

SECOND READING: 1 Cor 10:31 - 11:1
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone - to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Luke 7:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Mark 1:40-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
The leprosy left him and he was cured.



A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places

where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Gen 9: 8-15; 1 Pet 3: 18-22;
Mk 1:12-15.



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.

Mobile phones at Mass.

To maintain a spirit of reverence and solemnity, please turn off and refrain from using all mobile telephones and other electronic devices during Mass.



PARISH OF ST. THERESE, DENISTONE

Presbytery and Office

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Office hours Tues-Fri 9am-3pm

St Therese's School

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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.

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B)
13th / 14th February 2021

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

FIRST READING: Leviticus 13:1-2. 44-46

A reading from the book of Leviticus

As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 31:1-2. 5. 11

RESPONSE: I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Happy the man whose offence is forgiven, whose sin is remitted.
 O happy the man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no guile. **Response.**

But now I have acknowledged my sins; my guilt I did not hide.
 I said: 'I will confess my offence to the Lord.'
 And you, Lord, have forgiven the guilt of my sin. **Response.**

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, exult, you just!
 O come, ring out your joy, all you upright of heart. **Response.**

(continued on back page)

Lent 2021.

As usual Lent begins with Ash Wednesday.
Ash Wednesday is THIS week on the 17th February.
Masses will be held here at Denistone at:
9am and 7.30pm.

This Ash Wednesday we will begin the Season of Lent. The Church teaches that Lent is 40 days of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. It is a time to practice penance and make sacrifices. Lent ends after sunset on Holy Thursday. It is considered a time of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. We also imitate our Lord who spent 40 days in the desert without eating, in preparation to his ministry. Perhaps for us it should be a time of preparation before all the good works we intend to do in the church and society throughout the year. But above all it is an invitation to repent from sins as well, to make changes to our lives; to make amends for the wrong things done and it is a time to exercise the virtues and reconcile ourselves with God and others.



There is no conversion of heart, without first, following the appropriate steps which will help us to reach the new beginnings of conversion. Prayer is of course one of those. We all have to look for the Lord in prayer, and stop concentrating too much on superfluous things, especially we should give up some social media and dedicate more time to the one who can give us eternal life. Reading the Scriptures and participating at extra Masses or saying the Rosary or praying the Stations of the Cross are some other ways we can practice prayer during this time.

Giving alms is another wonderful way of preparing for Easter. We shouldn't think only about ourselves instead we should be concerned about the welfare of others, especially those who are in great need in our world. Project Compassion through Caritas is a wonderful way of doing so; this is the Charity arm of the Catholic Church; and we imitate Our Lord who spent his ministry helping others.

Fasting is another way of bringing some self-control in our lives. This is not limited to abstaining from meat on Fridays and eating very little on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. But there are many other things you can do to help yourself to have more self-control in your lives. Giving up some sleep time by getting up earlier; abstaining from sweets or something you particularly enjoy like watching TV or sports or some luxuries.

In Lent we also recall our baptism, the day we were baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and evil; and began a new life in Christ. The seed of eternal life.

As we continue to live through the pandemic and very disturbing and changing times it is more urgent than ever to practice Lent appropriately, coming before the Lord and humbling ourselves before him, recognizing that we are dust, sinners and that He is the one who can give us an endless life of happiness. May we all take this time very seriously and may we all be renewed to celebrate Easter, and begin the change of heart the Lord expects from each and every one of us.

I leave you with some Lenten quotes that I hope will help you to start thinking about the sacred days that are approaching. Remember that you have 40 days; hope you make something every day. Stay safe.

"Nothing great is ever achieved without much enduring."St Catherine of Sienna.

"Then the Lord God formed a man from the DUST of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and the man became a living being."Genesis 2: 7

"...and said to him, 'Go throughout the city of Jerusalem and put a mark on the foreheads of those who grieve and lament over all the detestable things that are done in it.'Ezekiel 9: 4

"You could say that prayer without fasting is like boxing with one hand tied behind your back, and that fasting without prayer is, well, dieting."Matt Fradd

"When you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you."Matthew 6:6

PARISH NEWS & NOTICES:

Request for Mass and Prayers.

We pray for those who have recently died especially Fred Hawkins, Anthony Urbano and Pasquale Simonetti. Also pray for those who celebrate anniversaries at this time.



One Voice - The Voice

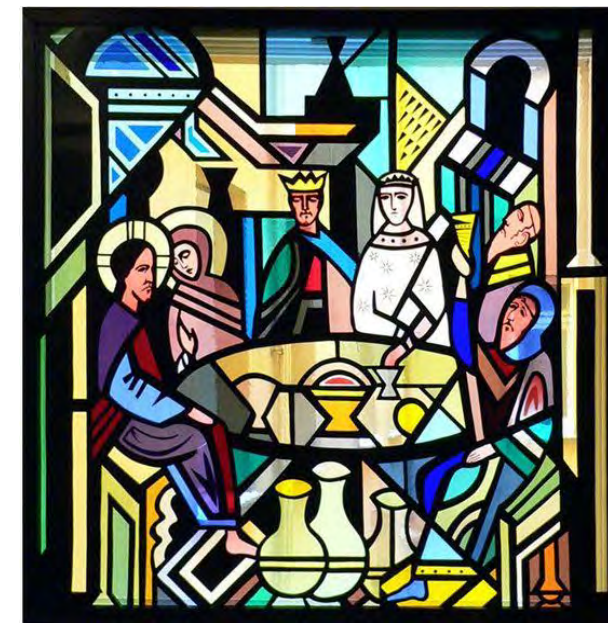
Save the date: Sunday 21st Feb 7.30pm

There are many confusing voices in the world in 2021.

But the strongest voice is still ACTIVE.

COME and LISTEN to the Christian Voice for 2021 Don't come alone, invite family, friends and neighbours. In the words of Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP ***"In The Great Commissioning Christ sent us out to all the world, proclaiming the good news in the confidence that he is with us always...."***

St Mary's Cathedral, Sunday 31st Jan 2021 Plenary Council Commissioning



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. All donations are 100% tax deductible. **So don't forget to pick up your envelopes OR money boxes.**



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.'

Brothers and sisters, 'Go make disciples' is the name of the new Archdiocesan Mission Plan which has been prepared for the whole church of Sydney. Our Archbishop Anthony Fisher, initiated a 5-year pastoral planning project entitled 'Parish 2020' with the goal of examining the situation and mission of the Church in Sydney. 'Go make disciples' is the plan that has been devised and launched for the Archdiocese after much consultation. Our parish was involved in some of that conversation. This plan will guide our priorities and direction. It gives a lot of practical resources 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. At the end of the Mass there will be some copies of the summarized version of this plan available for you; please take a copy and I encourage 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.

Attention all Catechists
Classes resume on **Tuesday**
the **23rd February.**



Congratulations.

We congratulate
JAMELIE MORABITO
&
MICHELA AUGIMERI

on their 40 years of ministry, teaching catechism at public schools. Last Sunday both ladies received the Cardinal Gilroy Award at a special Mass at St Marys Cathedral.



If any parishioner would like to take up this ministry and become a catechist please see Fr Roberto after any of the Masses or call the presbytery on 9809-2925.

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.