



St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

One Family

5 William Hovell Drv, Endeavour Hills, Vic 3802
T. 9700 3781 / F. 9700 6228
office@stpaulapostle.com.au
www.stpaulapostle.com.au



First Sunday of LENT Year B, 17th—18th February, 2018

This Week

SUNDAY 18th Feb
9am, 11am, 6pm Mass
Baptism Prep at 3.45pm

MONDAY 19th Feb
8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass

TUESDAY 20th Feb
8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass

WEDNESDAY 21st Feb
6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass

THURSDAY 22nd Feb
8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass

FRIDAY 23rd Feb
8.30am Rosary
9am Mass
9.30am Divine Mercy

SATURDAY 24th Feb
10.30am Reconciliation
6pm Mass

SUNDAY 25th Feb
9am, 11am, 6pm
Baptism Welcome

Temptations

Have you ever noticed that Jesus begins and ends his public ministry in the wilderness? These deserts are the geographical bookends of the greatest story ever told. In today's Gospel we have Jesus in the desert for forty days. Much later, when condemned to death, Jesus is led out of the city and crucified at Golgotha, another dry and desolate location. In both places Jesus is tempted. In Mark we are never told what Satan's temptations in the desert were about. Luke and Matthew fill in those details. On the cross, however, Mark tells us that the crowd tempts Jesus to work a miracle, come down from the cross and save himself. In the first desert Jesus is ministered to by the angels and emerges to proclaim that the kingdom of God is close at hand. In the later desert Jesus is ministered to by his women disciples and is put to death as a consequence for the way he lived out the Kingdom he proclaimed.

It's clear from all the Gospels that the desert and the temptations stayed with Jesus throughout his life. What a comfort this is to us. Many of us do not need to go out and find a physical desert to know its claim on our lives. Temptations do not know geographical limitations. Indeed, the greater the number of options, the more temptations we have to take a destructive path.

When we look at how the desert is used in the Bible, mythology, art, literature and the cinema two competing images emerge. The first is that the desert can be a place of loss and ruin where some great heroes have gone and not returned. In another equally venerable tradition journeys to the desert, while filled with a mixture of pleasure and pain, are abundant with revelation, transformation and recreation.

These two descriptions do not have to be contradictory. As we find in Jesus' example, we do not have to give in to the temptation that the desert is only about loss, but we need to find a path there to negotiate a way out of it so that we can emerge recreated, the richer for the experience.

It's important to remember in our own particular deserts that temptation is not sin. To be tempted by something is not the same as doing it. Temptations are the allures that make destructive choices look good. In one sense, the bad news is that we know from the lives of the saints that the closer we get to God, the more temptations increase. The good news is that we can learn how to deal with them.



Usually, temptations have a context and a history. They can come when we are feeling most deserted and vulnerable and they normally strike us at the most susceptible points in our character. To deal with them we need to be aware of their pattern, the way they con us into believing that the destructive behaviour is 'not that bad', will be 'just this once', or 'for the last time'. As well, it helps if we are aware of the danger signs in our lives that can weaken our defences. Tiredness, boredom, anger, alcohol and drug

use, lack of good communication and a poor self-esteem are common realities that can leave us more exposed than usual.

This Lent, as we venture with Christ into our figurative deserts, let's do anything that helps our self-esteem, deal with our anger, attend to why we might work or drink too much, and ensure that we are less stressed. Contrary to what we might think, these activities could be the most helpful ways we can make sure we emerge from our desert the better for having been there.

by Richard Leonard SJ



Parish Calendar, News & Events

DIARY

21st Feb: LENTEN REFLECTION at 7.30pm
23rd Feb: Stations of the Cross at 7.30pm
20th Mar: Family Night for Reconciliation Candidates.

THANK YOU:

A big thank you from the Sisters of the Cross and Passion for all the help and support in the lead up to Karen's Profession and above all thank you to all who were able to join us on Saturday for the first ever Religious Profession of a woman in the Parish. It was a great joy to see so many of you and thank you so much for all your love and support. A special thanks to the Youth Music group who put in many hours of practice and Jennifer for being a cantor. The music gave great joy and meaning to our celebration. To all who contributed to the preparation of the Church with flowers, flags and also the hall a sincere thank you. Please continue to pray for Karen and for all of us. We are immensely grateful for the generous support for our missions which will be shared with Vietnam and Botswana. Good news too from Vietnam where four women took their next step and became novices on January 11th. We look forward to the unfolding story from Sr Anne who returned there on Monday.



LENTEN REFLECTION will be starting on **WEDNESDAY EVENING of 21st February** at 7.30pm in the Prayer Room. A few people indicated Wednesday was the best day so please come along and join in this reflection evening during this Lent.



SEWING GROUP

As we are all back into the motion, so is our SEWING GROUP. The first meeting will be on **FRIDAY 23rd February 2018 at 10.30am in the ANNEXE**. All who have an interest in sewing are welcome. Remember, no expertise is required.

SENIORS EVENTS-MARCH 2018

Friday, March 16th: **Bunjil Place** are presenting 80 minutes of the Pirates of Penzance Musical at 11am with morning tea included. If we get more than 10 people we will get tickets for \$17.00. Please sign up if you would like to be included and indicate if you need a lift.

MUSIC AT THE MONASTERY (at Holy Cross)

This is a fundraising for the Passionist Mission in Vanimo PNG supporting disabled children. On **SATURDAY, 3rd March 2018 from 6pm at HOLY CROSS MONASTERY** (Serpells Rd, Templestowe) Tickets are \$20pp (adult) \$30 per family or Donation. Fr Chris Monaghan

and his Journeymen group will perform at this event.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Janaki is a young entrepreneur from Nepal, who has turned her life around. Growing up in a world of poverty and disadvantage, coupled with a forced marriage at the age of 12, she was in a very vulnerable position. Even more so when her husband died just two years into their marriage. She's now running her own successful sewing business and has become an inspirational community leader.



In 2015, Janaki joined a youth club formed by Caritas Australia partners, Caritas Nepal and the Ekata Foundation Surkhet, as part of the Children and Youth Empowerment Program (CYEP) which provides youth with job skills and income-generating projects. She took a loan from the youth club to purchase her first sewing machine. Two years on, Janaki has 11 sewing machines and is running her own business, teaching others and is considered a community role model.

I'm happy that I'm motivating and teaching other people as well. I appreciate all those respected peoples of Australia who are supporting this wise cause, with your help, women who experience domestic violence and who are financially vulnerable are getting new hope in their life which I think is very generous and kind. I thank you from bottom of my heart." Janaki

COME AWAY AND REST AWHILE! Our next day at Holy Cross Retreat Centre in Templestowe is on February 19th 10-3pm. Please consider taking time to check in with yourself and share a day with others in the beautiful surroundings at Holy Cross.

PRAYER FOR LENT WEEK 1

My God, I am yours for time and eternity. Teach me to cast myself entirely into the arms of your loving providence with a lively, unlimited confidence in your compassionate, tender pity. Grant, O most merciful Redeemer, that whatever you permit may be acceptable to me. Take from my heart all painful anxiety; let nothing sadden me but sin, nothing delight me but the hope of coming to the possession of you, my God and my all, in your everlasting kingdom. Amen

(Catherine McAuley, foundress of the Mercy Sisters)

What are your expectations of Lent?
(more Lenten material can be found on website:
www.cam.org.au/evangelisation)

LENTEN FAST FOR CREATION CALENDAR WASTE WEEK

19 Feb: Use your own water bottle. Commit to using your own dishware outside the home

20 Feb: Take responsibility. Identify wasteful items you

can eliminate from your daily habits

21 Feb: Reduce your waste. Buy only the food you need. Eat or give away all the food you buy

22 Feb: Put waster in its place. When you do have waste, dispose of it properly

23 Feb: Ditch plastic. Always take your cloth bag to the market

24 Feb: Recycle. Recycling avoids harmful ocean pollution. If recycling facilities do not exist in your area, contact municipal authorities about providing them

AN INVITATION TO CONSIDER SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Fr Pastor, our new assistant priest is a trained Spiritual Director and has offered to accompany several parishioners in their spiritual journey this year.



Spiritual Direction is a unique ministry of pastoral guidance between an experienced and trusted person trained in the art of helping a fellow pilgrim who seeks to grow in intimacy with God and to live in right relationship with others.

The agreement between them involves regular meetings, remuneration for service, absolute confidentiality, the maintenance of professional boundaries, and the freedom of either party to terminate the relationship.

Spiritual Direction is neither psychotherapy nor a pious exercise. Rather it is for those who take their inner life seriously and those who are willing to reflect on their life's calling, direction, or ministry. To arrange an appointment with Fr Pastor to discuss your suitability, readiness, or to learn more about the process of accompaniment, please contact him at the parish office or after Mass.

Fr Kevin's corner

So we start again our shared journey through Lent to Easter. The next 6 weeks will give us many chances to look at our lives and decide what needs to be changed. At the start of the Lenten season we are taken back to our beginnings in the story of Genesis. God reminds us that we always have the sign of his presence with us. When we know we are marked with the sign of God's presence, and when we remember who we are, we will know how to act.

We are made in God's image. God breathes God's own life into our nostrils. Life is meant to be shared rather than treated as our private possession. In Mark's gospel after Jesus is baptized God's Spirit makes him go into the desert where he discovers how he can best use his time and his energy and his heart. He faces a struggle; he is tempted to use his gifts to make life comfortable for himself. But he knows that he has come to serve and that is how he must live and act.

Pope Francis asks us to reflect on the meaning of fasting this Lenten season. He often quotes an early Christian, St. John Chrysostom, who tells us our penance must bring some benefit to other people.

"So, no matter how much time you spend fasting, no matter how much you sleep on a hard floor and eat ashes and sigh continually, if you do no good to others, you do nothing great."

So, if we're going to fast from anything this Lent, Francis suggests that even more than candy or alcohol, ***we fast from indifference towards others.***

If you want to change your waistline, maybe alcohol and chocolates are the way to go. If you want to change your heart, a harder fast is needed. This is a challenge, but if we fast from not caring, we make room in our hearts to discover the love that can make us free. Now that's a real fast!

Jesus didn't come to ask us to do impossible things. He came to ask us to live up to our full humanity; he wants us to use up each of our human gifts, and that is our challenge. Pray, fast, be generous. A happy Lent to us all!

Kevin Daniel CP.

Sunday Readings

THIS WEEK:

1st Sunday of LENT Year B

Gen 9: 8-15;
1 Pet 3: 18-22
Mk 1: 12-15

NEXT WEEK

2nd Sunday of LENT Year B

Gen 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18;
Rom 8: 31-34
Mk 9: 2-10

www.universalis.com

This weekend we pray for:

Those who are sick

Elizabeth O'Toole, Brenda Solari, Maud Quirin, Sienna Hyland, Ponciano Cabrera, Devika, Jayanthi. Anjana, Clifford Lemillour; Li Tsu Lay, Emma Segovia, Lambert D'Silva, Marie Martin, Emily Martin, Pat Garrard, All who need our prayers

For those who have died

Leonila Halili, Camilo Dizon, Bernard Jayasinha Dias, Sergio Galucho, Joaquin, Mario, Kiko, Ana Florindo, Pat Guinan, Juan Colombo, Therese Jordan, Maria Radgticchio, Emilio Di Paolo, Oi Sing Lay, Matias Jover Snr, Carmela Vella, Bernadette Dizon, Stephen D'Souza, Joseph Allegany, Mary Micallef, Andrew Fowler, Lorenzo Roussetty, Nonie Wilson, Vincenzo Calonica, Rita Sultana, Joseph Zerafa, Leoncio C Bollozos, Patrice Bonhomme, Maria Levy, Bertha Francisco, Fernando Concepcion, Violet Pereira, Lachlan De Abrew, Winifred Junkeer, Douglas Alexo, Lester Bower, William Bower, Ester Yu, Eduardo Leynes, Kenneth Rajakariar, Sylvia De Abrew, Amelia Valleri, Rocco Tropeano, MarcelinaTambalgue, Anne McLaren, Chulani Tillerkeratne, Brian O'Higgins, William Bower, Firas Basil

May they rest in peace



St Paul Apostle Catholic Community

Priests:

Fr Kevin Dance CP (PP)
Fr Pastor Mumburi CP

Pastoral Associates:

Sr Joan Smith CP
Sr Brigid Murphy CP

Parish Staff:

Bursar: Gillian Velupillay
Secretary: Didi Karkas

Passionist Community

Fr Brian Gleeson CP (*leader*)
Fr Kevin Dance CP
Fr Chris Mithen CP
Fr Pastor Mumburi CP

Sisters of Cross and Passion

Sr Brigid Murphy CP
Sr Joan Smith CP
Karen Englebretsen

St Paul Apostle
North Primary
School - 9700 6068
Mrs Mary Lucas

St Paul Apostle
South Primary
School - 9700 3663
Principal
Mr. Paul Gleeson

St John's Regional
College - 9791 3366
Principal
Mr Tim Hogan



Roster for this weekend 17th-18th February 2018 (3rd Sunday)				
	6pm	9am	11am	6pm
Welcome	Lien Phan, Carlos & Sylvia Fernandes	David & Sandra McGuire, Carolyn Tinney	Marie Allas Jean Jansz	Volunteers
Sacristan	Peter Miller	Sandra & David McGuire	Volunteers	Mignonne Meerwald
Readers & Commtr	Jessica Satya Graha Karen Rolfe Liseby Lapierre	Bernie O' Hara (Comm only) Rosa Mitchell	Anne Astin Diane Allegany Jerry Sementhy	William Roncon
Gifts	Gertrude Akom Emmanuel Jeganathan	Lionel & Dharshi Alwis Sabina Chitaranjan	Marie Nelson Hanan Matty	
Communion	Paul Negri Michelle Boissezon, Lionel & Riona Alvey Naisha Pande Nina Pande, Mark Rolfe	Paul Smith Danny O'Hara, Mary Moore, Peter van Helmond	Glen Johnson Damian Kearney Rhonda O'Connor Christine Gaiardo Meagan O'Connor Shaniah Pereira Sharon Normington	Mignonne Meerwald Eugene Rebeiro Swineetha Disanayake Margaret Keating Daniel Masset Volunteer
Servers	Andrew, Christopher Ananya, Avinda, Broadie	Mark Harper, Joyen	Calvin, Cassandra, Joaquin, Kiara	Lakni Adrian, Schron

Roster for next weekend 24th—25th February 2018 (4th Sunday)				
	6pm	9am	11am	6pm
Welcome	Carmeline Don Paul Denise Richie, Trevor Saldanha	Anne Peters, Danny & Rose Sugunasekera	Anabela Costa Yvonne Sherwin	Julian Disanayake with volunteers
Sacristan	Lien Phan	Volunteers	Yvonne Sherwin	Volunteers
Readers & Commtr	Mark Rolfe Liz Flood Nick Dimitrakas	Milroy Martyn, Patricia Shaw-Dennis	Florence Madeira Meagan O'Connor	Marg Keating
Gifts	Christine Cachia Inez Caruana	Glenn & Romaine Todd, Sharni Denham	Dilinger Family	
Communion	Steven Herbert Bridgette Herbert, Lien Phan Dominica Arena, Karen Rolfe,	Fred Hall Marina Nadarajah Anne Peters Elaine Gillett Glenn Todd Ayomi Fernandez	Yvonne Sherwin Christine White Geraldine Mutthumani, Ging Calixto, George Jornt, Shaniah Pereira Maretta Dunlop	Aidan Del Socorro Roland Mathias Nona Sangalang Gabby Catania Jenny Catania Brendan Keating Volunteer
Servers	Jocelyn, Christopher, Avinda, Brodie	Ashvika, Tara, Joyen	Calvin, Cassandra, Joaquin, Kiara	Lakni Adrian
Cuppa	<i>4th Sunday of the month</i>			
Flowers <i>No Flower during LENT</i>	Church Prep Team 1 R & B Barnfield	Communion to the sick (after 9am Mass) Ralph Martyn	View Hills: - Friday 2nd March Communion Service Ging Calixto, Florence Madeira Ralph Martyn.	



Sacraments:

Baptism are held on the **1st & 2nd Sundays** of the month. Preparation is on the 3rd Sunday of the month. **Parish Office**

Marriages require 6 months notice to one of the priests, participation in a FOCUS marriage preparation program, or a CatholicCARE Course.

Anointing of the Sick is held during Mass on the 1st Friday of the Month at 9am. Before going to hospital for major surgery, why not ask one of the priests to pray with you and anoint you.

Children's Sacraments require full participation in the preparation phase.

Registration forms in the Parish Centre