



THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT / C

23 MARCH 2025

FIRST READING

Ex 3: 1-8, 13-15

A reading from the book of Exodus

*This is what you must say to the children of Israel:
I Am has sent me to you.*

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am' he answered. 'Come no nearer' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 102: 1-4, 6-8, 11. R. v. 8

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, / all my being, bless his holy name. / My soul, give thanks to the Lord / and never forget all his blessings. **R.**

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, / who heals every one of your ills, / who redeems your life from the grave, / who crowns you with love and compassion. **R.**

3. The Lord does deeds of justice, / gives judgement for all who are oppressed. / He made known his ways to Moses / and his deeds to Israel's sons. **R.**

4. The Lord is compassion and love, / slow to anger and rich in mercy. / For as the heavens are high above the earth / so strong is his love for those who fear him. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Cor 10: 1-6, 10-12

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.

I want to remind you, brothers, how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer.

All this happened to them as a warning and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

■ The word of the Lord.



OUR LADY of MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN

3rd Sunday Lent - 23 March 2025 - Year C

OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL PARISH HILTON

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Separovich

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Phone: (08) 9314 7733

Email: 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: Tell him to come home. There is a beautiful story I heard from the Jewish tradition. It is a story of the king whose son really did everything he possibly could to disinherit himself. He took off. Not dissimilar to the parable of the Forgiving Father – The Prodigal Son and maybe that’s where Jesus got the story from. I don’t know but let’s continue. So, this king’s son went off and of course he missed him terribly. He sent word to the son telling him to ‘come back home’, that it will be alright ‘come home’. But the son was so ashamed he sent back a message to say, ‘I can’t’. So, the king sent another message telling him to ‘come back home. It’s alright, just come home’. But again, the son was still too ashamed to face his father, and he sent back the message ‘I can’t!’ The king sent a third lot of messages and this time he said ‘Tell him to come as far as he can and I’ll meet him.’ I think that is such a beautiful image of how God is with you and me. We let ourselves down at times, don’t we? We do things that we have wished we had never done. How many times have you and I hoped that there be a new start for us around the corner, but we have been too ashamed to lift up our heads even to look at ourselves. And yet you and I are tied up with that wonderful God who will come to get us. All we have to do is to lift our hearts and say, ‘I am sorry’. Lift up our heart and say ‘Father I want

to come home’. We don’t even have to say anything, we just lift up our heart and look at him and the message is the same. ‘I’ll be right there to pick you up’. Oh, what a wonderful start that is. We hadn’t had to do a thing except lift our heart to him.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – 22-23

March 2025: Lam is 27 years old from a small village in rural Vietnam who faced significant challenges due to his short stature. Through the I-SHINE program Lam completed a six-month course developing his graphic design skills. He now runs a successful freelance graphic design business from home, serving clients worldwide and earning a steady income. **Please donate today.** You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes, by calling 1800 024 413 or online at caritas.org.au/project-compassion. Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty* this Lent.

PROJECT COMPASSION

ENVELOPES: Please support Project Compassion by taking Project Compassion Envelopes from the foyer table.

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, Elisabetta Paddon, Edward Fortune, Beatrice Fernandez, Lisa Bubb, Romilda Marinelli, Aaron LoCicero, Lou Collova, Christine Schwarten Henry, Fr Joseph Angelo, Fr Anibal Da Cunha, Peter Scanlan, 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 Berlingeri, Carmelina Valenti, Reta White.



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ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

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.

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Because the little things are
everything.
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MASS TIMES WEEKENDS:

Saturday Vigil 6pm, Sunday
7.30am & 9am.

MASS TIMES WEEKDAYS:

Tuesday 9am, Wednesday 9am, Thursday
9am, Friday 9am & Saturday 9am.

RECONCILIATION - Saturday's:

9.30-10am and 5.15-5.45pm or by
appointment.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

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:

My eyes are
always on the Lord, for he rescues
my feet from the snare. Turn to me
and have mercy on me, for I am
alone and poor.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

The
sparrow finds a home, and the
swallow a nest for her young: by your
altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and
my God. Blessed are they who dwell
in your house, forever singing your
praise.

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. The Sacrament by Appointment:
Tuesday 1-4-25 from 3.15 to
4.15pm
2. 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 22 March to Friday 28
March 2025**

Saturday 22 March

9am Mass: Intention of Donor
6pm Mass: Giovina D'Alessandro
(RIP)

Sunday 23 March

7.30am Mass: For the People
9am Mass: Francesca Day (RIP)

Tuesday 25 March

8am Mass: Margarita Cucevic (RIP)

Wednesday 26 March

NO Mass: FUNERAL MASS

Thursday 27 March

8am Mass: Nina & Angelo Bertone
(RIP)

Friday 28 March

9am Mass: Anna Jurica (RIP
Anniversary)

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGES to MASS
TIMES**

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 ACCLAMATION

Mt 4: 17

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Lk 13: 1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word

A CHANGE OF HEART

Last week our Lenten focus was on prayer. This Sunday is about conversion and a change of heart. In the first part of today's reading, Jesus reminds his audience that suffering or persecution is not the result of guilt or sin. Terrible events remind us to have a spirit of repentance. "Repentance" is more of an openness of heart and mind to God, the essential and primary quality of a disciple, and less the codified legalistic need to address one's infringement of ethical or moral standards.

The second part of today's Gospel moves in an ecological direction. Repentance implies ecological conversion. The parable of the fig tree and its owner highlights the attitude of its owner to what is grown on his property. He sees the tree as unproductive and therefore unable to provide a cash return. The owner is greedy. Earth's gift, the tree, is seen as a commodity whose lack of fruitfulness means for the landowner that it is to be "cut down" because it is "taking up the ground" (literally in the Greek, "using up Earth").

What appears as ecological sensitivity is rather an economic or materialistic agenda. But the one who cares for the Earth and the tree, its gardener, offers a more viable and environmental friendlier solution. Leave the tree, offer it fertiliser, and it may bear fruit in the future. He pleads for patience for Earth's fruitfulness. This is instructive for contemporary disciples: tender horticultural practice that cares for Earth is preferred to pragmatic, utilitarian destruction.



Fr Michael Trainor