SECOND READING: **1 Corinthians 15:45-49**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul, but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature, the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:
Love one another as I have loved you

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: **Luke 6:27-38**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Jesus said to his diciples: "I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on the cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

"Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you; a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Sirach 24: 4-7; 1 Cor 15: 54-58; Luke 6: 39-45

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office: If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney please call the Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office on 02 9390 5812.

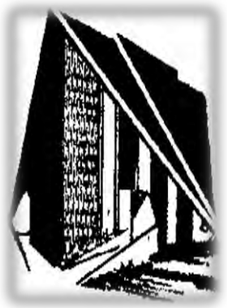
View the Archdiocese of Sydney website.

The Archdiocese Policies, Protocols and guidelines are public documents and are available on their Archdiocese website.

22 FEBRUARY — THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER, APOSTLE. FEAST: The chair (cathedra) of a bishop is a pre-eminent sign of his teaching authority and pastoral oversight of a local Church.

This feast, observed in Rome since the fourth century, celebrates Peter, first among the apostles, as founder of the See of Rome and the focus of unity in the communion of one faith.

23 FEBRUARY —SAINT POLYCARP, BISHOP, MARTYR: St. Polycarp of Smyrna, was converted to Christianity by St. John the Evangelist. He was a disciple of the apostles and friend of St. Ignatius of Antioch. He was ordained bishop of Smyrna (now Izmir, Turkey) and was about eighty-six when the Roman pro-consul urged him to renounce Christ and save his life. St. Polycarp said, "For eighty-six years I have served Him and he has never wronged me. How can I renounce the King who has saved me?" He suffered martyrdom in 155 by burning at the stake in the amphitheater of Smyrna.



PARISH OF ST. THERESE, DENISTONE

Presbytery and Office

8 Inkerman Rd, Denistone 2114 Tel: 9809 2925, Fax 9809 5546

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 10.00 am.
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 11.30am. Please contact Parish Office.
Marriage:	By appointment.
Anointing of the sick:	Please give names to Father Roberto Castillo.

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year C)
19th / 20th February 2022

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

FIRST READING: **1 Sam 26: 2,7-9, 12-13, 22-23**

A reading from the first book of Samuel

The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, "Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, "Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?" David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head and they made off. No one saw, not one knew, no one woke up; they were all sleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, "Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Response: The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **Response.**

It is he who forgives all you guilt,
who heals ever one of you ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love & compassion. **Response.**

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our faults. **Response.**

As far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **Response.**

(continued on back page)

19 / 20 FEBRUARY 2022 – 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

	SATURDAY 6.00PM	SUNDAY 8.00AM	SUNDAY 10.00AM
Acolyte	T DABBAH	J KWONG	M MORELLI
Reader	L SAMONTE	S JAYAMANNE	H VAZ
Offertory	DABBAH FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY
Projection	TO BE RESUMED SOON	TO BE RESUMED SOON	TO BE RESUMED SOON
Altar Servers	GROUP 3: SOPHIA BERNLEITNER & AMARA LOIACONO	NO ROSTERED GROUP	GROUP 7: VINCENT & ALYSSA WIDJAYA
Welcomers	A CHAN & P ONG		VOLUNTEER WANTED
Counters	GROUP 11: P. HO B TANG A. STANTON		
Altar Flowers	A NAGANATHAN	**FEBRUARY ALTAR LINEN: MIRA SAVIC**	

26 / 27 FEBRUARY 2022 – 8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

	SATURDAY 6.00PM	SUNDAY 8.00AM	SUNDAY 10.00AM
Acolyte	R MORFUNI	A STANTON	G MOODLEY
Reader	J PERERA	Y LEUNG	VOLUNTEER
Offertory	VOLUNTEER FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY
Projection	TO BE RESUMED SOON	TO BE RESUMED SOON	TO BE RESUMED SOON
Altar Servers	GROUP 4: WONG FAMILY & NIARA PAREKALAM	NO ROSTERED GROUP	GROUP 8: ELIE & ALYSSIA BARAZ
Welcomers	A CHAN & P ONG		VOLUNTEER WANTED
Counters	GROUP 1: B. CLARK A. STANTON P. BRODERICK		
Altar Flowers	J KEYSER	**FEBRUARY ALTAR LINEN: MIRA SAVIC**	

PARISH NEWS & NOTICES:

Request for Mass and Prayers.

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

Collections – 1st and 2nd Collections please use the baskets.

As yet we haven't resumed the Wardens taking up the collections. So currently our collection baskets remain at the front of the Church. With this in mind we would like to remind you all, to please make an effort to place you weekly donations in the baskets before you leave the church after Mass. The baskets are clearly marked with 1st Collection and 2nd Collections.

Parking Etiquette in the streets near the church.

We must always be considerate of our neighbours and therefore never park poorly and block our neighbour's access to their homes.
And be careful when crossing the road and parking.

Church opening times.

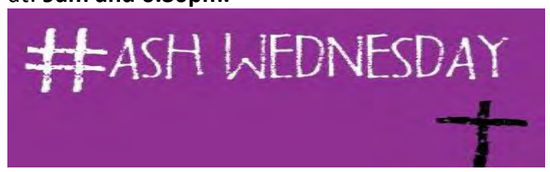
The Church is now open for private prayers throughout the day. This means that the church will remain open till around 4 or 5pm every day.

Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission.

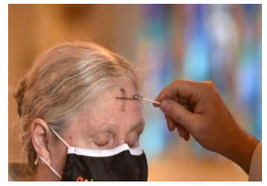
A leaflet from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, Synod 2021 – 2023 are in the front foyer. You are all welcome to take one home this weekend. And using the QR code tag on the leaflet you will be able to access to the website and find out more information about this journey of discernment that is occurring worldwide. You could even take the opportunity to put forward your ideas / thoughts if you follow the survey links.

Lent 2022.

As usual Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on the **2nd March.** Masses will be held here at Denistone at: **9am and 6.30pm.**



Distribution of Ashes.



The act of putting on ashes symbolizes fragility and mortality, and the need to be redeemed by the mercy of God. Far from being a merely external act, it symbolizes that attitude of internal penance to which all the baptised are called during Lent.

Lenten programme.

EIGHT people have already advised us that they will be attending!

Our sessions will begin on **Wednesday 2nd March 7.30pm** in the Church and will run throughout Lent.

Please speak with Fr Roberto or call the presbytery to reserve a seat. Write your name on the clipboard provided if you are joining us this year.

Stations of the Cross.

Stations will begin on Friday the 4th March and will run throughout Lent every Friday evening at 7.30pm.

Volunteers needed.

Our parish needs more volunteers in everything:

- people to help and support our gardener
- Catechists
- Readers / Acolytes / Counters / Offertory families!

Please call the presbytery to register your interest.

Restriction Update.

Good news! Covid19 restrictions have eased from Friday the 18th February:

- The capacity limits on the church have now been removed. No limits apply.
- No need to sign-in or use the QR codes.
- Singing is allowed once again.
- **BUT we must still wear masks** until next week Friday 25th February.

Catechist Teachers urgently needed.

Catechist teacher for Year 6 is urgently needed. Are you able to help? Please contact the presbytery and find out more information. Only half an hour during school terms is needed and training is provided.

Days of Penance! Repent from your evils and believe this Good News.

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.

Catholic Weekly is on sale in the front foyer!

- *The Five and the Furious. Religious Discrimination law paralysed.*
- *Quiet Achievers. Catechists share the light of faith.*
- *Yes, I'm not Arab. Why I became a Maronite Catholic.*
- *The lucky country? Not if you're homeless.*