

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Matthew 17: 5
 Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
 From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
 this is my beloved Son, hear him.
 Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: Matthew 17: 1-9
 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
His face shone like the sun.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him'. When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



COMMUNION ANTIPHON:
 This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well please;
 listen to him.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Ex 17: 3-7; Rom 5: 1-2, 5-8; Jn 4: 5-42.

Days of Penance!

LENT LASTS FROM ASH WEDNESDAY (22nd FEBRUARY) TO THE MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (6th APRIL). ON GOOD FRIDAY AND, IF POSSIBLE, ALSO ON HOLY SATURDAY UNTIL THE EASTER VIGIL, THE EASTER FAST IS OBSERVED.

PASCHAL PRECEPT

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday, 22nd February, and Trinity Sunday, 4th June, 2023 unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year. All the faithful are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

1. Abstinence from meat and fasting are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
2. 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.

Safeguarding our community: If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney please call the appropriate authorities OR The Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office on 02 9390 5812 OR **speak with our Parish Safeguarding Support Officer Helen Vaz OR Parish Priest, both of whom will be able to provide support and guidance.**



PARISH OF ST. THERESE, DENISTONE

Presbytery and Office

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Parish Priest: Fr Roberto Castillo

Deacon: Rev Mr Aruna Perera

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

Office hours Tues, Thurs and Fri from 8am-4pm

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: 9.15am Communion Service.
 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.

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (Year A)
 4th / 5th March 2023**

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

FIRST READING: Genesis 12: 1-4

A reading from the book of Genesis

The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing. 'I will bless those who bless you: I will curse those who slight you. All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 32: 4-5. 18-20. 22

RESPONSE: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love.

Response.

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

Response.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

Response.

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 1: 8-10
A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy
God has saved us, and called us to be holy.

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy - not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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4 / 5 MARCH 2023 – 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

	SATURDAY 6.00PM	SUNDAY 8.00AM	SUNDAY 10.00AM
Acolyte	T DABBAH	M MORELLI	G MOODLEY
Reader	V PERERA	E WHEELER	G DEARING / AND FAMILY MASS VOLUNTEERS
Offertory	VOLUNTEER FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY	BETTY LOCKETT & KATE MORGAN STELLA & KERRY CALLAGHAN
Projection	A SHEEKA		
Altar Servers	GRP 1: JAMES D'MELLO & AIDEN SHEEKA		GRP 5: DEARING FAMILY
Welcomers	S CHAMISA		MOLLY MULROE & KIARA HOR
Counters	GROUP 8: F KURNIWAN A NAGANATHAN D TAN		
Altar Flowers	NO ALTAR FLOWERS DURING LENT - KAYSHINEE PERERA / TINA CHAMISA	MARCH ALTAR LINEN: JOSEFINA DELAVEGA	

11 / 12 MARCH 2023 – 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

	SATURDAY 6.00PM	SUNDAY 8.00AM	SUNDAY 10.00AM Family Mass
Acolyte	R MORFUNI	D ELLIS	A STANTON
Reader	B CLARK	P TREACY	C LAYOUN
Offertory	DABBAH FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY
Projection	T MORFUNI		
Altar Servers	GRP 2: ZAC O'DONOGHUE & EL-AZZI FAMILY	GRP 10: JOSH MULROE	GRP 6: ADAM CALLAGHAN
Welcomers	A CHAN & P ONG		VOLUNTEER WANTED
Counters	GROUP 9: C DABBAH T DABBAH A STANTON		
Altar Flowers	NO ALTAR FLOWERS DURING LENT - N HAHN	MARCH ALTAR LINEN: JOSEFINA DELAVEGA	

PARISH NEWS & NOTICES:

Request for Mass and Prayers.

We pray for those who have recently died. Also pray for those who celebrate anniversaries especially Mavis Burge.



Project Compassion.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**. Donation **envelopes or money boxes** are still available from the front of the Church. All donations are 100% tax deductible.



Tereesa is a Gamilaroi woman from Western Sydney who struggled with homelessness while raising her four children. At just 16 years old, she had to leave school after falling pregnant with her first child. A single mother struggling with homelessness, Tereesa's only concern was finding stability for her children. Seeking a better future for her family, Tereesa joined Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation's Young Mums and Bubs Group, supported by Caritas Australia. Baabayn helped Tereesa access housing and psychological support. Today, Tereesa is studying a certificate in Community Services so that she can strengthen her skills and give back to her community. Tereesa now works at Baabayn, providing support to young mothers and mentoring the next generation of young people.

Stations of the Cross.

Stations continue this week on **Friday the 10th March** and will run throughout Lent, every Friday evening at 7.30pm. Come, meditate and pray on the Passion of our Lord to prepare well for Easter.



Family Mass and Cuppa this weekend.

This weekend will be our first Family Mass for 2023. St Therese School families from Kindy through to Year 2 will be supporting the rostered volunteers with some of the Mass ministries. All are welcome to stay back for the parish "Cuppa" after the 10am Mass.



Baptism this Sunday.

This Sunday we will welcome into our faith community **ZAIDEN RADY**.



We congratulate family and friends of Zaiden.

Lenten programmes.

Our TWO Lenten Reflection programmes continue:

Tuesday the 7th March at 7.30pm in the St Therese School Hall

OR

Wednesday 8th March at 3pm in the presbytery.

Parish Council Meeting UPDATE.

Our March and April meetings have been **re-scheduled** to just ONE meeting on **Thursday 23rd March** at 7pm in the presbytery.



Altar Servers training.

Is your child in Years 4-6, who has received the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and First Holy Communion and interested to become an Altar Server? If so, read on.



Fr Roberto and Thomas Dabbah will lead another training session for NEW Altar Servers on:

Saturday the 18th March at 4pm - 5pm in the church. Parents, please note that you must stay with your child for the whole session.

Working bee.

Our next working bee will be held on Saturday the 1st April at 9.30am. So bring your rakes and gloves as we prepare the church for Easter.



Palms branches are needed.

This year we request you bring your own piece of palm or olive twig when you attend Mass for Palm Sunday on the 1st or 2nd April. Please note that we will have a small supply of palms for those who forget to bring their own.



FYI - Scripture classes at Denistone East Public School.

At our local public school Catholic scripture is being taught to **129 children** by our wonderful team of 12 catechists. Please pray for them and the ministry work they do.



Also, we welcome **Olivia Wibowo** and **Elizabeth Testa** who have joined our team of volunteers.

Easter Vigil Supper Celebration.

This year we will celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord, within our community with a wonderful supper at the school hall after the Easter Vigil. In the coming weeks we will be asking for volunteers to help set up the hall and for all those who come to bring a plate of food to share. But please put the date in your diaries – **8th April**.



Let us celebrate as a parish community our biggest day when the Lord is Risen!

Holy Week Roster for Volunteers.

We will begin asking for volunteers for our Holy Week Liturgies NEXT week. So think about your plans this Easter so you will know when you are able to help out with the many liturgies.



Anointing of the Sick.

Fr Roberto will anoint the sick/elderly parishioners after each Mass on the weekend of 25th / 26th March. But please remember that this sacrament is not for everybody. The sacrament is for:



"those who are dangerously ill through sickness or old age" or "a sick person...before surgery whenever the surgery is necessitated by a dangerous illness" or "elderly people...if they are weak, though not dangerously ill" or "sick children...sufficiently mature to be comforted by the sacrament."

Reconciliation for Easter in the Ryde Deanery.

2nd Rite of Reconciliation will be available at:

Eastwood – Tuesday 28th March 2023 at 6pm