



St Patrick's Parish Gosford

The Communities of St Patrick's East Gosford,
St Francis of Assisi Somersby & Holy Trinity Spencer
Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.



- ♥ This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. - 1 John 4:10
- ♥ It isn't enough to be in the same room with someone. A key ingredient in giving your spouse quality time is giving them focused attention, especially in this era of many distractions.
- ♥ How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! 1 John 3:1
- ♥ The act of service means doing things you know your spouse would like you to do. You seek to please her by serving her, to express your love for her by doing things for her.
- ♥ One way to express love emotionally is to use words that build up. Solomon, the author of the ancient Hebrew Wisdom Literature, wrote, "The tongue has the power of life and death."
- ♥ This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. 1 John 3:16
- ♥ And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God lives in him. 1 John 4:16
- ♥ There are not 10, 20, or 365 basic love languages. In my opinion, there are only five. However, there may be numerous dialects. The number of ways to express love within a love language is limited only by one's imagination. The important thing is to speak the love language of your spouse.
- ♥ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. Deuteronomy 6:5



LK 2:22-40
MY EYES HAVE SEEN YOUR SAVING POWER.

- ♥ Being sincere is not enough. We must be willing to learn our spouse's primary love language if we are to be effective communicators of love.

From an Inspirational Dayspring Daybrightner
www.dayspring.com
The 5 Love Languages
by Gary Chapman

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEACON PAUL!

Deacon Paul celebrated his birthday yesterday, on Saturday February 1 and today, February 2 after the 9am Mass, we invite you to join us at the Jordan Room to share in cake and good wishes for Deacon Paul!



You will be delighted to learn that Deacon Paul will be ordained to become a Priest this year.

Deacon Paul will return to the Philippines Mid March in final preparation for his Ordination. Paul will be away from us, until some time in May when we hope to see him return as a Fr Paul.

I am sure you will all join with us in wishing Deacon Paul well as he progresses on his Priestly journey.



FR FRANCIS JORDAN SDS

"Never lose heart, never lose courage, but trust in God"

SD - I/94



YEAR OF LOVE AT ST PATRICK'S
BELOVED,
LET US LOVE ONE ANOTHER:
FOR LOVE IS OF GOD;
AND EVERYONE THAT LOVES
IS BORN OF GOD,
AND KNOWS GOD



1 JOHN 4:7



POPE FRANCIS' FEBRUARY 2020 INTENTION

LISTEN TO THE MIGRANTS' CRIES

We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

A warm welcome to our parishioners and visitors who are celebrating the Eucharist with us this weekend at St Patrick's Parish.



ST PATRICK'S PARISH GOSFORD

PASTORAL CARE

Fr Grzegorz [Greg] Skulski SDS

Parish Priest

Email: greg@sds.org.au

Paul Tran SDS

Deacon:

SALVATORIANS

Society of the Divine Saviour

<http://www.sds.org.au>

PARISH OFFICE

Secretary:

Colleen Kirk Mon - Thurs:

8:30am - 4:30pm

Friday

8:30am - 1:00pm

Bursar:

Darren Fitzgibbon

Sacramental Programme

Coordinator:

Frances Mathey

Email: franceshanna@yahoo.com Ph: 0427 773 317

Catechists' Coordinator:

Alain Corne

Email: saintpatsccd@acs.net.au

Wed:

9:00am - 1:00pm

Thurs:

9:30am - 1:30pm

Youth Ministry:

Matthew French
Ph: 0411 792 587

Media Coordinator:

Tom Croll

Thursday:

9:00am - 2:00pm

Email:

tcroll@photom.com.au

VOLUNTEER ROLES

Office Admin:

Denise Jay

Judith Myers

Maria Andrzejewska

9:00am - 3:30pm

Friday:

AV Presentation:

Peter McLean

Greg McBride

Caretakers:

Ron Begg

John Malicki

Gardeners:

Trevor Byrne

Joyce Byrne

Victor Camilleri

Barbara McCarthy

Ph: 4322 0250

Seniors' Ministry:

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Hilary Pope

If you see any activities involving children or vulnerable adults that worries you, please email Hilary Pope, our Safeguarding Officer at hilary.p1@optusnet.com.au

School Principals

St Patrick's Primary: Mrs Cheryl Walsh 4325 1159

St Joseph's College: Mr Tony McCudden 4324 4022

St Edwards College: Mr Mark Bonnici 4321 6400

St Peter's College: Mr Tim Hilderbrandt 43512344

Christian Brothers' Community

Frederick Street, East Gosford

Br Peter Hester cfc [Community Leader]

Br Rod Shoebridge cfc

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3 - DVD

A Family Retreat - Archbishop Foulton J. Sheen

In the Jordan Room after 9:00 am Mass.

Why not come into the Jordan Room after Mass this Monday and watch.

CHURCH OPEN DAILY 8:30AM - 4:30PM.

STANDARD WEEKDAY MASSES

Gosford:

Monday: 9:00am

Wednesday: 11:30am

Friday: 12 noon

Tuesday: 9:00am

Thursday 9:00am

Saturday: 9:00am

WEEKEND MASSES

Gosford:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:30am

Children's Liturgy: 9:00am

During 9:00am Mass

6:00pm Each Sunday of School Term.

Somersby, 30 Lutana Road: Saturday Vigil: 6:30pm

Spencer, Wiseman's Ferry Rd: 2nd Sunday Monthly: 4:00pm

OTHER MASSES

Filipino Mass 2nd

Korean Mass Monthly:

Sunday Monthly:

[Enq: Peter 0409-

12 noon

508-123] 6:00pm

ADORATION IN OUR CHURCH

Before the Blessed Sacrament

Mon: 8:30am - 9:00am

Wed: 11:00am - 11:30am

Fri: 12:30pm - 3:00pm

Tues: 8:30am - 9:00am

Thur: 8:30am - 9:00am

Sat: 8:00am

RECONCILIATION - 1ST RITE

Gosford:

Mon-Thur:

during Adoration - see above.

1st Friday of Month

Prior to Mass 11:30am

Other Fridays

After Mass 12:30pm

Saturday:

8:30am and 4:30pm.

Sunday:

7:00am and 5:30pm

St Francis of Assisi 30 Lutana Road, Somersby:

Saturday after Vigil: 7:30pm

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

After weekday Masses to 3:00pm and to 1:00pm Fridays.

ROSARIES

Weekday

Monday, Tuesday Thursday

8:05am

Wednesday

10:35am

Friday

11:35am

Saturdays Monthly

8:05am: 1st - For Priests & Religious.

8:05am 3rd Saturday - For Mothers & Abortion.

8:05am 4th Saturday - For Persecuted

Christians and their Persecutors.

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

Last Wednesday of each Month at 12 noon

ADORATION AT BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL

Located on Chapel Lane at the Admin Centre

Monday to Thursday

8:30am - 3:30pm

Friday

9:00am - 3:30pm

GROUP MEETINGS

Bible Study Lectio Divina / Christian Unity / Christian DVD:

Mondays at 9:30am twice monthly,

Wednesday at 10:00am in the Jordan Room.

Bible Study Monday Night

7:00pm in the Jordan Room.

RCIA: in Admin Centre 7:30pm Tuesdays.

Contact the Parish Office to register interest.

menALIVE:

7:30pm commencing with Mass

1st Tuesday of Month

Cancer Prayers:

9:00am 4th Tuesday Monthly

in Jordan Room

Grief & Loss, Prayer & Support:

1st Thursday Monthly

2pm in Jordan Room

Craft Group - Friday each week of School Term

9:30am - 12:00pm

Movie Night Last Sat Night of Month after 5:00pm Mass.

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE SHOP

After 9:00am Mass in the Jordan Room.

All proceeds to Charities



IN YOUR PARISH OF ST PATRICK'S THIS WEEK

Sunday Feb 2	7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 6:00pm	Mass - Breakfast after Mass in Jordan Room Mass - Breakfast after Mass in Jordan Room Baptism Youth Mass including St Eddie's and St Joey's
Monday Feb 3	9:00am 7:00pm	Communion Service Bible Study Group in Jordan Room
Tuesday Feb 4	9:00am 9:30am	Communion Service Cancer Prayer Meeting.
Wednesday Feb 5	10:00am 11:30am	Bible Study group in Jordan Room Mass.
Thursday Feb 6	9:00am 9:30am 2:00pm	Communion Service. Salvatorian Collaborators meeting in Jordan Room Grief and Loss meeting in Jordan Room
Friday Feb 7	9:30am 12:00pm	Craft Group in the Jordan Room Mass with reconciliation after Mass
Saturday Feb 08	5:00pm 6:30pm	Vigil Mass Gosford Vigil Mass Somersby
Sunday Feb 09	7:30am 9:00am 6:00pm	Mass Mass Youth Mass

KIDS CORNER PINT SIZED PADDIES

ARE NOW IN RECESS UNTIL FEBRUARY 2020.

Pint Sized Paddies is a group of young school children who gather regularly during School terms, in the School Hall 7:00 pm on 2nd and 4th Friday of each month.

Parents of Primary School Children contact Melissa Monaghan and book your youngsters in for a few hours of fun in a spiritual environment.

Enquiries to Melissa 0434 251 481

YOUTH GROUP MEETING

The Youth Group starts again on 2nd Feb 2020, the Youth gather in the Jordan room, after 6:00 pm Mass each Sunday.

The youth group has grown considerably last year and we thank Matthew French for his efforts in leading the youth.

MONDAY EVENING AND WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

Begin again on Monday 3rd Feb and Wednesday 5th Feb respectively.

FR GREG IN EAST TIMOR THIS WEEK

Fr Greg will be in East Timor this week doing his work as the Vocations Director for the Salvatorian Order in Australia.

We wish him a safe and productive journey and look forward to his return at the end of the week.

BREAKFAST TODAY AFTER 7:30 AM AND 9:00 AM MASSES

Come and join us for a scrumptious breakfast, meet with new and old friends.

Help our Parish fund raising.



PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

WELCOME BACK ALL SCHOOLS' STAFF & STUDENTS!

We commenced the 2020 school beautifully with a St Patrick's, St Edward's & St Joseph's teachers & staff Mass last Tuesday, January 28 with over 200 present to receive a blessing and our prayer card for this Year of Love.

School has now recommenced for all but the Kindies of 2020 who start on Monday, and we wish all staff & students a successful Term 1 and pray for their continued proven commitment to successful learning.

HAPPY 1ST ANNIVERSARY FR GREG!

Fr Greg celebrated his 1st Anniversary in leadership at St Patrick's Parish on February 1, and we offer our prayers of thanks for his pastoral care!

It's been a very busy year for him both within the parish and also the Salvatorian Order and we have felt the benefit of his many new programmes, initiatives and ventures.

May we enjoy many more years with you Fr Greg as you weave together your gifts of pastoral leadership and the desire for a thriving, cohesive and socially alive parish.

May God bless you.

A BIG 'THANK YOU' FROM THE 'BRING BACK HOPE' PROGRAMME!

150+ backpacks were onforwarded from both St Pat's School & Parish – an outstanding response so thank you!

These were directed to the South Coast, Lithgow/Bathurst and many other stricken areas by the Hope Backpack team which advises, with thanks, that the programme has now closed.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY RAIE!

Best wishes returns to Raie Brady who celebrates her 80th birthday today, February 2.

Raie is one of our many talented choir members and we're thankful that she offers her gifts to the parish in praise of the Lord.

God bless you Raie and many happy returns!

ST PATRICKS DAY CELEBRATION AND ANNIVERSARIES

There will be no 9am Mass on Sunday March 15, but a special St Patrick's School & Parish anniversary celebration including Mass at 10.30am.

THANK YOU ALL WHO DONATED TO THE BUSHFIRE APPEAL

Thank you for your thoughtful and compassionate prayers and donations to the Vinnies Bushfire Appeal held over the Australia Day weekend. Donations can still be made online. A link is included on <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/give/bushfires>

There are additional prayers, reflections and resources available including a link to the Catholic Emergency Relief Australia website at <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/give/bushfires/resources> for those wishing to volunteer or provide additional assistance.



GOSFORD HOSPITAL VISITATION

A PLEA FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE

Gosford Parish is responsible for ensuring that Catholic patients [from all parishes] have the opportunity to receive the Blessed Eucharist on a Sunday by sending a team in each Friday to visit those nominated.

Unfortunately though our volunteer numbers are dwindling due to ill health and we are now in urgent need and are hoping to find those who would be willing to take on this ministry.

We won't pull any punches, NSW Health has imposed a number of regulations and requirements which need to be met and the most daunting for some is the idea of undertaking a 40 hour CPE course, and receiving a number of vaccinations to protect both patient and visitor but if you aren't daunted, please call our Parish Office to have your questions answered.

Sadly, if more volunteers aren't found we will be facing a situation where the ministry will have to cease and the sick will be deprived of the opportunity to receive the Eucharist. We look forward to hearing from you.

A big thank you to Mabel Kan for electing to become a pastoral visitor!

SACRAMENTAL RETREAT FOR CHILDREN WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM IN 2019

Students who made their First Eucharist at the end of last year, having completed their other sacraments, are warmly invited with their parents/carers to attend a short retreat at St Patrick's on Saturday 15th February, following 9 am mass. There will be short sessions with a guest speaker and discussion groups/activities for children and adults both together and separately, and we will finish with a light lunch in the school hall at about 11:30.

Please RSVP to sacramental coordinator Fran Mathey on 0427 773 317 or franceshanna@yahoo.com by Friday 7th February.

FIRST FRIDAY MASS FOR SICK AND ELDERLY

MIDDAY FEBRUARY 7 FOLLOWED BY LUNCH AT THE JORDAN ROOM

Just a reminder to all parishioners that we recommence our first Friday monthly light lunch on February 7 at the Jordan Room, which was a great success last year. Everybody is welcome.

Please join us again and meet your friends or make some new ones!

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE SICK

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2020 PASTORAL VISITS

Fr Greg would like to commence 2020 with a commitment to visiting the sick in their homes or place of location throughout the year and invites you to let the Parish Office know if you or someone you know would like this.

The International Day of the Sick is the perfect launch date and at the foyer today you will find a sheet on which to place your name and address to organise a visit on Feb 11 [or you may prefer to call the office directly].

Please take this opportunity for a chat and to receive the Blessing of the Sick, and remember, this is a continuing pastoral ministry and therefore we invite you to call us whenever there is need or a desire to be visited.

GOD'S WORD DIARIES BACK IN STOCK!

At the request of parishioners we hunted down some stock from other parishes so if you missed out on a copy of this great publication with daily readings and reflections, just pop along to our Piety Stall today.

IRONING LADY REQUIRED

One of our St Pat's teachers needs an ironing lady [just for business shirts] so if you're interested call our Parish Office for her number.

HEALING MASSES

WITH ALAN AMES

WEDNESDAY 5 FEB AT 7:00 PM

Holy Cross Church
10 Humphreys Rd
Kincumber

Alan Ames has been speaking and praying for healing around the world since 1994. He has spoken in more than 40 countries. His books are available in 18 languages. In 2004 and again in 2006 with church approval, he spoke at two of the holiest sites in Christendom; the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth and St Catherine's, the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. Alan shares his unique conversion experiences that caused a dramatic change in his life from a violent alcoholic to a man of the Sacraments and prayer. Alan has the

permission and support of Archbishop T Costelloe, SDB of Perth.

DIVINE MERCY CALENDARS 2020

Also available and procured from Terrigal parish are 2020 Divine Mercy calendars and if you are interested, they are for sale at the Piety Stall for only \$10 each.

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS -

NO DISTRIBUTION OF THE CHALICE

You will have seen the extensive media coverage regarding the outbreak of novel coronavirus. Although NSW Health has deemed the risk of the virus to the general public as low, a number of precautionary recommendations have been issued in order to limit its spread.

In light of these guidelines, Bishop Anthony has asked that as from 30/01/2020, the chalice is not to be shared at any Masses but is to be reserved to the Celebrant(s) only.

1. All Ministers of Communion (Ordinary and Extraordinary) are to be diligent in the use of hand sanitizer prior to the distribution of Communion.
2. These measures are to be publicly and clearly communicated to all congregations at Mass.
3. Such precautions remain in force until the end of February, upon which time Bishop Anthony will review the situation in light of any further developments.

NATIONAL CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP STANDARDS

LEADERSHIP, MONITORING & IMPROVEMENT

STANDARD 1 – COMMITTED LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE & CULTURE

KEY ELEMENTS OF STANDARD 1:

- † A COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING
- † PROMOTING A SAFEGUARDING CULTURE
- † SAFEGUARDING POLICIES
- † CODE OF CONDUCT



SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

HILARY POPE

If you see any activities involving children or vulnerable adults that worries you, please email Hilary Pope, our Safeguarding Officer at hilary.p1@optusnet.com.au

RELICS OF ST THERESE OF LISIEUX TOUR.

For the first time in 18 years, the relics of St Thérèse of Lisieux, one of the most popular saints of modern times, will visit Australia in 2020 on a four-month pilgrimage with her parents, saints Louis and Zélie Martin.

The relics will visit St Patrick's **8th March 2020.**

ST PAT'S PARISH TEAM

On the 8th March St Patrick's will be playing host to the surrounding Parishes on the Central Coast.

If you can be of assistance to help with the parish organisation and or on the day please contact the Parish Office.

- Promotion – will be advertised on Facebook and our web site
- Collaboration with Local Schools – Fr Greg is co-ordinating with the local schools
- Volunteers needed for welcoming and or farewell ceremonies or processions
- Volunteers needed for Liturgy

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE

OF THE RELICS OF ST THERESE

AND HER PARENTS ZELIE & LOUIS MARTIN ST PATRICK'S PARISH, EAST GOSFORD

SUNDAY 8TH MARCH 2020

8:00 AM – 7:30 PM

E V E N T S

9:00 AM

MASS

10 AM – 11:00 AM

VENERATION OF ST THERESE & HER PARENTS

12:00 NOON

FILIOINO MASS

1 PM – 5:30 PM

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRAYER & VENERATION

6:00 PM

YOUTH MASS & FINAL VIEWING

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

Last Saturday every month, in the Jordan Room after 5:00 pm Vigil Mass. While at the Movie Enjoy a Pot Luck Dinner. Simply bring something of the quantity you would typically prepare for yourself, to share with all, for either the Main Meal, the dessert, or towards tea, coffee, hot chocolate after dinner while we watch the movie with biscuits or nibbles.

- ♥ COME AND JOIN US IN THE JORDAN ROOM LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH. STARTING AT 7.00PM
- ♥ SHARE A SATURDAY NIGHT RELAXING WITH FRIENDS FROM OUR OWN COMMUNITY
- ♥ ENJOY A POT LUCK DINNER AND A MOVIE AFTER; WE ARE USUALLY FINISHED BY 10.00PM.
- ♥ WE MAKE IT EASY TO MEET NEW FRIENDS.

NEXT MOVIE NIGHT - 29th February.

Movie:- **SAMSON (M)**

This movie is an exciting adventure story and, let's face it, it's exciting in any case to see biblical stories come to life on screen. Samson, empowered by God with supernatural strength, endangers his destiny with his impulsive decisions that lead to betrayal by a wicked prince and a beautiful temptress. When Samson calls on God once more, he turns imprisonment and blindness into final victory. Samson is an inspiring movie for a family movie night. (*Judges 13 to Judges 16*)



LENTEN LISTENING 2020

A Lenten Program offered by the Diocese of Broken Bay This Lenten program experience draws on the rich Scripture texts of this Year A Lenten Season, and invites us to reflect on these in conjunction with the Plenary Council themes, to discern what the Spirit is saying to us in our own local parish communities today.

This will be a process of communal discernment, rather than individual discernment. The process is one of prayer, contemplation, sharing with one another and seeking God's direction, guided by the Holy Spirit.

Each week will look at one of the 6 themes arising from the Plenary Council, and follow the discernment process as outlined in the Plenary Council, Let's Listen & Discern. Plenary Council 2020 Phase 2 Listening and Discernment guide. The themes are as follows:

Week 1: Prayerful and Eucharistic

Week 2: Missionary and Evangelising

Week 3: Inclusive, Participatory and Synodal

Week 4: Humble, Healing and Merciful

Week 5: Open to Conversion, Renewal and Reform

Week 6: A Joyful, Hope-Filled and Servant Community

Each session lasts 2 hours.

This is a privileged time to spend with each other in our faith family, to discern where God is calling us within our own parish communities, and leading to positive actions going forward.

A copy of this resource will be mailed out to all parishes this week, and will be made available online at: <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/parish-community/plenary-council/our-resources>

REMEMBER TO TAKE YOUR BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU, IT IS YOURS TO KEEP.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

CF. PS 47:10-11

Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple.

Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

FIRST READING

MAL 3:1-4

A reading from the prophet Malachi

The Lord whom you seek will come to his temple.

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 23:7-10. R. V.10

(R.) Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

O gates, lift up your heads; grow higher, ancient doors.

Let him enter, the king of glory!

(R.) Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Who is the king of glory?

The Lord, the mighty, the valiant, the Lord, the valiant in war.

(R.) Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors.

Let him enter, the king of glory!

(R.) Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Who is he, the king of glory?

He, the Lord of armies, he is the king of glory.

(R.) Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

SECOND READING

HEB 2:14-18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

He had to be made like us in all things.

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of

death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

The Word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

LK 2:32

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is the light of revelation to the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

LK 2:22-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God, and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

LK 2:30-31

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples.

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY

BY DIANNE BERGANT CSA

The very name of the prophet Malachi means 'my messenger'. Although the first reading for today speaks of the future coming of God, it really focuses on the messenger who will announce God's coming. This messenger will come suddenly, with judgment and affliction for sinners. Since fidelity to the covenant is the standard for judgment, this very fidelity will determine who will be rewarded or punished. The group singled out for punishment is the priests. The messenger will supervise the purification that will transform those who have been unfaithful. This purification will make them worthy to offer sacrifice once more. They will not be totally destroyed, only purified. There is a note of hope at the end of the passage.

While 'king' is the prominent title accorded God in the psalm, other titles throw light on the nature of God's kingship. Since hosts are army divisions, the title 'Lord of hosts' suggests that God is the commander of military forces. Kings seldom travel without some kind of entourage, and so one can conclude that there is a kind of procession here. The question-answer dialogue was probably a custom practised in walled cities. Military or celebrative processions went through the city gate. Before entrance, a sentinel on the city wall would question those approaching, and the people on the ground would respond. The exchange in the psalm reflects this practice. God enters the city victoriously.

The Letter to the Hebrews invites us to contemplate Jesus' humanity. He did not merely appear to be human, as some have erroneously claimed. He was genuinely human, flesh and blood like the rest of us. Only under such circumstances would his victory over death have any power in the lives of others. Jesus neutralised the power of the devil. He became human so that through the death of his human body he might deliver all human beings from the ravages of human death. As victim on the cross, he offered himself for the salvation of all. As high priest he offers a sacrifice of expiation for their sins. He is truly a merciful and faithful high priest.

The account of the presentation of Jesus in the temple celebrates the piety of two women and two men. Five times the author declares that the parents of Jesus conformed to the ritual prescriptions of the law (vv.22, 23, 24, 27, 39; cf. Exod 13:2,12; Lev 12:1-8). Two people were present in the temple at this time. Three times the author states that he was directed by the Holy Spirit, just like the prophets of ancient Israel (vv.25, 26, 27). The consolation of Israel for which he waited probably referred to the time of messianic fulfilment. The entire life of Anna the prophetess was an advent, awaiting the fulfilment of messianic promises. She too became convinced of the identity of this child.

© Dianne Bergant CSA



Your Roster – February 2 Presentation of the LORD – Year [A/2]

MASS	VIGIL 5:00	7:30am	9:00am	6:00pm	Somersby - 6:30
DATE	01.02.20	02.02.20	02.02.20	02.02.20	01.02.20
Audio/Visual	Cheryl Parry	Glad Williams	Alan Dillon	Thomas Werner	Melissa Monaghan
Acolytes	Peter Young Gerard Nicholls	Sheila Evans Peter O'Neill	Peter Julius Peter Cho	Kevin O'Donnell Lochie Gower	Altar Society: Vicki Muscat
Lectors	Sean Pearson Jan Blanch	Eunice Dal Busco Ron Begg	Scot Frazer Liz Malik	Youth Barbara McCarthy	Melissa Monaghan Michael Monaghan
Commentator	Jan Blanch	Eunice Dal Busco	Chris Paget	Corrie Dunn	Cheryl Barany
Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist	Rosemary Lee Fiona Bolton Vic Camilleri Terry Cooke	Ron Burgess Margaret Eadie Pam McCrae Joy McHugh	Robyn McBride Katie Moss Emily Rudd	Paul Russotti Rick Llige Anne Machson Margaret Pratt	Maria Lentini Nina Lentini
Altar Servers	Lorenzo Arango Taz Parry		Rowan Talbot Lily Talbot Sarah Selim Cameron Moss	Alex Golden Gabby Golden Natasha Golden Luke Russotti	Natalia Luci Jessica Xuereb Flowers: Doris Vassallo
COUNTERS Feb 3 Lyn Beglin Fiona Eaton Feb 10 Ron Begg David Slingsby	ALTAR LINEN Pick up Feb 3 Hazel Walsh Return Feb 7 Pick up Feb 10 Thea Dowsett	ALTAR SOCIETY Sat, 8 Fran Thompson Barbara Mills Roslyn McMahon Audrey Morris Catherine Shaw	CHILDRENS LITURGY Feb 9 John Van Leirop Danielle Camelleri	PARISH BUS Feb 9 Driver: John Donnelly Helper: Brenda Donnelly	HOSPITAL VISITATION Feb 9 Nora Koleszar Michael Lynch

MASS INTENTIONS		
Date	Mass	Intention
Sat 201/02	9:00a Gosford 5:00p Gosford 6:30p Somersby	+ ANNIVERSARY PHYLLIS OWENS + REMEMBRANCE LIONEL OWENS + REMEMBRANCE LEO FRY + REMEMBRANCE MUSCAT FAMILY & CARMELO & NANCY VELLA
Sun 02/02	7:30a Gosford 9:00a Gosford 6:00p Gosford	THANKSGIVING EVANS PARISH INTENTIONS + ANNIVERSARY SID DOWSETT
Mon 03/02	9:00a Gosford	COMMUNION SERVICE
Tue 04/02	9:00p Gosford	COMMUNION SERVICE
Wed 05/02	11:30a Gosford	+ 4TH ANNIVERSARY COLLEEN CARTNER
Thr 06/02	9:00a Gosford	COMMUNION SERVICE
Fri 07/02	12:00n Gosford	SUCCESSFUL OPERATION MEGAN MCGOWN
Sat 08/02	9:00a Gosford 5:00p Gosford 6:30p Somersby	RECENTLY DECEASED DAVID CROWTHER RECENTLY DECEASED GEORGE BORESMA ANNIVERSARIES GRACE & LORENZA BAJADA
Sun 09/02	7:30a Gosford 9:00a Gosford 4:00pm Spencer 6:00p Gosford	+ ANNIVERSARY SID DOWSETT PARISH INTENTIONS + REMEMBRANCES KEEVERS, KNIGHT & MERCHANT FAMILIES + RECENTLY DECEASED PETER ALLEN

THIS WEEK WEDNESDAY

St Agatha, virgin, martyr

THURSDAY

St Paul Miki and companions, martyrs

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

1st Is 58:7-10
2nd Cor 2:1-5
Mt 5:13-16

WARNING

Please note that an email scammer is currently using Priests names to try and email people. Always check the actual email address to ensure that the email is really from that Priest.
mailto:frtadeuszseremet@gmail.com
is **NOT** Fr Tadeusz.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Leanne McDonagh, Judy Ryan, Peter Gloss, Ray Maher, Marie O'Donovan, Megan McGowan, Kellie Nevin, Charlie Sammut, Rachael Lees, Brian Graham, Arlene Peters, Kath Ryan, John Burg, Peter & Lena O'Donovan, Tina Learwood, Allan Francis, Brian Loo, Bev Meehan, Michael Graham, Glenn Mills, Frank McGuinness, Angela Cunningham, Simon Low, Christopher Graham, Frances Cannon, Margaret Gunnison, Sonia Cummings, Anna-Marie Rowan, Judy Wennerbom, Helen Bligh.

ANIVERSARIES:

Phyllis Owens, Sid Dowsett, Colleen Cartner, Grace & Lorenza Bajada, Phil Crawford.

REMEMBRANCES:

Lionel Owens, Laura McGuire, Muscat Family, Carmelo & Nancy Vella, Leo Fry, Keevers, Knight & Merchant Families, Michael Kokegei.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Fr Denis Callahan, Charlie McGinley, Peter Allen, David Crowther, George Boresma, Norman Roberts, Ray Maher.



CONDOLENCES

Sadly we advise of the passing of Charlie McGinley whom many parishioners would know. At one stage in his very devoted life, Charlie used to sing for us at Mass, and indeed he started the St Vincent de Paul Workshop over 25 years ago. Charlie's Requiem will take place at the St Joseph's Spirituality Convent chapel, Kincumber South at 1.30pm on Monday February 3. We offer our condolences to the McGinley family and keep Charlie in our prayers. May he rest in peace.

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SUNDAY 8TH MARCH 2020

8:00 AM - 7:30 PM



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Saints

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