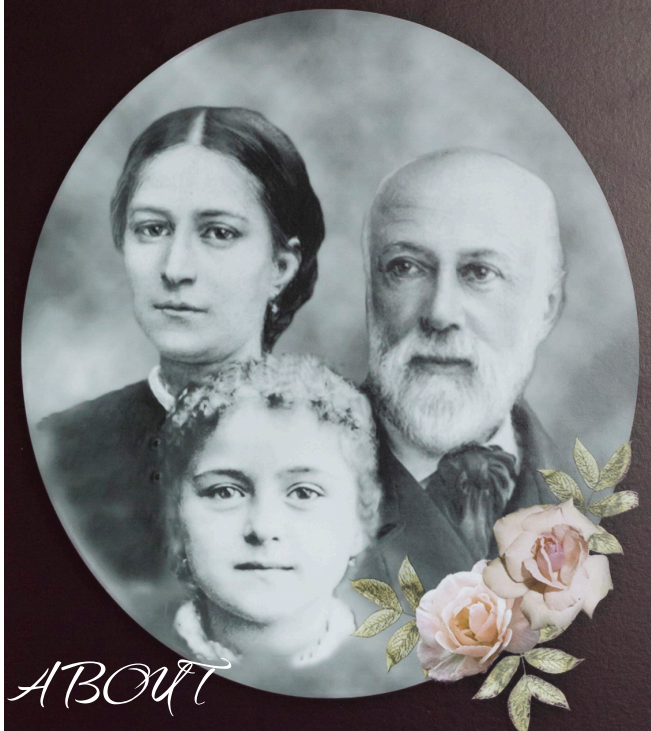




St Patrick's Parish Gosford

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.



SAINTS THÉRÈSE, LOUIS & ZÉLIE

We desire earnestly that all the Faithful of Christ should render themselves worthy of partaking in the abundant profusion of graces resulting from the intercession of "little Thérèse." But we desire much more earnestly that all the faithful should study her in order to copy her, becoming children themselves, since otherwise they cannot, according to the oracle of the Master, arrive at the Kingdom of Heaven.

Homily of Pope Pius XI at the Canonisation of St Thérèse, 17 May 1925

SAINT THÉRÈSE - The Little Flower

Generations of Catholics have admired this Saint, referred to as the "Little Flower", and found in her short life more inspiration for their own lives than in

volumes by theologians.

Thérèse was born in France in 1873, and died when she was 24, after having lived as a cloistered Carmelite for less than 10 years. She never went on missions, never founded a religious order, and never performed any explicitly great works.

The only book of hers, published after her death, was a brief edited version of her journal, *Story of a Soul*. Collections of her letters and restored versions of her journals have been recently re-published. Within just 28 years of her death, the public demand was so great that she was canonised.

In 1997 she was proclaimed a Doctor of the Church by Pope Saint John Paul II.

Her Mother - Zélie

Zélie Guerin (1831 - 1877) was a lace maker. Born into a military family, Zélie described her childhood and youth as "dismal". Her mother and father showed her little affection.

As a young lady, she sought unsuccessfully to enter the religious life. Zélie then learned the Alençon lace-making technique and soon mastered this painstaking craft. Richly talented, creative, eager and endowed with common sense, she started her own business and became quite successful.

Notable as these achievements were, Zélie was yet to reveal the depths of the strength, faith and courage she possessed until she wholeheartedly undertook her life as a wife and mother.

Her Father - Louis

Louis Martin (1823 - 1894) was a watchmaker by trade. He also skillfully managed his wife's lace business and was also born into a family of soldiers. Louis absorbed the sense of order and discipline that army life engenders, but his temperament tended toward things of the spirit.

At age 22, young Louis sought to enter religious life at the monastery of the Augustinian Canons of the Great St Bernard Hospice in the Alps. The Abbot insisted the young candidate learn Latin, which he found extremely challenging, and he eventually had to leave the monastery due to illness.

Fortunately, Louis' desire for holiness was realised through his love for his wife, his redemptive suffering, and his later years as a single father following Zélie's death.

He is now venerated as a Patron Saint of mental health issues due to his struggles with dementia toward the end of his life.



FR FRANCIS JORDAN SDS

"May we all love the Holy Cross - then everything goes well."

MM Letters 1906/08/15



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' MARCH 2020 INTENTION CATHOLICS IN CHINA.

We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

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

76 York St East Gosford NSW 2250

Tel: 4325-1042 ♦ email: patsgos@acs.net.au ♦ Web: www.bbcatholic.org.au/gosford



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

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
Thursdays: 9:00am – 2:00pm
Email: tcroll@photom.com.au

VOLUNTEER ROLES

Office Admin:

Denise Jay
Maria Andrzejewska
9:00am – 3:30pm

Friday:

AV Presentation:

Peter McLean
Greg McBride
Ron Begg
John Malicki

Caretakers:

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 PRAYER GROUP

Has been suspended for Lent

Regulars and others interested are asked to attend the Lenten Listening Program each Wednesday at 10:00am

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 Sunday Monthly: 12 noon
Korean Mass Monthly: [Enq: Peter 0409-508-123] 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.

ROSARY

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 Mar 8 Relics of St Therese and her Parents in the Church	7:30am 8:00am 9:00am 12:00am 6:00pm 7:00pm	Mass Arrival of the Relics of St Therese and her Parents. Mass Filipino Mass Youth Mass Youth Group in the Jordan Room
Monday Mar 9	9:00am 7:00pm	Communion Service Bible Study Group in Jordan Room
Tuesday Mar 10	9:00am	Communion Service
Wednesday Mar 11	11:30am	Mass
Thursday Mar 12	9:00am 6:00pm	Mass Somersby, Stations of the Cross followed by Mass
Friday Mar 13	9:30am 11:30am 12:00pm 12:30pm	Craft Group in the Jordan Room Stations of the Cross followed by Mass Mass with reconciliation after Mass Adoration and Reconciliation
Saturday Mar 14	9:00am 10:15am 5:00pm 6:30pm	Mass Choir Practice in St Patrick's Vigil Mass Gosford Vigil Mass Somersby
Sunday Mar 15 St Patrick's Anniversary Sunday	7:30am 10:30am 11:30am 6:00pm 7:00pm	Mass Anniversary Mass with Bishop Anthony Fete in School Grounds Youth Mass Youth Group in the Jordan Room

KIDS CORNER

PINT SIZED PADDIES

Pint Sized Paddies is a group of young school children who gather regularly during School terms, in the School Hall. **Next on at 7:00 pm on March 20.**

A few hours of fun in a spiritual environment.

Enquiries to Melissa 0434 251 481

YOUTH GROUP MEETING

The Youth Group gather in the Jordan room, after 6:00 pm Mass each Sunday.

This has become a vibrant group and all youth are very welcome to join in.

MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY GROUP

7:00 PM MONDAY IN JORDAN ROOM

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY GROUP

WEDNESDAY 10:00 AM IN JORDAN ROOM

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

NEXT MOVIE "THE STRAY" IS ON 28TH MARCH AFTER 5:00 PM MASS.

**NEXT SUNDAY MARCH 15 IS OUR ANNIVERSARY.
THERE WILL BE A FETE IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS.
THEREFORE NO PARKING WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE
GROUNDS OF THE SCHOOL.**

PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

ST PATRICK'S ANIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

**NEXT WEEK NO 9:00 AM MASS
THE DAY OF OUR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS
Bishop Anthony will concelebrate Mass at
10:30am**

in St Patrick's Church instead of 9:00 am. To celebrate St Patrick's Day and the 60th Anniversary of the school and the 55th Anniversary of St Patrick's Church.

After the Mass we will hold a Fete in the school grounds.

**Note: 7:30 am and 6:00 pm Masses will be held as usual.
ONE WEEK TO GO TO OUR GREAT
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS!**

Any last minute donations to the White Elephant stall by tomorrow, Monday March 9!

FETE CAKE STALL

It is requested that all goods be packaged and ready to sell, and that they may be dropped off after the Vigil Mass 14/3, after the 7.30 & 10.30am Masses on the 15th; Maisie will be waiting there to accept all contributions.

Thank you all for your generous donations to date.

LOVE WITH FOOD PARCELS

FOR HOMELESS IN GOSFORD

Please continue to bring food parcels and they will be distributed to the organisations in the Gosford area who feed the homeless on the Central Coast.

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE FOR THE DIOCESE

Now, with confirmed cases of human to human transmission in the Greater Sydney area, Bishop Anthony has reviewed the instructions that he provided at both the end of January and the end of February. He now provides us with the following additional

instruction proportionate to the current understanding of the coronavirus and the risks outlined by health authorities:

A directive has been received from the Chancery to say that until further notice Holy Water will be removed from all doors and the sign of peace not offered as further protection of all against COVID-19.

The full text of the communicay is available from the Foyer today.

Bishop Anthony requests that our clergy communicate this relevant advice with the Faithful clearly and appropriately.

VISITING THE SICK IN THEIR HOMES

TUESDAY MARCH 17.

If you, or someone you know would like to receive the Blessing of the Sick in their home, please contact the Parish Office on 4325 1042.

CONGRATULATIONS FR GREG

COUNCIL OF PRIESTS AND COLLEGE OF CONSULTORS

The Council of Priests and the College of Consultors are two most significant bodies in the life of the Diocese which assist the Bishop in his care and governance of the local Church.

The Bishop has appointed Fr Greg Skulski as a member of both bodies, a position which has a five year tenure.

I am sure you will all join in congratulating Fr Greg on his appointments and continue to pray for his strength and guidance.

LENTEEN LISTENING PROGRAM 2020

**WEDNESDAYS IN LENT IN JORDAN ROOM
10:00 AM.**

POSITION'S VACANT: YOUTH MINISTER: 5.5 HOURS PER WEEK

An exciting opportunity has arisen to become part of the vibrant team at the Catholic Parish of Gosford.

The Youth Minister aims to uphold the following goal for Youth Ministry in the Parish of Gosford – 'To develop and maintain a young Catholic community of disciples that really lives the Gospel'. The Youth Minister will work under the leadership of the Parish priest and with other parish staff and leaders, and will be responsible for the youth programs and events in the parish.

Personal attributes:

It is vital that the Youth Minister:

- has a deep faith and a strong relationship with Jesus.
- demonstrates love in serving others through this ministry.
- engages the young people of our parish community
- is highly motivated and pro-active in leadership skills
- can work effectively in a team and can work well with adults and students.

Classification: Casual

Sunday Nights: 5.5 hours.

Qualifications (Education/ Background)

- Tertiary or certificate qualification in comparable field of study is recommended.
- Applicants who are currently undertaking study will be considered.
- Completed Higher School Certificate or equivalent is necessary.
- A good knowledge in theology would be an advantage.
- Must have good on-line communication skills (facebook, twitter, youtube)
- Any experience in marketing or advertising would be advantageous.

Responsibilities

The Youth Minister would be responsible:

- to manage and run Sunday night youth group sessions.
- to manage and run the various ministries at the Sunday evening Youth Mass [readers, welcomers, offertory etc]
- to identify, train and mentor other young leaders from the parish to assist with the running of youth groups and other activities.
- manage a database of all youth contacts, parents and older students.
- provide duty of care - pastoral care
- prepare forms, permission notes and sign in sheets and other forms for youth groups.
- manage online communication and advertising via facebook, twitter, youtube of photos and video footage from youth groups.
- manage fundraising activities for youth projects in the parish.

The Youth Minister is required to work under the direction of the Parish Priest. After six months there will be a review of the work undertaken, conducted by the Parish Priest.

The Youth Minister will take on a leadership role as part of the team at Gosford Parish and must act at all times as a representative of the Parish, displaying care, responsibility and integrity in all that they do.

Interested applicants are invited to write a cover letter of interest outlining why they would be suitable for this role. Particular reference must be made to the 5 personal attributes [mentioned above] and how the applicant demonstrates these qualities.

The successful applicant will require Working With Children Check (WWCC) verification.

Applications close on 13th March 2020.

Please send your cover letter and CV to:

Parish Priest

St Patrick's Catholic Parish

76 York Street

East Gosford NSW 2250

Or email to: patsgos@acs.net.au

MINISTRY TO THE SENIORS'

1ST FRIDAY EVERY MONTH

Mass for the elderly and sick

Followed by Luch in the Jordan Room

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES IN THE JORDAN ROOM PLUS

SPECIAL EVENTS THE NEXT BEING:

[55+] DAY TRIP TO THE HUNTER VALLEY

If you're interested in a bus trip to the Hunter Valley on Monday March 23 departing at 9.30am please contact Barbara on 4322 0250. Cost \$15 including travel & morning tea. Lunch at your own expense.

BOOK SOON!

PREPARING OUR CHURCH SPACES FOR EASTER!

GOSFORD – ST PATRICK'S

We call on our Gosford parishioners to join us on Monday April 7 after the 9am Mass to give the church its sparkle and shine in preparation of the beautiful ceremonies of the Triduum.

A delicious morning tea will follow, prepared for us very kindly by Pam & John McCrae!

SOMERSBY – ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

We also call of the parishioners at Somersby [and any Gosford people who may care to join them] on Saturday April 4 at 9am to prepare their sacred space for the Easter services.

Please call Mary on 4374 1108 to let her know you are coming.

In either instance, please bring along some cleaning implements and a great big heart!

CONGRATULATIONS PATRICK & PHILOMENA



ON YOUR RUBY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

We have the pleasure of celebrating with Patrick & Philomena Smyth their 40th Wedding Anniversary with a Nuptial Blessing and renewal of vows at our Vigil Mass this Saturday March 7!

Patrick & Philomena were married at the Church of St Teresa in Castledaly in the County of Galway, Ireland on March 15, 1980. May God bless you both and we wish a lifetime of happiness together

OUR TOASTER IS MISSING?

Perhaps it was borrowed from the Jordan Room, and that's fine, but could it please be placed back there as we need it for our Sunday breakfasts. Thank you!

LENTEN PASSPORT PROGRAM 2020

All children and their families are invited to come to Mass on Sundays during the Lenten season at the parish churches. During this time, there will be a special program including children Liturgy and children's homilies to learn more about Lent and its observances.

After attending Mass this Sunday, children can collect a special sticker and place it on the corresponding spot on their Lenten passport.

**NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE
OF THE RELICS OF
ST THERESE**

**AND HER PARENTS ZELIE &
LOUIS MARTIN**

**ST PATRICK'S PARISH, EAST
GOSFORD**

SUNDAY 8TH MARCH 2020

8:30 AM – 7:30 PM

E V E N T S

- 8:30-8:50 am Arrival of the Relics
- 9:00 am Mass (Principal Celebrant Fr Greg Skulski SDS, Deacon Paul and Concelebrants)
- 10:00 am Litany of St Therese I
- 10:20 am Rosary – Joyful Mysteries (With meditations from the writings of St Therese)
- 10:40 am Private Veneration
- 11:15 am Sorrowful Mysteries (With meditations from the writings of St Therese)
- 12:00 pm Filipino Mass
- 1:00 pm The Angelus
- 2:00 pm Stations of the Cross
- 3:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
- 4:00 pm Rosary - Glorious Mysteries (With meditations from the writings of St Therese)
- 5:00 pm Litany of St Therese II
- 5:30 pm Rosary – Mysteries of Light - Led by Youth (With meditations from the writings of St Therese)
- 6:00 pm Youth Mass (Principal Celebrant Fr Greg Skulski SDS and Deacon Paul)
- 7:00 pm Litany of All Saints
- 7:30 pm Relics depart for The Entrance

**St Patrick's Day Celebration
The School's 60th Anniversary**



**The Church's 55th Anniversary
Bishop Anthony to Concelebrate
Mass at 10:30**

in St Patrick's Church

Fete After Mass in the School grounds

- SAUSAGE SIZZLE BBQ
- DOUGHNUTS
- SOFT DRINKS
- BAKED GOODS
- FACE PAINTING
- WHITE ELEPHANT STALL
- JUMPING CASTLE
- CRAFTS STALL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GAMES
- POPCORN
- RAFFLE

**GRACED
CONVERSATIONS**
ADULT TALKS ABOUT FAITH & LIFE

SACRIFICIAL LOVE
Guest speaker Very Rev Dr David Ranson
Vicar General, Diocese of Broken Bay
Saturday 21 March
following 9am Mass
Jordan Room, St Patrick's Gosford

GRACED CONVERSATIONS

A Year of Love event.
All are welcome to join with us to converse with our Vicar General the Very Rev Dr David Ranson.



**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

SOCIAL JUSTICE RAFFLE ON TODAY SUNDAY MARCH 8

HOME on the Central Coast is a charity that is developing a new type of permanent housing for people with enduring mental illness, modelled on successful projects in Queanbeyan and Melbourne. HOME will provide self-contained supported accommodation for up to 16 adults – along with outreach services – in a safe, loving setting. Residents will be supported to live dignified, active, fulfilling lives within the community.

We are raising money for HOME because we feel passionate about their work and are really alarmed by the number of homeless people on the Central Coast who are suffering a mental illness. Research indicates that up to 85% of homeless people have a mental illness.

We would love your support. Please come & chat with us about different ways you can help. Prizes include Hampers, Eftpos cards & \$100 Bon Pavilion Voucher.

Joscelyn and Neil Murphy & Social Justice team – Ph: 0401 064 474

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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

CF. PS 26:8-9

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face.

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

FIRST READING

GEN 12:1-4

A reading from the book of Genesis

The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:

I will curse those who slight you.

All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

The Word of the LORD

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. V.22

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted.

The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love.

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.

The Lord is our help and our shield.

May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

SECOND READING

2 TM 1:8-10

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

God has saved us, and called us to be holy.

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

MT 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

MT 17:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

His face shone like the sun.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

MT 17:5

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY

BY DIANNE BERGANT CSA

The first reading for this Sunday tells us something about Abram (Abraham), but it tells us more about the plan of God. It is a picture of God's choice of one family among many and of the good fortune and fame with which this family will be blessed. God's directives require profound faith on Abram's part. He is being asked to sever himself from the most fundamental ties that an individual has – the ties of origin. Actually, it was God's plan to start something new through Abram. What would be his response? No questions were asked; no long period of preparation is suggested. The tone of the entire ancestral narrative is set: God directs and the people of God respond.

The psalm opens with a statement that reflects the basis of ancient Israel's faith in God. This faith is rooted in the truth of God's word, in the faithfulness of God's works, in the justice of God's covenant, and in the steadfastness of God's love. These four attributes encourage the people to place their trust in God. The fear of the Lord is the posture of respect with which one stands before the awe-inspiring God.

The psalm ends with a final reference to covenant commitment or loving-kindness. Because of this bond, God will act as a protecting shield, warding off dangers and bestowing kindness and blessing.

Paul exhorts Timothy, his disciple, to suffer the misfortunes that come from fidelity to the gospel. Paul is not here thinking of the hardships that stem from the ministry. The call of which he speaks is the call to holiness that is extended to all. The hardships are those that accompany righteous living. The hymn that follows outlines what God has done for us and what Christ has done on our behalf. Though grace comes to us from God, it comes to us through Christ Jesus. Thus Christ is the mediator through whom God blesses us. Christ's saving action is described as twofold: he destroyed death; and he brought life and immortality to light. This gospel is indeed glad tidings. The gospel narrative recounts a theophany, a self-revelation of God. The once popular interpretation of this as a post-resurrection story read back into the time of the public ministry of Jesus has been challenged by most commentators today. Rather, they believe that it describes an insight into the identity that was his during his public life. Thus the transformation was a change that took place when Jesus' inner reality shone forth and transfigured his outer appearance. Moses and Elijah, the representatives of the law and the prophets, confirm Jesus' authority and the legitimacy of his teaching. While these men converse with Jesus, the voice from the cloud speaks to the apostles. They are the ones who seem to need the identification of Jesus and the directive from God.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

THIS WEEK

FRIDAY

Anniversary of the election of Pope Francis, 2013

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

SUNDAY 8 MARCH

1st Ex 17:3-7

2nd Rom 5:2-1

Jn 4:5-42

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

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

ANNIVERSARIES:

Ric Comensoli, George Goudie, Margaret O'Donovan, Michael Angelo & Mary Jane Buhagiar, Girolama Mercuri, Anthony O'Malley Jones.

Your Roster – March 15 3rd Sunday of Lent – Year [A/2]

MASS	VIGIL 5:00	7:30am	10:30am	6:00pm	Somersby - 6:30
DATE	14.03.20	15.03.20	15.03.20	15.03.20	14.03.20
Audio/Visual	Robert Biviano	Bernie Pannell	Arthur Holland	Required	Melissa Monaghan
Acolytes	Anna Jung Gerard Nicholls	Eunice Dal Busco John McCrae	Peter McLean Alan Dillon, Jay Sutton	Katrina Pratt Speranza Na'ati	Altar Society Vicki Muscat
Lectors	Terry Cooke Nicole Murphy	Ron Begg Chris Golden	Mark Dobb Katrina Pratt	Youth Rob Surdich	Marissa Xuereb Mary Luci
Commentator	Bridget Sharp	Chris Golden	Scott Beattie	Youth	Cheryl Barany
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Paul Hussein Marissa Hussein Joseph Hussein Nicole Murphy	Cecilia Coughlin Margaret Eadie Sheila Evans Regina Fong	Not Required	Not Required	Nina Lentini + Senior Server
Altar Servers	Sam Cormack Lachlan Cormack Lachlan Murphy	Sebastian Eager Laura Eager	Cohen Sutton Indigo Sutton Philip Yoon Derik Sind Lorenzo Arango	Vito De Toffol Remi De Toffol Luca De Toffol Lorenzo Arango Luke Russotti	Dylan Xuereb Natalia Luci Flowers Rita Galea
COUNTERS Mar 09 Ron Begg Marie Cradock Mar16/03 Margaret Hunter Joyce Byrne	ALTAR LINEN Pick up Mar 09 Thea Dowsett Return Mar 13 Mar 16 Thea Dowsett	ALTAR SOCIETY Thr 12 Maree Nolan Margaret Pratt Carmel Hinkley Anna Neale Pauline Nesbitt	CHILDRENS LITURGY Mar 15 Anniversary Sunday, no Childrens Liturgy	PARISH BUS Mar 15 Driver: Brian Jay Helper: Ellen McNally	HOSPITAL VISITATION Mar 15 Christina Miller Barbara McCarthy

MASS INTENTIONS		
Date	Mass	Intention
Sat 07/03	9:00a Gosford 5:00p Gosford 6:30p Somersby	+ Anniversary MARGARET O'DONOVAN Recently Deceased JUDY GRAHAM + Anniversary RIC COMENSOLI
Sun 08/03	7:30a Gosford 9:00a Gosford 6:00p Gosford	PARISH INTENTIONS + 8TH Anniversary GEORGE GOUDIE + Remembrance MICHAEL KOKEGEI
Mon 09/03	9:00a Gosford	
Tue 10/03	9:00p Gosford	
Wed 11/03	11:30a Gosford	
Thr 12/03	9:00a Gosford	
Fri 13/03	12:00n Gosford	For his Health & Wellbeing XAVIER MADGEN
Sat 14/03	9:00a Gosford 5:00p Gosford 6:30p Somersby	
Sun 15/03	7:30a Gosford 9:00a Gosford 6:00p Gosford	PARISH INTENTIONS

REMEMBRANCES:

Michael Kokegei.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Kathleen [Kath] Ryan, Marea Mears, Lance Lilly Gibson, Judy Graham, David Sim, Tony Harper.

CONDOLENCES

We sadly advise of former St Patrick's Primary School teacher and St Pat's parishioner, Kath Ryan's death on Monday March 2. We offer our sincere condolences to her children and advise that Kath's Requiem will take place at St Patrick's on March 17 at 1.30pm. May God rest her soul.



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MONDAY 30 MARCH 2020

6.30pm School Tours | 7pm Information Session

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