

of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: **John 8:12**
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: **John 9:1 -42**
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' 'Neither he nor his parents sinned,' Jesus answered, 'he was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him.

'As long as the day lasts I must carry out the work of the one who sent me; the night will soon be here when no one can work. As long as I am in the world I am the light of the world.'

Having said this, he spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how do your eyes come to be open?' 'The man called Jesus' he answered 'made a paste, daubed my eyes with it and said to me, "Go and wash at Siloam"; so I went, and when I washed I could see.' They asked, 'Where is he?' 'I don't know' he answered.

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

However, the Jews would not believe that the man had been blind and had gained his sight, without first sending for his parents and asking them, 'Is this man really your son who you say was born blind? If so, how is it that he is now able to see?' His parents answered, 'We know he is our son and we know he was born blind, but we don't know how it is that he can see now, or who opened his eyes. He is old enough: let him speak for himself.' His parents spoke like this out of fear of the Jews, who had already agreed to expel from the synagogue anyone who should acknowledge Jesus as the Christ. This was why his parents said, 'He is old enough; ask him.'

So the Jews again sent for the man and said to him, 'Give glory to God! For our part, we know that this man is a sinner.' The man answered, 'I don't know if he is a sinner; I only know that I was blind and now I can see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He replied, 'I have told you once and you wouldn't listen. Why do you want to hear it all again? Do you want to become his disciples too?' At this they hurled abuse at him: 'You can be his disciple,' they said 'we are disciples of Moses: we know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this man, we don't know where he comes from.' The man replied, 'Now here is an astonishing thing! He has opened my eyes, and you don't know where he comes from! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but God does listen to men who are devout and do his will. Ever since the world began it is unheard of for anyone to open the eyes of a man who was born blind; if this man were not from God, he couldn't do a thing.' 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

Jesus said: 'It is for judgement that I have come into this world, so that those without sight may see and those with sight turn blind.'

Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, 'We are not blind, surely?' Jesus replied:

'Blind? If you were, you would not be guilty, but since you say, "We see", your guilt remains.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.



PARISH OF ST. THERESE, DENISTONE

Presbytery and Office

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

St Therese's School

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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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (Year A) 18th / 19th March 2023

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13
A reading from the first book of Samuel
In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Ps 22

RESPONSE: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.

Response.

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort.

Response.

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.

Response.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

Response.

SECOND READING:

Ephesians 5: 8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak

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18 / 19 MARCH 2023 – 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

	SATURDAY 6.00PM	SUNDAY 8.00AM	SUNDAY 10.00AM
Acolyte	T DABBAH	D D'MELLO	G MOODLEY
Reader	L SAMONTE	S JAYAMANNE	H VAZ
Offertory	DABBAH FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY
Projection	A PLEADIN		
Altar Servers	GRP 3: SOPHIA BERNLEITNER & AMARA LOIACONO, NIARA PAREKELEM & FREDERICK LI		GRP 7: VINCENT & ALYSSA WIDJAYA
Welcomers	A CHAN & P ONG		VOLUNTEER WANTED
Counters	GROUP 10: V MAMO	C MAMO	
Altar Flowers	A NAGANATHAN	MARCH ALTAR LINEN: JOSEFINA DELAVEGA	

25 / 26 MARCH 2023 – 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

	SATURDAY 6.00PM	SUNDAY 8.00AM	SUNDAY 10.00AM
Acolyte	R MORFUNI	J KWONG	A STANTON
Reader	J PERERA	Y LEUNG	VOLUNTEER
Offertory	VOLUNTEER FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY
Projection	V PERERA		
Altar Servers	GRP 4: WONG FAMILY		GRP 8: ELIE & ALYSSIA BARAZ
Welcomers	S CHAMISA		VOLUNTEER WANTED
Counters	GROUP 11: P. HO B TANG	A. STANTON	
Altar Flowers	J KEYSER	MARCH ALTAR LINEN: JOSEFINA DELAVEGA	



PALM SUNDAY – 1st / 2nd April

Saturday Vigil: 6pm, Sunday 8am and 10am.

WEEKDAY MASSES DURING HOLY WEEK

Monday to Wednesday - 9am Mass followed by Reconciliations from 9.30am.

HOLY THURSDAY – 6th April

Mass of The Lord's Supper at 7pm with prayers and adoration till 10pm.

GOOD FRIDAY – 7th April

Stations of the Cross at 10am. (Reconciliations will be available after the Stations.)

The Passion of Our Lord at 3pm.

EASTER MASSES – 8th / 9th April

Easter Vigil at 7pm – followed by Supper in the School Hall

Sunday Masses at 8am and 10am.

Reconciliation for Easter in the Ryde Deanery.

2nd Rite of Reconciliation will be available at:

MARSHFIELD – Thursday, 23 March at 7.30pm.

EASTWOOD – Tuesday 28th March 2023 at 6pm.

NORTH RYDE – Tuesday, 4th April at 6pm.

Lenten programmes.

Sessions continue on Tuesdays at 7.30pm in the School Hall and Wednesdays at 3pm in the presbytery.

PARISH NEWS & NOTICES:

Request for Mass and Prayers.

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



Project Compassion 2023.

Please donate using the envelopes or money boxes available in the church, as we help vulnerable communities face their challenges and build a secure future.

Thu lives in Vietnam. When Thu was 12 years old, he stepped on an unexploded land mine and lost his leg. Living with a disability in rural Vietnam presented many challenges for Thu, who worked mainly as a rice farmer. Thu also cares for his wife, after she suffered a stroke. Determined to turn their lives around, Thu and Linh joined the Empowerment of People with Disabilities program, run by Caritas Australia's local partner in Vietnam, the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development (SRD).



Baptism this Sunday.

This Sunday we will welcome into our faith community

Isaac Flammia.

We congratulate his parents Cassandra and Patrick and their families.



Anointing of the Sick.

NEXT WEEKEND AT ALL MASSES

Fr Roberto will anoint the sick/elderly parishioners. So stay behind after Mass to receive this blessing.



Stations of the Cross.

This Friday the 24th March at 7.30pm.

Parish Council Meeting UPDATE.

Our NEXT council meeting will be on Thursday 23rd March at 7pm in the presbytery.

Palm 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. We will have a small supply of palms for those who forget to bring their own.

Working bee.

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

About the Sunday Obligation

It is important from time to time to remember the basic doctrine of our faith regarding different issues. Our Sunday obligation is one of them. So I hope this reminder will help everybody in their preparation for Easter, and their work of conversion and repentance. From the Catechism of the Catholic Church, we read:



"The precept of the Church specifies the law of the Lord more precisely: 'On Sundays and other days of obligation the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass.'"

This is satisfied by assistance at a Mass anywhere in a Catholic rite, celebrated on the holy day or on the evening of the preceding day.

The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason the faithful are obliged to participate, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants, etc.) Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin. And this should be confessed when you have the chance to go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. On Sundays and other holy days of obligation the faithful are to refrain from engaging in work of activities that hinder the worship owed to God, the joy proper to the Lord's Day...and the appropriate relaxation of mind and body...The faithful should see to it that legitimate excuses do not lead to habits prejudicial to religion, family life and health."

Easter Vigil Supper Celebration.

Our community will celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord with a lovely supper at the school hall after the Vigil on Saturday 8th April.



To make this a success we need **VOLUNTEERS** to help organise the supper with setting up tables, heating up food and the clean-up. **Please write your name on the appropriate clipboard at the front of the church if you can help out.** Also if you and your family are coming to share in this supper please bring some appropriate food to share with people. It would be helpful if you could write your name and what you will bring on the night – savoury or sweet dishes.

Volunteers for Holy Week Roster.

Our Holy Week volunteer roster sheets for all our Easter Services are in the foyer. Please add your name if you able to help at any of the Masses.

rosters