



## ST ANTHONY'S PARISH

M A R S F I E L D

**11 FEBRUARY 2018**

**6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
YEAR B**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading Lev 13:1-2, 44-46**

**Resp Psalm Ps 31:1-2, 5, 11**

*I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and  
you fill me with the joy of salvation*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading 1 Cor 10:31 - 11:1**

**Gospel Mark 1:40-45**

### **Masses**

#### *Weekend*

Sat 6pm. Sun 9am & 6pm.

#### *Weekdays*

Mon 9am Liturgy of the Word

### **ASH WEDNESDAY**

9.15am & 7.30pm

Tue, Thu, Fri 9am MASS

### **Parish Staff & Contacts**

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# THE GOOD OIL

**LEPERS WERE AMONG THE MOST PITEOUS** of people in ancient (and in even not-so-ancient) times. Although little was known then of the origin of the sickness, it was clearly known to be contagious and therefore greatly feared. The only solution was to isolate the victim and not allow him/her to approach other people. Apart from the appalling physical disintegration of body and limbs, there was the social ostracism, the contempt and the fear which the victim engendered. The real pain and suffering were here. It seems the disease itself was, for the most part, not particularly painful.

What was probably even more tragic was that many who were branded as lepers were suffering from some other ailment, which may not have been contagious at all – such as ulcers, cancer, eczema or other skin diseases.

### **Approaching Jesus in desperation**

The scene in today's gospel occurs during a longer passage which describes a Sabbath day in the public life of Jesus. It involves Jesus going to the synagogue, healing the sick and driving out evil spirits. Then this leper approaches Jesus. He is desperate. He falls on his knees before Jesus, his last resort.

There is marvellous faith in his heart-rending appeal: "If you want to, you can cure me." This is not to say that Jesus only heals those he wants to heal but that Jesus has only to wish for his healing to be brought about. It expresses the man's faith in the power of Jesus.

*Read the full commentary: [livingspace.sacredspace.ie/OB061/](http://livingspace.sacredspace.ie/OB061/)*

### **Pastoral Sessions**

Mon: Rosary in Italian 7.30pm.

Tue: **Cenacle** 9.30am. **Cenacle & Adoration** 4pm.

Wed: **Adoration** 9.30am. **Meditation** 10am Parish Centre.

Fri: **Rosary** 9.30am. **Adoration** 6pm.

**Reconciliation** by appointment or Sat 5.30-5.50pm



## PRAYER AND FASTING

### IN REPARATION AND SORROW FOR CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Our Bishops have asked us to fast and pray during this Lent in reparation for the child sexual abuse committed by our Church members and to pray for the healing of victims.

The Bishops have suggested the four day period 14 Feb -17 Feb as suitable for this. We are free to extend this period of prayer and fasting if we wish, or to observe the four days of fasting at another time during Lent. Their letter and a suggested format for prayer at home is included in this Good Oil.

There will be a Penitential Service in reparation for sexual abuse of children, in the Church next Friday 16 Feb following the 9am Mass. This will take the place of the Rosary normally held at that time.

**LENTEN PRAYER GROUPS** There will be two Lenten Prayer groups running throughout the season of Lent this year:- Monday 7.30 pm - upstairs in the Parish Centre (commencing 12 Feb) Thursday 10.00 am – downstairs in the Parish Centre (commencing 15 Feb) If anyone is interested in joining one of these groups please contact Madeleine at the parish office.

**SHROVE TUESDAY** This Tuesday we will be carrying on the tradition of cooking pancakes after the Burning of the Palms Ritual at 9.30 am. The Year 5/6 class of St Anthony's School will be joining us to witness the Ritual and enjoy the pancakes afterwards. However, in order to do this we will need some helpers from the Parish and School to assist with the distribution of the pancakes. If you can help please ring Madeleine at the Parish Office.

**SOLOMON ISLANDS TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER** Sat 3 Mar at the Parish Hall from 7pm. Cost: \$10 per head. Tables of 10. BYO Nibbles and Drinks. Coffee, Tea and Cake supplied. Fr Brian will be attending. Tickets available from Parish Office.

**VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL.** The St Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank all those who contributed to the recent Christmas appeal, which raised \$12,765.75. The parishioners of St Anthony have once again shown their generosity to the Society and through it, to the people in need in the Marsfield and Macquarie Park area to whom the donations will help support."

# **AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE**

## **A MESSAGE TO THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AT THE BEGINNING OF LENT: Days of fasting and reparation in sorrow for child sexual abuse and for the healing of victims – February 14-17, 2018**

**February 5, 2018**

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

Last December, the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse handed down its final report. Like the Australian Government and many other institutions, the Catholic bishops of Australia and leaders of religious institutes are currently studying the final report and its recommendations.

In the long years since the tragedy of child sexual abuse within the Catholic community became known, the Church has committed to policies, procedures and structures to respond better to survivors of abuse and their families, to establish professional standards for all ministers and Church workers, and to safeguard children and vulnerable people. For the Church, as for other institutions, this has involved gradual learning and development, and so it will continue to be.

Through these years, Australia's bishops and other Church leaders have often expressed their sorrow and have offered their apology for what has occurred in the past – the harm suffered by

victims and survivors, the instances of cover-up, the failure to believe survivors' stories and to respond with compassion and justice, and the distress that many still experience.

Our apologies have at times seemed too little – not because they were insincere, but because trust has been broken. We stand firm in our resolve to ensure that the abuse of children never happens again in the Catholic Church and to build new bonds of trust.

With the Royal Commission concluded, our country and our Church enter into a new moment. We are calling upon the Catholic community in Australia to embrace this new moment by beginning the penitential season of Lent with four days of fasting and reparation. These are spiritual practices which express our desire for God's reconciling and healing grace.

Through fasting, we stand in solidarity with the victims and survivors of abuse whose much deeper hunger is for healing and peace in their lives. Through reparation, we make amends for the sin of those in the Church who abused children or failed to listen and act when they should have.

The days of fasting and reparation in sorrow for child sexual abuse and for the healing of victims and survivors will be marked by prayer – in our homes and in our Catholic communities.

Please take to heart the importance of these days in preparing the Church to respond to the recommendations of the Royal Commission and to make the journey from Ash Wednesday to Easter. We cannot undo the past. With God's help, we can make the future better.

# **Prayers for use at home Days of Fasting and Reparation following the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**R. Amen.**

Lord Jesus, you turned and looked on Peter when he denied you for the third time. He wept for his sin and turned again to you in sincere repentance.

Look now on us and touch our hearts, so that we also may turn back to you and be always faithful in serving, for you live and reign for ever and ever.

**R. Amen**

## **A prayer for healing**

Gracious and loving Father, Since your mercy has been revealed in the tenderness of your Son Jesus Christ, who said to his disciples: "Let the little children come to me", we pray that your Church may be a secure home where all children and vulnerable adults are brought closer to your Beloved Son.

May all those who have been abused physically, emotionally and sexually by your ministers be respected and accompanied by tangible gestures of justice and reparation so that they may feel healed with the balm of your compassion. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord

**R. Amen.**

## **Prayers of petition**

We pray for all victims of sexual abuse: that they may experience truth, justice and healing in their lives. Let us pray to the Lord. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all families of victims of sexual abuse: that they may be comforted by the support of the Church and all your people. Let us pray to the Lord. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for our communities where sexual abuse has occurred: that all those in positions of responsibility in relation to children will accord them the honour and respect to which they are entitled. Let us pray to the Lord. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all members of society: that they will honour human sexuality and treat all people with respect and decency. Let us pray to the Lord. **R: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us unite our petitions with the prayer that Jesus taught us  
**Our Father...**

## **Concluding prayer**

Lord Jesus, our Saviour, you called Peter to be an apostle; when he repented of his sin, you restored him to your friendship and confirmed him as first of the apostles.

Turn to us with love and help us to imitate Peter's example. Give us strength to turn from our sins and to serve you in the future with greater love and devotion, for you live and reign for ever and ever.

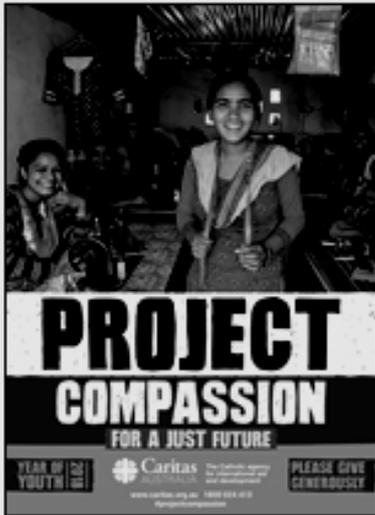
**R. Amen**



# Project Compassion Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2018



Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "A Just Future", celebrating the Year of Youth.



As Pope Francis said, "Cultivate with love the seeds of goodness, beauty and truth that God sows in every new generation."

Through your generosity during Project Compassion this year, you are empowering young people to build a just future for themselves, their families and their communities.

### **A Just Future starts with your support!**

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

**VIA CRUCIS**—Il gruppo del Rosario Madonna delle Grazie invita a tutti gli Italiani della zona a partecipare a questi funzioni religiosi in preparazione alla Santa Pasqua incominciando **Lunedì 19 Febario** Rosario 7pm e dopo si incomincia—La Via Crucis. **Lunedì 26 Marzo: Confessioni** in Italiano con Fr Greg Cooney cm, 6.30pm; **Rosario** 6.30pm; **Messa** 7.15pm; **Via Crucis** 8pm. Dopo si va fuori per un rinfresco e si fa una lotteria che va tutto per i poveri. Per piacere portate un piatto.

**THE BISHOP'S BLEND:** Looking to network with other young Catholic professionals and learn how to live your faith in the workplace? Then join the Most Reverend Bishop Richard Umbers, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney on Tue 27 Feb at 7am at the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Sydney for The Bishop's Blend, a quarterly breakfast series for young professionals. Online booking is essential. More info and to purchase tickets go to [thebishopsblendthirdedition.eventbrite.com](http://thebishopsblendthirdedition.eventbrite.com) or contact us at [bishopsblend@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:bishopsblend@sydneycatholic.org)

**CATHOLICCARE SURVEY.** CatholicCare is the social services agency of the Archdiocese of Sydney. We help Sydney families with relationships, parenting, ageing, disabilities, addictions and mental health concerns. To enable us to deliver this mission, we need to understand the communities' awareness of CatholicCare and our services. We have developed a simple 11 question survey to gather this information, found here: [surveymonkey.com/r/CatholicCareSydney](https://surveymonkey.com/r/CatholicCareSydney)

## PARISH DIARY

Sun 11 Feb — Sun 18 Feb 2018

First Reconciliation Commitment Masses	All weekend Masses
First Reconciliation Classes commence	Week of 12 Feb, various times
ASH WEDNESDAY	Wed 14            9.15am 7.30pm
Penitential Service in reparation for sexual abuse of children	Fri 16    after 9am Mass



Catholics are not SPIES P1

BISHOPS' CALL MOVIE REVIEW

THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY is available  
at the church doors.  
Please put \$2 in the Poor Box.

### COUNTERS ROSTER FEB/MAR

11/2 - Team 9; 18/2 - Team 10; 25/2 - Team 1;  
4/3 - Team 2; 11/3 - Team 3; 18/3 - Team 4

#### COMMUNION UNDER BOTH KINDS

- If you have a cold or flu symptoms (or any other communicable disease, cold sores, etc.) you **MUST NOT** receive communion from the Chalice.
- In accordance with the General Instruction, we **DO NOT** **DIP** the Host in the Chalice.

Please turn off your mobile phone in Church.  
Thank you.

## PRAYER MINISTRY

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER:

Those who are sick, especially-

Kenny Hee Teck Lim, Irene Tija,  
Fr Michael Walsh CM,  
Ambrose Hee Chong Lim,  
Phillip Hopson, Eddie Yap,  
Chris South, Konrad Wrzesinski,  
Bishop Geoffrey Robinson,  
Janet Godsell, Barbaro family,  
Fr David Catterall,  
Beng Choon Tan

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The recently deceased-

**Fr Peter Neville**

**Maria Hansen**

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And those with anniversaries  
around this time.

**Kevin Kane**

(6th Anniversary)

Due to privacy laws, if you would like the name of a family member or friend printed in the Good Oil, please contact the Parish Office.