



Sacred Heart Parish

South Mount Druitt

Sunday Masses	Saturday 6.00 pm Vigil	2nd SUNDAY of LENT
Weekday Masses	Sunday 7.30 am & 9.00am	28/2/2021: B
	Monday 9.00 am	Week 2 of Lent
	Tuesday 9.00 am	Week 2 of Lent
	Wednesday 7.30 pm then Rosary.	Week 2 of Lent
	Thursday 9.00 am	Week 2 of Lent
	Friday 9.00 am & 7.30pm	Week 2 Lent. Stations
	Saturday 9.00 am	Week 2 of Lent.
Confessions	10.30am,	5.00-5.30pm
Parish Priest	Father C. Ashton	(Confessions after Mass: see Fr.)
Presbytery/Church	9 Ropes Creek Rd, Old Mt. Druitt	Ph: 9625-8847
Baptisms	By arrangement - Godparents must be Catholics.	
Weddings	Six Months Notice - Marriage Preparation Course	

1st Reading: The story of Abraham's call to sacrifice his son, Isaac. God tests the Faith of Abraham to the extreme. God stops, & rewards him by making him Christ's ancestor

2nd Reading: A plea by St. Paul to believe in the love of God for us made known thru Christ. He is leading us to see the evidence of God's love shown in Christ's dying for us!

Readers	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am
March 7	J. SALAZAR	E. MERJUDIO	M. ZORE
3rd Sunday of Lent	E. GEMZON	T. MERJUDIO	H. CRUZ
March 14	L. VILLAPANA	J. MENDES	M. WONG
4th Sunday of Lent	H. VILLARICA	A. MCKENZIE	F. ANTOWN

PILGRIM STATUE of Our Lady will be at the home of the Britto family 89 Frank St. 88073810 this week. You are welcome for a Rosary for the Parish each night at 8.00pm!

If anyone would like to have the Statue for a week and offer the Rosary for the eternal Salvation of all parishioners, put your name on the list that you will find on the table next to the Pamphlet Rack at your right side. You could expect to receive it about once every seven

SAMOAN MASSES are offered in this Church every 2nd & 4th Sundays at 11.00am!

➤ **GIVE LORD ETERNAL REST** to the souls of all the faithful departed especially evangelist [redacted] Bishop Bede HEATHER who died last Thursday, Handoyo ZABDIELA, Henry FARES, Nico SANDAGA, Jack STASZAK, Albert RODRIGUEZ, Dragan CUKAR, Joaquim & Irene BRITTO, Louis & Lily ABREO, John SEQUEIRA, Max CARVALHO, Apolina BRITTO, Colin FITZGERALD, Kazimiasz KELLER, Stypan & Milan MILETIC, Yvonne TURNER, Ivica BIJAC, Marie McLEOD, Mamerto CUI, Max GALE, Antonio FALLA, Lina BONORA, Janina & Gotfryd KELLER, Rose & Godfrey GUILLAUMIER, Corine PIETERSZ, Cappy & Marie RYAN, Arthur & Bridget FITZGERALD, Josip & Nada MARTINOVIC, Eva & Ivan MIKOSIC, Amy O'DOHERTY, Anthony DAWSON, Palmina GATTI, Joanne CREGAN, Donald SPAMPINATO, Ann CRAMER, Julieanne & Lynette MOORE, Ban & Younan MATTI, Adelaida RESARE, Pacifica CALANGIN, Izidor WOJASINSKI, Albert & Mary D'SOUZA, Candida & Mariano FUNELAS, John WOOD, Alfredo & Sui TENG Let us be united in the Kingdom of Your Glory

The LEGION OF MARY is celebrating this year its 100 year centenary from its foundation in 1921 on the 7 September by Frank Duff in Ireland. This is an apostolic organisation that works to spread the Teachings and Church of Christ to all men as was Christ's intention on coming into the world 2021 years ago. In commemoration of this founding a Pilgrim Statue of Mary is circulating through the Diocese and will be in this Parish on Monday 1st and 2nd of March. This will be celebrated with an evening Mass at **7.30pm Monday night 1st March** in the Church. **But before Mass the Rosary** and the Legion Prayers will be offered from about **7.00pm**. After the Mass all are invited to a supper in the Hall. All Legionaries, auxiliaries, and parishioners are invited to be a part of the celebrations on tomorrow (Monday) night. The next day it will depart for the neighbouring Parish.

The Pilgrim Statue of Mary will arrive in the Parish tonight at about 7.00pm. If any wish to take part in the symbolic welcome extended to Mary with a communal Rosary in the Church at that time, they are welcome to attend!

The PARISH PRIEST of St. Finbars, Glenbrook, Fr. Joseph Lam is conducting a Lenten Bible studies course on the **Passion (sufferings) of Christ.** The sessions will be held on:

“The Death of Christ” on Tuesday 9 March at 7.30pm, and
 “The Resurrection of Christ” on Tuesday 23 March at 7.30pm.
 Maybe, due to Covid, places may be limited depending on the turn up. Better to ring the parish office on 4739-8928 or contact the it on secretary@stfinbars.org.au to be sure!

Father FABUS in Uganda is trying to build new toilets for the 600 Primary School children in his Parish. Last week in the Bulletin, it was described what his problems are in doing this. One is the cost which he must meet himself, because the Government won't do it for a long time. The cost is \$6000-AUD. See the photo on the side door of the type of toilets they must use. Known as “squat toilets” these are all they have. We wouldn't want them. So far \$2000-have been contributed. There is a Green Box in the centre aisle where you can place any offerings you want to make.

The picture next to the toilet block shown on the side door of the Church is the children waiting for their daily meal of maize porridge. But if that's all there is to have I suppose you have to take it. (Maybe sometime in the future, we can send over something to improve on that?) (Notice the children all have short haircuts. Better for hygiene) Many thanks to those of you who have already contributed to the Box!

ONLINE SYMPOSIUM entitled “**Alive in God**”. It will be delivered by **Fr. Timothy Radcliffe OP** on the computer on **Tuesday 2nd March**. From 5.00pm to 6.30pm. Drawing on 50 years of experience he will explore the Holy Spirit as best as he can. You must register via www.maristassociation.org.au For more information, contact mark.ofarrell@marists.org.au

Quotation from H.G. WELLS (the famous science-fiction writer)
 “I am an historian. I am NOT a believer in Jesus Christ, but I must confess as an historian that this penniless preacher from Nazareth is irrevocably the very centre of history. Jesus Christ is easily the most dominant figure of all history!”

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) Remember your compassion, O Lord, and your merciful love, for they are from of old. Let not our enemies exult over us. Redeem us, O God of Israel, from all our distress.

Or

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 115)

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

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

LECTOR: I trusted, even when I said: "I am sorely afflicted." O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful. **R.**

LECTOR: 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. **R.**

LECTOR: 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. **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 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!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn) This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

TODAY'S READINGS Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Romans 8:31-34; Mark 9:2-10

NEXT WEEK (3rd Sunday Lent, Year B) Exodus 20:1-17; Ps 18; 1 Corinthians 1:22-25; John 2:13-25

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Listening to Jesus

28 February 2021 2nd Sunday Lent Year B

With such a total gift of love, we have nothing to fear from anything or anyone.

Peter, James and John are taken up a high mountain by Jesus. The experience is amazing. It's an experience so precious that Peter cannot let it go. He wants to hold onto it forever. He says to Jesus, "Rabbi ... let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." The disciples glimpse the dazzling and eternal beauty of Christ and they don't want to let go. Yet, the disciples had to let go of this precious experience; it was only ever intended to be momentary. They will receive it again as a gift in the next life. For now, their task is to listen to Jesus, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him."

This is our task also. To live our lives listening to Jesus speak to us in the Good News and through the experiences of our daily lives. In listening, we'll discover things which we are called to 'let go' – selfishness, unforgiveness, envy, hatred, gossip, prejudice, dishonesty; to 'let go' of people, places, security, health, life.

Like Abraham, may we have the faith and trust to 'let go' and to be open and ready to receive the precious gifts that God wants to give us; as we prepare for the day when we'll meet God face to face in eternity and we can finally say, "It is wonderful to be here."

Abraham lived about a thousand years before Jesus. At that time it was not uncommon for people to sacrifice their children, especially their firstborn sons, to various gods as a sign of total devotion. Abraham perceived that sacrificing Isaac was something also required of him; to demonstrate his commitment to God. But the God of Israel is not like the pagan gods and never demands such a sacrifice. The God of Israel wants life, not death.

Yet, the willingness of Abraham to 'let go' of what was most precious to him – the son of his old age – was an inspiration to the people of Israel. It's faith in its extreme. Remember too, that Abraham had already shown a willingness to 'let go' of his family and his homeland to journey to an unknown land in response to God's invitation.

The early church saw the relationship between Abraham and Isaac as pointing to the relationship between God the Father and Jesus. Like Abraham, God was prepared to 'let go' of what was most precious to him – his divine Son – out of love for humanity. God was willing to let his Son 'become flesh', with all that it meant: rejection and ultimately crucifixion.

St Paul is in awe at God's generosity towards humanity. "God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all."

