



# St Mary's Parish

Incorporating the Catholic communities of Hamilton, Dunkeld, Macarthur, Glenthompson and Penshurst.

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**First Sunday of Lent, Year A**

**9 March 2014**

## First Reading Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7

### A reading from the book of Genesis

Creation of our first parents, and sin.

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

*The word of the Lord.*

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. see v.3

*(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.*

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)
2. My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done. (R.)
3. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)
4. Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise. (R.)

## Second Reading Rom 5:12-19

### A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin

of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous

*The word of the Lord.*

## Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*

*No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.*

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*

## Gospel Mt 4:1-11

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*



## Reflection

by Greg Sunter

Sin and temptation are the dominant themes of the readings for this first week of Lent. Indeed, they are regular themes in the season of Lent. However, the scripture passages throughout this season allow us the opportunity to think again about these themes and perhaps reconsider some traditional understandings of them.

Today's first reading and gospel give us two different takes on the notion of temptation. In the passage from Genesis, humanity is tempted to ignore the will of God and, when they succumb, they lose their innocence and become embarrassed by their nakedness. The temptation they are offered is to believe themselves above and beyond the will of God; to believe that they can judge as well as God; and to rise to an equal level of power and authority with God. Their action breaks the trusting, loving relationship between themselves and God. In the Gospel, Jesus too is confronted with similar temptations. Ultimately, the temptation that faces Jesus relates to his purpose and ministry - will he trust to God's vision of the suffering servant who will bring about a change of heart in the people, or will he be the sort of Messiah that the people hoped for: a triumphant, glorious victor over all who stood in his way. He is tempted to break his self-imposed fasting, to test God's promise of nurture and security, and to seek glory and personal power. Whilst Adam and Eve surrender to temptation, Jesus holds fast to God's vision.

The second reading from Paul ties the Genesis and Gospel readings together and injects the notion of sin into the equation. However, Paul makes it perfectly clear that the sin of Adam, though carrying great ramifications, pales in comparison to the extraordinarily abundance of God's love that is expressed through Jesus Christ.

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ST MARY'S ROSTER: 15th & 16th March 2014		
	6pm Mass	10:30am Mass
Welcome	John Schurmann	Rita Taylor Alida Aymer
Commentator	Ray Corbett	Annette Mason
First Reader	Terrielynn Groves	Ursula Murphy
Second Reader	Ian Ferguson	David Dunn
Offertory Procession	Brian & Trish Shanahan	Debra Fitzgerald
PowerPoint and iPad	Chris Jansen	Glenn Howell
Ministers of Communion	Team: 6 K Barker, L Wolfe & A Mason	Team: 3 M Bell, B Storer, A Wheaton, G Goggin & T Irving.

Ministers of Communion This Weekend		
6 pm	Team: 5 F Rhook, P Oliver-Snell, P Fallon (3 Required)	
10:30 am	Team: 2 V Lovell, P Stanhope, P Fitzgerald, T Daffey & F O'Brien. (5 Required)	

ST JOSEPH'S ROSTER 16th March 2014	
Lector	Bill Dunn
Prayers	Andrea Page
Special Minister	Terry Pezzutti
Gifts	Helen & Aileen

**St Mary's Church CLEANING MARCH**  
A MILNE,  
H WATT,  
P DAFFEY  
& M GRINHAM

**NEXT WEEK'S SUNDAY MASS TIMES**


16th March  
2nd Sunday of Lent

Hamilton	Mass Mass Mass	6:00pm 10:30am 5:00pm
Dunkeld	Mass	9:00am
Glenthompson	SAWC	9:00am
Macarthur	Mass	9:00am
Penshurst	Mass	9:00am

**PARISH COLLECTIONS**


Stewardship Starting Date 13/10/2013 : \$ 40,899  
Stewardship Pledged Full Year : \$120,150  
Priest's Support: \$851.55

*This week's Count Team: 2 I & B Ferguson, C McArthur & L Stevens*  
*Next week's Count Team: 3 R Corbett, B Shanahan, T Oliver.*



**WEEKDAY MASS or  
(Prayer of the church with Holy Communion)**

PENSHURST	HAMILTON	
Wednesday 10am Mass	Tuesday Wednesday	10am Mass 10am Mass
	Thursday Friday	10am Mass 10am Mass

 **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS.**

**DEATHS:** Evelyn Presser.  
**ANNIVERSARIES:** Kevin Cass, Catharina Kaspers, Beryl Storer, Beryl Pickett, John Baumer, Patricia Kempton, Vincent Baden Merrett, John Kinnealy.  
**THOSE WHO ARE SICK:** Judy Mibus, Frank & Edward Carmody, Kerry McCluggage, Dorothy Harrison, Jean Clark, Brian Joyce, Frank Vogels, Val Carter, Dawn Anson, Joan Birrell, Jack Gower, Colin Ferguson, Eileen Corrigan.  
*Please note it is the relatives' responsibility to submit anniversary names to parish office.*

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

**Hamilton**  
Fri After 10am Mass  
Sat 5.30m before Mass

**Other Mass Centres**  
Sunday Before 9am



**PRAYER TIME IN OUR PARISH**

**Christian Meditation**  
Parish House Wednesday 7.30pm.

**Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary**  
9.30 am before weekday Mass or C.S  
7 pm Thursday & Sunday.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
After Mass Wed. 10.30-12 noon.

**Prayer before The Blessed Sacrament**

The Church is open daily till 8pm .  
If you are prepared to spend time between  
6pm & 8pm on a roster .  
Contact: Rita Taylor.

## Significant Workshop on Child Sex Abuse

On last Thursday in Warrnambool, two discussion workshops were held in St Joseph's Church foyer to address the issue of child sex abuse within the wider community and its impact on victims led by Professor Caroline Taylor who founded the Children of Phoenix charity which provides scholarships to survivors of child sexual assault.

Her website says she runs workshops to "demystify community perceptions of child sexual abuse in terms of its prevalence and the context where most abuse occurs".

She says the majority of sexual abuse happens in a family setting either by a family member, extended family or people closely linked to the family.

"Disclosure is a critical moment and the response received to that disclosure is paramount and is linked to the recovery of the victim," she says. Ballarat-based researcher, author and advocate Professor Taylor won an Order of Australia medal in 2012 for her work on the issues of child sexual abuse and violence against women.

"This is an opportunity for the church and wider community to come together for a greater understanding of the issues associated with child sexual abuse," parish priest Father John Fitzgerald said.

"We know that child sexual abuse was ineptly and unsympathetically handled by the Catholic Church.

"We deplore what has happened in the past.

"Now we can only look forward toward the future and ensure this never happens again.

Members of our St Mary's Pastoral Team attended the workshop.

## First Sunday of Lent



Your donation to Project Compassion is helping Caritas Australia end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

This week we meet Maristely who lives with her family in a favela (slum) in Brazil. When they first moved to São Paulo, favela houses were made of cardboard, there was no electricity or water, and sewage ran down the street. Caritas Australia's partner, the *Movement for the Defence of Favela Residents*, is changing lives across 40 favelas in São Paulo by helping families gain access to clean water, electricity and connected sewerage. Across the favelas, there is a dominant culture of violence. The program also promotes peace so youth can attain education and employment; rather than joining local gangs.

Please donate to Project Compassion today. Your solidarity means communities like Maristely's can enjoy a full life.

**Please donate to Project Compassion today.**

### FEAST DAYS - March

- 17th - St Patrick
- 19th - St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 25th - The Annunciation of the Lord

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Every Thursday evening during Lent,  
at St Mary's Church commencing at 7pm.  
Everyone is welcome.

## Parish Calender

- 16th March 2nd Sunday Of Lent
- 21st March Reconciliation Workshop  
9.15 -1.15 Dunworth Centre.
- 25th,26th Celebrating the Sacrament of  
& 27th Reconciliation from 6pm.

## Please Come To Our Lenten Group

**Tuesday Nights - 7 until 8 pm** Any or all of 5 nights -11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> of March; and 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of April for ordinary people discussing ordinary ways to increase our faith this Lent.

**10 David Street, Hamilton** RSVP: Call or Text Chris Jansen 0407 719 530 or just turn up. I'd love to see you here. Thank you.

**Monday evenings during Lent:** Mass will be celebrated in

Monivae Chapel commencing at 8.30pm.

All are very welcome.



**Sunday Catch up**  
**16th March @**  
**12 Midday .**

Bookings John Hockey 0439 319 823 Limited numbers

## **Laser Strike**

### **Sunday 30th March**

Departing @ 10.30am  
From Dunworth Centre  
& returning 5pm.

Cost: \$20 U14, Student  
Pass \$25, Adults \$30.

Lunch included



**Happy Birthday**  
**Trish.**

## Prayer

God of Mercy, you call us  
into this Lenten journey, to enter more deeply  
into the mystery of Christ.

Renew in us,  
our faithfulness as we return to you  
on the path of goodness and truth.  
Strengthen us to respond anew  
to your life-giving love

**Through Christ Our Lord.**  
**Amen.**



REFLECTION  
TO ACTION

# Sent to be the Good News

As you reflect on this week's Gospel, try to situate yourself in the desert with Jesus. Be aware of the sights and sounds of the desert and imagine how Jesus would have felt there alone in this place of stillness and quiet. Maybe you are familiar with images of the vast Australian desert with all its beauty and fear.



We read that Jesus was 'led by the Spirit' into the desert. There he was challenged to embrace his humanity and make the choice we all constantly face. We choose to either settle for less than our best selves, or allow God to transform our often narrow and limited way of being, into a more creative and outward looking view that realises the potential and possibility of our humanness. For Jesus this meant being led by the Spirit along the road that would eventually lead to Calvary.

What might a desert encounter mean for you? What word of truth does the desert hold for you, for your relationships, your parish community or for our nation?

The Australian poet, Noel Davis, in one of his poems talks about such a place of stillness as being 'The Place of Dangerous Clarity'. He writes:

Beware  
when you pass through a gate of quiet  
and enter into a place of stillness.  
Know you are at risk,  
that you never re-emerge unscathed. Never!

You may return fierce and hungry for justice,  
a passionate lover, a surprise to yourself,  
a risk taker, seen as a trouble maker.  
You may emerge a seeker  
seeking ever open to each moment's invitation.  
You may be invited to be generous  
with what you most cling to,  
bold in ways you've never been,  
dared to take that step  
you have feared the most  
speak out your truth  
and have it prized or criticised,  
live your life the way  
you have always wanted to  
and never dared,  
say yes to being you.

Know that place of stillness  
grows an inner trust  
and becomes in time  
a place of dangerous clarity.

Beware!

What are your hopes for this 'desert time'?  
How do you feel about entering this 'place of stillness' and allowing the Spirit to lead you?  
Pray for what you need to embark on this journey.

- During this week make time to meet a friend for coffee and share some unrushed quality time together.
- Visit someone who is experiencing a dry and isolating 'desert time'. Offer them encouragement and take time to listen to their hopes and longings.
- Take time to speak to someone you don't know when you go to Mass this weekend or sit in a different part of the church and acknowledge the presence of those around you.