

SECOND READING:

1 Peter 3:18-22

A reading from the first letter of St Peter
The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Matthew 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:

Mark 1:12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:

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



Days of Penance!

1. Rules for Lent follow in (a), (b), and (c).
2. Abstinence from meat and fasting are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
3. On all other Fridays of the year the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:
 - (a) Prayer – for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making that Stations of the Cross; praying the rosary.
 - (b) Self-denial – for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country.
 - (c) Helping other – for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened.

All who have completed their eighteenth year and have not yet begun their sixtieth year are bound to fast. All who have completed their fourteenth year are bound to abstain.

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney.

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office at safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org or by calling (02) 9390 5810.

PARISH OF ST. THERESE, DENISTONE



Presbytery and Office

8 Inkerman Rd, Denistone 2114 Tel: 9809 2925

Website: www.sttherese.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr Roberto Castillo

Deacon: Rev Mr Aruna Perera

Parish Secretary: Gayle White admin@sttherese.org.au

Office hours Tues-Fri 9am-3pm

[St Therese's School](#)

448 Blaxland Rd, Denistone 2114 (02) 9874 0412



MASS TIMES:

SATURDAY VIGIL:	6:00 pm.
SUNDAY:	8:00 am and 9.30am (changed to 10 am till further notice)
MONDAY:	No Mass.
TUESDAY through to SATURDAY:	9.00 am Mass.
FRIDAY:	9.00 am Mass.
	Exposition & Benediction every Friday after Mass.
RECONCILIATION:	Saturday 5pm – 5.45pm or by appointment.
Baptism:	Every Sunday at 11am or 11.30am. Please contact Parish Office.
Marriage:	By appointment.
Anointing of the sick:	Please give names to Father Roberto Castillo.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (Year B)
20th / 21st February 2021

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

FIRST READING: Genesis 9:8-15

A reading from the book of Genesis
I will recall the covenant between myself and you ... the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: nothing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every

living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 24:4-9

RESPONSE: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. **Response.**

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. **Response.**

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. **Response.**

(continued on back page)

This week's great work!

Brothers and sisters,

This week we distributed a letter into the mail boxes of more than 2700 homes in Denistone as we are just trying to keep in touch with all our people.

This letterbox drop is in keeping with the evangelisation mission plan Archbishop Fisher announced, which involves reaching out to others, bringing more people back to church.

This letter is an announcement that the parish is still open and active and we are hoping that this will help some of our brothers and sisters to feel comfortable to resume their Sunday obligation.

It is also an invitation to everyone to come and listen to a series of talks assisting people to gain an experience of Christ.

The letter was distributed with the help of many members of the Neocatechumenal Way and I sincerely thank them for their time and efforts.

I pray that this will produce some fruits. And once again you are invited to come and participate in the talks that the Neocatechumens are preparing for us. Beginning this Sunday night 7:30pm and continuing on Thursday 7:30pm in the church.

Blessings to you, Fr Roberto



Some quotes to inspire you this Lent

"The Lord measures out perfection neither by the multitude nor the magnitude of our deeds, but by the manner in which we perform them." St. John of the Cross

"You don't know how to pray? Put yourself in the presence of God, and as soon as you have said, 'Lord, I don't know how to pray!' you can be sure you've already begun." St Josemaría Escrivá

"Lent is a time of going very deeply into ourselves... What is it that stands between us and God? Between us and our brothers and sisters? Between us and life, the life of the Spirit? Whatever it is, let us relentlessly tear it out, without a moment's hesitation." Catherine Doherty

"Unless there is a Good Friday in your life, there can be no Easter Sunday." Ven. Fulton Sheen

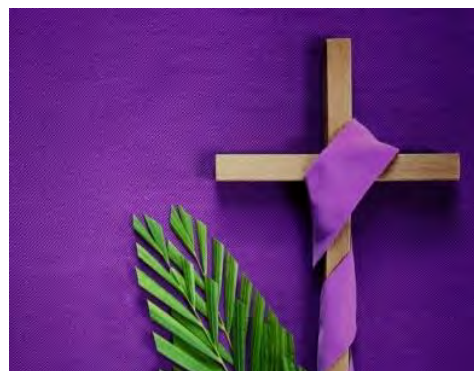
"The ultimate goal of fasting is to help each one of us to make a complete gift of self to God." Pope Benedict XVI

"God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy." Pope Francis

"And he said to all: If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me" Luke 9:23.

"Apart from the cross, there is no other ladder by which we may get to heaven." St. Rose of Lima

"As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst...He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you." Blessed Teresa of Calcutta



PARISH NEWS & NOTICES:

Request for Mass and Prayers.

We pray for those who have recently died. Also pray for those who celebrate anniversaries at this time especially Jack Burke.



One Voice - The Voice

Save the date: Sunday 21st Feb 7.30pm

Christ is **REACHING OUT** to you in this catechesis, as we have heard in the last liturgies when he reached many in need.

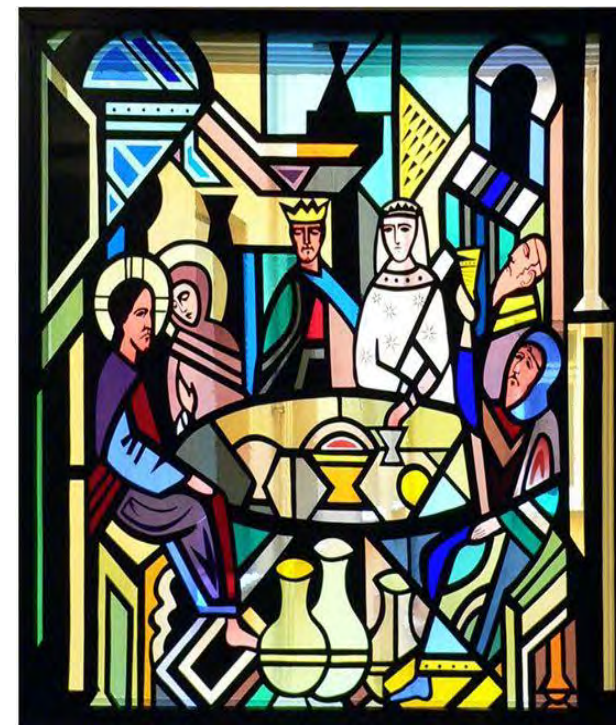
Please Reach Out to others - family, friends and neighbours.

We want to see God but we cannot see Him. We want to be strong but find ourselves weak.

We want to be resilient but we throw in the towel.

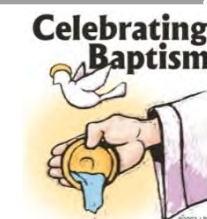
Christ is lending a hand to you. COME.

Don't come alone, invite family, friends & neighbours.



Baptism this weekend.

This Sunday we will welcome into our faith community Theodore Raymond Catania. We congratulate his parents Kirsty & Nathan and their families.



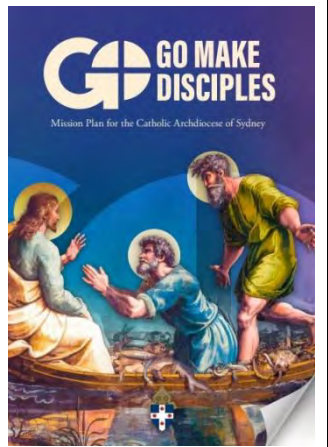
Stations of the Cross.

Stations will begin on Friday the 19th February and will run throughout Lent on every Friday evening at 7.30pm.

'Go Make Disciples.'

'Go make disciples' is the new Archdiocesan Mission Plan to examine the situation and mission of the Church in Sydney. Our parish was involved in some of that conversation. This plan will guide our priorities and direction for renewal. Every parish is called through this to a deep spiritual renewal as disciples so we can be better connected with each other and with those who are not close to us. The pressing needs of our ever-changing world, impels us to recreate our parish and make it more a living sign of the proximity of Christ.

Please take a copy of the summarized version of this plan home with you to read it and reflect on this and how can we implement it in our parish and think about the ways you could help too.



Lenten programme.

Lenten Group will begin on **Wednesday 24th February at 7.30pm** in the Church and will run throughout Lent. Call the presbytery to reserve a seat.

Project compassion.

Our 2021 Lenten Appeal, Project Compassion, is based on "Aspire not to have more, but to be more". We invite you to use the envelopes or money boxes provided at the front of the Church if donations are 100% tax deductible. **So don't forget to pick up your envelopes OR money boxes.**



Covid19 Safe directions as at 12th February 2021.

- Parish can now have one person per two-square-metres. **This means that our church limit increases to 85 people.**
- Masks are no longer compulsory.
- Registering your attendance is still very important.
- **QR codes should be used.** If you use the QR code, please also note "QR" on the attendance page where your name should have been recorded.

This helps us to keep track of the numbers within the church and ensures we don't exceed our current church limit of 85 people.

