most Rev Anthony Randazzo the fourth Bishop of Broken Bay. It has been a very challenging time in history as we have learnt to do things in new ways, under the guidance and leadership of Bishop Anthony. We know you will make him most welcome!

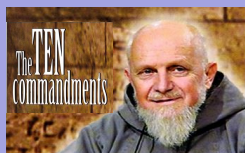
A Glimpse

The Liturgy of the second Sunday of Lent always focuses on the Transfiguration of the Lord. Jesus gave a glimpse of his divine glory to three of his apostles. Why did Jesus manifest his divine glory to them? The apostles were distressed when Jesus foretold them about his passion and death. The purpose of Jesus' Transfiguration was to encourage his apostles and to strengthen their faith in view of his upcoming passion. This experience had an enduring effect on the apostles. Many years later Peter declared that he was an eyewitness to his majesty (2 Pt 1:16-18) and John exclaimed that he had seen the glory of Jesus, glory as of the only Son from the Father (Jn 1:14).

Jesus gives strength and courage to those who follow him and he never lets them down. His strength sustains our struggles of life and his power complements what is lacking in our efforts. He never condemns us but gently leads us in the right path. Jesus "will not break the crushed reed, or snuff the faltering wick" (Mt 12:20). Christ is with his Church, and in spite of human failures and limitations, she enjoys the protection and assistance of her Lord. So the Church can continue her mission of redeeming humankind with courage and hope.

When Jesus manifested his glory to the apostles he asked them to look beyond the cross to his resurrection and glory. It was his passion and death in obedience to the father that really won him glory (Phil 2:8-9). The Cross is not the ultimate reality for Christians. It is the means through which they will participate in the glory of Christ. The hope of this glory gives meaning to our pains and struggles of life.

God's Word Fr Sebastian Ambattu SSP



Bible Café
The Ten Commandments
with Fr Benedict Groeschel
Wednesdays
10:30-11:30am
and 7-8pm in the Muldoon Room.



Lenten Adoration
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held on each Saturday of Lent in the Prayer Room, following 9am Mass and continuing through the day to Benediction at 4:30pm.



Nursing Home Mass
Mass and Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at Killarney Court Nursing Home Killarney Vale on Monday 1 March at 11am.

**“Quote”
for
the Week**

Faith is what gets you started. Hope is what keeps you going. Love is what brings you to the end.
Mother Angelica

The Invisible World

In his book, “Reaching for the Invisible God” the best-selling American Christian writer Philip Yancey sets out to explore what faith in God is really like for us in the nitty-gritty of daily life. Not how it should be, but how it is for most of us. The author asks some awkward and challenging questions. How do we relate to an invisible God? Where is God? Is God really interested in every little aspect of our life? What about the silences of God? Why is prayer so difficult? What about any doubts we might have? Yancey writes, “The invisible world may sometimes ‘borrow’ the visible world in an attempt to communicate, as with the burning bush that Moses saw with his physical eyes. Except in these unusual circumstances, we humans rely primarily on ‘means of grace’.” By this, Yancey is referring to the Church, the sacraments and spiritual disciplines. He reminds us that “We are creatures of sense and spirit and must live an amphibious life.” And we are called to live by faith.

When Jesus asked Peter, James and John to accompany him up the mountain, they might well have wondered why he wanted to make what must have been an arduous and perhaps even dangerous climb. But when Jesus underwent a mysterious transformation and, out of nowhere, Moses, the lawgiver, and Elijah, the greatest of the prophets, dramatically appeared, the world they could see and the invisible one they had only heard about spectacularly became one.

Theologians tell us that his meeting with Moses and Elijah was a confirmation that Jesus had chosen the right path. The growing opposition to him among the religious leaders left him in no doubt that he was heading for big trouble and, most likely, death. Like us, Jesus had to make decisions each day. Because he was fully human, he could have chosen the wrong way, giving in to temptation and taking the easy way out.

The voice from the cloud confirmed to Jesus that, despite upsetting the religious establishment, he was indeed acting in accordance with God’s will. The words they heard, “This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him,” echoed those that Jesus heard at his baptism, which signaled the start of his mission on earth.

What happened on top of the mountain also tells us something about the disciples. Given that Peter, James and John were given this glimpse into the other world, you would think that their attitudes and faith would have been transformed. Their questions about Jesus had been answered. But far from it. When they returned to their everyday lives in Galilee they quickly forgot what they had seen. Instead they became involved in arguments with both the scribes and each other, and they still failed to grasp the teaching of Jesus. Ultimately, the disciples went on to abandon Jesus and, in the case of Peter, deny even knowing him.

When we feel God is far from us, it can be tempting to go in search of signs and wonders, or religious experiences. We crave certainty instead of our sometimes shaky faith. We think that if only we could have proof, then we could really live the life that God calls us to. It’s the same sort of feeling that Peter expressed on the mountain top when he suggested that they “make tents” - that they try to find a way to hold on to that glorious moment of clarity and transfiguration and live in it always.

But as the subsequent experience of Peter, James and John shows us, faith is not about a mountain-top experience but rather the ordinariness of daily life on the ground: caring for a demanding child, not being valued in our job, struggling to pay bills, a failed relationship, loneliness, coming to terms with illness. As St Therese of Lisieux and many saints tell us, it’s in these everyday situations that God speaks to us. We are called to listen to what God is saying to us. This isn’t always easy, but if we spend time in prayer God will find a way into our lives and we will learn to live by faith.

The Living Word Redemptorist Publications

Pilgrims

What does the Transfiguration event mean? Thomas Aquinas devotes an entire question in the third part of the “Summa Theologiae” considering the Transfiguration, and his treatment sums up much of the wisdom of the Church Fathers.

Aquinas says that it was fitting for Christ to be manifested in his glory to his select Apostles, because those who walk an arduous path need a clear sense of the goal of their journey. The arduous path that Thomas speaks of is this life, with all of its attendant sufferings, failures, setbacks, disappointments, anxieties and injustices. Beset by all of this negativity, a pilgrim on life’s way can easily succumb to despair unless he is granted a glimpse of the glory that comes at the end of his striving. And this is why, Aquinas argues, Jesus, while on his way to the cross, for a brief moment allows the light to shine through him. This is why he permits the end of the journey to appear, however fleetingly, in the midst of the journey. Though we live and move within the confines of this world of space and time, we are not meant, finally, for this dimensional system; we are summoned to life on high with God, in a transformed state of existence. The Transfiguration, therefore, awakens our sense of wonder and steels our courage to face the darkness here below.

The Word on Fire Bible (Excerpt from 'The Strange Light') Bishop Robert Barron

Alone with God

The contemplatives and ascetics of all ages and religions have sought God in the silence and solitude of the desert, forest and mountain. Jesus himself spent forty days in the desert and the mountains, communing for long hours with the Father in the silence of the night.

We too are called to withdraw at certain intervals into deeper silence and aloneness with God, together as a community as well as personally. To be alone with him, not with our books, thoughts and memories, but completely stripped of everything, to dwell lovingly in his presence - silent, empty, expectant and motionless.

We cannot find God in noise or agitation. Nature: trees, flowers and grass grow in silence. The stars, the moon and the sun move in silence. What is essential is not what we say but what God tells us and what he tells others through us. In silence he listens to us; in silence he speaks to our souls. In silence we are granted the privilege of listening to his voice.

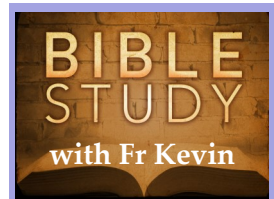
No Greater Love Mother Teresa

Covid-Safe Practices Update

The Church restrictions have lifted to 300 people. No congregational singing is allowed. As a condition of entry into the Church and buildings, attendees must use the QR code (preferred) or sign the booking sheet at the doors (please write clearly), use hand sanitiser provided and keep social distance in the pews, while processing to Communion and when leaving the Church. Do not congregate outside. Please be sure to sit in the designated seating spots. Families from the same household may sit together. If you have cold/flu symptoms please do not enter the premises, and contact your doctor.



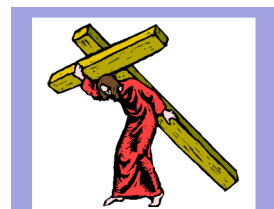
We have installed 4 new contactless tap devices for 1st & 2nd Collections. It is a convenient and safe way to donate. Just tap once to donate \$10 (wait a few minutes if you wish to tap again) or use the collection boxes provided. Thank you!



Join Fr Kevin for a short Bible Study of the next Sunday’s Gospel. Tuesdays 9:30am Muldoon Room. All welcome!



The Light is On
Our Church is Open Fridays in Lent 7-8pm
Spend some quiet time with God, with the Sacrament of Reconciliation available. You are very welcome!



Stations of the Cross
are held throughout Lent on Fridays after the 11:45am Mass.



Project Compassion
Please collect a Project Compassion box or make a donation directly online at: lent.caritas.org.au

THE ENTRANCE PARISH DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

Serving the Catholic Community of The Entrance and extending the Kingdom of God

PARISH PRIEST & DEAN Fr William Stevens **ASSISTANT PRIEST** Fr Vincent Varghese VC

DEACON Dcn Paul Simmons **SACRAMENTAL COORDINATOR** Br John Verhoeven FSP

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OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PRIMARY SCHOOL **Tel** 4332 5594 **ST PETER'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE** **Tel** 4351 2344

Mass & Devotions in Ordinary Time

Sunday Masses Saturday Vigil 5:00pm Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am

Weekday Masses Monday - Thursday 9:00am Friday 11:45am Saturday 9:00am

Reconciliations Saturdays 9:30-10am & 4-4:30pm

Liturgy of the Hours Saturday 8:40am **Rosary** Monday-Thursday 8:35am Friday 11:20am Saturday 9:30am

Cenacle Wednesday 9:30am

2nd Sunday of Lent

Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

Romans 8:31-34

Mark 9:2-10

Entrance Antiphon: Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek: hide not your face from me.

Responsorial Psalm: I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

Keep Us In Your Prayers *There is no gift more precious than prayer - Fr Benedict Groeschel*

Recently Deceased: Bishop Bede Heather, Joyce Fitzgerald, Sr Jeanette Bubb, Br Mark Ryan, Raymond Wales, Nada Payne, Monika Barr

Funeral: The funeral for Raymond Wales will be here on Wednesday. Please pray for Raymond and his family.

Anniversaries: Isabelle Woodlands.

Remembrances: Pat Smith, Marie Powell, Jill & Mark O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Rita Malone, Mervyn O'Sullivan, Bernadette O'Neill & all the Holy Souls.

Families: Pannell, O'Sullivan.

Sick: Peter Hurley, Denise Kennedy, Julie Kozak, Betty Lamont, L McKellar, Leo Lowe, Delma & Michael Clarke, Pauline Fowler, Abigail Holt, Leo O'Meara, Peter O'Grady, Linda Read, Antoinette Grech, Margaret Pizzuto, Tanya Doorn, David Drinan, Chris Morley, Kelly Will and all those suffering from Covid 19 and long term illnesses..

Baptisms: Remi Pont, Tamara & Axel Campano, Oliver Johnston.

Pearly Gates Revisited



Our Lady of the Rosary

GIFT CENTRE

For all your devotional needs...

We are Open!

The Gift Centre is open each weekend before and after the 5pm Saturday and 9:30am Sunday Masses.

You will find us in the foyer of the Church.

For any enquiries or purchases during the week please call the parish office on

4332 2216