



2nd Sunday of Lent

Year A

12 March 2017

WALKING WITH JESUS

Jesus told his closest followers that when he reached Jerusalem, he would be arrested by his enemies and tried, condemned and executed. Peter too Jesus aside and said that such a thing must never happen. Jewish thinking over the centuries had pictured the Messiah as a warrior-king who would drive out the Romans and make Israel a great kingdom. So Jesus had to change the disciples' way of thinking.

A few days later he took three of his closest followers, Peter, James and John, up the mountain of Tabor. There, he was transfigured. His face shone like the sun and his garments were snow-white. Moses and Elijah, two of the greatest Old Testament prophets, appeared and began to talk with Jesus about the sufferings awaiting Him in Jerusalem.

The impulsive Peter once again broke ranks by suggesting he build three huts so their peaceful stay up the mountain could be prolonged. Then suddenly they were covered with a bright cloud and the voice of God said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him."

The message from God was crystal-clear: listen to and accept the teaching of Jesus.

Many of us are like Peter. We would like the glory without the suffering. That is not the way that Jesus intended for his followers. For us there is only one way. At the Last Supper, Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life." So we walk with Jesus. Any other way means that we have

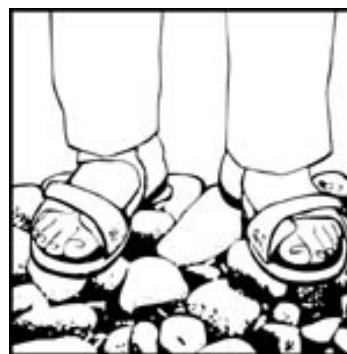
lost our way. The road we walk with Jesus will lead to Calvary.

We do not walk that road alone. Jesus promised us that he would be with us till the end of time. When he allows suffering to come into our lives - perhaps sickness in the family or the death of a loved one - Jesus is by our side, helping us to carry our share of his cross. Whatever our suffering, physical, mental or emotional, Jesus has endured it himself and he knows what we are going through. He always gives us the grace to carry our cross to Calvary.

The Transfiguration teaches us first to listen to Jesus as he speaks to us in the Scriptures, through his Church, in the events of our daily living. What he says may not always be what we want to hear but we believe in his love for each of us and wants only what is best for us.

The Transfiguration also reminds us that after the suffering there is the glory. In this life suffering is part of the human condition. When Jesus became man, he accepted suffering and died on the cross. But Calvary was not the end. So let us walk with

Jesus to Calvary and then we will share in His glorious Resurrection.



Reg Ahearn CSsR
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2017

OUR VISION

"Everything is to be oriented towards the praise and glory of God".

OUR MISSION

The St Agnes' Parish Community strives to make our Vision a reality by a commitment to:

- holiness in the image of Christ.
- minister within the faith community.
- proclaim the good news of salvation.
- the service of all, particularly those in need.



Nourished by
FAITH



Lenten Program

There is still time to join a Lenten Group. Please call the Presbytery Office on 6583 1024. Lenten Groups enable us to prepare ourselves spiritually for the Easter season and provide a way to rekindle the love that God has for each of us.

Leader & Location	Day and Time
Peter O'Driscoll Parish Hall	Monday 5.45pm
Bill Skane Parish Hall	Wednesday 10.00am
Maureen McCabe Lake Cathie Chapel	Wednesday 1.00pm
Marg Gobius Bonny Hills	Wednesday 7.00pm
Kay Fowler & Monica Doyle St Francis Chapel	Thursday 2.00pm
Ellen Hales	Friday 5.30pm

*please
join us*

A Journey into the Catholic Faith

Will resume on Wednesday, 15 March at 6.00pm in the Parish boardroom. This week's discussion is based on The Lord's Prayer.

"Why and how should I pray?" This is the question we'll be reflecting on as we resume our *Journey into the Catholic Faith*. After a review of the main elements of Christian prayer, we will let our Lord Jesus teach us how to pray by breaking open the words the Lord's Prayer. Jesus taught us this prayer, the *Our Father*, on the day which one of his disciples saw him praying and asked him, "Lord, teach us how to pray" (Luke 11:1) As Tertullian said, the Lord's Prayer is the "summary of the whole Gospel" and according to St Thomas Aquinas, it is "the perfect prayer." Indeed, the *Our Father* "presents in the form of prayer the essential content of the Gospel."

Lenten Reflection Evenings

Will continue on Wednesday, 15 March beginning with 5.15pm Mass and ending with Benediction at 6.15pm. All are invited to come together to pray before the blessed sacrament, reflect upon scripture and have confession available to us.

'The six stories we share with you for the six weeks of Lent reveal some of the ways lives can be transformed when we follow Jesus' instruction to "Love your neighbour as yourself" (Matt. 22:39).

'The call of Jesus shakes us out of preoccupation with ourselves. Christ asks us to acknowledge in our lives that we are all members of the one human family. Each one of us is equally worthy of respect and compassion.

'In Project Compassion 2017 we will demonstrate how love for our neighbours can transform lives. When mutual respect is fostered, communities become stronger and more resilient. This can only lead to a better future for our world, the world that Pope Francis has recently called "our common home". For more than 50 years, Caritas Australia has been privileged to work together with our neighbours – our most vulnerable sisters and brothers in First Australian communities and in many other countries. Working with our partner agencies in those communities, we have developed the strength to combat poverty, promote justice and uphold the dignity of every person ... "To love God and neighbour is not something abstract, but profoundly concrete: it means seeing in every person the face of the Lord to be served, to serve him concretely. And you are, dear brothers and sisters, the face of Jesus" Pope Francis, 2013.

Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia this Lenten season. My blessings to you all.

Yours sincerely,

Bishop Greg O'Kelly, SJ AM
Chairman of Caritas Australia'

Lenten Program Books

There are still a number of the Lenten Program books available. The theme is 'Up from the Waters'. So if you are interested in purchasing a copy for your own reflections they are available from the Presbytery Office for \$10.00.

menALIVE

When was the last time you felt fully alive? Find out what is 'authentic manhood' and discover the true meaning of your role, the way God meant it to be! A Retreat Day for single and married men will be held at The Francis Retreat, Bonny Hills on Saturday, 29 April from 9.00am to 3.00pm. For more details contact Peter O'Driscoll on 6584 9970, Mike Hawtin on 0481 795 986 or the Presbytery Office on 6583 1024. The menALIVE website is www.menalive.org.au.

Need help with your parish giving?

Call Trudi
(02) 6588 7444



Parish Giving Programme

Offertory Roster

For parishioners who are rostered on for the 9.00am Mass there has been a change made. You can collect an updated copy from the Presbytery Office. If you would prefer your roster emailed to you please call the Presbytery on 6583 1024.

MacKillop Gift Shop

The gift shop has for sale a wide range of gifts, religious items and cards. It is open Monday to Friday 10.00am to 2.00pm and is located on Hayward Street, behind KFC. The phone number is 6584 9779.

Marriage Encounter Weekend

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a *Marriage Enrichment* experience for married couples – set in peaceful surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage! Weekend date: 19-21 May at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW. Bookings online at www.wwme.org.au or Bill and Ardell Sharpe on 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au

Reach Beyond

Reach Beyond is a Christian radio ministry that broadcasts the Gospel into remote parts of the world. It was formerly known by its radio call signal - HCJB. St Thomas' Anglican Church is hosting a Reach Beyond fund raising event on Tuesday, 14 March at 7.00pm. Eduard Klassen, is a harpist, and he will be presenting a classical concert, sharing the Lord's work in his life and speaking about the work of HCJB. Donations can be made on the night. Any enquiries call 6584 1033, or email: office@pmqang.org. Website is www.reachbeyond.org.au

School Secretary

St Agnes' Primary School

A temporary part-time position is available as school secretary at St Agnes' School. Working a 15 hour week Wednesday-Friday, commencing 26 April until 15 December. Applications close at 3.00pm on 16 March. For more information contact the school on 6583 7433, or email the school on support@lism.catholic.edu.au.

Remember in Prayer



Recently Deceased: Bob Kelly, Claudia Miller, Sonia Foster, Michael Mulkerin, Leonie Cleary.

Anniversaries: Kevin Moren, Bruce Carberry, Shirley Oroszvari, Michael Kingston, Mary Sarks, Michael Smith, Fr Alban Mitchell ofm, Fr Pat Reynolds sm, Fr John Colahan, +James Freeman, Cardinal Archbishop of Sydney.

Other Mass Intentions: Ken McGee, Jenny Jamour, Margaret Gilmour, Eileen & Keith Morrissey, William Cavanagh, Hilton Dodds, Phyllis Dunn, Edward Dunn, Julia & Edward O'Brien, Eileen Monahan, Phil Moore, Trixie Davidson, Florence Shergold, Florence Turner, deceased members of Dunn, O'Brien & Reilly families, Brother Michael O'Connor, Beryl Thomas, Betty Rennie, Marjorie Carnie, Marija Miller, intentions of Anthony Sarks, Danny Sarks, donor intentions and Masses of thanksgiving.

What's Happening This Week?

- **Christian Meditation, St Francis Chapel** Will continue on Wednesday, 15 March from 6.00pm - 7.00pm at St Francis of Assisi Chapel. For more information contact Simon on 0412 236 977.
- **Port Macquarie Men** will be holding their next meeting on Thursday, 16 March at the Westport Club between 12 noon and 2.00pm. Come along and share a meal.
- **Catholic Women's League** will be holding its next meeting on Friday, 17 March at 1.30pm at the John Woner Centre. For more information contact Helen Stenton on 6583 5391.
- **Franciscan Prayer Group** will be held on Sunday, 19 March at the Tenison Woods Centre from 10.30am to 11.30am. For more information contact Charlie on 0413 848 476.
- **Rugrats** will be held on Friday, 17 March from 4.00pm to 7.00pm at the Youth Hub. All school aged children are welcome. For more information contact Peter on 6584 9970.

Catholic Leader

Is available for sale from the Presbytery Office on a Friday afternoon or after each weekend Mass. The cost is \$2.50.

Pope Francis' Tweet

'God is always faithful and never stops for a moment loving us, following our steps, and running after us when we have strayed from him.'

Parish Priest

Father Leo Donnelly

Assistant Priest

Father Peter Wood

Assistant Priest

Father Roland Agrisola

Pastoral Assistant

Peter O'Driscoll

T (02) 6584 9970

Presbytery Office

47 Hay Street Port Macquarie

PO Box 23

T (02) 6583 1024

E pastoraloffice@stagnesparish.org.au

www.stagnesparish.org.au

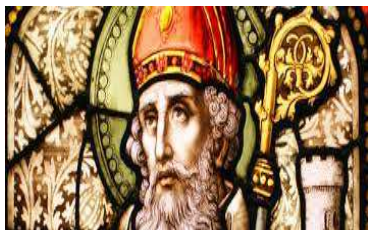
Office Hours:

8.30am - 4.30pm

FEAST DAYS

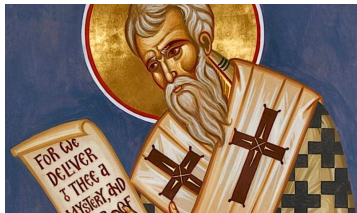
St Patrick

Friday, 17 March



St Cyril of Jerusalem

Saturday 18 March



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD ROSTER FOR 19 March

5.00pm: Phoebe Morris
Geoff Leary

PARISH MASSES

ST AGNES' CHURCH | Hay Street, Port Macquarie

Monday to Thursday: 5.15pm

Friday: 12.05pm

Saturday: 8.00am, 6.00pm Vigil

Sunday: 7.30am, 9.00am, 5.00pm

Please note: Weekday Masses at 9.00am on Public Holidays

Reconciliation: Friday 11.30am -12 noon, Saturday 11.30am - 12.30pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

1st Saturday of the month 8.30am - 9.30am.

ST FRANCIS CHAPEL /Lochinvar Place, Port Macquarie

Contact: Sr Anne Hannigan

Ph 6589 9814 or 0419 243 259.

Communion Service or Mass: 9.30am Monday - Thursday

Sunday Mass: 9.30am

CHRIST THE KING CHAPEL | Boronia St, Port Macquarie

Contact: Sr Anne Hannigan

Ph: 6589 9814 or 0419 243 259

Weekday Mass: See Notice On Chapel Door

Mass: Saturday Vigil - 4.30pm

Rosary: 1st Saturday of the month 4.00pm.

ST BERNARD'S, TELEGRAPH POINT | Rollands Plain Rd, Telegraph Point

Thursday: 6.00pm.

STAR OF THE SEA, LAKE CATHIE | Ocean Drive, Lake Cathie

Sunday: 8.00am.

ROSTERS

18 - 19 March 2017

READERS AND COMMENTATORS

6pm Vigil: Wayne Evans
Charlie Peoples
Bill Skane

7.30am: Damien Bennie
Sandra Wilson
Greg Grace

9.00am: Beth Flynn
Julie Preston
Anne Thurgate

5.00pm: Regional College
Students
Christa Morrow

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

6pm Vigil: Jodie Rich
Barry Johnson
Gae Green
Thelma McFarlane

7.30am: Pat McLoughlin
Denise McLoughlin
Anne O'Brien
Sandy Luschwitz

9.00am: Hebin Kallikkadan
Mary Bennett
Hank Brinkman

Betty Hodgson
5.00pm: Sophie Priddis
Debbie Rennes
Casey Whitehosue
Leisa Fisher

GIFT BEARERS ROSTER

6pm Vigil: B Crozier
& S Williams
7.30am: K Farrowell & J Dean
9.00am: L Fuller & J Howle

THE STATUE OF OUR LADY

Pat & Marie Mullens
23 The Sanctuary Close
Port Macquarie
Phone: 6584 1626

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

3rd Sunday of Lent, Year A
Exodus 17:3-7; Psalm 94;
Romans 5:1-2, 5-8;
John 4:5-42.

DIOCESAN INVESTMENT FUND PAYS 2.15% AT CALL!

There are no fees or charges on your account. *AGENTS: Mrs Veronica Rinkin & Mrs Mary O'Brien*
DIF Office, Parish Administration Centre, Phone: (02) 6583 7439 9am – 1pm Monday - Friday