

SECOND READING: Romans 8:31-34

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

God did not spare his own Son.

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us - he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: cf 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: Mark 9:2-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

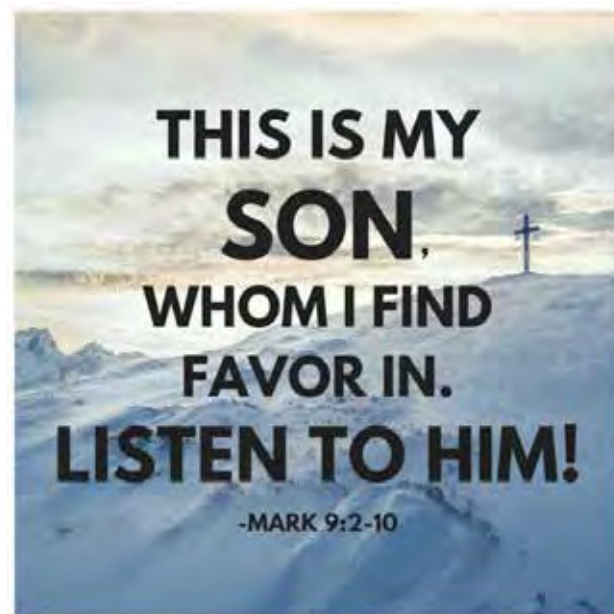
As they came down the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.



READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Ex 20: 1-17; 1 Cor 1: 22-25; Jn 2:13-25.



Days of Penance!

- Rules for Lent follow in (a), (b), and (c).
- Abstinence from meat and fasting are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- 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

8 Inkerman Rd, Denistone 2114 Tel: 9809 2925

Website: www.sttherese.org.au

Administrator: Fr Simon Apablaza

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: 9.30am Communion Service.
- TUESDAY through to SATURDAY: 9.00 am Mass.
- FRIDAY: 9.00 am Mass.
- Exposition & Benediction from 9.40am – 10.15am every Friday after Mass.
- RECONCILIATION: Friday during Exposition and Saturday 5pm – 5.45pm or by appointment.
- BIBLICAL REFLECTIONS: Tuesday evening at 7.30pm at the St Therese School Hall.
- Baptism: Every Sunday at 11.30am. Please contact Parish Office.
- Marriage: By appointment.
- Anointing of the sick: Please give names to Father Simon Apablaza.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (Year B) 24th / 25th February 2024

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 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood. Then he stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self - it is the Lord who speaks - because you have done this, because you have

not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 115-10. 15-19

RESPONSE: I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

I trusted, even when I said: 'I am sorely afflicted.'

O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful.

Response.

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds.

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:

I will call on the Lord's name.

Response.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Response.

(continued on back page)

24 / 25 FEBRUARY 2024 – SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

	SATURDAY 6.00PM – FAMILY MASS	SUNDAY 8.00AM	SUNDAY 10AM
ACOLYTE	ROBERT MORFUNI	MARC MORELLI	JOHN RAPER
READER	FAMILY MASS VOLUNTEERS	PAUL TREACY	PAUL MCLACHLAN / SCOTT DIMICHEL
OFFERTORY	FAMILY MASS VOLUNTEERS		VOLUNTEER NEEDED
PROJECTION	VIDURA PERERA		PAUL TREACY
ALTAR SERVERS	GRP 4: WONG FAMILY		GRP 8: ELIE & ALYSSIA BARAZ AND DOMINIC MCLACHLAN.
WELCOMERS	FAMILY MASS VOLUNTEERS		VOLUNTEER NEEDED
MUSICIANS	ST THERESE SCHOOL		MARIFEL JACOBS & PAUL TREACY
COUNTERS	GROUP 4: PAUL TREACY SCOTT DIMICHEL MAUREEN PEARCE		
ALTAR FLOWERS	JAN KEYSER	FEBRUARY ALTAR LINEN: MIRA SAVIC	

2 / 3 MARCH 2024 – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

	SATURDAY 6.00PM	SUNDAY 8.00AM	SUNDAY 10AM
ACOLYTE	THOMAS DABBAH	DAVID ELLIS	JOHN RAPER
READER	VIDURA PERERA / HARINI JAYAMANNE	ELIZABETH WHEELER	REBECCA DEARING
OFFERTORY	VOLUNTEER FAMILY		VOLUNTEER FAMILY
PROJECTION	AMJAD SHEEKA		PAUL TREACY
ALTAR SERVERS	GRP 1: JAMES D'MELLO & AIDEN SHEEKA		GRP 5: JAMES DEARING & ADAM CALLAGHAN
WELCOMERS	VOLUNTEER NEEDED		VOLUNTEERS
MUSICIANS	SHEILA LEE & JOHN KENNY & CHOIR		LOUISE SPENCER & AMPIE CABANGON
COUNTERS	GROUP 5: ROBERT WHITE GAYLE WHITE PHILIP PAREKALAM		
ALTAR FLOWERS:	KAYSHINEE PERERA / TINA CHAMISA	MARCH ALTAR LINEN: JOSEFINA DELAVEGA	

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
 I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages.
 God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
 consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.
 For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
 and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried,
 and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.
 He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
 I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
 I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.



**Second Sunday of Lent
24 & 25 February**



After the birth of her children, 22-year-old **Ronita** was at risk of having to leave school permanently. But, with the support of Caritas Australia's partners in the Philippines, she resumed her studies and secured a job at a call centre to support her family.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

PARISH NOTICES:

Mass intentions Request for Mass and Prayers.

We pray for our beloved departed, especially: **Ted Cotter & Siroum Krikorian,**



Welcome Mass.

This weekend at the Saturday Vigil we welcome the new parents and their families from our school during the Family Mass. Everybody is welcome to meet them after Mass and say hello. All are welcome to attend the BBQ across the road in the school grounds after Mass.



Course for Acolytes.

Training for **ACOLYTES** continues THIS Wednesday the 28th Feb, 6th Mar & 13th Mar at 6:30pm-9:30pm in the School Hall. Attendance at ALL FOUR SESSIONS is essential.

Lenten programme.

This LENT, come and be inspired by the Word of God at our Group discussion evenings on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Our sessions will begin NEXT WEEK on:

**Tuesday the 27th February at 7.30 &
Thursday 28nd February at 7pm**

in the St Therese School Hall. These sessions will run throughout Lent. To reserve a seat or write your name on the clipboard at the front of the church.

Attention all Catechists.

A reminder that:

- Classes at DENISTONE EAST PUBLIC SSCHOOL will resume **THIS Tuesday the 27st February.**
- Our Term 1 meeting will be held a couple of weeks later on Tuesday on the **12th March** in the presbytery, beginning 10.30am. Please bring a small plate of food to share.

Catechist Teachers urgently needed.

Catechist teachers and helpers are urgently needed. If you are interested and wanting more information, then please call the presbytery ASAP on 9809 2925.

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.

Find out more about the work catechists do here at <https://ccd.sydneycatholic.org/> or call the presbytery next week.

Stations of the Cross.

Will continue on **Friday the 1st March** and will run throughout Lent, every Friday evening at 7pm. Come, meditate and pray on the Passion of our Lord to prepare well for Easter.

Job advert: Permanent Part-time Secretary – St Therese, Denistone.

The Parish of St Therese, Denistone is seeking a part-time Parish Secretary 5 days a week, 9am - 1 pm. *(The hours and days are flexible for the right person.)*

The duties will vary in nature and include, but not limited to managing the parish office including emails, correspondence, rosters, telephone calls, maintaining records, paying bills, monthly and annual reporting; liaising with parish groups and volunteers, welcoming visitors and guests.

A sound level of computer literacy, including Microsoft Office, MYOB and administrative skills are essential requirements for this position. Experience with databases is desirable.

To apply for this position please forward your application and resume by email to: admin@sttherese.org.au or call 9809 2925 to obtain a job description of this position.

The Catholic Womens League.

The next meeting for the ladies is on Friday the 1st March at 10.00am in the Presbytery. New members are urgently needed if CWL is to continue to support those in need. Please join us on 1st March"

Adult Sacramental Program.

Do you want to become a Catholic or receive the sacraments you may have missed in your life? Aruna will be running a program, that will start around the end of February. Please contact the Parish Office or Fr Simon if you want more information.

Project Compassion.

Boxes and Envelopes are available NOW. All donations are 100% tax deductible.



OPEN DAYS

Tuesday 5 March
9.00-10.30am & 11.30am-12.30pm
Wednesday 6 March
5.30-6.30pm
Thursday 7 March
11.30am-12.30pm