



THE SAVING WORD

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT / B

18 FEBRUARY 2024

FIRST READING

Gen 9: 8-15

A reading from the book of Genesis.

I will recall the covenant between myself and you ... the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 24: 4-9. R. cf. 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 Pet 3: 18-22

A reading from the first letter of St Peter.

The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

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.



OUR LADY of MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN

1st Sunday Lent - 18 February 2024 - Year B

OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL PARISH HILTON

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OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

9am – 3pm

Thursday

9am – 12.30pm

MINISTRY TEAM

Parish Secretary: Tereza Camacho

Safeguarding Officer:

Brigette Liddelow 0432 908 980

Avila Retirement Village Secretary:

Judy Rowlands 0448 205 283

OLMC Primary School Principal:

Jayson Peacock 9269 2000

Seton Catholic College Website:

<http://www.seton.wa.edu.au/olmc-parish>

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

2024 SACRAMENTAL DATES:

Reconciliation (Year 3)

Wednesday 27-3-24 from 3pm

Eucharist (Year 4)

Sunday 9-6-24 at 9am

Confirmation (Year 6)

Saturday 24-8-24 at 6pm.

HOLY TRINITY CHARISMATIC PRAYER

GROUP: Monday night's 7-9pm. All welcome.

2024 PROJECT COMPASSION PRAYER:

God of all hope, we pray for our world with all its beauty and need. We thank you for the love in our lives that is a mirror of your unending love. May all creation know your compassion this Lent and may we take courage to share it, especially with those who don't have what they need. In our time, we hear the same words you spoke to Moses: 'I will be with you,' when you ask us to do courageous things. Through our prayer, fasting and almsgiving, move us to act in the company of your Spirit, showing compassion and acting for justice to renew the face of the Earth, now and for all future generations. We ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.

REFLECTION: First Sunday of Lent.

In the gospel we hear today of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness. St Mark sums up his account in three short verses. Following his Baptism, Jesus is "driven" into the wilderness. We often hear of people "driven" by ambition, lust, desperation. But what "drives"

Jesus is the Holy Spirit. Jesus is thrown into the world we are thrown into. In time God gives us after our Baptism (40 days, 40 months, 40 years), we have to struggle with two realities. We have been named sons and daughters of God, but we are also part of a sinful humanity! Like Jesus, we too will struggle both with angels and with wild beasts. In his 40-day experience in the desert, Jesus acts out in person Israel's experiences in the 40 years it took to reach the promised Land following the rescue from Egypt. Jesus' temptations did not end with the 40 days. St Luke makes it quite clear that Satan was frustrated by Jesus' rejection of him, and he promises to return. He returns finally at Calvary and puts on the lips of the crowd what is often in our hearts: "Come down from the cross". In other words, "Do what we want, and we will believe in you." It is probably the ultimate temptation. The three temptations Jesus underwent are temptations basic to any human. There was, first of all, the temptations to materialism – to deny the spiritual dimensions of our lives. Secondly, the temptation to power – it had made Israel forget that she was God's chosen people. She had wanted to be a nation like other nations and indeed, to dominate the rest. Thirdly, there was the doubt which had made Israel lose trust in the goodness of God. Our temptations are not ours once we have been rescued in Baptism. Like Jesus, we will be constantly tossed into the wilderness of struggle and grace, of success and failure. We need this Lenten retreat to discover afresh God's goodness, that his love for us remains even in and above all the adversity around us "Lead us not into

temptation", we pray each day in the 'Our Father' – the temptation to think that he has abandoned us. It is not without good reason that faith is symbolised by an anchor.

RESIDENCY IN THE PRESBYTERY



UPDATE: Parishioners, I wish to inform those projects such as the Maintenance to the Presbytery, where the expenditure exceeds \$50,000 requires submission to and approval by the Archbishop. An application for expenditure from the Parish involves provision of a brief which includes two or three builders' quotes, tradespersons or suppliers and showing of the source of finance to meet the costing and that the Parish is capable to meet the cost or the debt. Because of the urgency of the matter and to comply to Safeguarding guidelines, the Archbishop's Office granted permission for the project. In lieu of the Parish calling for builder - tenders etc. the church Authority offered the assistance for its own Property / Maintenance Office in so much as provide costings. The Property Office draws from their own panel of trades persons to undertake the extensive maintenance of church property. These costings were closely scrutinised by the attendees at the Parish Council meeting. The costings were found to be "on par" to that which would be on the market. It was unanimously passed that the Parish accept the quote. The decision was conveyed to the Church Office and approval was granted. Work is scheduled to begin in the pursuing weeks. So please take care and keep a distance to the grounds around the church and presbytery. In the interim the Priest and Parish Secretary will be relocated to the



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Parish Meeting Room. Keeping you informed. Fr. Michael.

 <p>BOWRA & O'DEA FUNERAL DIRECTORS Because the little things are everything. 312 South Street, Hilton 9239 7744 or www.bowraodea.com.au</p>	 <p>SUSIE LOMBARDI 24 HOURS - 1300 779 093 E: remembrance.susie@outlook.com www.remembrancefunerals.com.au</p>	<p>RICH HARVEST PTY LTD Religious Products Mon to Fri 10.30am – 6pm Sat 10.30am – 3pm 39 Hulme Court, Myaree 9329 9889 or www.rich7harvest.com.au</p>
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MASS TIMES WEEKENDS: Saturday Vigil 6pm, Sunday 7.30am & 9am.
MASS TIMES WEEKDAYS – FEBRUARY: Tuesday 9am, Wednesday 9am & Friday 9am.
RECONCILIATION - Saturday's during FEBRUARY: 5.15-5.45pm or by appointment.
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Wednesday 5.30 – 6.30pm & Friday 9.30 – 10.30am.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES: Please note weekday Mass Time changes for the month of February as follows – Tuesday-Wednesday-Friday Mass at 9am. Thursday & Saturday NO 9am Mass.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS: Christine Rhow, Veronica, Maria, Consiglia Ciavatta, Irwin Beachell, Isabella Da Cunha, Martin, Norma Elliott, Rudi Tassell, Steven, Davina, Elisabetta Paddon, Dermot McKernon, Edward Fortune, Beatrice Fernandez, Lisa Bubb, Romilda Marinelli, Aaron LoCicero, Jacqueline Paul, Lou Collova, Edward Forster, Anne & Justine Tonti, Greenville Paul, Christine Schwarten Henry, Fr Joseph Angelo, Fr Anibal Da Cunha, Peter Scanlan, June McGinnity.

RETURNED TO THE FATHER: Fr Wayne Davis (RIP), served at Spearwood Parish amongst others in the Archdiocese. Funeral Mass for Fr Wayne will be celebrated on Wednesday 21 February 2024 at St Mary's Cathedral, 41 Victoria Square, Perth commencing at 2pm.

SR ELISABETH DMYTRYK (RSJ): As a Josephite religious Sr Lis served in many

ways. One role included as an administrator, caretaker at St Francis Xavier Seminary, Adelaide, where many of our current Parish Priests of this diocese attended. Sr Lis will be fondly remembered for her living faith, her generosity and care of those who were entrusted in her care. Our sincere condolences and prayers to her fellow Josephites and family. Sr Lis' funeral was celebrated on what would have been her 50th anniversary of her religious profession (2 February 2024) at Kensington. May she rest in peace.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2024: Parents of children who attend our Parish School, Our Lady of Mount Carmel and who discern that their child receive either the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Eucharist or Confirmation **your written Expression of Interest of having your child wishing to participate in the formation for a sacrament will be received at the Mass on Saturday 6pm on 17 February 2024.** Please note **No Expression of Interest forms will be accepted by proxy. At this time, attendance of the Parent Sacramental Formation is Mandatory.** We as a Parish and Parish School support the Archbishop's Mandate on the receiving of Sacraments.

FIRST SUNDAY LENT 17 & 18 February 2024: This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women: Ronita from the Philippines, Leaia from Samoa and Memory from Malawi. While from three different corners of the world and facing vastly different challenges, they are all united

by one dream: to create a better world for all future generations. Please donate to Project Compassion through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

PREGNANCY ASSISTANCE: Invite you to the Day of the Unborn Child Mass which will be celebrated by Bishop Don Sproxtton on Saturday 9 March at 10am at St Mary's Cathedral. For more information, please call Carmel or Lisette on 9328 2929.

MASS INTENTIONS

1st Sunday Lent - 18 February

6pm Mass: Community Sacramental Enrolment (All Sacraments), Sebastiano Rafala (Ann) & Vincenzo Rafala (Ann)

7.30am Mass: Andrew De Souza (RIP)

9am Mass: Dianne De Olival (RIP) & Maria Da Silva (RIP), Kathleen Martin (RIP), Holy Father Honour, Jose Fliorencio Garces Vieira (RIP)

Tuesday 20 February

9am Mass: Patricia Winship (RIP)

Wednesday 21 February

9am Mass: Patricia Winship (RIP)

Thursday 22 February

NO 9am MASS

Friday 23 February

9am Mass: Sacred Heart of Jesus & Immaculate Heart of Mary Honour, Vincenzo & Italia (RIP)

Saturday 24 February

NO 9am MASS

2nd Sunday Lent - 25 February



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6pm Mass: Lavino Panizza (Ann)

7.30am Mass: Andrew De Souza (RIP)

9am Mass: William Edwards (Ann),

Dorita Martin (3rd Ann), Holy Trinity

Honour



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.

He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

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.**



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Breaking Open the Word

LENT: SPRINGTIME FOR ALL GOD'S CREATION

In the southern hemisphere we miss the signs of nature linked in the northern hemisphere to Lent, namely the coming of spring. The word "Lent," is derived from the Old English "lencrten" meaning spring. This poses a challenge for us in Australia's autumn, as we seek to unfold the springtime in our soul. In our scriptural journey into Lent, we are greeted with the sign of God's covenant with Noah: a rainbow. This covenant is not just with Noah and all descendants but with every living creature, everything that lives on the earth. A rainbow may well grace our southern skies in autumn, enabling us to experience ourselves in the embrace of God's covenant with the whole ecological world in which we live.

In the Gospel, the Spirit drives Jesus into the wilderness for forty days along with the wild beasts. Satan the tempter, and the angels who minister to Jesus. These ministering angels, like the rainbow, are a sign of God's ever-presence. As Jesus emerges from his forty days, we hear him begin his ministry in Galilee with "the time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God has come near." Evocatively we have entered our forty days of Lent in a wilderness of ecological crisis. Unseasonal extremes of temperature, floods, fires and all manner of tempests call for us to take heed of the earth in which we dwell. In this time, we can reflect, ecologically and spiritually, to change our hearts and believe the Good News, knowing well God's promise through the rainbow and through the gift of his son.

Dr Rosemary Canavan