



# THE SAVING WORD

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT / C

9 MARCH 2025

## FIRST READING

Deut 26: 4-10

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

*The confession of faith of the elect.*

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

"My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESP PSALM

Ps 90: 1-2, 10-15. R. v. 15

**R.** Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

1. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High / and abides in the shade of the Almighty / says to the Lord: 'My refuge, / my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!' **R.**

2. Upon you no evil shall fall, / no plague approach where you dwell. / For you has he commanded his angels, / to keep you in all your ways. **R.**

3. They shall bear you upon their hands / lest you strike your foot against a stone. / On the lion and the viper you will tread / and trample the young lion and the dragon. **R.**



4. His love he set on me, so I will rescue him; / protect him for he knows my name. / When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.' / I will save him in distress and give him glory. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Rom 10: 8-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*The confession of faith of the believers in Christ.*

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

■ The word of the Lord.

## 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!



## OUR LADY of MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Lent - 9 March 2025 - Year C

### OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL PARISH HILTON

**Parish Priest:** Fr Michael Separovich

**Address:** 82 Collick Street, Hilton, WA, 6163

**Phone:** (08) 9314 7733

**Email:** [sec.hilton@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:sec.hilton@perthcatholic.org.au)

**Web:** <http://www.olmchilton.org.au/parish-bulletin/>

### 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

**OLMC Primary School RE:** Tracey Marsden

**Seton Catholic College Website:**

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

**REFLECTION: John XIII – Especially for You.** There is a true story which I read in the newspaper archives when I was studying. It covered the visit of Pope John XIII to the local Roman jail. The Pope went in there and this was big time because in those days gone by the Pope did not leave his little enclave. There he was, the prisoners all gathered around him behind bars, the guards behind them. That beautiful Pope wanted to talk to them. He talked to them about the love that God had for them. He talked to them about the love of friends, wives, children that were waiting for them. He talked about the love that they hadn't yet known that was waiting for them and encouraged them to get going with their life right now. Let it be the foundation stone, proclaiming the good things that were waiting for them. Then he blessed them and then made his way out of the room. Just as he did that all hell broke loose. One of the prisoners jumped up and down and screamed out, "Holy Father, Holy Father" and the guards as you can image were trying to smack him down. The Pope said, "No, no, no! Bring him here. That poor man came to the bars and hung onto them and with tears streaming down his face, said, "Holy Father, I am a rapist and murderer and a thief. All these things you just said did you mean them for me too?" That beautiful Pope put his gentle puggy pleasant hands through the

bars and held the beaten face and simply said to him, "My son I meant those words especially for you today and in the time to come. May you too know a pair of loving hands that hold your face and assure you that message of forgiveness and a new start in life that is meant especially for you."

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – 8-9 March 2025:** Project Compassion 2025 shares three stories from around the world. We'll meet **Toefuata'iga** (Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah) from Samoa, **Lam** from Vietnam and **Irene** from Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Each of this year's stories reflects diverse challenges, yet they are united by the shared determination to overcome adversity and create better futures for themselves and their communities. **Please donate today.** You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above. Or online at [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413. Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty* this Lent.

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:** Jesus you are the Good Shepherd who is always mindful of your Church. Watch over those who are Baptised in your name and grant peace and harmony to all families. We ask you to choose from the families of our Parish many priests, deacons,

sisters and brothers who will gladly spend their lives making you known and loved. Amen.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS:** Christine Rhow, Maria, Consiglia Ciavatta, Irwin Beachell, Isabella Da Cunha, Norma Elliott, Rudi Tassell, Steven, Davina, Elisabetta Paddon, Edward Fortune, Beatrice Fernandez, Lisa Bubb, Romilda Marinelli, Aaron LoCicero, Jacqueline Paul, Lou Collova, Christine Schwarten Henry, Fr Joseph Angelo, Fr Anibal Da Cunha, Peter Scanlan, June McGinnity, John Brackovich, Alison, Sofia, Rebecca, Fr Francis Sundararajan, Fr Greg Carroll, Bill Watkins, Daniel DiMarco, Joshua Oorschot, Fr John Piumatti, Mila Hogan, Mara Ravlich, Fr Vittorio Ricciardi, Lloyd Smith, Tegan Colgan, Patrick O'Brien, Archbishop Emeritus Barry Hickey, Fr Jean Fernandez, Fr Benedict Quadros, Fr John Hogan, Alessia Saraceni, Anthony Lopez, Fr Richard Rutkauskas, Fr Peter Meo, Dennis Woodcock, Giuseppe Cappiello, Vincent Cappiello, Rhonda McGinnity, Teresa Berlinger.



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<b>RICH HARVEST</b> Religious Products Mon to Fri 10.30am – 6pm Sat 10.30am – 3pm 39 Hulme Court, Myaree 9329 9889 or <a href="http://www.rich7harvest.com.au">www.rich7harvest.com.au</a>	<b>ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY</b> Meet every Monday, except for public holidays, between 7 to 8pm in the first meeting room to the left of the Church. New members are always welcome. Please contact Ian (President) on 0428 121 152 for more information.	<b>BOWRA &amp; O’DEA FUNERAL DIRECTORS</b> Because the little things are everything. 312 South Street, Hilton 9239 7744 or <a href="http://www.bowraodea.com.au">www.bowraodea.com.au</a>

<b>MASS</b>	<b>TIMES</b>	<b>WEEKENDS:</b>
Saturday	Vigil	6pm, Sunday 7.30am & 9am.
<b>MASS TIMES WEEKDAYS:</b> Tuesday 9am, Wednesday 9am, Thursday 9am, Friday 9am & Saturday 9am.		
<b>RECONCILIATION - Saturday's:</b> 9.30-10am and 5.15-5.45pm or by appointment.		
<b>EUCCHARISTIC</b>	<b>ADORATION:</b>	
Wednesday	5.30 – 6.30pm & Friday 9.30 – 10.30am.	

**HOLY TRINITY CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP:** Monday night's 7-9pm except during school holidays and public holidays.

**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.

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2025**  
 We are reminded that the Sacraments are a gift to us from God. We meet God in each of the Sacraments. They assist us in our spiritual relationship with God and others. These are gifts from on High. That is why we must prepare well to receive them because God is calling us and talking to us.

#### Reconciliation

1. Parent Workshop: Tuesday 11-3-25 at 6pm
2. Parent / Child Workshop: Tuesday 18-3-25 at 6pm
3. The Sacrament by Appointment: Tuesday 1-4-25 from 3.15 to 4.15pm
4. Wednesday 2-4-25 from 3.15 to 6pm

#### First Eucharist

1. Presentation of Candidates: Saturday 3-5-24 at 6pm
2. Parent Workshop: Wednesday 7-5-25 at 6pm
3. Parent / Child Workshop: Wednesday 14-5-25 at 6pm
4. 1st Eucharist by Appointment: Saturday 14-6-25 at 6pm
5. Sunday 15-6-25 at 9am
6. Saturday 21-6-25 at 6pm
7. Sunday 22-6-25 at 9am

#### Confirmation

1. Presentation of Candidates: Saturday 26-7-25 at 6pm
2. Parent Workshop: Wednesday 6-8-25 at 6pm
3. Parent / Child Workshop: Wednesday 20-8-25 at 6pm
4. Sacrament of Confirmation: Saturday 13-9-25 at 4pm

**PARENT / S and CANDIDATES MUST ATTEND to fulfil the Formation Process.**

#### SACRAMENTAL BOOKS AVAILABLE:

Those children of our Parish School who are preparing for the Sacrament of Penance, the Candidate Parent, Family Workbook is available to purchase from the Parish Temporary Office situated near the kindergarten play area and the back of the Parish House during normal Parish Office Hours for \$10 each book.

#### MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday 8 March to Friday 14 March 2025**

##### Saturday 8 March

**9am Mass:** Isabel Dias & Catarina Xavier (Intentions)

**6pm Mass:** Edward & Patricia Fortune (Thanksgiving 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary)

##### Sunday 9 March

**7.30am Mass:** For the People

**9am Mass:** Intention of Donor

##### Tuesday 11 March

**9am Mass:** Intention of Donor

##### Wednesday 12 March

**NO 9am Mass**

##### Funeral

##### Thursday 13 March

**9am Mass:** Holy Souls

##### Friday 14 March

**9am Mass:** Intention of Donor

**SECOND RITE RECONCILIATION:** As we are in the season of Lent, Mater Christi Catholic Church, 340 Yangebup Road, Yangebup will be holding Second Rite of Reconciliation on Wednesday 9 April 2025 at 7pm.



**GOSPEL**

Lk 4: 1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness where he was tempted.*

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.'

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him. 'Scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God', he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says:

He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again:

They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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# Breaking Open the Word

## FIDELITY TESTED

Today we begin our journey through Lent, the liturgical season leading to the holiest week of the Church's year and Easter. We begin with Luke's story of Jesus' temptation initiated by the Holy Spirit. Jesus is in the wilderness, the place of solitude, the place of 'no place'. Jesus is here for forty days, alone with God.

The scene is reminiscent of Israel's 40-year wilderness sojourn in which its own covenant fidelity to God is tested. The parallel between Israel and Jesus is unmistakable. Moreso, given the three encounters with Satan that Jesus has. Each is found in Deuteronomy in which Israel fails in its covenantal loyalty and trust in God. By contrast, Jesus is not seduced by food, power or status. He remains loyal to God despite Satan's best efforts to seduce, tempt and manipulate Scripture to woo him into reconfiguring his loyalty away from God.

Satan was originally a member of the heavenly court (as, for example, in the Book of Job) whose principal task was to test the loyalty of God's people. Later, under the influence of Near Eastern myths and traditions about winged beings separate from and warring against the gods, Gospel writers have Satan take on a more sinister mission—to tempt people away from God. Jesus is Satan's focus here and, though he leaves the scene completely disempowered by Jesus' commitment to God, will return at the time of Jesus' passion and death. Lent becomes our time to be with Jesus, to enter our Lenten wilderness, to identify what seduces and draws us away from God.

Fr Michael Trainor